



WANEP-Nigeria

West Africa Network for Peacebuilding Nigeria

National Early Warning System (NEWS)

Weekly Highlight

Date: 15th - 21st July, 2012.

National

Political Risk:

In **Abuja**, members of the **House of Representatives** in their last sitting before their annual recess threatened to commence impeachment procedure against President Goodluck Jonathan for poor implementation of the 2012 budget and the non-release of funds to ministries, departments and agencies of government to implement projects, which was termed as violation of the 1999 Constitution, the 2012 budget as passed by the National Assembly. Budget implementation so far was between 12.6% and 34%. The Lower House has threatened to commence the impeachment proceedings against the President, according to section 143 of the 1999 Constitution, if budget implementation is not up to 100% by the 18th of September when the House will reconvene. Many members of the public, however, doubt the sincerity of the House of Representatives on this matter.

The Federal Government ended the State of Emergency declared on December 31, 2011 in a nationwide broadcast on 15 local governments (LGA) at the peak of the violence unleashed on the northern part of the country by members of *Boko Haram* sect. The affected LGAs are Maiduguri Metropolitan, Gamboru Ngala, Banki Bama and Jere in

- **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.**

Borno State, Damaturu, Geidam, Potiskum, Buniyadi-Gujba and Gasua-Bade in **Yobe State**, Jos North, Jos South, Barkin-Ladi and Riyom in **Plateau State**

and Suleja LGA in **Niger State** were placed under emergency rule. The decision to end the emergency rule communicated by the Attorney-General of the Federation and Minister of Justice was to enable government put in place appropriate confidence building measures to improve security in the affected areas. The emergency rule did little or nothing to address the security concerns as violence still goes on unabated in the states.

North Central

Political Risk:

Following the attacks on Berom communities in Riyom and Barkin Ladi LGA of **Plateau state** which killed about 100 people, the Defense Headquarters gave a 48hrs relocation order to residents of Mahanga, Kakuruk, Kuzen, Maseh and Shong villages of Barkin Ladi and Riyom LGA majority of whom are Fulani to give way for military operation targeted at flushing out the suspected Fulani gunmen believed to still be hiding in the hills of the villages. The call was initially described by the Fulanis as a ploy by the state government to dispossess the Fulani's of their occupancy of the villages and was rejected. However the Fulani communities were relocated to camps in Riyom and Barkin Ladi LGAs but many of them were said to have abandoned the camp after 2 days and returned to their villages for poor living condition in the camps and to prepared for the month long Ramadan fasting. It is however unclear if the Fulanis defied orders by returning to the villages while the military operation is ongoing or they were allowed to leave the camp by the Special Task

- **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.**

- **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.**

Force (STF). The STF shortly afterwards announced the end of the military operation without any detail on the success or failure of the operation.

Humanitarian Risk:

About 1,000 members of the Living Faith Church, aka Winners Chapel and the Deeper Life Church located along Obehira Road in Okene, Kogi **State** were said to have escaped death from an explosive laden vehicle suspected to be on suicide mission to the church. The vehicle was alleged to have been stopped by an official and exploded while the driver was being interrogated. The driver was said to have been arrested by the police.

The **Kogi State** Command of the Nigeria Police Force recovered 46 Improvised Explosive Devices in Okaito area of the state during a raid on an apartment. The suspect of the Sunday explosion in Okene was said to have led the police to the apartment. Fifteen capacitors, 15 fuses, one electric detonator with capacity to detonate objects within metres range, five litres of raw acid and roll of firing cables, 250 mm detonating cord, 25 kg of ammonium nitrate, three pieces of handheld phones, a box of nails and 54 ammunitions of 5.56 calibres were also recovered from the apartment. One occupant of the apartment was arrested in the raid.

At least 20 people out of the 50 passengers on a canoe taking passengers from Patigi in **Kwara State** to Nupeko village in **Niger State** were reportedly drowned when the canoe capsized in River Kaduna in **Kwara state** shortly after colliding with a log of wood. 30 of the passengers were

rescued alive while the bodies of 17 people mostly women and children were recovered from the river.

