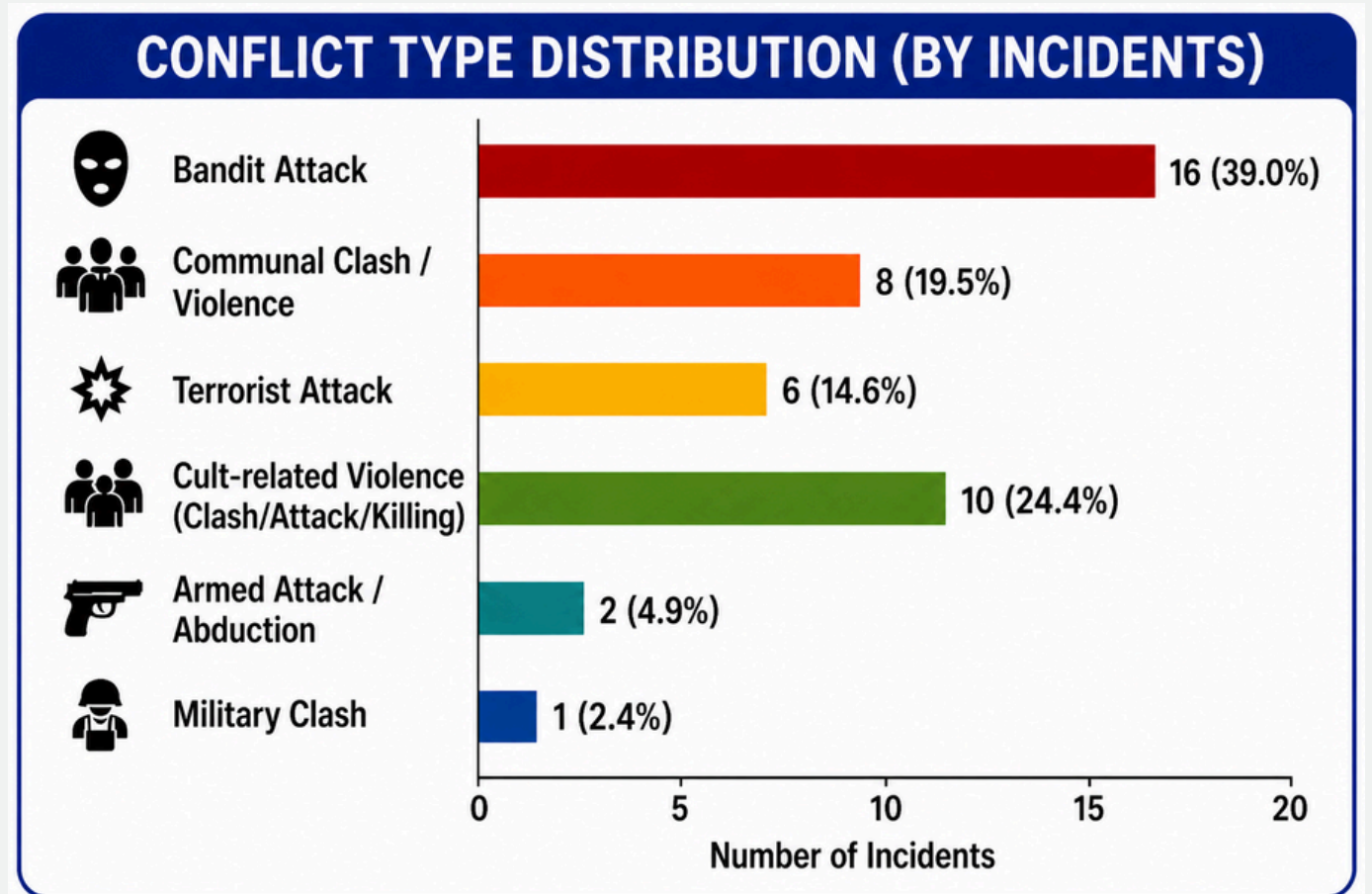


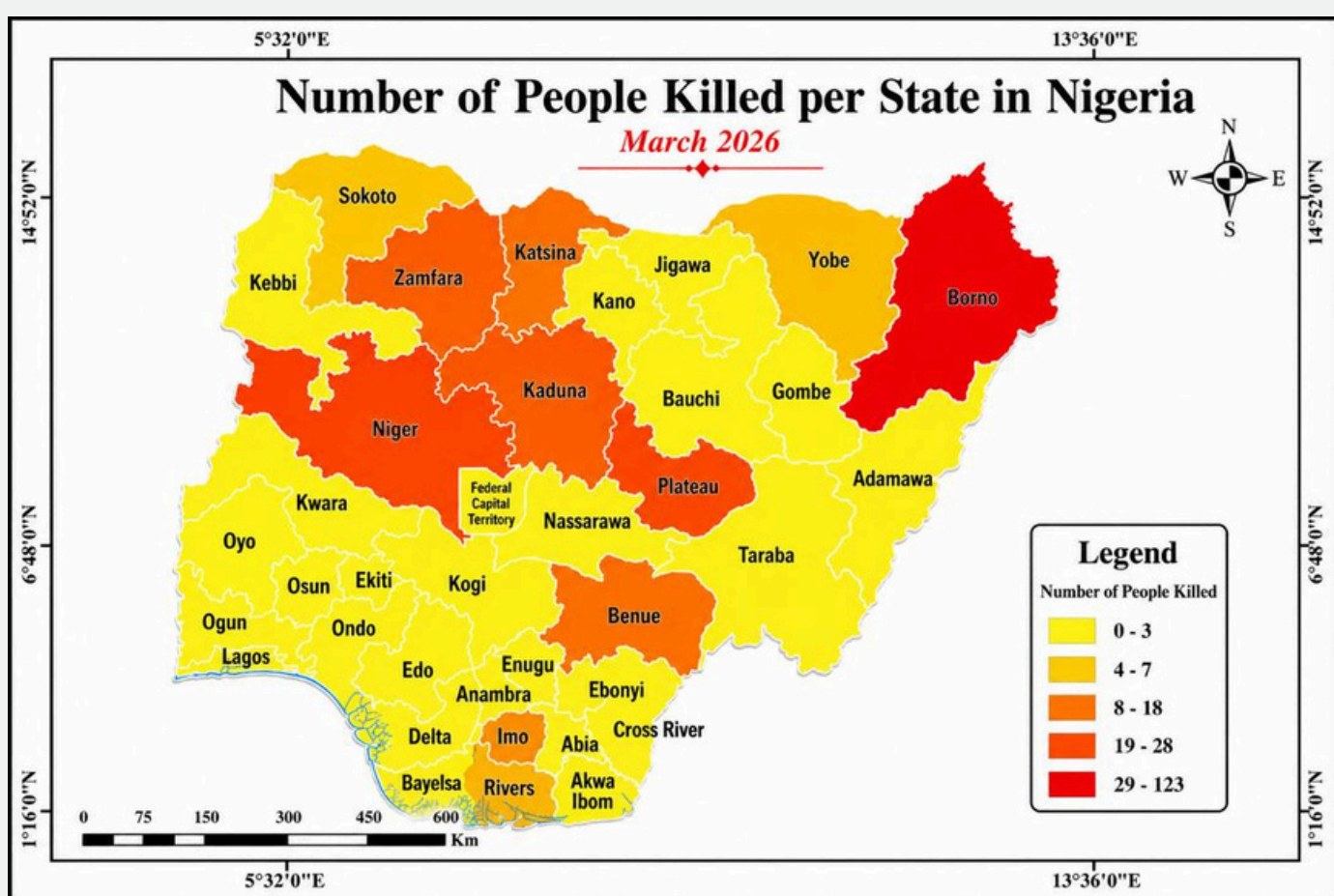
Overall Impact

Nigeria's security situation in March 2026 remained highly volatile and concerning, with 41 recorded incidents resulting in 262 deaths, 155 injuries, 476 abductions, and 323 displaced persons. The pattern reflects a complex and escalating crisis with significant humanitarian impacts, where kidnapping is increasingly used as a strategic and economic tool, while displacement continues to severely disrupt community stability and livelihoods.

