

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 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 OCTOBER 1 TO 8,2023

## Organised Crime and Violent Extremism

(key concept clarification; causes; indicators and signs that push to radicalization; profiling and assessment or perpetuators 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: Kumasi murder suspect admits to stealing GH¢167,000 in another case
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 02-10-2023
- Description of Incident: John Allister, 22, made headlines last month for allegedly stabbing 35-year-old Stella Osei, aka Princess Afua Ahenkan to death. Stella had employed Allister for only six days when the latter allegedly murdered her. Allister, along with other accomplices, allegedly sold a KIA Sportage vehicle belonging to his employer, and also carted away from the victim's home, bags of rice, cooking oil, plus other assorted items. Allister is alleged to have used some of the proceeds from the sale of the car to buy a Toyota Vitz.
- Location of incident: Apaaso, Ashanti Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: None
- Property damaged/Affected population: 1 male
- Coping mechanism/Responses: ASP Stephen Ofori told the Asokwa Circuit Court presided by Her Honour Vida Yeboah that Allister admitted the offense and told police investigators how he spent the amount by using part of it to rent and furnish an apartment. He is expected to appear before the Asokore Mampong District Court, Tuesday 3 October 2023.1

### Incident N\*02

- Title of Incident: Two ride hailing drivers killed within 3 months
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 03-10-2023
- Description of Incident: Two ride hailing drivers have been reportedly killed. The two victims have been identified as Michael Adzormani aged 25 and Alfred Avomyo also aged 32.Reports suggests that a gang who for the past three months, order rides on an online application allegedly strangle the drivers to death and take their cars away when the drivers heed their calls.
- Location of incident: Kaneshie, Greater Accra
- Casualty [Male & female]: 2 dead (males)
- Property damaged/Affected population: 2 males
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The Kaneshie District Court presided over by Nana Abena Owusu-Omenyo, adjourned the case to October 19, 2023, after the police pleaded for more time to do further investigations and arrest four other suspects who are currently at large.<sup>2</sup>

- Title of Incident: Two small scale miners jailed for stealing
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 02-10-2023
- Description of Incident: Theophilus Nyame and Lord Aidoo, were both charged with conspiracy and stealing pleaded guilty to the offense. Charles Owusu Nsiah, the presiding judge said that the court fined the culprits GHS 600 each or in default three months imprisonment. The Prosecutor, Sergeant Douglas Addae, told the court that the complainant, Severin Mouity, lived with the accused persons at Nsuaem. On August 31, 2023, at about 0630 hours, the complainant received a distress call from his assistant that he visited the office located around the Royal Midway Hotel in Nsuaem and noticed that some portion of the roofing had been ripped off.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.myjoyonline.com/kumasi-murder-suspect-admits-to-stealing-gh%c2%a2167000-in-another-case/

https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/6-online-app-drivers-killed-within-3-months-1855187



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- Location of incident: Tarkwa, Western Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: None
- Property damaged/Affected population: 2 males
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The Prosecutor said Aidoo was subsequently arrested and confessed to the police that he only assisted Nyame in carrying the stolen items to his room after the operation.<sup>3</sup>

#### Incident N\*04

- Title of Incident: Two grabbed for stealing Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) cables
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 03-10-2023
- Description of Incident: Two suspects were arrested for stealing Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) cables. The two suspects, Baba Kasim and Alu Cudjoe, had in their possession 3-kilometer-long conductors of ECG valued at GH¢103,000 when they were caught. Benso and its surrounding communities have been enduring long spells of power cuts due to some persons either tampering or stealing supply cables of the ECG. Residents and business owners complained bitterly about how the rampant and unannounced power outages have affected them. Some community members, therefore, formed a watchdog to investigate whether the cause of the power failures was due to human activities or was caused by ECG. One of their routine surveillance activities led to the arrest of Baba Kasim and Alu Cudjoe.
- Location of incident: Benso, Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipality, Western Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: None
- Property damaged/Affected population: Two persons arrested
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The Western Region Public Relations Officer of ECG Benjamin Quarcoo indicated the activities of such individuals were affecting their ability to supply power to their customers and warned persons who have targeted their installations that they would be made to face stiffer punishments.<sup>4</sup>

## Incident N\*05

- Title of Incident: Proliferation of Guns
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 04-10-23
- Description of Incident: The Tatale Police on September 30 intercepted and retrieved an M16 rifle from two herdsmen. The gun which was carried without authority was hidden in a sack and carried on an unregistered motorbike they travelled on. The two fled and abandoned both the bike and the rifle on sensing danger that their lives were at stake. A search conducted revealed the rifle and an empty magazine case.<sup>5</sup>
- Location of incident: Tatale, Northern Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: None
- Property damaged/Affected population: None
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The motorbike has been impounded and the sack containing the rifle and empty magazine case have been retained at the police station for evidential purposes.

# 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 again: women; assessment of current events on women peace and security.

