This trends analysis highlights key threats to peace and security in Adamawa and Borno states in March, 2019. These include:

Increased tension between internally displaced population (IDPs) and host communities and alleged food shortage among IDPs in Borno state, sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) in both Borno and Adamawa state, attacks by insurgent groups – Boko haram and its splinter, the Islamic state in West African Province (ISWAP) on civilian population and security operatives in different local government areas (LGA) in the state. Other issues in the month include, political clashes, armed conflict and criminal activities, especially homicide, physical assault, armed robbery, extrajudicial killings, drug sale and abuse. Reports of IDP concerns accounted for 7.4%, sexual and gender based violence 11.1%, attacks by insurgents 29.6%, military operation 11.1%, political clashes 5.2%, criminal activities 29.6% and Peace initiative 3.7%.

State by state analysis of incidents showed Borno state accounts for 53.7% of the incidents while 46.3% occurred in Adamawa state. At local government area (LGA) level, four LGAs in Borno and seven LGAs in Adamawa recorded incidents. 33.3% of the incidents in Borno occurred in Jere LGA, while Madagali and Yola north LGA in Adamawa accounted for 22.2% of the incidents in the state.

Search for Common Ground (Search) is an international nonprofit organization that promotes peaceful resolution of conflict. Search’s mission is to transform how individuals, organizations, and governments deal with conflict, away from adversarial approaches and towards collaborative solutions. Search has been operational in Nigeria since 2004, working mainly in Niger Delta, North East and North Central.

Where do we get our information?

This publication provides analysis of risk and peace factors emerging from monitoring trends of incidents and situation reports in Borno and Adamawa States where Searches early warning and early response system is operational. The system relies on data from trained community observers, Search staff and local partners.
Six cases of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) were reported into the early warning system (EWS) in the month reviewed. Three of these were rape and sexual exploitation of minors and three cases of wife battering, while wife and family abandonment were also observed. The reported cases are indicative of larger negative trend of SGBV reportedly ongoing in the states. According to reports, at least two cases of rape are reported every week in Yola Specialist hospital, while a research by Kalthum Foundation for Peace, on post primary and tertiary institutions in Maiduguri Metropolitan Council (MMC), Jere and Munguno LGAs revealed that SGBV is taking place at an alarming rate to such extent that, in some cases, both victim and perpetrator behaved as if it is normal. This trend continued in March 2019 with concern about increased rape of minors and vulnerability of girls and women to SGBV in the states.

Two of the rape cases were reported in Yola North LGA in Adamawa state, one rape case in Jere, Borno state and three cases of wife battering in Jere LGA, Borno state. in the month reviewed. On March 13, a 27 years old male reportedly raped a 2 years old girl in Nasarawa, Yola North, while three men reportedly raped an 11-year old girl, as she hawked petty goods along a notorious drug spot in the area. Similarly, on March 8, three men reportedly raped a 13 year old girl in Dalakafea area of Jere LGA in Borno state. Two of the wife battering incidents were reportedly over the women's request for money to purchase food items for the family, one of the cases led to the man divorcing the wife. The third incident was the battering of a woman in labor for insistence on delivering the unborn child in the hospital and not at home. Silence surrounding SGBV issue often for fear of stigmatization and poor awareness of assistance available for victims and procedure to punish perpetrators, poverty etc. continued to sustain the ill and embolden the perpetrators thereby increasing the vulnerability of women and girls to SGBV in the states.

Among IDPs in camps and host communities in some areas in MMC, Jere, and Mafa LGAs, wife and family abandonment were observed with husbands reportedly leaving to marry or cohabit with other IDP women or women in host communities, who are perceived to be of more 'economic value' for having food voucher, which grants them access to food aid.
Suspicions held by host communities about IDPs will continue to widen the gap between the two groups if not addressed. IDPs have reportedly and fuelled the already existing hatred.

Grievances over distribution of food and other relief materials were recorded in the month, with the height being the March 21 demonstration by IDPs from Gubio camp in MMC. Over 200 IDPs in Shuwari Garki, Jere LGA also protested lack of food and other basic necessities in their camp. Influx of IDPs from northern region of Borno where sustained insurgent attacks have displaced an estimated 30,000 according to the United Nations Office of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) report; the IDPs are reportedly from Baga town and communities around the shores of Lake Chad, forced to move to MMC, Jere and Konduga. In addition, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) reported new arrivals in Asira/Uba, Jere, Maiduguri, Konduga, Bama, among other LGAs in Borno. There were approximately 13,050 arrivals of IDPs in the different locations in the month. The arrival of the newly displaced persons into already congested camps, clustered settlements around host communities increased demand and competition for food and relief items. It is urgent for government and other relevant actors to address this emerging concern.

