



# WEST AFRICA NETWORK FOR PEACEBUILDING

## West Africa Early Warning and Response Program - Weekly Alerts on Peace and Security in West Africa

### • HIGH

- o High potential for political destabilisation/instability
- o High number of death (above 20)/major properties damages
- o High number of population affected ( inability of the population to cope)
- o Low capacity of the state to respond to it

### • MEDIUM

- o Significant effect on political destabilisation
- o Significant reported cases of loss of life (5 to 20) and property
- o Moderate Capacity of the state to respond to it

### • LOW

- o Low effect on Political destabilisation
- o Loss of life (0 to 5)and property destruction not significant
- o High Capacity of the state to respond

## GHANA

### WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13 TO 19, 2023

### **Organised Crime and Violent Extremism**

*(key concept clarification; causes; indicators and signs that push to radicalization; profiling and assessment or perpetrators of violent extremism; current violent extremism events; impact of violent extremism on population; the cross-cutting and patterns of violent extremism; actions and policies to counter violent extremism. Also, crimes related to syndicates and criminal groups that lead to insecurity and instability)*

#### 🚩 Incident N\*01

🚩 Title of Incident: **Armed Robbery**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 18-02-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: A man suspected to be an armed robber has been knocked down and killed during an attack at a fuel station and an attempted car snatching were at Gomoa Ojobi. The deceased armed robber and his gang of six are reported to have attempted to snatch a Range Rover after robbing a station. The men stormed the filling station on the night of February 18, 2023, and fired several warning shots to scare off bystanders and staff of the filling station before robbing the attendants.<sup>1</sup>

🚩 Location of incident: Gomoa Ojobi, Central region

🚩 Casualty [Male &female]: 1 dead (male)

🚩 Property damaged/Affected population: The vehicle owner and the attendants of a fuel station were affected

🚩 Coping mechanism/Responses: The other five robbers bolted with mobile phones and an unspecified amount of money. The remains of the killed armed robber has been deposited at the Winneba Trauma and Specialist Hospital while the Gomoa Dominase Police Command has also commissioned investigations into the robbery.

#### 🚩 Incident N\*02

🚩 Title of Incident: **Lynching/Theft/Arrest**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 13-02-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: A man believed to be in his late 30s was inflicted cutlass wounds after he was caught stealing mobile phones from a native doctor's house at Gomoa Akwamu in the Central Region. The incident happened on Monday, February 13, 2023. The suspect is said to have stolen ten mobile phones and money belonging to some accident victims who were receiving treatment at the Native Doctor's house. Some angry residents revealed that the suspect had been stealing their items for some time now and has been on their wanted list.<sup>2</sup>

🚩 Location of incident: Gomoa Akwamu in the Central Region

🚩 Casualty [Male &female]: 1 injured (male)

🚩 Property damaged/Affected population: One suspect nearly lynched

🚩 Coping mechanism/Responses: The suspect was rescued by the Agona Swedru District Police Command and sent to the Agona Swedru Government hospital, where he is receiving treatment under police guard.

#### 🚩 Incident N\*03

🚩 Title of Incident: **Police apprehend two suspected human traffickers**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 13-02-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: The Ghana Police Service has arrested two people believed to be members of a human trafficking syndicate. The two, a driver and his accomplice were picked up on Monday, February 13, 2023. The crackdown came after over 20 foreigners including children were caught sheltering near a basic school in the Asokore Municipality of the Ashanti Region.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Suspected-robber-killed-at-Gomoa-Ojobi-after-his-gang-attacked-fuel-station-1717310>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Mobile-phone-thief-nearly-lynched-at-Gomoa-Akwamu-in-the-Central-Region-1714127>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Police-bust-two-suspected-human-traffickers-1713770>



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🚩 **Location of incident:** Asokore Municipality of the Ashanti Region

🚩 **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** Two persons arrested

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Officials of the Asokore Mampong Municipal Assembly acted after their attention was drawn to the case leading to the arrest of the two persons.