Conflict Type Distribution



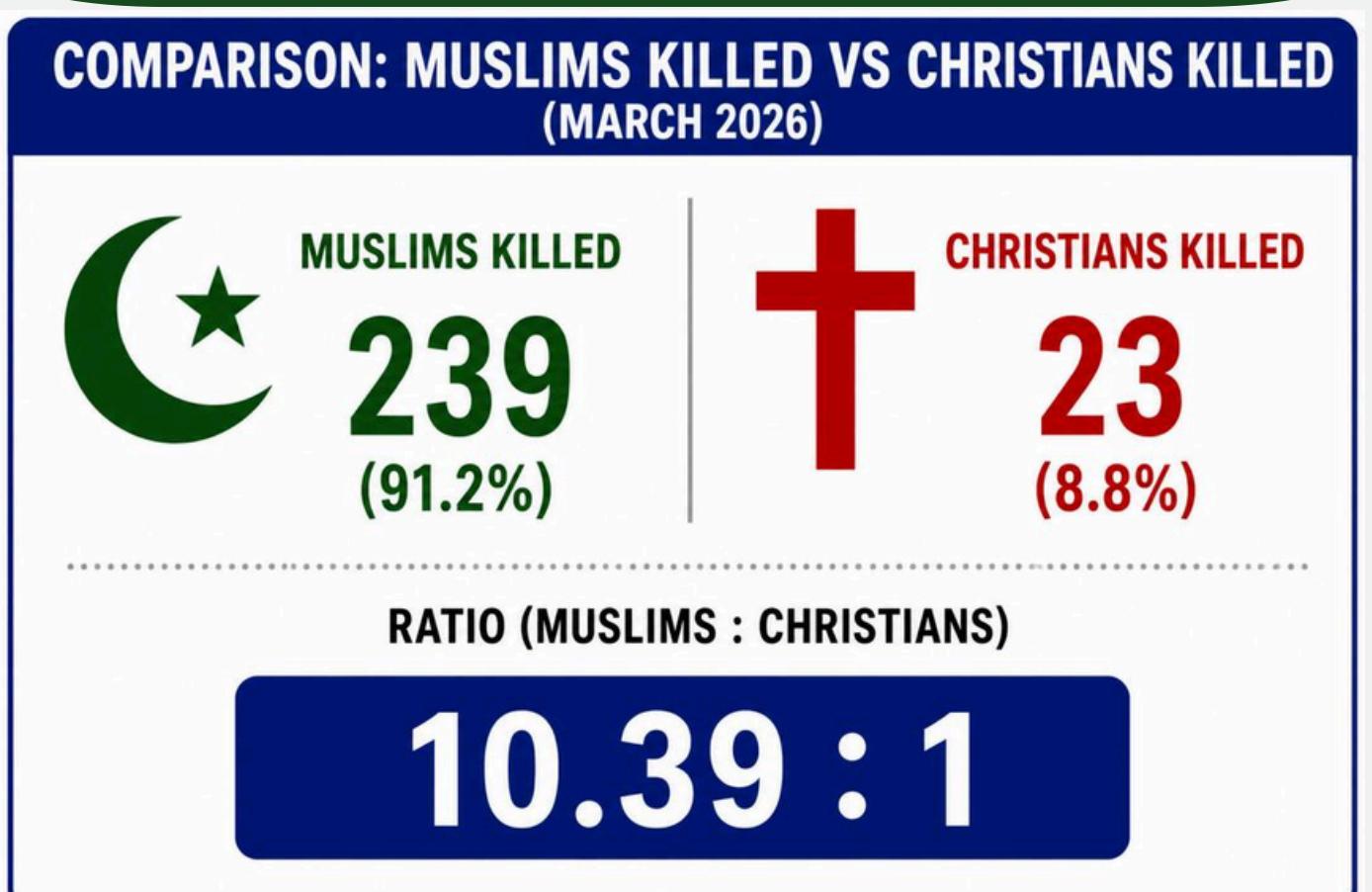
Spatial Distribution of Fatalities



The spatial pattern of fatalities across Nigeria reveals a pronounced concentration of lethal violence in the northern regions of the country. Borno State recorded the highest number of deaths, accounting for 120 fatalities, which reaffirms its position as the epicenter of insurgency-related violence. Other states with notable fatality levels include Niger (28 deaths), Zamfara (24 deaths), Plateau (21 deaths), and Kaduna (18 deaths), all of which are located within regions affected by banditry, insurgency, or communal clashes. Benue and Katsina also recorded moderate fatality levels with 15 and 12 deaths respectively. In contrast, southern states exhibited relatively lower fatality figures, indicating a geographical imbalance in the intensity of lethal violence, though emerging risks in parts of the Niger Delta suggest that this pattern may not remain static.

