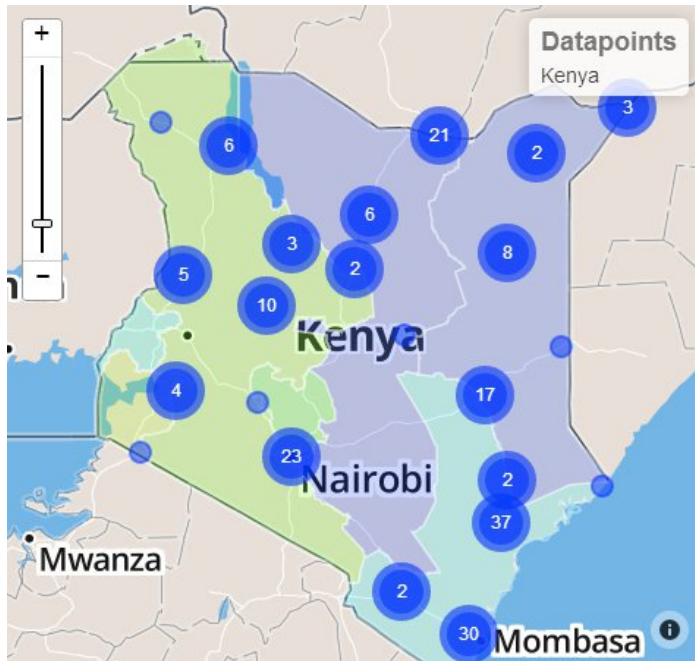


Kenya Situation of Concern: Sentinel Project Monthly Report May 2014



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1.0 Executive Summary

This month incidences have been reported in the usual hotspots. Nairobi, Mombasa and Garissa have been identified as areas where terror attacks are imminent while the Northern region, which covers Wajir, Mandera and Garissa and the Tana Delta region, was singled out as an area where incidences are primarily ethnic or inter clan related. Increased terror attacks across the country have led foreign countries such as the UK and Canada to issue travel warnings, and leading up to May 16th, roughly four hundred tourists have been evacuated from Kenya¹, which has resulted in the closure of 20 hotels in Mombasa².

2.0 Incidences

Incident	Location	Type	Date
Police in Garissa Looking for Hate Poem Composer	Garissa	General	2-5-2014
Four Killed, Scores Injured in Mombasa Blast	Mombasa	General	3-5-2014
Police Informer and Suspected Counter Terrorism Agent Killed	Kwale	General	4-5-2014
Armed Attacks in Dide Waride	Lamu	General	4-5-2014
Blast in Nairobi Buses	Nairobi	General	4-5-2014
Foiled Terror Attack in Garissa School	Garissa	General	5-5-2014
Three Killed in Pokot Turkana Fued	Pokot Turkana Border	General	6-5-2014
Four People Arrested with Grenades	Wajir	General	6-5-2014
Officer Injured in Attack On Kulan AP Camp	Garissa	General	8-5-2014
Three Killed in Inter-clan Ambush in Wajir	Wajir	General	13-5-2014
Tension in Samburu as Bandits Kill Two People	Samburu	General	14-5-2014
Policeman Injured in Mombasa Grenade Attack	Mombasa	General	15-5-2014
Twelve Killed in	Nairobi	Extermination	16-5-2014

¹ Travel firms suspend flights to Mombasa after FCO warning. <http://bbc.com/news/uk-27434902>

² Terror alert bites as 20 hotels close down at the Coast.

<http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/thecounties/article/2000122677/terror-alerts-bite-as-20-hotels-close-down-at-the-coast>

Gikomba Blast			
Unending Inter-Clan Wars Divide Marsabit Residents	Marsabit	General	17-5-2014
Death Toll Reaches Fifteen in Inter Clan Clashes	Mandera	Extermination	18-5-2014
Twelve Officers Killed in Ambush by Suspected Al-Shabaab Militia in Mandera	Mandera	General	19-5-2014
Families Flee Homes Amid Fears of Fresh Clashes in Tana Delta	Tana Delta	General	19-5-2014
One Person Killed in Garissa Town Blast	Garissa	General	20-5-2014
Garsen Court Sentences Four to Hang For Ethnic Clashes	Tana Delta	General	22-5-2014
Gunmen Snatch Away Terror Suspect From Mombasa Police	Mombasa	General	24-5-2014
Two Villagers Killed in Fresh Ethnic Violence	Garissa	General	25-5-2014
Suspected Al-Shabaab Militants Kill KDF Soldiers	Lamu	General	25-5-2014
12 killed in Wajir Retaliatory Attacks	Wajir	Extermination	29-5-2014
North Eastern Angry Mourners Torch Houses to Avenge Wajir Killings	Wajir	General	30-5-2014
One Dead and Four Injured in Garissa Explosion	Garissa	Extermination	31-5-2014

