



WANEP-Nigeria

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria

National Early Warning System (NEWS)

Weekly Highlight

Date: 27th November - 4th December, 2011.

- **North East Population Size - 18,971,965.**
- **States – Adamawa, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Taraba and Yobe State.**
- **Contextual Highlights –** Borno has the largest land mass in the zone and its bordered by Chad, Cameroun and Niger while Yobe State borders Nigeria with Niger. Adamawa is also a border state of Nigeria with Chad and Cameroun. This bordering relationships account for the high level of trans-border movement and trade within this zone. Farming and cattle grazing form a major part of livelihood and occupation in this zone. Predominant tribes/ethnic groups in the zone include the Hausas, Fulanis, Kanuri, Marghi and Burha. Predominant religion is Islam with relative significant percentage population as Christians. Desert Encroachment and pest invasion are predominant hazards recorded in the area while literacy level is low.
- **South South Population Size – 21,014,655**
- **States: Delta, Rivers, Edo, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom and Cross Rivers.**
- **Contextual Highlights:** The south south zone majorly comprises what has been referred to as the Niger Delta region. It has huge crude oil and gas reserves which constitutes over 90% of Nigeria's foreign exchange and 80% of the country's revenue. Commercial Oil and gas exploration and mining by various foreign and indigenous companies is predominant in this region. With significant number of islands and waterways, the region links directly into the Gulf of Guinea which also connects countries such as Ghana, Sao Tome and Principe, Benin Republic and Angola. Fishing and farming are major sources of livelihood but has been greatly affected by oil spill and gas pollution which has caused major environmental degradation. Oil bunkering and sea piracy is commonly reported in this region and is also known for youth militancy/resource control agitations as protest to the lack of state commitment to human security and development in the region. Major Ethnic groups are the Ijaws, Efiks, Ibibios, Ikweres, Ogonis, Kwale-Ibo, Andoni, Isoko, Izon and Edos.

North East

Humanitarian Risk:

Borno State: The armed members of Boko Haram in Maiduguri killed the bridegroom and two guests at wedding in Maiduguri.

South South

Socio economic Risk

Violent demonstration by over 5,000 youth of Uzere, Isoko South LGA of **Delta State** claimed three lives of three and led to the injury of about one hundred people and destruction of properties valued at several million of Naira. The demand of the demonstrators is that the SPDC sign a new GMOU with their community, which is hosting the multinational. The supposed non-violent demonstration turned violent after the Nigeria Police Force used tear-gassed the protesters.

- **South East Population Size** – 16, 381, 729.
- **States** - Enugu, Abia, Anambra, Ebonyi and Imo States.
- **Contextual Highlights** – The zone comprises of predominantly Igbos with major religion as Christianity and traditional religion. The Igbos are business inclined which have made Aba in Abia State and Onitsha at Anambra State the reference point for commerce and industry in Nigeria. As a result of their commercial inclination, Igbos are wide travellers and have been known to have significant population in most of the 36 States of Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory. The zone has also witnessed and survived a civil war waged against the Nigerian State between 1967-1970 over agitation for the sovereign state of Biafra. Subsistence agriculture also constitutes a mainstay of livelihood in the zone especially at the rural areas and Ebonyi State has been noted to be a hub for agricultural produce. Erosion is a basic hazard experienced in the zone especially in Anambra and Abia States. Crude Oil reserves of commercial mining quantity have been discovered and are being explored at Imo and Anambra States. Literacy level is relatively moderate with reports highlighting higher female literacy rate.
- **South West Population Size** – 27, 582, 992.
- **States** – Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Ekiti, Lagos and Osun states.
- **Contextual Highlights** - The major ethnic group and language is Yoruba with a mixture of other ethnic groups such as the Igbos, Hausa/Fulani, Ijaws e.t.c. The predominant occupation includes agriculture, businesses, civil service. Lagos which was a former capital of Nigeria is considered the commercial nerve centre of the country with a very busy sea port and also an outlet for import and export into Nigeria. It is also a border state of Nigeria to Benin Republic. Crude oil reserves have been discovered in commercial quantity at Ondo State. The Yorubas are highly literate and politically conscious.

South East

Political Risk:

Two People's Democratic Party candidates in **Enugu state**, elected at the party's primaries election to run for the position of Local Government Chairpersons in the December 10 elections are currently arraigned for attempted abduction and murder by the Nsukka High Court and Enugu High Court respectfully.

Socio Economic Risk:

The youth of Ikwo in Omege Odageri in **Ebonyi State** went on rampage in response to the death of a pastor who collapsed and died while praying for a woman. One boy was killed in the demonstration.

Anambra State Command of the Nigeria Police Force paraded four armed robbers who were suspected to have taken part in the November 7, 2011 armed robbery attack at the Onitsha main market. Two of the suspected armed robbers and two members of the Movement for the Actualisation of the Sovereign State of Biafra MASSOB were killed in the process.

