



# 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 OCTOBER 9 TO 15, 2023

### Organized 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: **Nurse killed by unknown assailants**

✚ Scale of Incident: Low

✚ Date of occurrence of Incident: 09-10-2023

✚ Description of Incident: Walewale in the North East Region has been thrown into a state of mourning following the death of a nurse at the Walewale Government Hospital. The deceased is said to have been beaten to pulp and dumped near the Walewale cemetery. His body was spotted by a passerby who rushed him to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

✚ Location of incident: Walewale, Upper East region

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

✚ Property damaged/Affected population: 1 dead (male)

✚ Coping mechanism/Responses: The Municipal Chief Executive for West Mamprusi, Issahaku Aremeyaw Somo confirmed the incident and said the police were investigating the incident.<sup>1</sup>

#### ✚ Incident N\*02

✚ Title of Incident: **Kikibeas owner's death confirmed by police, woman arrested as key suspect**

✚ Scale of Incident: Low

✚ Date of occurrence of Incident: 09-10-2023

✚ Description of Incident: The death of Bennet Adomah Agyekum, owner of the popular Noire Lounge at East Legon in Accra has been confirmed by the Police. The 41-year-old was found lying in a pool of blood at a house at Madina Ogojo in Accra on Sunday October 8, 2023. The Accra Regional Police Command indicated that a woman believed to be a key suspect in the incident has been arrested in connection with the death of the victim. Per the police preliminary report, the deceased was taken to the hospital for medical attention but was pronounced dead on arrival.

✚ Location of incident: Greater Accra region

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

✚ Property damaged/Affected population: 1 dead (male), 1 arrested (female)

✚ Coping mechanism/Responses: The woman, according to the police, is in custody and assisting with investigations.<sup>2</sup>

#### ✚ Incident N\*03

✚ Title of Incident: **14-year-old boy allegedly murders grandmother in Drobo**

✚ Scale of Incident: Low

✚ Date of occurrence of Incident: 09-10-2023

✚ Description of Incident: A 14-year-old boy has allegedly murdered his grandmother at Gonasua a farming community in the Jaman South Municipality of the Bono Region. The suspect whose name was revealed only as Clifford allegedly murdered the deceased, Madam Veronica Abena Kwaabena, and buried her remains in a backyard garden. The suspect lives at Faaman, another community near Drobo but visited the grandmother at Gonasua. The information continues that a granddaughter who lives with the deceased came back from school and found the suspect cleaning stains of blood.

✚ Location of incident: Drobo, Bono Region

✚ Casualty [Male &female]: 1 dead (female)

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/walewale-nurse-killed-by-unknown-assailants.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/police-investigates-death-of-owner-of-kikibeas.html>



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✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 1 dead (female), 1 arrested (male)

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The suspect is in the custody of the Drobo Police and has since confessed to the crime.<sup>3</sup>

### ✚ Incident N\*04

✚ **Title of Incident:** 3 arrested over transformer theft

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 11-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** Three men who attempted to steal an electricity transformer worth GH¢104,000 at Adaklu-Tsriebe near Ho in the Volta Region have been arrested by local townsmen and handed over to the police. The suspects, Sitsofe Agbodza, Deladem Kodzo Tsarakasu, and Abdul Wahab, were later identified as plumbers and residents of Tema Community 25 in the Greater Accra region. They initially fled onto the 600-metre Adaklu Mountain, but some community members 'lured' them back to the town and seized them.

✚ **Location of incident:** Ho, Volta Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 3 arrested (males)

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The suspects removed the transformer soon after midnight and were spotted by a hunter who was on his way into the forest. When the hunter sought to know from them what they were doing with the transformer at that time, the men threw an iron rod at him and took to their heels, prompting the hunter to fire warning shots which woke residents up. Upon a sustained chase on the Adaklu mountains, the suspects turned themselves in and they were rounded up and handed over to the police. The matter is being investigated by the police.<sup>4</sup>

### ✚ Incident N\*05

✚ **Title of Incident:** Armed Robbers mistake bread for cash - Return to kill pregnant woman

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 12-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** Two robbers, who mistook a loaf of bread wrapped in a handbag for a bundle of cash, returned to kill the wife of their victim when they realized their booty was a mere breakfast staple. The robbers had attacked 42-year-old Raymond Suglo, a businessman, and his wife at Jang in the Nadowli-Kaloe District in the Upper West Region around 9:30 p.m. Mr Suglo was returning from his shop when the robbers arrived on a motorbike wielding a gun and a machete. The couple stepped into the safer confines of their room but before they could lock up, the robbers engaged them in a battle to force their door open while their children were in the bedroom. During the process, the robbers shot through the door, injuring Mr Suglo. The couple released their hold on the door and the robbers entered and demanded that the couple surrender their pricey possessions, including Mr Suglo's sales from the shop.

