



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 JULY 17 TO 23, 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: **Two Arrested for Possession of Assault Rifle and Ammunition**

Scale of Incident: Low

Date of occurrence of Incident: 18-07-23

Description of Incident: Two Nigerians have been arrested by the Kasoa Divisional Police Command for allegedly possession of an AK47 assault rifle and 48 rounds of ammunition. The suspects were arrested during a routine stop and search operation by a police patrol at Lamptey in Kasoa. During the search, wrapped leaves suspected to be narcotics were found in the pocket of one of the suspects. Further investigation led to the discovery of an assault rifle, a magazine with 28 rounds of ammunition and another set concealed in a 'dove' body lotion container.¹

Location of incident: Kasoa, Central Region

Casualty [Male &female]: None

Property damaged/Affected population: Two persons arrested

Coping mechanism/Responses: The Kasoa Magistrate Court has sentenced the 2 suspects to 24 months each in prison on narcotics related charges.

Incident N*02

Title of Incident: **Armed Attack/Ethno-Chieftaincy**

Scale of Incident: Medium

Date of occurrence of Incident: 21-07-2023

Description of Incident: Some persons have been reportedly killed after some armed persons believed to be linked to the ongoing chieftaincy conflict at Bawku shot at their bus. The bus, according to a statement by the Ghana Police Service, was a Bawku-bound vehicle from Kumasi in the Ashanti Region. The incident, the statement added, happened on the outskirts of the North East Region in the early hours of Friday, July 21, 2023. The incident is also said to have left several persons injured.

Location of incident: Walewale, North East region

Casualty [Male &female]: 3 dead, several injured

Property damaged/Affected population: Passengers on board the busses that were attacked

Coping mechanism/Responses: The Police is on a manhunt for the group responsible for the attack on the Kumasi-Bawku bound bus.

Incident N*03

Title of Incident: **Aflao SHS robbery: Transformer dismantled; underground cables stolen**

Scale of Incident: Low

Date of occurrence of Incident: 21-07-2023

Description of Incident: Some unknown persons have allegedly broken into the premises of the Aflao Senior High School (SHS) and dismantled the electricity transformer that feeds the school with power. The robbers also stole some components from it.

Location of incident: Aflao, Volta Region

Casualty [Male &female]: None

Property damaged/Affected population: Staff and students of Aflao Senior High School (SHS)

¹ <https://citinewsroom.com/2023/07/two-nigerians-in-possession-of-ak-47-48-rounds-of-ammunition-arrested/>



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- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Mr Shadrack Abiuw, the Headmaster of the school, has appealed to the Ketu South Municipal Assembly and the Electricity Company of Ghana to help replace the transformer for smooth academic activities to continue.²

✚ Incident N*04

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** **Robbery gang leader arrested by civilians**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 17-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** A suspected notorious robber who has reportedly been terrorizing Sekondi-Takoradi residents with his gang. The suspect, whose name has been given as Nii Addo, is said to have been on the police wanted list for a while. The suspect was on a motorbike with one of his gang members and decided to snatch the mobile phone of a young man but was captured by residents subsequently.³
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Takoradi, Central region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** The suspect was arrested
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The suspect has been handed over to the Central Police Station in Takoradi.

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:** **Motor rider jailed seven years for defilement**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** Reported 22-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** The Hohoe Circuit Court has sentenced John Hygene Ahiadji, a 40-year-old commercial motor rider and a former teacher, to seven years imprisonment for defiling an 11-year-old class six pupil.⁴
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Hohoe, Volta region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** none
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** One person arrested and prosecuted.
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Ahiadji who appeared before the Court on May 15, 2023, pleaded not guilty to the charge of defilement but the Court found him guilty and subsequently convicted him after a full trial.

✚ Incident N*02

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** **Attempted Homicide/Assault**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 18-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** A 22-year-old seamstress, Ms Linda Agyiri, and her father are in medical care at the St Francis Xavier Hospital in Assin Fosu after her ex-boyfriend inflicted cutlass wounds on them at Assin-Essan in the Assin North District.⁵
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Assin-Essan in the Assin North District.
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 2 injured (1 male, 1 female).
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** A father and daughter were affected
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The Police have begun investigations into the case and called on the public to volunteer timely information that could lead to the arrest of the suspect.

✚ Incident N*03

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** **Man allegedly butchers girlfriend over misunderstanding at Dunkwa-Offin/Arrest**

² <https://myjoyonline.com/aflao-shs-robbery-transformer-dismantled-underground-cables-stolen>

³ <https://3news.com/tdi-notorious-robbery-gang-leader-arrested-by-civilians/>

⁴ <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Motor-rider-jailed-seven-years-for-defilement-1809641>

⁵ <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Man-butchers-girlfriend-after-stabbing-her-father-at-Assin-Essan-police-mount-search-1810154>



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- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** Reported 21-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** A man known to be in his late 30s has allegedly butchered his girlfriend, Gifty, a 28-year-old over a misunderstanding. Sources claim that although neither of them was from Dunkwa-on-Offin they had fall out and came to the town, where the man killed the woman.⁶
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Dunkwa-on-Offin. Ashanti region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 1 dead (female)
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Two persons affected.
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The man has since been arrested and is in police custody for investigation.

