



**WANEP-Nigeria**

**West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria**

**National Early Warning System (NEWS)**

**Weekly Highlight**

**Date: 1st- 7th January, 2012.**

- **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 accounts 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, PFulanis, 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.**

**National**

**Socioeconomic Risk:**

The Federal government through the Petroleum Products Price Regulatory Agency announced the deregulation of the downstream oil sector, particularly the removal of the subsidy paid on petrol thereby increasing the pump price of petrol from N65 to N141. This consequently led to the increased in the cost of transportation, goods and food product by over 100%.

**Political Risk:**

Members of *Boko Haram* in a press release gave Southerners/Christians three days ultimatum to leave Northern Nigeria or face the wrath of the sect following the President's declaration of state of emergency in 15 Local Government in four states in Northern Nigeria. The sect beliefs the declaration of state of emergency will endanger the lives of innocent Muslims in the Local governments. The sect also called upon the Northerners/Muslims residing in the Southern part of Nigeria to return to the north where their safety is guaranteed. Security agencies and other critical

- **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.**

stakeholders called on Nigerians to disregard the ultimatum given by the sect.

## North East

### Humanitarian Risk:

**Adamawa state** had two major episodes of violent attacks in the week. Over 20 Igbo traders were killed instantly with another 20 wounded when unknown gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* attacked with the traders having a meeting in **Mubi** Town hall. Over 12 people were reported killed in an attack on Christ Apostolic Church **Jimeta-Yola** when gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* opened fire on the congregation having an evening church program, about 10 other church members were reported wounded in the attack. Due to these, southerners/Christians were reported to have fled the state as the attacks were seen to be in line with the ultimatum given by the *Boko Haram* sect

In **Gombe state**, unknown gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* opened fire on members of Deeper Life Bible Church in Gombe during an evening service. Six people were killed in the attack while ten persons sustained injury.

Two Christian students of University of Maiduguri in **Borno state** were killed by gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram*.

Shoot out between JTF and members of *Boko Haram* in Potiskum, **Yobe state** killed about four persons with several others injured.

Four out of the five commercial Banks in the state were destroyed as well as the Potiskum Divisional Police Headquarters. A Mosque by Salafiya Sect in Potiskum was identified as the hideout of the *Boko Haram* Sect in the town.

Several residents of Potiskum were reported to have left the town following the discovery.

### **North Central**

#### **Political Risk:**

The protest on the removal of subsidy took off in **Abuja** with the collection of signature against the policy. However, the protest was marred by the arrest of the leaders of the protest, eight of whom were released on the following day.

In **Kwara State**, the protest on the removal of fuel subsidy turned sour when the Police in the bid to curb the activities of the protesters killed one of the protesters. The killer cop is yet to be apprehended and Human right lawyers have vowed to take up the issue

The protest in **Benue state** was peaceful and without incident.

### **North West**

#### **Humanitarian Risk:**

Bomb explosion by unknown men suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* took **Jigawa State** by surprise. The explosion targeted at the Birinwa LGA Police station killed one girl and wounded one policeman.

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*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.*

Due to the ultimatum given by the members of *Boko Haram*, many Igbo traders were reported to have relocated from **Kano state** to the southern part of the country.

### **South west**

#### **Humanitarian Risk**

A two-storey building under construction collapsed in **Lagos state** killing four people with several others sustaining various degrees of injury.

#### **Political Risk:**

**Lagos and Oyo state** citizens lead by the civil society actors and other critical stakeholders embarked on protest against the Federal Government policy to remove fuel subsidy.

### **South East**

#### **Socioeconomic Risk:**

A branch of GT Bank in **Imo state** was burnt totally in a midnight inferno. The Nigeria Fire Service in the state was not able to respond to the incident.

A large number of Northerners in **Anambra state** were reported to have left the state to safeguard their lives from possible reprisal attack to the killings of southerners/Christians in Northern Nigeria by members of *Boko haram*.

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