#### 🚩 **Incident N\*04**

🚩 **Title of Incident:** **Police arrest suspected armed robber in Bimbilla**

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** Low

🚩 **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 16-02-2023

🚩 **Description of Incident:** A suspected armed robber was arrested on Thursday, February 16, 2023, by the police in Bimbilla. The suspect, together with five others is alleged to have tied a Fulbe man in the bush, beat him up with sticks, inflicted cutlass wounds on him, and taken away seven of the victims' cattle. Two of the cattle were later seen in a tricycle at Bincheratanga being transported to Saboba.<sup>4</sup>

🚩 **Location of incident:** Bimbilla, Northern region

🚩 **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** Five persons

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The suspects have been arrested by the police for prosecution.

#### 🚩 **Incident N\*05**

🚩 **Title of Incident:** **One person arrested for unlawful possession of firearm at Nyankpala**

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** Low

🚩 **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 16-02-2023

🚩 **Description of Incident:** One person is in the grips of the police in Nyankpala in the Northern Region for illegal possession of a firearm. The suspect was arrested at night by some residents of Nyankpala, where there have been some tensions over chieftaincy. According to sources in the Northern Regional Police Command, the motive of the suspect is unknown, but residents say he was found lurking around the premises of the chief's palace.<sup>5</sup>

🚩 **Location of incident:** Nyankpala, in the Northern Region

🚩 **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** One arrest made

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The suspect is in police custody for further investigation and subsequent arraignment before a court.

### **Gender, peace and security**

*Key concept clarification violence against women and girls; women participation in conflict; impact of conflict on women; women's role in peace and security; policies for and against women; assessment of current events on women peace and security.*

#### 🚩 **Incident N\*01**

🚩 **Title of Incident:** **Bawku conflict: 27 pregnant women die over inability to access hospital**

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** High

🚩 **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-02-2023

🚩 **Description of Incident:** Between 2021 and 2022, 27 pregnant women in need of critical medical attention died in the Bawku Municipality due to their inability to visit and receive medical care at the Bawku Presbyterian Hospital, the only major referral health facility in the heart of the municipality. Due to the increased insecurity in the municipality, there has been a high demand for transfer among staff to leave the municipality to work in health facilities in other districts.

🚩 **Location of incident:** Bawku in Upper East Region

🚩 **Casualty [Male &female]:** 27 female dead

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** Twenty-Seven women.

<sup>4</sup> <https://citinewsroom.com/2023/02/police-arrest-suspected-armed-robber-in-bimbilla/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://citinewsroom.com/2023/02/one-person-arrested-for-unlawful-possession-of-firearm-at-nyankpala/>



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✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The Upper East Regional Minister, Stephen Yakubu, led members of the Regional Security Council (REGSEC) to interact with the feuding parties, with the aim of restoring peace to the area.<sup>6</sup>

#### ✚ Incident N\*02

✚ **Title of Incident:** Defilement/Arrest

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-02-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** The Agona Swedru District Police Command has detained a 38-year-old man, Hamid Nana Baidoo, for allegedly defiling three teenage students on their way home from school. The incident happened on Monday, February 13, 2023. Reports said the students were returning from school when the suspect invited the 3 girls to join him in his car because he was headed the same direction as the students. The report added that the suspect then drove them to his home and locked the three minors up, and threatened to unleash his dogs on them should they raise an alarm. He then stripped them naked and allegedly defiled them while playing loud music to suppress their cries for assistance.<sup>7</sup>

✚ **Location of incident:** Agona Swedru, Central region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 3 injured (females)

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Three minors affected

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The victims informed their parents of the incident when they returned home. The suspect was later arrested and arraigned before the Agona Swedru Circuit Court on Thursday, February 16, 2023.

## Democracy and Governance

*(Key concept clarification—rule of law; actions of branches of government; elections and its implications to transition processes; stakeholders' analysis; events of threats to political transitions; protocols and threats and treaties for democratic stability; constitutional amendments; stakeholders' response)*

#### ✚ Incident N\*01

✚ **Title of Incident:** Strike

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-12-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** Northern Electricity Distribution Company (NEDCo) workers are currently on strike demanding the removal of their Managing Director, Osmani Aludiba Ayuba, for non-performance. But the strike is beginning to bite hard as some workers and doctors of Tamale Teaching Hospital have started feeling the discomfort in their homes.