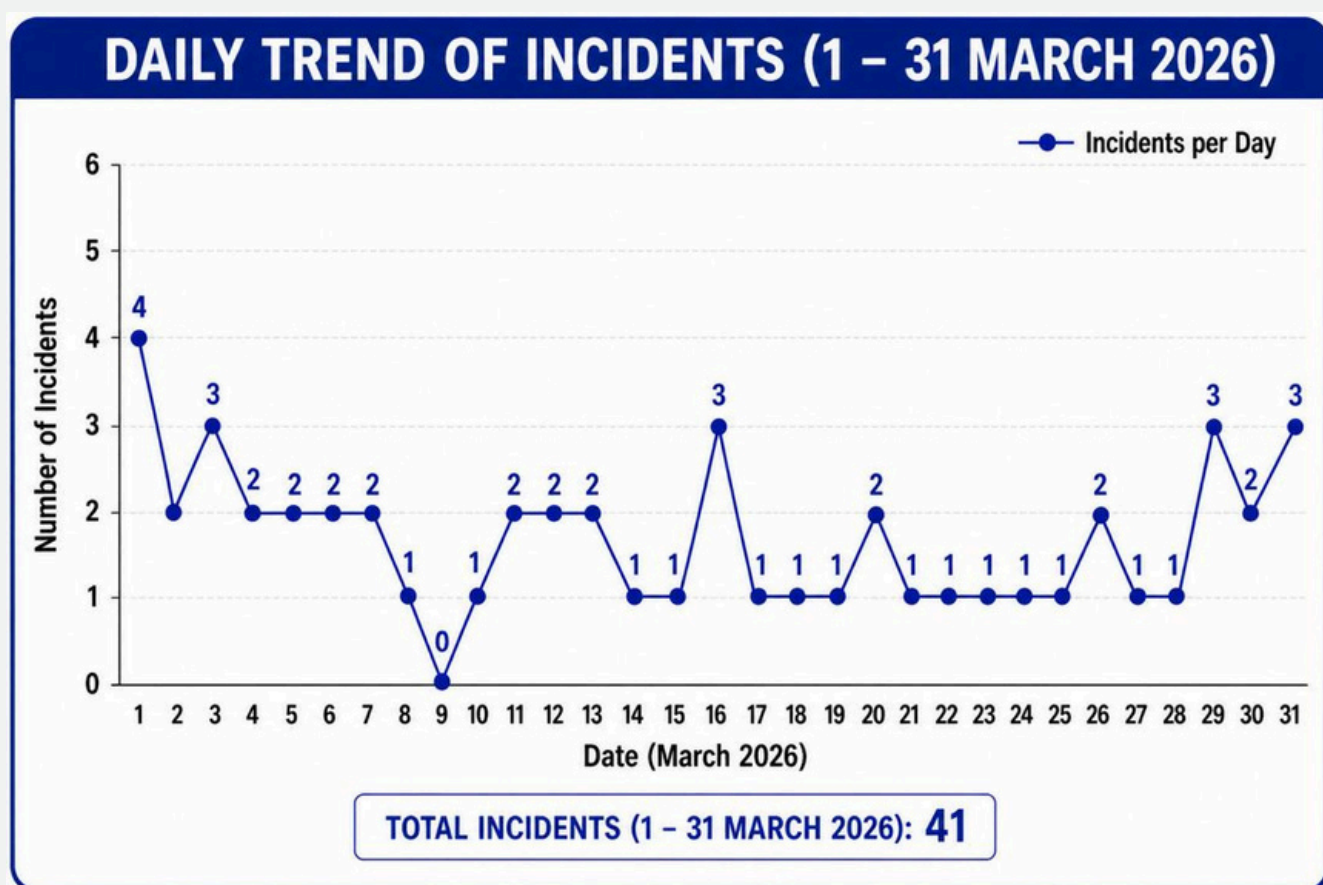
The typology of conflict events in March 2026 demonstrates a dominance of irregular and non-conventional forms of violence. Bandit attacks emerged as the most prevalent conflict type, accounting for 39.0% (16 incidents), reflecting the entrenched nature of banditry in the North-West. Cult-related violence followed with 24.4% (10 incidents), indicating a significant presence of organized violent groups in parts of Southern Nigeria. Communal clashes contributed 19.5% (8 incidents), often linked to land disputes, ethnic tensions, and resource competition. Terrorist attacks accounted for 14.6% (6 incidents), primarily concentrated in the North-East. Armed attacks involving abduction represented 4.9% (2 incidents), while military clashes were minimal at 2.4% (1 incident). This distribution highlights the complex and hybrid nature of Nigeria's security challenges, involving a mix of criminal, communal, and insurgent actors.

