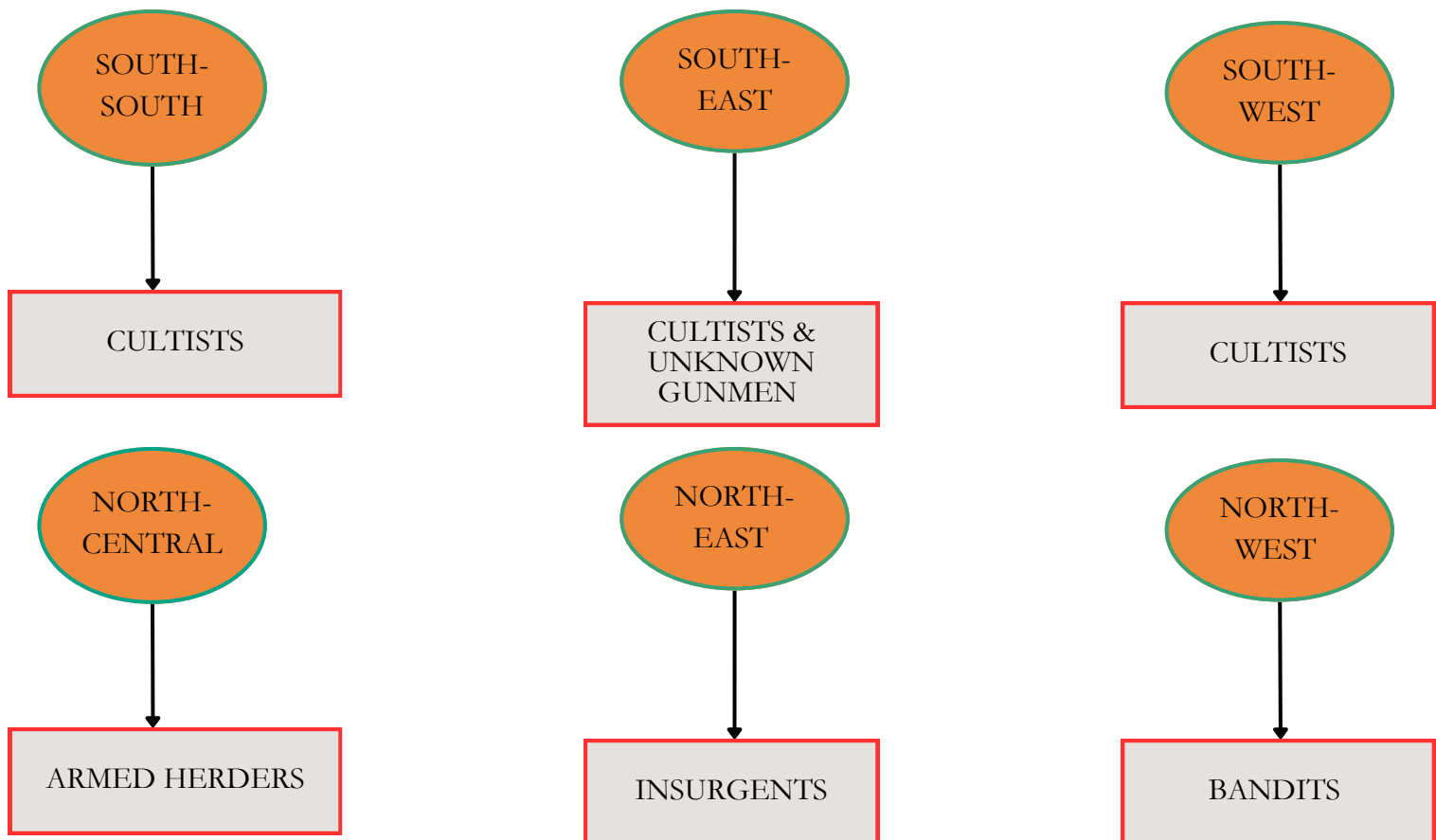


NATIONAL CONFLICT WATCH; MAY & JUNE, 2024

Nigeria is experiencing a WAR-LIKE insecurity at a scale that is threatening food security, social cohesion, peace, stability, and sustainable development. Kidnapping, banditry, terrorism, cultism, and illicit drug abuse are reinforcing the culture of violence across Nigeria and the vibration is felt in the political, economic, health, and socio-cultural spaces. The level of insecurity in May and June 2024, is not abating across the country, as protracted violent conflict and criminality has produced an atmosphere of uncertainty, terror, and threats to livelihoods. Insecurity has affected urban and rural livelihoods and is arguably Nigeria's most challenging development threat.