✚ **Location of incident:** Tamale in the Northern Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Households and hospital facilities

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Some doctors at the Tamale Teaching Hospital are threatening to boycott work if NEDCO refuses to restore light immediately.<sup>8</sup>

#### ✚ Incident N\*02

✚ **Title of Incident:** Clash/Arrest

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-02-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** A 24-year-old Joseph Mensah, from Abream in the Amansie South District of the Ashanti Region, suffered a fracture and injuries on his stomach after some police officers stationed at Asanko Gold Mines allegedly shot him in a renewed clash. The youth also reportedly vandalized the company's vehicles and burnt one of their tipper trucks.

✚ **Location of incident:** Abream in the Amansie South District of the Ashanti Region,

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 1 injured (male)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.adomonline.com/bawku-conflict-27-pregnant-women-die-over-inability-to-access-hospital/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/How-a-man-defiled-3-school-girls-in-5-hours-at-Agona-Swedru-Report-1716593>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.adomonline.com/tamale-teaching-hospital-workers-threaten-strike-over-power-outage/>



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✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Unconfirmed number of vehicles vandalized, and a tipper truck burnt down.

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The injured victim was rushed to the Agroyesum St. Martins Hospital where he is receiving treatment at the time of filing this report. Two of the illegal miners were arrested following the confrontation.

## Environmental security

*(Key concept clarification-Epidemics and pandemics (causatives factors, impact and threat to human security at localized levels and at regional levels); food security (agro-pastoralist conflicts); natural and man-made disasters, humanitarian crisis, climate change (industrialisation, pollution, destruction of ecosystem). Biodiversity)*

### ✚ Incident N\*01

✚ **Title of Incident:** Fire Outbreak

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-02-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** A fire outbreak in Yagaba, the Mamprugu Moaduri District capital of the North East Region has left many properties at the district warehouse burnt to ashes. The incident which occurred between the hours of 2-3 pm on Monday, February 13, 2023, is said to be a bushfire which destroyed over 250 sets of plastic materials parked at the yard of the district warehouse in Yagaba.<sup>9</sup>

✚ **Location of incident:** Yagaba, the Mamprugu Moaduri District capital of the North East Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** The district warehouse was affected.

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** A construction firm, MAWUMS Company Limited drove to the scene with a water tanker, and in collaboration with the youth of Yagaba, they doused the fire.

### ✚ Incident N\*02

✚ **Title of Incident:** Fire Outbreak

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 18-02-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** A seven-bedroom residential apartment at Nkontwima in the Tafo Municipality of the Ashanti Region was razed by fire due to a freezer connected to a faulty socket. The occupants were able to evacuate the building unscathed after neighbors came to their aide.<sup>10</sup>

✚ **Location of incident:** Tafo Municipality of the Ashanti Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** The apartment was burnt in addition some properties therein.

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The Fire department in Tafo was called unto the scene to douse the fire.

### ✚ Incident N\*03

✚ **Title of Incident:** Fire Outbreak

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 15-02-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** The Accra timber market was gutted by fire on February 15, 2023. Six fire engines from Accra Regional Headquarters; Accra City, National Headquarters, Ministries, Circle and Parliament House Fire Stations were mobilized to contain the fire.<sup>11</sup>

✚ **Location of incident:** Accra, Greater Accra Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None reported.

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Market structures and goods were affected

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Personnel from the Ghana National Fire Service say they are investigating the cause of the fire outbreak at Accra Timber market on Wednesday, 15 February 2023.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/Bushfire-guts-Mamprugu-Moaduri-District-warehouse-1717166>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Inferno-destroys-seven-bedroom-apartment-at-Tafo-1716905>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Accra-timber-market-fire-under-investigation-GNFS-1715192>



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#### 🚩 Incident N\*04

🚩 Title of Incident: **Fire Outbreak**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 16-02-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: Two wood processing companies at Sokoban Wood Village in the Kumasi Metropolis of the Ashanti region have been gutted by fire. Frankom Company Furniture was completely burnt while Willie Boch was partially burnt. The fire started around 1 am, Thursday, 16 February 2023.<sup>12</sup>

🚩 Location of incident: Kumasi, Ashanti region

🚩 Casualty [Male &female]: None

🚩 Property damaged/Affected population: Two wood processing companies

🚩 Coping mechanism/Responses: Firefighters responding to distress calls, rushed to the scene and confined it from further spreading.

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/regional/Two-wood-processing-companies-destroyed-by-fire-1715414>