Aid in Danger
Monthly News Brief
Insecurity affecting aid workers and aid delivery

August 2018

Security Incidents and Access Constraints

Africa

Central African Republic

01 August 2018: In Alindao town, Basse-Kotto prefecture, unspecified assailants killed an aid worker from a local NGO. His motorcycle was found heavily burned nearby. No further details available. Source: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and AWSD

06 August 2018: In Bria town, Haute-Kotto prefecture, the international non-governmental organisation (INGO) Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) reopened its Bria base and has begun to gradually reintroduce its medical support for the city. Source: aBangui

08 August 2018: In Kaga-Bandoro region, Nana-Grébizi prefecture, an unspecified humanitarian team was robbed three times by unidentified perpetrators while traveling between Dekoa and Kaga-Bandoro villages. Source: ACLED

09 August 2018: In Kaga-Bandoro region, Nana-Grébizi prefecture, another team of humanitarian workers from an unspecified organisation were robbed by armed men while driving on the road between Dekoa and Kaga-Bandoro. No further details specified. Source: ACLED

11 August 2018: In Kaga-Bandoro region, Nana-Grébizi prefecture, a Red Cross team was robbed by unidentified armed men while traveling between Kaga-Bandoro city and Grevai town. Source: ACLED

25 August 2018: In Bria town, Haute-Kotou prefecture, two national staff members of an unspecified aid organisation were killed during clashes between anti-Balaka militants and members of the Rassemblement Patriotique pour le Renouveau de Centrafique (RPRC), and eleven other people were injured. It is unknown whether the injuries included aid workers. Source: AWSD

Democratic Republic of the Congo

02 August 2018: In North Kivu province, seven local UN workers were kidnapped when their convoy of vehicles was stopped by armed men just east of Masisi centre. Only the Congolese nationals were

kidnapped, while their drivers and vehicles were let go. On August 03, two of the seven kidnapping victims were released, having been seriously assaulted, and a ransom was put out for the remaining staff members. Source: AWSD

08 August 2018 (Date of article): In North Kivu province, militia violence poses a major challenge for aid workers who have been attempting to vaccinate any and all individuals who may come into contact with someone who has the Ebola virus. Sources: Al Jazeera, Devex and The Guardian

09 August 2018: In Rutshuru town, North Kivu province, militants from the Forces Démocratiques de Libération du Rwanda (FDLR) attacked a group from the Norwegian NGO Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), kidnapping six of the aid workers before releasing them again later the same day. Source: ACLED

19 August 2018: In Tanganyika province, Katanga state, four members of the Red Cross were kidnapped by a group of Hapa Na Pale Mayi Mayi militants. Source: ACLED

Mali
02 August 2018: In Mopti region, an INGO national staff member was abducted by unidentified armed gunmen while traveling between Boni and Mondoro. He was later released unharmed on 04 August. Source: AWSD

Nigeria
19 August 2018: In Monguno local government area, Borno state, unnamed United Nations (UN) agencies halted humanitarian operations due to unspecified security concerns. Source: Agence France-Presse (AFP)

Somalia
09 August 2018 (Date of article): Near Baidoa city and district, Bay region, gunmen possibly associated with al Shabaab abducted five International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC) aid workers. The motivation for the kidnapping is unspecified, but local elders are allegedly negotiating their release. Source: Mareeg, AWSD, and Inkerman Insights

South Sudan
01 August 2018: In Mudri West county, South Sudan, three unidentified armed men stopped a group of NGO workers on the road and robbed them of personal belongings, organisation property, and cash. Two female staff members received minor injuries and were later treated at Mudri village. Source: AWSD

11 August 2018: In Malakal city, Upper Nile state, an INGO national staff member was shot and wounded allegedly in an altercation with a member of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). Source: AWSD

13 August 2018: According to the independent research group Humanitarian Outcomes, South Sudan remains the most dangerous country for aid workers for the third year running. Source: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Uganda
05 August 2018: In Kampala, unidentified intruders broke into the offices of the NGO Isis-Women's International Cross Cultural Exchange and ransacked the premises. In the process they vandalised the office and computers before stealing cash, company data, and hard drives. Source: Thomson Reuters Foundation

Asia

Afghanistan

15 August 2018: The Taliban announced that it was withdrawing its protection guarantees for ICRC staff working in Afghanistan after the agency allegedly neglected Taliban prisoners holding a hunger strike in the Pul-e Charkhi prison in Kabul. Sources: BBC and Reuters

India

August 2018: In Muzaffarpur city and district, Tirhut region, Bihar state, police continued to investigate a criminal case against a senior official from the NGO Seva Sankalp Evam Vikas Samiti for the alleged sexual abuse of at least 34 underaged girls at a short-stay shelter run by the same NGO. Sources: Indian Express and Times of India