PREDOMINANT ACTORS



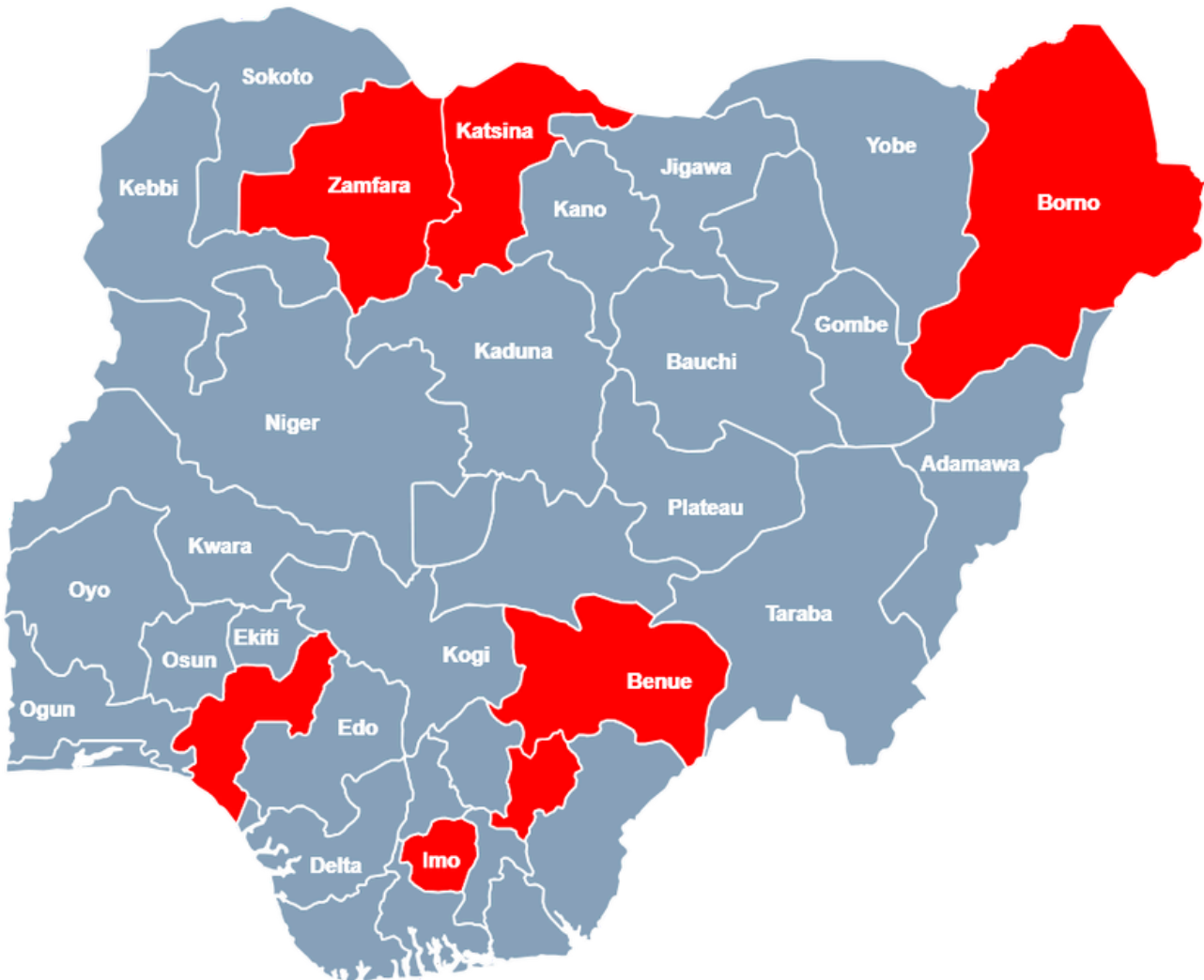
The National Conflict Watch (NCW) has observed that May and June of every year is an important cycle in the lives of Nigerian farmers who use this period for food production. However, the activities of bandits and terrorists who occupy a large expanse of farmland and terrorize farming communities are affecting food security. Insecurity has prevented farmers from accessing their farmland for cultivation. Farmers are either abducted, killed, or made to pay protection taxes to terrorists and bandits who occupy these farming communities.



IPCR

Sometimes described as “ungoverned spaces”, most farming communities are invaded by armed non-state actors who abduct, maim, destroy properties and kill people without provocation. These attacks are mostly carried out in farming communities. This is the situation in farming communities across Niger, Kaduna, Benue, Nasarawa, Plateau, Katsina, Sokoto, Adamawa and Borno states.