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:** **Weapons and ammunition found on refugees at the Ghana-Burkina Faso Border**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 17-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** National security is intensifying surveillance at the country's border with Burkina Faso following the arrest of some alleged refugees who were found with weapons and ammunition after a thorough search was conducted on them. The refugees were allegedly dressed as nursing mothers.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Ghana-Burkina Faso Border
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** None
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Deputy Defence Minister, Kwaku Amankwah Manu has said that the development has pushed the security agencies to tighten the search on asylum seekers.⁷

✚ Incident N*02

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** **1.5 million Ghanaian youth not engaged in education, employment, or training**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Medium
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 18-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** In a concerning revelation, the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) has released its monthly press release, shedding light on the education and employment status of young people in the country. According to the Annual Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2022 Third Quarter Labour Statistics Report, approximately 1.5 million individuals between the ages of 15 and 24 in Ghana were not engaged in education, employment, or training (NEET) during the third quarter of 2022.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Greater Accra
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 1.5 individuals between the ages of 15 and 24
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The release of this data coincided with World Youth Skills Day, celebrated annually on July 15, which aims to emphasize the significance of equipping young people with skills for employment, decent work, and entrepreneurship. The theme for this year, "skilling teachers, trainers, and youth for a transformative future," highlights the importance of providing quality education and vocational training opportunities to empower young individuals in shaping their futures.⁸

✚ Incident N*03

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** **Road Accident**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **-Date of occurrence of Incident:** 18-07-2023

⁶ <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Man-butchers-girlfriend-over-misunderstanding-at-Dunkwa-Offin-1809356>

⁷ <https://myjoyonline.com/weapons-and-ammunition-found-on-some-refugees-at-the-ghana-burkina-faso-border>

⁸ <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/1-5million-ghanaian-youth-not-engaged-in-education-employment-or-training.html>



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- ✚ **Description of Incident:** Three persons have died, while several others sustained injuries in an accident that occurred near Sekyere Kankan on the Kumasi to Volta Region. The driver as reported to have sought to give way to another vehicle trying to overtake, and thus veered off in a bush in the attempt.⁹
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Sekyere Kankan on the Kumasi to Volta, Ashanti Region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 3 dead, several injured
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** More than 10 persons affected
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The Ghana Police and the Ambulance Service were swift in their response in to the incident and also transporting the injured passengers to a hospital.

✚ Incident N*04

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** 3 Fishermen arrested for fishing during closed season
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 21-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** Three fishermen are in the grips of the Denu Police in the Volta Region for fishing during the closed season. They were arrested during a joint operation by the officials of the Eastern Naval Command and the Fisheries Enforcement Unit (FEU), the Monitoring Control Surveillance Division (MCSD) and the Marine Police.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Denu, Volta Region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 3 males arrested
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** They have been identified as Atitso Atsitsogbui, Seth Kwesi Abelia and Agbesi Atisu. Some of their accomplices who fled upon seeing members of the Closed Season Monitoring Team, are being pursued. The fish they had caught on their fishing expedition were retrieved while the canoe they were using has been impounded.¹⁰

✚ Incident N*05

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** Attack against journalists is terrorism — Ghana Journalist Association
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 20-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** The Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) has described attacks against journalists and media practitioners as terrorism and has therefore called on the Ministry of Interior and other relevant agencies to investigate and prosecute the culprits.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Greater Accra Region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Journalists
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The President of the association, Albert Kwabena Dwumfour, assured the victims of the attacks that the GJA would follow through with the petitions submitted to seek justice for all of them, adding that no one was above the law, irrespective of authority, rank or command.¹¹

✚ Incident N*06

- ✚ **Title of Incident:** Clash between Asawase traders and “macho” men turns bloody
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Medium
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 18-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** Violence erupted after traders at Asawase clashed with heavily built men. The incident reportedly happened when the men encountered some angry traders who attempted to stop an ongoing project in the area for fear of being evicted.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Asawase, Ashanti Region
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Traders

⁹ <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Three-dead-several-injured-in-accident-on-Kumasi-Volta-Region-Road-1806665>

¹⁰ <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/3-fishermen-arrested-for-fishing-during-closed-season.html>

¹¹ <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/attacks-against-journalists-terrorism-gja.html>



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- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Spokesperson for the affected traders, Mr. Nafie alleged that the macho men were hired by the contractor in charge of the project to beat them up. Calm returned to the area after the incident.¹²

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:** **6-year-old girl dead, another missing after heavy rains in Kintampo**
- ✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low
- ✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 17-07-2023
- ✚ **Description of Incident:** A six-year-old girl has died after the tricycle she was traveling with was swept away by an overflowing river, after heavy rains in the area. A search team found the deceased's body on Monday, July 17, 2023, morning and is still in search of the four-year-old.
- ✚ **Location of incident:** Kintampo, Bono-East region.
- ✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** 1 dead (female).
- ✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 2 persons
- ✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Speaking to Adom TV, the Director of NADMO for the area, A. B. Mohammed, said they were working around the clock to ensure that the girl is found.¹³

¹² <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Clash-between-Asawase-traders-and-macho-men-turns-bloody-1807226>

¹³ <https://myjoyonline.com/6-year-old-girl-dead-another-missing-after-heavy-rains-in-kintampo>