02 August 2018: In Muzaffarpur city and district, Tirhut region, Bihar state, a new criminal case was registered against a senior official of the NGO Seva Sankalp Evam Vikas Samiti for unspecified reasons relating to the alleged disappearance of 11 women from the Swadhar Grih shelter for adult females run by the same NGO. Source: Times of India

Myanmar

30 August 2018: In Rakhine, Kachin and Shan states, the Myanmar government has allegedly blocked several humanitarian organisations from accessing parts of the country, in addition to depriving thousands of civilians who have been displaced by fighting between government forces and ethnic minority guerrillas from aid, according to the advocacy group Fortify Rights. Source: Reuters

North Korea

06 August 2018: The UN Security Council backed a United States (US) proposed plan to streamline the process of obtaining humanitarian exemptions from international sanctions for aid deliveries to North Korea. Source: NK News

Vietnam

11 August 2018 (Date of article): Vietnamese authorities put a Vietnamese activist under house arrest and barred her from leaving Vietnam until October 2018 for defacing the national flag last year. Source: Agence France-Presse

Middle-East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

20 August 2018: In Gaza Strip, Israeli soldiers shot dead a Palestinian aid worker from the NGO MSF who they claimed had allegedly approached the border fence before shooting a gun and throwing a grenade at them. Source: Reuters

Syrian Arab Republic

06 August 2018: In Atarib town and district, Aleppo governorate, unknown gunmen stormed the headquarters of the NGO Obeida, and both assaulted and unsuccessfully attempted to kidnap one of the workers before fleeing. Source: SMART News Agency

Yemen

23 August 2018: In Sheikh Othman district, Aden city, a bomb planted near a restaurant by unknown assailants killed a Yemeni demining expert from the Yemen Executive Mine Action Center (YEMAC) and severely injured four others who were trying to defuse it. Sources: The National and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Yemen

29 August 2018: In Al Tahita district, Al-Hudaydah governorate, Houthi militia targeted in an unspecified manner a Red Cross humanitarian convoy loaded with food aid. Source: Adenghd

29 August 2018: In Al Tahita district, Al-Hudaydah governorate, an unidentified armed group shot a rocket-propelled grenade at a World Food Programme (WFP) truck loaded with about 30 tons of food aid, claiming that they believed it was a military tanker. The driver was injured, and the aid had to be transferred to a new vehicle but was eventually successfully delivered. Sources: World Food Programme, Adenghd (a) and Adenghd (b)

Aid workers killed, kidnapped and arrested in selected countries in 2018

SiND Aid Worker KKA 2018			
	Number of reported aid workers affected (January-August 2018)		
	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested
Afghanistan	12	14	2
CAR	8	3	0
DRC	4	27	1
Iraq	0	0	0
Mali	1	5	0
Nigeria	4	1	0
Somalia	5	6	1
South Sudan	12	36	36
Syria	62	6	4
Yemen	5	1	2
Other countries	13	11	85
TOTAL	**126**	**110**	**131**

The countries have been selected by Reliefweb Crisis App.
This data is updated each month to include any backdated reports identified in open-sources and shared by Aid in Danger partner agencies.

Incidents Affecting Peacekeeping

Africa

Central African Republic

18 August 2018: In Nana-Grébizi prefecture, anti-Balaka militants launched attacks on United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) personnel in two separate incidents on the road between Mbrés and Ndomété, leaving three peacekeepers slightly wounded. Source: aBangui

20 August 2018: In Bria town, Haute-Kotto prefecture, Seleka militants opened fire near a MINUSCA checkpoint and an unnamed hospital. No further details specified. Source: aBangui

23 August 2018: In Alindao town, Basse-Kotto prefecture, suspected anti-Balaka militants launched an attack against MINUSCA personnel, killing a Burundian peacekeeper. Source: aBangui

Mali

10 August 2018: In Kidal cercle, Kidal region, an armoured vehicle belonging to Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) peacekeepers was damaged when an IED, suspected to have been planted by Ansar Dine militants, detonated nearby to it. The peacekeepers were unharmed but mistakenly fired at a group of four nearby NGO workers in retaliation, wounding some of them. Source: ACLED

Middle-East and North Africa

Lebanon

04 August 2018: In Majdal Zoun town, South governorate, local residents threw stones at a patrol of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for taking photographs inside the town's residential neighbourhoods. Source: National News Agency

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Aid in Danger

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Data on People in Danger

European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid

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SAFEGUARDING HEALTH IN CONFLICT

ALL AID IN DANGER REPORTS ARE AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD ON RELIEFWEB AND ON H2H

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SELECTIVE DATASETS AND QUICK CHARTS ARE AVAILABLE ON HDX INSECURITY INSIGHT

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