In March 2019 an estimated 2,500 displaced persons from mainly Kukawa LGA moved to Dalakafea community in Jere LGA. The IDPs reportedly set up make-shift shelters in open spaces in the communities and on farmland leading to tension between the IDPs and the community. Following an insurgent attack recorded in the community in the month, members of Dalakafea community reportedly started to deny the IDPs access to farmlands, market, healthcare centers and even the community water borehole as a strategy to force the IDPs out of the communities. The host community is allegedly suspicious of the IDPs that were not screened nor hosted by government, and considered the stay to pose security threat to the community. The risk of having insurgents in the midst of the IDPs is high and could lead to infiltration and attack. The IDPs have reportedly resorted to begging, while others send their children out to beg in neighboring communities thereby exposing them to exploitation and possible conscription into insurgent groups. The
In the month, seven insurgents' attacks, by Boko Haram were recorded in communities in Michika and Madagali LGAs of Adamawa state. Suspected insurgents attacked Madagali and Michika with improvised explosive devices (IED), Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPG) and other weapons as well as used suicide bomb carriers to carry out attacks. On March 9, three civilians were killed and six houses were set ablaze, in an attack on Imirsa community in Madagali. On March 18, estimated four civilians were killed and many others injured in a raid on Michika town; foodstuff and other household items were reportedly looted from shops and houses, a commercial ban was reportedly looted, while the insurgents also fueled their vehicles in a petrol station in the town during the attack. Also, on March 27, several houses were burnt by suspected insurgents during an attack on Ghansa village in Madagali LGA. Security personnel repelled the last attack. Four suicide bomb explosions were recorded in Madagali LGA. March 1, suicide bomb explosion in Hausari killed five civilians and injured four others; March 10 attack on Saint Pius Catholic Church Shuwa, during the Church service killed the two carriers and injured four civilians; the March 22, bomb explosion at a security trench in Madagali town killed the carrier while the March 23 two suicide bomb carriers were intercepted by local hunters at a local market at Madagali town but detonated their device as they fled, killing themselves.

Although there are allusions that the renewed Boko Haram attacks might have had political undertone, nevertheless, the proximity of the LGAs to the Mandara hills a Boko Haram hideout along Nigeria-Cameroon border and Borno state communities that borders Sambisa Forest another Boko Haram hideout places both LGAs at risk of attack. In addition, the porous border and inefficient security presence in border communities' enables easy infiltration by insurgents. Also, limited synergy and communication among security personnel and other non-state security platforms inhibited coordination necessary for effective security operation. Late responses to early warning information shared by community members, about possible attacks, have also discouraged information sharing by community members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Sexual gender based violence prevention and mitigation campaign: Borno and Adamawa State government should work with relevant civil society organizations and women groups to conduct community based SGBV prevention campaign in the states. Borno state government should also adhere to its commitment to create an enabling environment for all genders, as announced during the Heforshe campaign. With support from UNWomen and Ministry of women affairs, follow up action plans should be developed and implemented by the state government towards this commitment.

Provision of Food and other basic necessities: Provision of food and relief items for IDPs should be prioritized by Borno state government. There is need for the government to distribute food items monthly to address the hunger among IDP population and host communities. Also, humanitarian agencies should support in the provision and distribution of these items.

- **The need to certify the camps** - If northern Borno remains insecure for civilians, migration southwards will continue. Hence the need for Borno State government working with relevant humanitarian actors to embark on certifying ‘illegal’ IDP camps and settlements to recognize them and properly profile residents of the camps. Similarly government and its partners should increase its efforts at providing required food and other basic necessities to IDPs. The need for peaceful coexistence between newly displaced IDPs and host communities should be emphasized by the Community Response Network (CRN) established by Search for Common Ground

- **Improved Security in porous communities** - To address the increase in insurgent attacks on communities in Michika and Madagali LGAs of Adamawa state, the newly established State Peacebuilding Agency should be adequately funded to provide early warning information as well as liaise with security actors to prevent and mitigate insurgent attacks.