- Title of Incident: 28-year-old man allegedly kills 22-year-old lover
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 07-10-2023
- Description of Incident: A 28-year-old man allegedly killed his 22-year-old lover The incident occurred on Sunday October 7, 2023, night. The deceased has been identified as Patience Abena Obeng. Reports indicate that the suspect stabbed Patience with scissors and a chisel, leading to her death. Family members revealed that Patience

https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Two-small-scale-miners-jailed-for-stealing-television-set-1855076

<sup>4</sup> https://3news.com/w-r-two-grabbed-for-stealing-ecg-cables/

https://citinewsroom.com/2023/10/northern-region-police-retrieve-refiles-from-herdsmen-at-tatale/



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left home at about 10:30 p.m. to visit her boyfriend. Around 11:00 p.m., the suspect's co-tenants said they heard the deceased shouting for help, but they ignored her. This, according to them, was because the couple usually engaged in such fights.

- Location of incident: Ekumfi Dunkwa, Central Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: 1 dead (female)
- Property damaged/Affected population: One person affected.
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The father of the deceased, Ekow Baidoo, has called for justice.<sup>6</sup>

#### Incident N\*02

- Title of Incident: Man 35 sentenced to 71 years in prison for defilement of minors
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 03-10-2023
- Description of Incident: The Wa Circuit Court has handed down a 71-year prison sentence to a 35-year-old man, Ahmed Rashid, who was found guilty on 10 counts of defilement. Rashid had previously denied the charges, pleading not guilty. Presided over by His Honor Jonathan Avogo, the court delivered its decision after determining that Rashid, a local master of ceremonies (MC), had engaged in sexual acts with seven minors (girls).
- Location of incident: Wa, Upper West Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: 7 females
- Property damaged/Affected population: 7 female minors
- Coping mechanism/Responses: During the proceedings on August 23, a medical officer at the Wa Municipal Hospital, Dr. Alhassan Mohammed Mubarak, provided crucial confirmation of the assaults in a solemn courtroom. Meanwhile Dr. Mubarak's testimony revealed that all the victims had lost their hymens, underscoring the gravity of the crimes committed.7

- Title of Incident: Teen mother found dead in suspected suicide
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 05-101-2023
- Description of Incident: A teen mother has been found dead in suspected suicide incident. The victim is said to have been at the receiving end of an overwhelming humiliation and emotional trauma stemming from allegations of infidelity. The deceased worked as a trader and was subjected to public scorn and branding as a result of claims that she had confessed to infidelity during her husband's brief absence from their home. According to a police source and community leaders who spoke, the husband had been seeking treatment for a severe illness in a nearby community for several months. This extended period of illness led some in the town to speculate about the deceased's behaviour.
- Location of incident: Assin Dompim, Central Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: 1 dead (female)
- Property damaged/Affected population: 1 female
- Coping mechanism/Responses: She was rushed to St. Francis Xavier Hospital in Assin Fosu for treatment but passed away later. Meanwhile, the husband has been taken into police custody to aid in the ongoing investigations.8

- Title of Incident: Volta Region records 6,039 adolescent pregnancies
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 05-10-2023

https://www.myjoyonline.com/28-year-old-man-allegedly-kills-22-year-old-lover-at-ekumfi-dunkwa frumk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Man-35-sentenced-to-71-years-in-prison-for-defilement-of-minors-1855553

 $<sup>{}^8\,\</sup>text{https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/teen-mother-dies-by-suicide-after-being-humiliated-for-alleged-infidelity.html}$ 



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- - **Description of Incident**: The Volta Region recorded 6,039 adolescent pregnancies last year, with many of the girls becoming child brides or cohabiting with men for survival. The Regional Minister, Dr Archibald Yao Letsa, made the disclosure at a Gender Equality Males' Empowerment School (GEMS 2023) in Ho.
  - Location of incident: Volta Region
  - Casualty [Male &female]: None
  - Property damaged/Affected population: 6,039 females
  - Coping mechanism/Responses: The Regional Director of Gender, Thywill Eyra Kpe, said advocacy for gender equality over the years had been shrouded in several misunderstandings that were contributing to the avoidance of many political debates on gender issues.9

## Incident N\*05

- Title of Incident: Mason jailed 15 years for defiling, impregnating a class six pupil
- Scale of Incident: Low
- **♣ Date of occurrence of Incident:** 05-10-2023
- Lettey Stephen, Description of Incident: A mason was jailed 15 years for defiling and impregnating a class six pupil. Tettey Stephen, the mason, is said to have defiled the class six pupil multiple times during a year-long amorous relationship he engaged the teenager in since 2022. Charged with defilement, Stephen pleaded guilty to the offense contrary to section 101 of the Criminal Act 1960 (ACT 29) as amended by Section 1 of Act 554.
- Location of incident: Odumase-Krobo, Eastern Region
- **↓** Casualty [Male &female]: 1 injured female
- Property damaged/Affected population: 1 female
- Coping mechanism/Responses: Based on the convict's response, the case was reported to the police where Stephen admitted in his caution statement after his arrest, that the victim was his fiancée. He was subsequently charged with defilement and arraigned. 10

