

Aid in Danger

Monthly News Brief

Insecurity affecting aid workers and aid delivery

May
2018

Security incidents and access constraints

Africa

Burkina Faso

04 May 2018: In Djibo town, Soum province, Sahel region, a driver of the Burkinabe Red Cross went missing as he was on his way to Arbinda commune and department. Source: [aOuaga](#)

Central African Republic

May 2018: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, unidentified perpetrators attacked and looted the premises and warehouses of nine unspecified humanitarian organisations throughout May, as well as that of the National Refugee Commission, stealing equipment and money. Sources: [Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations \(DG-ECHO\)](#), [OCHA](#) and [RJDH](#)

07 May 2018: In Bobafio village, Ouham prefecture, a humanitarian vehicle was ambushed by armed men and the aid workers belongings stolen. Source: [ACLED](#)

09-10 May 2018: In Kaga-Bandaro town, Nana-Grebizi prefecture, armed men burgled six houses, including the residences of two humanitarian workers. The following day an NGO vehicle was also stolen. Source: [ACLED](#)

15-16 May 2018: In Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, Central African Patriotic Movement gunmen entered the base of the international NGO World Vision, stealing two Turaya phones, a computer, a fan and a sum of 10,000 CFA franc (approximately 15 EUR). Sources: [Réseau des Journalistes pour les Droits de l'Homme \(RJDH\)](#) and [ACLED](#)

18 May 2018: In Batangafo town, Ouham prefecture, unspecified humanitarian actors were robbed by unidentified perpetrators. Source: [ACLED](#)

26 May 2018: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, armed perpetrators broke into an International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent (ICRC) residence and stole unspecified items,

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence affecting the delivery of aid. It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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leading the organisation to suspend its activities in the area and relocate its staff. Source: [RJDH](#)

27 May 2018: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, unidentified perpetrators attacked and looted the premises of several unspecified humanitarian organisations. The loss of equipment subsequently prevented many of the organisations from resuming their regular activities after the violence subsided. Source: [United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs \(OCHA\)](#)

30 May 2018: In Bambari town, Ouaka prefecture, unidentified perpetrators broke into the offices of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), stealing computers, phones, and injuring some guards in the process. In response MSF evacuated members of its medical, administrative and logistics teams. Source: [RJDH](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

01 May 2018: In Rutshuru town, North Kivu province, armed men kidnapped three Congolese aid workers from the ICRC. Their motives were unknown. Source: [News 24](#)

13 May 2018: In South Kivu region, near Penemede town, armed men ambushed an INGO motorcycle convoy, stealing two motorbikes and kidnapping one INGO staff member. The whereabouts of the worker and the motive for the attack are unknown. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

22 May 2018: In Irumu territory, Ituri province, armed perpetrators ambushed an INGO vehicle that was transporting cash from an airfield to the city centre. When the vehicle came under fire, the four aid workers onboard abandoned the vehicle and ran to hide in the bush. Although two aid workers were able to escape, the other two were found by the gunmen and stabbed. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

Malawi

13 May 2018: In Ntcheu district, Central region, six unidentified perpetrators tried to break into the fund office of the INGO World Vision, before being shot dead by Malawi police. Source: [Nyasa Times](#)

Mali

13 May 2018: In Mopti region, near Andere village, four INGO staff members were fired upon by an armed group, leaving two wounded and in need of medical evacuation. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

Somalia

28 April 2018: In Mogadishu, a device fitted to a car by the militant group al Shabaab detonated and killed an ICRC communication and legal liaison officer. The motivation for the killing is unknown. Source: [VOA News](#)

01 May 2018: In Mogadishu, unidentified gunmen shot and killed a World Health Organisation (WHO) logistics officer for polio vaccinations at Bakara Market for no ascertained reason. Nobody has claimed responsibility for her murder. Sources: [Reuters](#) and [VOA News](#)

