

Metadata for Africa: Conflicts Without Borders Project (2007 – 2009)

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Definitions

TYPE OF CONFLICT	DEFINITION	SOURCE OF DEFINITION
Armed Conflict	A conflict in which government forces are fighting an armed organized insurgency group or armed groups are fighting amongst themselves	OCHA Glossary of Humanitarian Terms in relation to Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflicts. UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. 2003
Armed Conflict (Major)	More than 1,000 conflict-related deaths in a year. Conflict-related deaths include deaths attributed to violence, but also due to malnutrition and disease exacerbated by the conflict	Alex Schmid and A.J. Jongman PIOOM (PIOOM is the Dutch acronym for Interdisciplinary Research Program on Root Causes of Human Rights Violations); Leiden, the Netherlands, 1997 based on Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden
Armed Conflict (Intermediate)	At least 25 conflict-related deaths per year and accumulated total of at least 1,000 deaths	'''
Armed Conflict (Minor)	At least 25 conflict-related deaths per year but fewer than 1,000 accumulated deaths during the course of the conflict	'''
Inter-communal Strife	Internal conflict that is based on communal or social identity, including language, race, religion, sect, ethnicity, caste, class, clan, tribe, residence, nationality, or some combination of these.	Baker, Pauline and Angeli E. Weller. An Analytical Model for Internal Conflict and State Collapse Manual for Practitioners. Washington D.C.: The Fund for Peace, 1998
Political Violence	Violence between rival community groups or political parties that is associated with elections or some other triggering event.	
Targeted Attacks	Assassinations, ambushes, kidnappings, or bomb attacks against civilians or government groups.	
Pirate Attacks	An attempted or act of boarding a ship using force with an apparent criminal intent to commit theft, violence, and/or ransoming of crew or cargo.	ICC International Maritime Bureau (IMB) Piracy Reporting Center, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Sources:

Conflict Early Warning & Response Mechanism (CEWARN), Human Rights Watch (HRW), International Crisis Group (ICG), International Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), Integrated Regional Information Network (IRIN), Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), Office for the Coordination Of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), UN Security Council (UN SC)

Methodology for determining Conflict-Affected Areas

Areas of Armed Conflict, Inter-communal Strife, and Political Violence are drawn around locations of reported conflict incidents, concentrations of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), cross-border rebels bases, and refugee camps in neighboring countries.