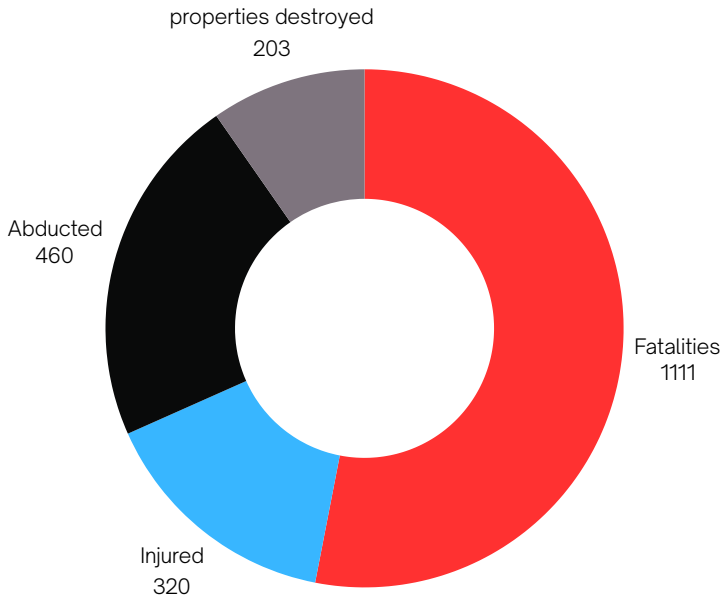
CONFLICT HOTSPOTS



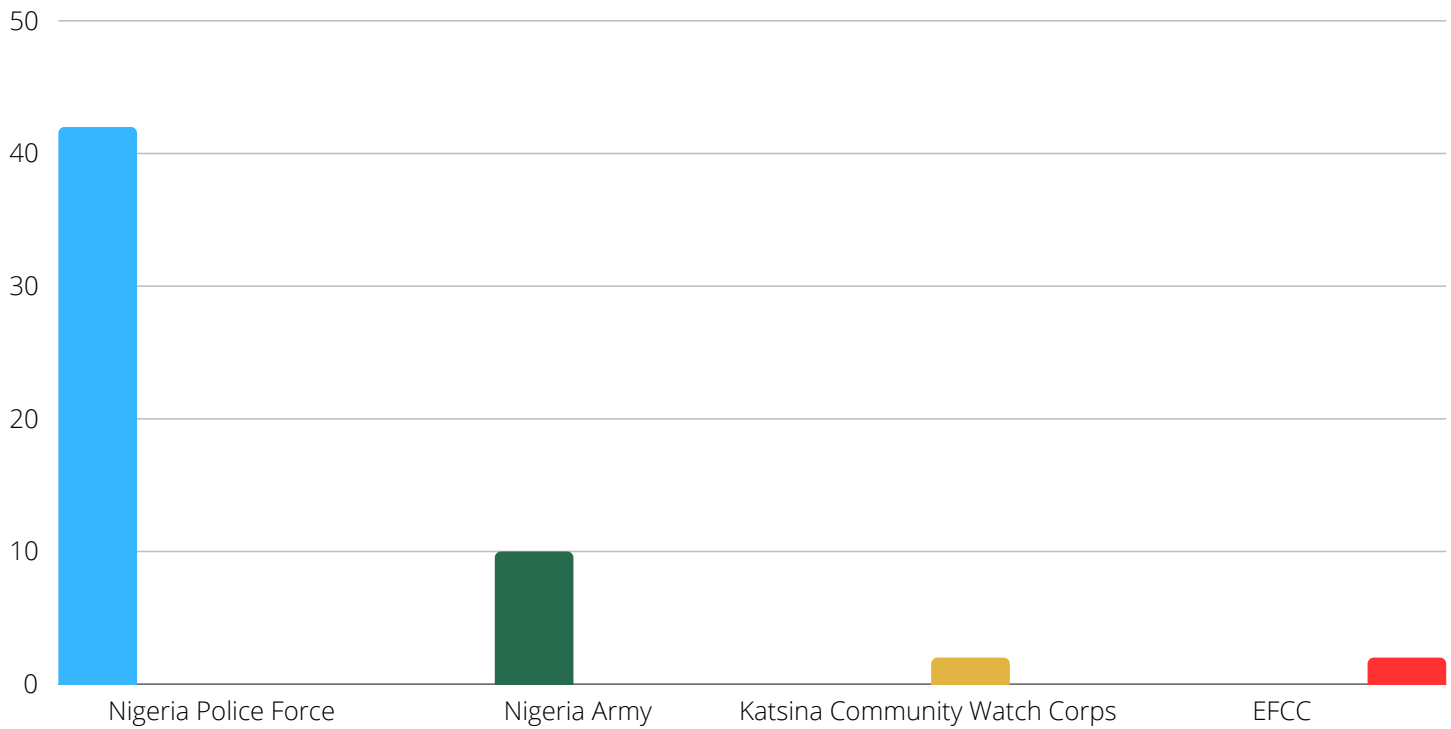
Southern Nigeria is also faced with enormous security challenges similar to northern region. The activities of cultist and gangsters, as well as proliferation of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and illicit drug abuse is fueling acts of criminality and affecting the peace and stability of the region. The Southeast is struggling with separatist agitations and criminality by ‘unknown gunmen’. The Southwest is inundated by cultism, kidnapping and ritualist violence, as the South-South region and its communities are inundated by cultism, vandalism and youth restiveness.



The worsening conflict and criminality and the scale of violence in Nigeria has placed the security agencies on constant alert in trying to respond, prevent or mitigate the situation. Despite these efforts, security agencies and other critical non-security responders are confronted with challenges of logistics, effective collaboration, coordination and unity of purpose. This report acknowledges the contributions of the Nigerian Police, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corp, and the military in responding to the plethora of insecurity in view.



INTERVENTIONS BY SECURITY AGENCIES



SOURCE: IPCR NATIONAL CONFLICT EARLY WARNING EARLY RESPONSE UNIT