

Conflict Prevention in West Africa:

Benchmarks and Indicators for Early Warning



While Copyright in this volume is vested in the Centre for Democracy and Development, no section of the publication may be reprinted in whole or part without the express permission in writing of the publisher
Copyright CDD©2009



Published by the Centre for Democracy and Development

With support from

WACSO and the African Security Sector Network



**Conflict Prevention in West Africa:
Benchmarks and Indicators for Early Warning**

Table of Content

Introduction

Acknowledgement

Preface

Proposed Benchmarks and Indicators

Political Theme:

1. Electoral fraud was evident or reported (if so, explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

2. Interference with other arms of government was evident or reported (if so, identify).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

3. Abuse of office was evident or reported (if so please explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

4. Corruption and lack of accountability was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

5. Violation of rights of assembly, speech and protests was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

6. Victimization of ethnic and/or minority groups was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

7. Disregard for rule of law and constitutionalism was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

8. Militarisation of civil life was evident or reported (if so, explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

9. Political exclusion was evident or reported (if so, identify).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

10. Exclusion and discrimination of women was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

Economic Theme:

11. Poor agricultural yield and famine was evident or reported (if so, identify and assess if an incident reported is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

12. Raiding or theft of agricultural produce was evident or reported (if so, assess if incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

13. Pastoralists-farmers conflict was evident or reported (if so, assess if incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

14. Trade and industrial dispute was evident or reported (if so, explain if they there are potential violence characters).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

15. Inflation, high prices of basic/strategic staples and unemployment were evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

16. Illegal access to mining or oil exploitation was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

17. Problem of transportation facilities were evident or reported (if so, identify).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

18. Communal and community conflict over land was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

19. Decline in economic growth (measured by GDP) was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

Social Theme:

20.Children and women trafficking was evident or reported (if so, identify).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

21.Roadblocks, armed checkpoints and armed gangsters were evident or reported (if so, identify and assess if incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

22.Smuggling of goods was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

23. Inadequate or lack of access to basic health facilities was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

24. Inadequate or lack of access to education was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

25. Poor access to water sanitation was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

26. Violence against women was evident or reported (if so, identify and assess if incident reported is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

27.Harmful cultural practices and discriminatory laws against women were evident or reported (if so, identify).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

28.Religious conflict was evident or reported (if so, identify and assess whether incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

29.Social insecurity was evident or reported (if so, assess whether incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

30.Discrimination against ethnic minorities was evident or reported (if so, explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

Peace and Security Theme:

31.Small arms and light weapons were readily available.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

32.Armed communal or political violence was evident or reported. (if so, identify the parties and assess whether an incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

33.Destabilising impact of armed conflicts in a neighboring country was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

34. Influx of internally displaced persons and refugees was evident or reported (if so, assess whether an incident report is required).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

35. Civil Society groups' engagement in local peace initiatives was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

36. Request for assistance with mediation, negotiation or reconciliation was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

37. Gaps between Disarmament, demobilisation and re-integration (DDR) programmes were evident or reported (if so, identify and explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed

- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

38. Security forces' actively engaged in peace initiatives in local communities.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

39. Incidents of drought, environmental damage or pollution were evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

40. Lack of adequate search and rescue capacity to respond to local disaster was evident or reported (if so, explain).

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

41. Abuse of human rights by security personnel was evident or reported.

- (A) Agree: Widespread activity
- (B) Somewhat agree: Contained
- (C) Don't know: Mixed
- (D) Somewhat disagree: Isolated
- (E) Disagree: No evidence