Five men were killed by armed men suspected to have been hired by a drug baron in Amaifeke and Okporo communities in Orlu Local Government Area of **Imo State**. The hired killers and the alleged drug baron are being interrogated at the State Police Headquarters in Owerri.

South West

- **North Central Population Size – 20,266,257.**
- **States - Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Nasarawa, Plateau, Niger and Abuja Federal Capital City of Nigeria (FCT).**
- **Contextual Highlights – Major ethnic groups predominant in the area include Hausa, Fulani, Tiv, Berom, Igala, Jukun, Igbira, Gwari and Idoma. The geopolitical zone is inhabited mainly by minority groups. Religions practiced in the area include Christianity, Islam and traditional religion. All nationalities co-habit in Abuja Federal Capital City and surrounding areas. Benue avows to being Food basket of the Nation. Plateau is known for the production of vegetables. Kogi is Confluence State where River Niger and Benue converge.**
- **North West Population Size - 35,786,944**
- **States - Sokoto, Zamfara, Kaduna, Katsina, Kano, Kano and Kebbi.**
- **Contextual Highlights – The zone is comprised of a heterogeneous mix of Hausas, Fulanis in Majority while other Nigerian tribes are in minority. Sokoto, Katsina and Kebbi States are bordering states between Nigeria and Niger which accounts for the international grazing routes and trans-border movements in this zone. Kano is regarded as an economic city for the North and also the most populated State in Nigeria while Sokoto state is the seat of the Sultan of Sokoto who is also referred to as the leader of the Nigerian Muslims. Predominant Occupation is cattle grazing and farming. The zone suffers from desert encroachment as a slow onset disaster.**

Socio economic risk:

Increase in the rate of armed robbery attacks on banks in **Ogun State** in recent times has forced banks in major towns and cities of the state to close down its operation. Over 20 lives were lost to these attacks in the space of four weeks, with millions of Naira carted away by the robbers armed with sophisticated weapons.

Clash between armed robbers and vigilante groups at Sabo-Ajegunle area of Sagamu in **Ogun state** resulted in the death of three people while over ten people were injured in the crossfire.

A battle of supremacy between two gang leadership in Alamutu market Mushin, **Lagos state** over toll collection led to the death of a 29year old nursing mother. Five more people were injured in the fracas that was quelled by the anti-robbery squad of the Nigeria Police Command in the state.

Director of Finance and Administration (DFA) and the Finance Officer, officials of the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) in Egbeda Local Government Education Authority of **Oyo State**, were sacked by the order of the State Governor over delays in the payment of teachers' salaries in the State.

North Central

Political Risk

In **Kogi State** Capt. Idris Wada of PDP emerged winner at the gubernatorial election conducted on December 3 after clearing 62% of total votes cast, thus defeating Prince Abubakar Audu of Action Congress of Nigeria (ACN) who had 33% of total votes counted while the other contestants shared the rest of the votes. Commentators consider the election as free and fair, although of the 1,325,272 voters reportedly registered, only a total of 518,949 eventually voted, representing less than 40% of eligible voters. Opposition politicians, however, do not accept that the election was indeed free and fair. ACN spokespersons describe the result of the election as ‘satanic’, ‘scientific rigging’, and ‘malicious’ and have thus rejected it. There is no major threat to social stability however tension is said to be high in the state.

The Weekly Highlights is a weekly report from the WANEP Nigeria Early Warning System that documents prioritised incidences considered critical to peace and security across the six geo political zones of the Nigeria. It identifies and captures incidences that have further implications or threat to security or opportunities for peace across the states in Nigeria.

The highlights are categorised and subsumed under four basic thematic areas of Humanitarian, Political, Socio-Economic and Environmental Risks.

It is generated from the incidence reports from data uploaded by WANEP-Nigeria Early Warning Monitors in the thirty six (36) States of Nigeria including the Federal Capital Territory (F.C.T.). Additional information is derived from the media reports and primary observation.

It is analysed and compiled by zonal analysts responsible for each of the six geo political zones with quality control from the WANEP-Nigeria National Secretariat.

In Abuja the lingering clamour by Nigerians against removal of fuel subsidy has finally been put to rest with a resolution by the National Assembly that Federal Government’s determination to remove the subsidy be suspended and modalities for removal reviewed. Meanwhile, also in Abuja the **Nigerian Senate** has passed an Act prohibiting same-sex marriage and approved 14 years jail term for offenders in Nigeria. The Senate also approved 10 years imprisonment for

persons who in anyway promote same-sex amorous relationships and same period of imprisonment for persons who register, operate or participate in gay clubs, societies and organisations. Nigerians appear to be satisfied with the

decision of the Senate and regard same-sex marriage as against Nigerian culture and traditions. Meanwhile the United Kingdom, Canada and USA have called for a review of the Senate's decision.

