

# Cameroon

## Threats and Violence Against Civilians and Vital Civilian Facilities

Bulletin 2: April-September 2020



Education

7



Health Care

7



IDPs

4



Aid

2



Sexual Violence

0

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### Threats and Violence Against Education

**02 July 2020:** In Soa-Yaounde, Soa commune, Méfou-et-Afamba department, Centre region, a female Master's student at the University of Yaounde II was stabbed by unknown perpetrators a few meters from the gate of her hostel which is behind the university.

**05 July 2020:** In Bambili, Mezam department, Northwest region, a female student at the University of Bamenda was kidnapped near her hostel. The kidnappers reportedly requested 3 million FCFA as a ransom.

**Around 21 July 2020:** In Bamenda city, Northwest region, a male secondary school teacher was reportedly kidnapped by separatist fighters for allegedly accepting to work on a strike day taking place in the Northwest and Southwest regions of Cameroon.

**27 July 2020:** In Ndongo town, near Buea city, Southwest province, an unspecified number of students were detained during a raid by security forces on their student residences. The students accused the security forces of extortion, claiming that they were detaining students who refused to pay them.

**11 August 2020:** At a crossroad some 300 meters away from the Government Bilingual High School Bamenda, Bamenda city, Mezam department, Northwest region, armed separatists shot and injured a student in an attempted kidnapping prior to his partaking in a GCE ordinary examination.

**13 August 2020:** In Yaounde, four teachers were arrested after going on hunger strike at the Ministry of Basic Education following failed attempts to bargain with authorities. They were later released.

**07 September 2020:** In Dschang city, Menoua department, West region, bandits killed a male student at the University of Dschang, after stealing his bike.

This bulletin is part of a series monitoring insecurity in the Sahel region.

It is published by Insecurity Insight from information made available in open sources.

It supports organisations with information on violent and threatening incidents affecting aid operations, civilians, education, healthcare, refugees and IDPs in the Sahel region to ensure staff safety and better response outcomes.

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Links to the original news source are not included. If you require further event information, please, [contact us](#).

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## Threats and Violence Against Health Care

**07 April 2020:** In Toufou village, Mayo-Tsnaga department, Far North region, Boko Haram attacked the village, destroying a health centre and killing a civilian.

**06 July 2020:** In Mamfe city, Southwest region, seven health workers were detained by security forces during a security operation in the area.

**Around 07 July 2020:** In Kumbo city, Bui district, Northwest region, Shisong Hospital was stormed by members of the military who threatened to remove patients they suspected to be Ambazonia fighters. A nurse was almost beaten for defending the medical treatment of people without discrimination.

**09 July 2020:** Near Kumba city, Meme department, Southwest region, a Cameroonian volunteer community health worker employed by MSF was kidnapped and killed. An Ambazonian separatist group fighting government forces in the region first claimed responsibility in a video circulating on social media, before a denial from the political branch of the independence movement in exile. In the video, the aid worker was accused by these fighters of “being a spy in the pay of the government”.

**21 July 2020:** In Kumbo city, Bui district, Northwest region, shootings near the Shisong Hospital premises forced patients to abandon treatment and flee.

**09 September 2020:** In Goudjimdele village, Mayo-Sava department, Far North region, Boko Haram attacked a private Catholic health centre, looting medical and food supplies.

**23 September 2020:** In Makoulahe village, Mora subdivision, Mayo-Sava department, Far North region, Boko Haram fighters looted a health centre.

### Conflict-related attacks on health care in Cameroon 2020

Monitoring by Insecurity Insight identified 13 events from Cameroon between January and July, compared to eight recorded by the [Safeguarding Health in Conflict Coalition](#) (SHCC) for all of 2019. Health facilities may be targeted by Boko Haram to obtain treatment for sick fighters and families. Security analysts have reported chaos in the Boko Haram camp following the deaths of over 200 fighters and their families from cholera.

Read Insecurity Insight's latest analysis [here](#).

### Incidents reported on the World Health Organization's (WHO) Surveillance System of Attacks on Healthcare (SSA)<sup>1</sup>

As of 29 October 2020, there have been no incidents reported on the SSA from Cameroon for the period 1 April–30 September 2020.

## Threats and Violence Against IDPs and Refugees

**02 August 2020:** In Nguetechewe town, Mayo-Tsanaga department, Far North region, Boko Haram militants reportedly used child suicide bombers to target a site for displaced people, resulting in the death of at least 17 civilians. Following the attack, around 1,500 people – including members of the host community – fled to nearby Mozogo.

**27 August 2020:** At Kordo village, Mayo-Sava department, Far North region, the Kordo IDP camp was attacked by suspected Boko Haram fighters, who stole goods and injured a person.

**27 August 2020:** In Ndabakoro village, Mayo-Sava department, Far North region, the IDP camp of Ndabakoro was attacked by suspected Boko Haram fighters who stole several types of unspecified goods.

**01 September 2020:** In Kouyape village, Far North region, a young male suicide bomber strapped with explosives chased IDPs fleeing a Boko Haram raid detonated his vest, killing seven of them.

## Threats and Violence Against Aid Operations

**05 August 2020:** In Muyuka town, Fako division, Southwest region, an INGO aid convoy was ambushed by an armed group after delivering aid to beneficiaries in Munyenge village. Two Cameroonian aid workers and a beneficiary were shot and wounded.

**07 August 2020:** In Batibo subdivision, Northwest region, an aid worker of the Community Initiative for Sustainable Development (COMINSUD), an implementing partner for several UN agencies, was kidnapped from his home and later killed by armed individuals. It comes barely a month after the killing of a community health worker in the South-west region.

## Violence Against Civilians

- As of 29 October 2020, 209 incidents of violence causing 207 civilian deaths were documented by the [Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project](#) (ACLED).
- High numbers of incidents were reported in Far North (111) and Northwest regions (66). In contrast, low number of attacks were reported in the Centre and West regions (one each).
- Named perpetrators of violence against civilians included:
  - Ambazonian Defense Forces (ADF)
  - Ambazonian Separatists
  - Boko Haram
  - Islamic State West Africa
  - Law enforcement
  - Military forces of Cameroon

### Example

On 12 September 2020, Boko Haram fighters opened fire on civilians while a suicide bomber blew herself up in Zelevet village, Mayo-Tsanaga department, Far North region. At least five civilians were killed.

### Notes

**This document is published by Insecurity Insight.** The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all incidents and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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<sup>1</sup> The Surveillance System of Attacks on Healthcare (SSA) is a global standardized and systemic approach to collecting data of attacks on health care. This system utilizes the same methodology across countries to address the knowledge gap of the extent and nature of attacks on health care.