✚ **Location of incident:** Jang, Upper West Region

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

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 1 dead (female), 1 injured (male)

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** A police source said the Regional Police Command had mounted an intensive search for the robbers and urged the public to report anyone with a peculiar wound on the face.<sup>5</sup>

### ✚ Incident N\*06

✚ **Title of Incident:** Robbery suspects kill policeman

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 12-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** A police officer was killed following a gun battle during an operation to foil a robbery attack on a mobile money vendor at Ejura in the Ashanti Region. The deceased, identified as Sergeant, Ahmed Kamal and another police officer, whose identity has not been made known by the Police Administration, sustained gunshot injuries during the exchange with the robbers. The suspects have since been identified as Alhaji Wahab Suleiman and Ibrahim Abubakari. The two robbery suspects who also sustained gunshot injuries from the exchange of gunfire with the police were said to be receiving medical attention under police surveillance. One of

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/crime/14-year-old-boy-allegedly-murders-grandmother-in-Drobo-1859231>

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/3-busted-over-transformer-theft.html#google\\_vignette](https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/3-busted-over-transformer-theft.html#google_vignette)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/robbers-mistake-bread-for-cash-return-to-kill-pregnant-woman.html>



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the accomplices who also engaged in the shootout with the police officers who were on a mission to prevent the planned robbery attack on the mobile money vendor is currently on the run.

🚩 **Location of incident:** Ejura, Ashanti Region.

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

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** 1 dead (male), 1 injured (male)

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The police said it had mounted a manhunt for the accomplice to get him arrested and face justice.<sup>6</sup>

## 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:** Soldier who is under investigation for fraud allegedly commits suicide in guard room

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** Low

🚩 **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-10-2023

🚩 **Description of Incident:** The Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) has informed the public that a soldier Lance Corporal Sapak Dickson has allegedly committed suicide. The incident occurred on Friday, October 13, according to the Armed Forces. The soldier who was under investigation for several cases of fraud was placed in custody on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at about 1930 hours on a report to the regiment for defrauding a Defense Civilian Staff. His lifeless body was found hanging on an electrical cable in the unit's guardroom.

🚩 **Location of incident:** Greater Accra

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

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** 1 dead (male)

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** A team from the Ghana Military Police and a Criminal Investigation Department personnel from Teshie Divisional Police headquarters were dispatched to the scene for investigation. Meanwhile, the body of the deceased soldier has since been conveyed to the 37 Military Hospital Mortuary.<sup>7</sup>

## 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:** Police arrest 16 people for invading UTV

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** Low

🚩 **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 09-10-2023

🚩 **Description of Incident:** The police have picked up 16 suspects for allegedly invading the studios of the Accra-based television station, United Television (UTV), to interrupt a live program. A statement issued by the police said the 16 persons were arrested following a complaint by the owners of UTV, Despite Media Group, and the Ministry of Information (MoI). This was after a video of what resulted in the interruption had gone viral on the various social media platforms.

🚩 **Location of incident:** Greater Accra

🚩 **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

🚩 **Property damaged/Affected population:** 16 persons arrested (males)

🚩 **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The police said the suspects were assisting with investigations.<sup>8</sup>

### 🚩 Incident N\*02

🚩 **Title of Incident:** Ghana's battle with anti-retroviral crisis threatens lives of persons living with HIV

🚩 **Scale of Incident:** Low

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/ejura-robbery-suspects-kill-policeman.html>

<sup>7</sup> <https://3news.com/soldier-who-is-under-investigation-for-fraud-allegedly-commits-suicide-in-guard-room/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/police-arrest-16-for-invading-utv.html>





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✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 15-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** In a nation heralded for its strides against HIV/AIDS, a challenge has emerged, casting shadows over the remarkable progress achieved. A critical shortage of life-saving anti-retroviral medications is gripping Ghana, placing the lives of Persons Living with HIV (PLHIV) in precarious jeopardy.