02 May 2018: In Mogadishu, unidentified gunmen abducted a German nurse from the ICRC, prompting the organisation to evacuate the 10 remaining staffers to Nairobi. A security guard from a local private security firm who was staffing the compound is suspected of involvement. Sources: [British Broadcasting Corporation \(BBC\)](#), [Investigative Dossier](#), [Reuters](#) and [The Guardian](#)

26 May 2018: In Hobyo village, Mudug province, an INGO staff member sustained injuries after being shot by unidentified perpetrators over an issue related to registration of the INGO's beneficiaries. Source: [ACLED](#)

South Sudan

14 May 2018: In Yambio city and county, Western Equatoria state, unidentified gunmen ambushed a

humanitarian convoy from the INGO World Vision and abducted eight aid workers, whilst four others managed to escape. The victims were later released on 18 May. Nobody has claimed responsibility for their abduction. Sources: [VOA News \(a\)](#) and [VOA News \(b\)](#)

22 May 2018: In Amadi state, Western Equatoria, seven INGO staff members traveling in an INGO vehicle were ambushed and kidnapped on the road between Lanyi and Gado by unidentified perpetrators. Their whereabouts are unknown. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

30 May 2018: In Central Equatoria, a commercial vehicle carrying 15 passengers was attacked by armed men, two passengers were killed - one of whom was a local NGO worker. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

30 May 2018: In Tomping area, Juba city, burglars broke into an unspecified NGO compound and stole personal items including computers, before assaulting two security guards and a driver. One of the security guards was seriously hurt and required medical attention at the hospital. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

05 May 2018: In Wama district, Nuristan region, a female aid worker was shot and killed when an Afghan National Police officer fired his weapon at a group of NGO workers and fled the scene. The perpetrator's motives are unknown. Source: [AWSD¹](#)

21 May 2018: In Malang Kariz area, Maiwand district, Kandahar province, unidentified perpetrators opened fire on a group of deminers who were clearing the area of improvised explosive devices (IEDs), killing at least five of them. The assailants also kidnapped one deminer. Sources: [Tolo News](#) and [VOA News](#)

Cambodia

02 May 2018: In Veal Veng district, Pursat province, Cambodian authorities apprehended and held for questioning 14 employees of the NGO Cambodian Environmental Protection, Wildlife and Forest Conservation over allegations that they set up an illegal checkpoint to extort money from villagers carrying timber. Three further suspects were arrested on 03 May. Source: [Khmer Times](#)

04 May 2018: In Kampong Cham city, district and province, Cambodian authorities arrested and detained the deputy director of the Kampong Cham Red Cross before his trial for allegedly falsifying documents to defraud his company. Source: [The Phnom Penh Post](#)

Myanmar

01 May 2018: In Kachin state, the Myanmar military has blocked humanitarian aid to those displaced by fighting amid a lethal escalation of violence in the region. Source: [The Guardian](#)

Nepal

01 May 2018: A proposed National Integrity Policy would expand the Nepalese government's control over the activities of both national and international NGOs in Nepal. The draft stipulates that international NGOs must obtain government approval before sending reports to headquarters in their home countries; that they must have their budgets and programmes approved by the Finance Ministry; and that they would be banned should they try to spread the religion of their home country. Sources: [Devex](#) and [Kathmandu Post](#)

Middle-East and North Africa

Algeria

14 May 2018: In Djinet town and commune, Bordj Ménaïl district, Boumerdès province, a pharmacist

attacked and raped a consultant from the INGO GIZ. Source: [Algerie 360](#)

Lebanon

14 May 2018: Lebanese General Security detained the director of an unspecified Palestinian human rights organisation for no specified reason and transferred him to the Lebanese Army Intelligence. Source: [Daily Star](#)

Occupied Palestinian Territories

11 May 2018: In Gaza Strip, hundreds of Palestinians broke into the Palestinian side of the Kerem Shalom crossing, the main point for the entry of humanitarian goods and caused extensive damage, resulting in the closure of the crossing point until further notice. Source: [OCHA](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