A rocket propelled grenade attack on an Islamic School in Bukuru, Jos South LGA of **Plateau state** killed a nine year old boy and wounded three other people. Unidentified persons were said to have launched the rocket from a vehicle beside the Islamiyya School while the students were writing exams. There were claims that the grenade was targeted at the nearby Secretariat of Jos South LGA but deflected and hit the wall of the school. The incident caused panic in the city and women groups went on non-violent demonstration to protest the incident.

North East

Political Risk:

Gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* attacked Police formations, including a Police Area Command, State's CID, and a Police Division in Damaturu, **Yobe state**. Two policemen were reported killed in the attack with one person sustaining bullet wound, the attack was few weeks after the massive onslaught of *Boko Haram* on the state that killed over 100 people. No arrest was made in the incident.

In Nasarawa ward of Damaturu, **Yobe State**, 15-year-old twins were slaughtered in their resident by unidentified persons. The same gunmen were reported to have burnt down the Yobe Children's Academy around earlier in the day. Reports from the State Police Command claimed the attack was carried out by members of *Boko Haram*.

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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.

In Maiduguri, **Borno state**, four traders were shot dead by gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* in an early morning attack on Monday Market in the city. The gunmen were said to have opened fire on the victims outside their shops in a manner that suggested that the victims were specially targeted as they were all Christian Ibo traders. The gunmen were said to have fled the scene immediately. No arrest was made.

In Kalleri Ward of Jere LGA, **Borno state**, members of the Military Joint Task Force set several houses on fire in the bid to track down suspected members of *Boko Haram* in the area. No life was lost in the incident but properties were destroyed, an action the spokesman of *Boko Haram* described as the spur for many of their attacks on security institutions and schools.

A female Councillor representing Bolori ward 1 of **Borno state** was killed in her residence in Maiduguri by unknown gunmen. The incident took place during curfew hours.

North West

Political risk:

In Kano, **Kano state**, three people including a Police Constable, were shot dead in an abandoned factory in Sharada industrial area of the city by four unknown gunmen that operated from two motorcycles. The gunmen suspected to be members of *Boko Haram* were said to have driven into the factory and shot the victims two of

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who died on the spot while the third one died later at the hospital. No arrest was made.

Humanitarian Risk:

In Malam Madori LGA of **Jigawa state**, about 10 people were reported killed in the flood caused by torrential rainfall in the area. Hundreds of people were reported displaced in the incident many of whom the state government camped in makeshift IDP camps in schools in the area.

South East

Socioeconomic Risk:

In Onitsha, **Anambra state**, no fewer than 16 persons were seriously injured with the operational office of the Anambra State Task Force on street trading known as *Ndi Mpiawazu* burnt down. The attack was allegedly carried out by over 500 youth suspected to be members of the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra, (MASSOB) over issues of control of motor parks in the area.

South south:

Humanitarian Risk:

In Abuloma Jetty in Port Harcourt, **Rivers state**, a vessel was said to have exploded while a welding work was going on inside it. Two barges, one Tug boat and one fishing boat were among items lost to the explosion. While eye witness account put the number of dead to be about 30 persons, government official release through NEMA said four persons were killed with two injured.

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Six people were killed instantly in a head on collision between two vehicles on Evreni Road in Ughelli North LGA of **Delta state** with over ten others seriously injured. Officials of the Federal Road Safety put the cause of the accident to over speeding and poor adherence to safety rule by the drivers.

South West:

Environmental Risk:

Thousands of people were rendered homeless due to the demolition exercise carried out in Makoko water front by Lagos State Government. According to the officials, the demolition was to check the unauthorized expansion of the water front community into the Lagos Lagoon which has huge environmental challenges for the state. The residents of the water front however were not pleased with the 72 hours notice they were given. While the residents were on a non-violent demonstration in the area, a Police Corporal shot and killed one of the community leaders of the water front. Despite this, the demolition continued as the state government promised to provide palliatives for the affected residents.

Humanitarian Risk:

About one thousand people were reported displaced with five people dead in a midnight flood caused by torrential rainfall in Odo-Ona and Oke-Ayo areas of Ibadan South-West LGA, **Oyo State**. **Many** houses, churches, mosques and shops were submerged in flood with properties worth millions of naira destroyed in the flood. The areas were also affected in the August, 2011 flood disaster which killed over 100 lives. It was alleged that the Landlord Association of the area thwarted the state government's

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efforts to demolish some illegal structure and make adequate passage for water in the riverine area.