2.1 Nairobi

This month Nairobi has been a high risk area due to the high incidence of terror attacks. Stern action needs to be taken to prevent terrorism, as terror attacks are starting to affect economic activities in the region. The withdrawal of foreign UN staff shows gravity of this issue. The government has embarked on certain measures such as awarding a tender to Safaricom to set up a security

surveillance system, tightening security. However this is facing controversy as MPS are trying to block the tender.³

2.2 Mombasa

There have been a series of attacks all related to terrorism. In Lamu two KDF soldiers have been killed by Al-Shabaab. Terror attacks not only in Mombasa but the country as a whole have increased. This has affected the tourism sector in the region and steps by foreign governments to evacuate tourists have been implemented.

2.3 North Eastern Kenya

Fresh inter-clan war between Degodia and Gare clans has resumed in the area due to border issues. This has left scores of people dead and rendered 150 homeless⁴ and others to flee their homes⁵. There is a cyclical pattern in the occurrence of interethnic skirmishes among the communities. This has occurred over a long period of time and a solution needs to be found in order to solve the root cause of the problem. Concurrently terror attacks have been reported in the region particularly in Garissa. Terror attacks are imminent in the region and this is not surprising as the region is close to Somalia and is an entry point for the Al-Shabaab.

2.4 Turkana and Pokot

An incident of fresh interethnic violence between the Pokot and Turkana community has occurred again leaving three people dead. This is not surprising as interethnic conflicts between communities are cyclical, and measures put in place do not touch on the root cause of conflict.

2.5 Tana River County

Unrest in the region has arisen from the withdrawal of GSU from areas affected during the interethnic clashes in 2012. This has left a volatile situation leading to families fleeing from their homes as they fear attacks, increase in rumours and strife in the area. The offenders of the 2012/2013 ethnic violence have been brought to justice by the Garsen court.

At the same time the Sentinel Project has come to sensitize residents and train community ambassadors about Una Hakika project – an information system that deals with verification of rumours in order to provide the community with verified information.

³ Citizen news (May 29th 2014) .<http://www.citizennews.co.ke/news/2012/local/item/19688-mps-vow-to-oppose-safaricom>

⁴ <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/thecounties/article/2000123107/inter-clan-wars-render-hundreds-homeless>

⁵ <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/thecounties/article/2000123192/residents-flee-mandera-as-clan-wars-intensify>

3.0 Mitigation

3.1 Counter Terrorism Mechanisms

The intelligence capacity in Kenya is lacking and through this Al-Shabaab has found leeway. However, due to the increase in incidence of terrorism the government is now focusing more resources in curbing terror attacks. The government will collaborate with Safaricom, the largest mobile network in Kenya, to provide a surveillance system in the fight against terror. This is one necessary step, but the government will need to take parallel action, such as fighting against corruption, in order for this to be effective.

3.2 Fight against Corruption

Corruption has enabled the borders to be more easily penetrable. By fighting corruption the entering of illegal people may be curbed.

3.3 Legality in Land Ownership

Most interethnic clashes arise from natural resources. Land in Kenya is an important issue and the inadequacy by the government to issue title deeds does little to prevent clashes. If the government were to have a fair, transparent system of land division and issuance of official title deeds a high decrease in interethnic clashes will be observed. Current actions taken by the Ministry of Land have included closure of the ministry for 10 days for auditing⁶. During the audit 10,000 missing files were found⁷. The next step will be digitizing the title deed issuance. Hopefully these actions will bring strength and credibility to the Ministry of Land.

4.0 Conclusion

Increase in terror attacks have been sighted in Kenya as a whole as Somalia shifts its war to Kenya. If the government does not heighten security and battle corruption the situation in Kenya may become worse.

⁶ <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/thecounties/article/2000111088/ngilu-order-paralyses-lands-ministry>

⁷ <http://www.standardmedia.co.ke/thecounties/article/2000119918/10-000-hidden-land-files-found-in-ministry>