Christians Killed vs Muslim Killed



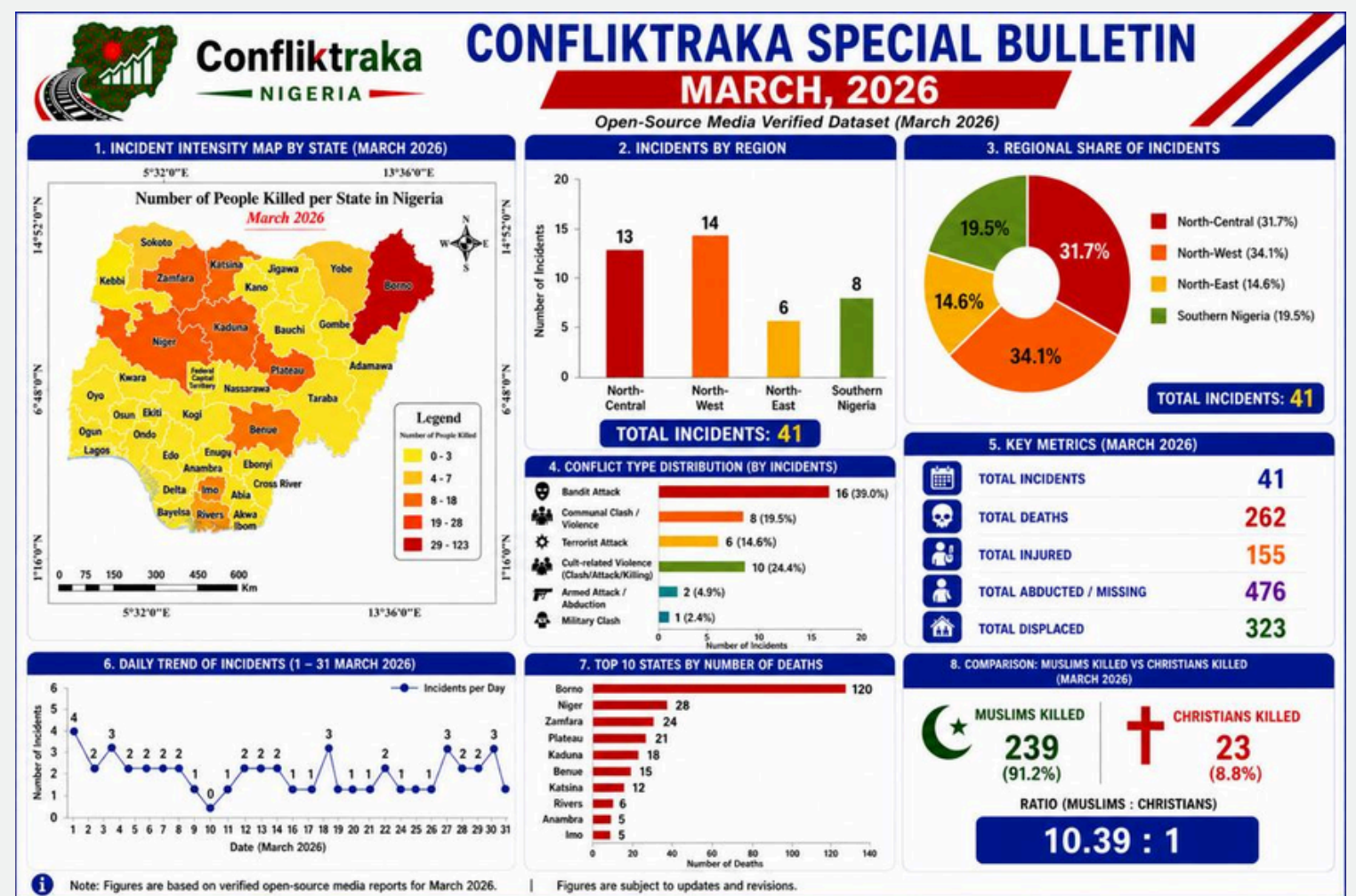
The distribution of fatalities highlights a significant disparity, with Muslims accounting for 239 deaths (91.2%) and Christians 23 deaths (8.8%), resulting in a ratio of 10.39:1. This largely reflects the concentration of violence in northern regions where most incidents occurred, rather than solely religious targeting. It indicates that exposure to conflict varies by location and intensity, shaped by the geographic spread of insecurity and the nature of ongoing violence, while insecurity continues to affect all groups and underscores the need for inclusive, region-specific security responses and strengthened protective measures for vulnerable communities.