✚ **Location of incident:** Greater Accra

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Persons living with HIV

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Patients facing delayed access may default on their medications, potentially leading to drug resistance and severe health complications. Meanwhile Dr. Gamji R. Abu-Ba'are, an Associate Professor in Global Sexual Health and HIV calls for urgent intervention that the international community, health organizations, and the Ghanaian government must collaborate to swiftly resolve this critical issue because lives of those living with HIV in Ghana depend on it.<sup>9</sup>

## 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:** Akosombo dam spillage: Communities in North Tongu submerged under water

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 11-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** Communities in the North Tongu area in the Volta Region have been submerged under water discharged by the Volta River Authority (VRA) from the Akosombo and Kpong Dams. Member of Parliament for North Tongu, Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa said, “thousands have been displaced and properties worth millions have been destroyed due to the flood caused by the spillage”,

✚ **Location of incident:** Tongu North District, Volta Region

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** Residents displaced; properties destroyed

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** The situation has compelled the Ghana Grid Company Limited (GRIDCo) to shut down its substation in Sogakope. It, therefore, alerted residents along the Volta River and downstream to take the necessary precautionary measures before time.<sup>10</sup>

### ✚ Incident N\*02

✚ **Title of Incident:** 2,000 Families to lose houses - To save Weija Dam

✚ **Scale of Incident:** Low

✚ **Date of occurrence of Incident:** 13-10-2023

✚ **Description of Incident:** More than 2,000 families will be forced to evacuate their houses according to a demolition order issued by the Ghana Water Company Limited (GWCL) to some residents in Gbawe Gonse in the Weija-Gbawe Municipality of the Greater Accra Region. A number of houses were marked with red paint inscription which read “to be demolished by GWCL” and the date October 9, 2023, written below it. The markings were done by some men in civilian clothes suspected to be from the Weija Gbawe Municipal Assembly and the GWCL under the supervision of armed men in military uniforms.

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

✚ **Casualty [Male &female]:** None

✚ **Property damaged/Affected population:** 2000 families

✚ **Coping mechanism/Responses:** Mr Asare, who is a government’s appointee to the Weija Gbawe Municipal Assembly called on the Government to intervene to ensure the demolition was not carried out and lives were protected.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> <https://3news.comghanas-battle-with-anti-retroviral-crisis-threatens-lives-of-persons-living-with-hiv/#:~:text=The%20shortage%20of%20anti%2Dretroviral,of%20ending%20AIDS%20by%202030.>

<sup>10</sup> <https://3news.com/akosombo-dam-spillage-communities-in-north-tongu-submerged-under-water/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/2-000-families-to-lose-houses-to-save-weija-dam.html>



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#### 🚩 Incident N\*03

🚩 Title of Incident: **Fire guts SIMMS SHS boys' dormitory**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 14-10-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: Students of Simms Senior High School at Fawoade in the Kwabre East Municipality of Ashanti Region have been displaced following a fire that swept through the boys' dormitory block. The incident occurred around 11 am, Friday, October 13 when students were in class. No casualty was reported but 3 out of the four rooms at the top floor of the one-storey dormitory block burnt with everything in them.

🚩 Location of incident: Ashanti Region

🚩 Casualty [Male &female]: None

🚩 Property damaged/Affected population: Students

🚩 Coping mechanism/Responses: The Mampongteung Fire Station has begun investigation to establish the cause of the fire. Meanwhile, the displaced students would have to perch with their friends in the unaffected dormitory whilst school authorities think about the next line of action.<sup>12</sup>

#### 🚩 Incident N\*04

🚩 Title of Incident: **Three technicians drown in fuel reservoir at Koforidua**

🚩 Scale of Incident: Low

🚩 Date of occurrence of Incident: 10-10-2023

🚩 Description of Incident: Three technicians have reportedly drowned in a fuel reservoir at Koforidua. The victims were part of a team of five technical experts who had been contracted by the PBC workshop to carry out maintenance work on the fuel reservoir at the COCOBOD office. The calls for urgent intervention from the international community, health organizations, and the Ghanaian government to collaborate to swiftly resolve this critical issue. He said "the lives of those living with HIV in Ghana depend on it". Circumstances leading to the suffocation remain unclear currently. To rescue their colleague who had entered the reservoir, two other workers also succumbed to the same fate. Colleagues of the victims who were present at the scene promptly reported the incident to the relevant authorities, triggering a response.

🚩 Location of incident: Koforidua, Eastern Region

🚩 Casualty [Male &female]: 3 dead (males)

🚩 Property damaged/Affected population: 3 dead (males)

🚩 Coping mechanism/Responses: The Koforidua Effiduase District Police Command has initiated an investigation into a tragic incident.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>12</sup> <https://3news.com/fire-guts-simms-shs-boys-dormitory/>

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.myjoyonline.com/three-technicians-drown-in-fuel-reservoir-at-koforidua/>