03 May 2018: In Tell Shihab village, Daraa district and governorate, unidentified gunmen kidnapped a Syrian-American Medical Association (SAMS) employee for no specified reason. Source: [SMART News](#)

12 May 2018: In Idlib city, Idlib governorate, unidentified perpetrators detonated a car bomb near Idlib Central Hospital resulting in an unspecified number of deaths, moderate damage to the hospital building and damage to some of its equipment. The hospital, which is affiliated with the Syrian American Medical Society, suspended all operations. Source: [SNHR](#)

16 May 2018: In Al-Ghab Plain, Al-Suqaylabiyah district, Hama governorate, Syrian troops targeted Syria Civil Defence (SCD) teams with tank shells while they were trying to recover the bodies of victims from an earlier attack. Source: [SMART News](#)

19 May 2018: In Jbata al Khashab village, northern Quneitra governorate, a member of the SCD was killed in a shelling attack while attending to the wounded from a previous shelling. Source: [SNHR](#)

26 May 2018: In Tal Hadiyya village, southern Aleppo governorate, five members of the SCD were shot when unidentified gunmen attacked and entered organisations al Hader Centre. The victims were blindfolded before being killed, and the perpetrators subsequently stole equipment from the centre. Source: [SNHR](#)

Jordan

16 May 2018: In Amman, around 7,000 UNRWA staff observed a one-hour sit-in in front of the UNRWA Headquarters, whilst others continued a hunger strike for the fifth consecutive day in protest over the terms of a new health contract. Sources: [Saraya News \(a\)](#) and [Saraya News \(b\)](#)

Yemen

11 May 2018: In As Salif town, Al Hudayd governorate, Al Houthi militants allegedly launched a missile strike on a Turkish humanitarian vessel, damaging the deck but resulting in no injuries. However, the ship was forced to abandon its delivery of supplies to Yemen and return to port. Source: [ACLED](#)

The Americas

Guatemala

08-20 May 2018: In unspecified locations, unidentified perpetrators killed three human rights defenders working with indigenous and peasant rights organisations. Their motives remain unknown. Source: [VOA News](#)

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

The countries have been selected by [Reliefweb Crisis App](#).

Quick charts and datasets for 'SiND Aid Worker KKA' are available on [HDX Insecurity Insight](#).

SiND Aid Worker KKA 2018			
	Number of reported aid workers affected (January-May 2018)		
	Killed	Kidnapped	Arrested
Afghanistan	10	1	2
CAR	5	2	0
DRC	4	7	1
Iraq	0	0	0
Mali	1	4	0
Nigeria	4	1	0
Somalia	4	1	0
South Sudan	11	33	5
Syria	46	1	3
Yemen	1	1	1
Other countries	11	11	46
Total affected	97	62	58

Incidents affecting peacekeeping

Central African Republic

17 May 2018: In Basse-Kotto prefecture, suspected anti-Balaka militiamen ambushed a United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) team, killing one peacekeeper and injuring eight. Source: [aBangui](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

11 May 2018: In Tanganyika province, Mai-Mai militiamen ambushed a team of 13 United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) personnel from the Beninese contingent, seizing MONUSCO military equipment and ammunition, and kidnapping two peacekeepers. The peacekeepers were released on 16 May. Source: [Actualite](#)

Mali

13 May 2018: In Aguelhok village and commune, Kidal region, a vehicle from a United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) logistics convoy struck an explosive device, severely damaging the vehicle and wounding three Chadian peacekeepers. Source: [aBamako](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

24 May 2018: *Update*: In Kabul, a United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) employee and her young son, both Afghan, who had been kidnapped by unidentified perpetrators last 22 January, were released. Sources: [Reuters](#) and [Tolo News](#)

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Aid in Danger



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Selective datasets and quick charts are available on HDX Insecurity Insight



¹ The AWSD database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available.