Daily Trend of Incidents



The temporal distribution of incidents throughout March 2026 indicates a pattern of continuous but fluctuating insecurity. Daily incident counts ranged between one and four events, with several days recording two or three incidents, suggesting a persistent baseline level of violence rather than sporadic outbreaks. Peaks of activity were observed intermittently, but there were no extended periods of inactivity, reinforcing the notion of sustained instability. This consistent occurrence of incidents places ongoing pressure on security agencies and complicates efforts to predict and prevent future attacks, as the threat environment remains active across the entire month.

Summary



Nigeria's security situation in March 2026 remained highly volatile, with 41 incidents resulting in 262 deaths, 155 injuries, 476 abductions, and 323 displaced persons, reflecting significant humanitarian impact. Violence was concentrated in northern regions, particularly Borno, Niger, Zamfara, Plateau, and Kaduna, with the North-West and North-Central recording the highest number of incidents.

Bandit attacks dominated the conflict landscape, alongside communal clashes and cult-related violence, indicating a mix of criminal and localized conflict dynamics. Despite fewer incidents, the North-East remained highly lethal. The distribution of fatalities shows a significant disparity, largely driven by the geographic concentration of violence rather than purely religious targeting.

The pattern reflects persistent and widespread insecurity, requiring targeted, region-specific security and humanitarian responses.

Conclusion

The March 2026 data highlights persistent and widespread insecurity in Nigeria, driven by banditry, insurgency, and communal violence, with northern regions most affected in both frequency and intensity. The pattern reflects sustained instability alongside notable humanitarian impacts, including deaths, injuries, abductions, and displacement, which continue to disrupt livelihoods and community stability. Addressing these challenges requires targeted and region-specific security measures, improved intelligence and coordination among security agencies, and sustained support for affected communities to enhance protection, stability, and long-term resilience.