# 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: Road Accident
- ♣ Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 02-10-23
- Description of Incident: At least 5 people are in critical condition after a tipper truck lost its brakes and collided with multiple cars on the God Dey Access Bank stretch in Ho. The accident caused extensive damage to at least 8 cars, including 2 taxis, rendering them unidentifiable. 11
- Location of incident: Ho Bankoe, Ho, Volta Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: 5 injured
- Property damaged/Affected population: At least 8 cars destroyed in the process
- Coping mechanism/Responses: Personnel from the Motor Traffic and Transport Department (MTTD) of the Ghana Police Service were at the scene to clear the wreckage and ensure uninterrupted flow of traffic.

- Title of Incident: 14 renal patients dead in four months due to lack of funds for dialysis
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 02-10-2023
- Description of Incident: Fourteen renal patients have died in four months due to lack of funds for dialysis. The deaths were caused by the patients' inability to access dialysis treatment at private facilities, which they say charges more than what is charged at Korle Bu for the treatment offered. The Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in May

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/volta-region-records-6-039-adolesent-pregnancies-2.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/Mason-jailed-15-years-for-defiling-impregnating-a-class-six-pupil-1856924

<sup>11</sup> https://citinewsroom.com/2023/10/ho-5-in-critical-condition-after-truck-suffers-brake-failure/



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2023 shut down the Renal Unit to outpatients even though in-patients have access to the facility. The reason for the shutdown to outpatients was that there was a delay in the delivery of some consumables.

- Location of incident: Greater Accra
- Casualty [Male &female]: 14 persons
- Property damaged/Affected population: 14 persons
- Coping mechanism/Responses: A spokesperson for the Renal Patients Association, Michael Asante appealed to the government to waive the costs of dialysis treatment for renal patients and to include these cases in the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). 12

### Incident N\*03

- Title of Incident: Basic School teacher crushed to death on re-opening day
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 03-101-2023
- Description of Incident: A basic school teacher was crushed to death. The deceased, Emmanuel Ntonah, a Junior High School (JHS) teacher at Santiaw near Agona Nkwanta in the Ahanta West District, had left his ancestral village, Komfoeku, in the Shama District where he had come together with his wife to spend the vacation. He was reporting to school on the first day of reopening on a motorbike when he was reportedly hit by a speeding Sprinter bus, killing him instantly.
- Location of incident: Agona Nkwanta-Takoradi Highway, Western Region
- Casualty [Male &female]: 1 dead (male)
- Property damaged/Affected population: One male victim
- Coping mechanism/Responses: The deceased mortal remains have since been deposited at a private morgue at Apimanim while investigation continues to unravel the circumstances leading to the accident.<sup>13</sup>

## Incident N\*04

- Title of Incident: Officer rushed to hospital after protesters pelted police with stones
- Scale of Incident: Low
- Date of occurrence of Incident: 03-10-2023
- Description of Incident: A police officer was rushed to a hospital after protesters pelted the police with stones a during demonstration march. It is unclear what triggered the action but one of the protesters was picked up while a police officer was severely injured. The demonstration, which was led by Concerned Citizens of Ashaiman, began at the Court Junction, near the Church of Pentecost. The participants were protesting the bad roads in Ashaiman, one of the populated towns in the Region.
- Location of incident: Ashaiman, Greater Accra
- Casualty [Male &female]: 1 injured (male)
- Property damaged/Affected population: 1 male
- Coping mechanism/Responses: Member of Parliament (MP) for Ashaiman Ernest Henry said the Central Government has turned a deaf ear to their calls for better roads. The officer has since been rushed to the Ashaiman Hospital for medical care.14

## 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-pastoralis conflicts); natural and man-made disasters, humanitarian crisis, climate change (industrialisation, pollution, destruction of ecosystem). Biodiversity)

## Incident N\*01

Title of Incident: Floods in Salaga

Scale of Incident: Medium

<sup>12</sup> https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/14-renal-outpatients-dead-since-korle-bu-shut-down-unit-in-may-2023-patients.html

<sup>13</sup> https://3news.com/ahanta-west-basic-school-teacher-crushed-to-death-on-re-opening-day/

<sup>14</sup> https://3news.com/ashaiman-officer-rushed-to-hospital-after-protesters-pelted-police-with-stones/



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**♣ Date of occurrence of Incident:** 08-10-2023

- ♣ **Description of Incident**: Heavy rainfall in Salaga has rendered the town unmotorable and accessible to pedestrians. School children in the area have found it very difficult to traverse the affected areas to access school.
- Location of incident: Salaga, East Gonja
- ♣ Casualty [Male &female]: None
- Property damaged/Affected population: No property damage was reported
- Coping mechanism/Responses: No responses were provided at the time of filing the report.