



CENTER FOR STRATEGIC
AND POLICY STUDIES

Living the future today

CSPS

MONITOR



JULY 2025

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA: TIPPING POINT: ETHIOPIA EDGES TOWARD CRISIS AS RENEWED TENSIONS LOOM OVER TIGRAY - CONFLICT SPREADS IN AMHARA, OROMIA

JULY 7TH 2025

Addis Abeba – Once hailed for its rapid economic growth and growing regional influence, Ethiopia now finds itself in the midst of a deepening crisis. Armed conflicts, a worsening humanitarian emergency, and persistent political instability are placing the country's unity under severe strain. The government's continued reliance on military responses to long-standing political grievances has turned Ethiopia into a volatile landscape of conflict.

The [International Crisis Group](#) has even issued a stark caution, suggesting an impending disintegration that could destabilize the entire Horn of Africa.

Although the 2022 Pretoria Agreement formally brought an end to the devastating war in Tigray, its [implementation has been inconsistent and incomplete](#). [Eritrean forces remain in parts of the region](#), with credible reports of continued human rights abuses. In [Western Tigray](#), allegations of ethnic cleansing persist, preventing displaced families from returning to their homes. Meanwhile, there has been no meaningful prosecution of those responsible for wartime atrocities, further entrenching public grievances. Despite extensive evidence of mass killings, sexual violence, and starvation used as a weapon of war, accountability remains entirely absent.

Government officials continue to affirm their commitment to peace, often citing logistical and political obstacles. Yet bad-faith actors--both domestic and foreign--continue

to destabilize the process. This is not peace; it is institutionalized brutality under the guise of diplomacy. The international community's silence in the face of such impunity has emboldened perpetrators and set a dangerous precedent for future conflicts.

As Ethiopia faces the daunting task of reconstruction, the specter of another conflict looms--this time with the Tigray region once again at the center. [In his recent address to lawmakers last week](#), Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed called on religious leaders across Ethiopia to urgently intervene and help prevent a renewed escalation of conflict in the Tigray region. He warned that any attempts to speak out after the outbreak of war would be meaningless. "You have no other work. Immediately start your work now to prevent Tigray from entering conflict, from entering war; it will be worthless if you speak after it begins," he urged.

Late last week, Ethiopia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gedion Timothewos, also [issued a strong diplomatic appeal](#) to U.S. Secretary

of State Marco A. Rubio, accusing Eritrea of «unrelenting cooperation and coordination between a faction of the TPLF» and «other armed groups under their tutelage to undertake major offensive operations during the upcoming rainy season.»

In his letter dated 20 June, 2025, Foreign Minister Gedion also alleged that Eritrea has engaged in “repeated provocations,” “territorial occupation,” and the sponsorship of armed groups aimed at destabilizing Ethiopia. He warned that such actions represent “a flagrant violation of international law” and risk dismantling the fragile peace and security in the Horn of Africa.

Ethiopia’s recent diplomatic appeal comes a week after Eritrea’s Ministry of Information dismissed the letter’s contents as “a transparent ploy” to justify what it described as a “long-brewing war agenda.” [The Ministry accused Ethiopia](#) of «provocative saber-rattling,” claiming the government seeks access to Eritrean ports “legally if possible and militarily if necessary.” It further accused the Prosperity Party-led administration of embarking on “a weapons purchasing spree” while undermining regional stability, despite what it characterized as Eritrea’s “maximum restraint.”

Renewed tensions resurge over Tigray at a time when the armed [conflict in the Amhara region](#) has escalated at an alarming rate. Since August 2023, Amhara has faced a series of crises, having become the focal point of an increasingly militarized confrontation between government forces and various factions of the Fano armed groups. This conflict--now spanning large parts of the region--continues to result in civilian casualties.

Reports reveal that military operations in Amhara have employed tactics that amount to collective punishment of the civilian population. Widespread mass arrests, extrajudicial killings, and media blackouts have contributed to the transformation of the region into a heavily militarized zone. In its [quarterly report](#) released in January 2025, the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) documented extensive extrajudicial killings, including those of pregnant women and children, amid the ongoing conflict in the Amhara region.

Violence has also gripped the Oromia region. In particular, [Western Oromia](#) has experienced an enduring conflict involving government forces and armed groups, including the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) and Fano, a non-state militia from the neighboring Amhara region. This conflict has resulted in extensive displacement and severe socioeconomic consequences. Districts within the North Shewa Zone of the Oromia region have also become hotspots of conflict, with the [Darra district](#), in particular, enduring waves of violence between government forces and armed groups operating in both the neighboring Amhara and Oromia regional states.

The Oromo Liberation Army has evolved into a significant insurgent force in Oromia, drawing momentum from long-standing grievances related to political exclusion and land dispossession. A [second round of peace talks](#)--initially launched with the hope of resolving the five-year militarized conflict between the OLA and government forces--officially collapsed without agreement in November 2023. The failure of the negotiations exposed the reluctance of both sides to pursue a peaceful resolution, instead opting for continued warfare--a course that portends only further bloodshed.

DIPLOMACY OVER DESTABILIZATION

Unless the conflicts in Amhara and Oromia are effectively addressed and a renewed war in Tigray is averted, these crises collectively threaten to accelerate the fragmentation of Ethiopia's federal system.

The peace initiative launched by the [National Dialogue Commission](#) has largely failed to achieve meaningful progress, primarily due to the deliberate exclusion of key armed groups such as the OLA, Fano, and political and military leaders from Tigray. Suppressed opposition parties and independent civil society actors have also been sidelined. By selectively choosing participants and narrowly framing the scope of discussion, the Commission has reduced the reconciliation process to little more than political theater. Without genuine inclusivity, this initiative risks further deepening national disillusionment.

Amid ongoing conflicts in the Amhara and Oromia regions and the threat of renewed war in Tigray, Ethiopia's humanitarian crisis has reached an alarming level. [More than 20 million people are in urgent need of emergency food assistance](#), many of whom remain trapped in active conflict zones. [Over 3.3 million individuals have been internally displaced](#), now living in overcrowded camps with limited access to essential aid. A [report](#) released in March 2025 by the Global Nutrition Cluster also reveals that acute malnutrition rates in several regions have «surpassed the critical threshold of 15%,» signaling an urgent and dire situation. Additionally, more than [nine million children are currently out of school due to conflict](#), violence, natural disasters, and displacement, with over 6,000 schools remaining closed. Despite the severity of the crisis, international humanitarian support has fallen short—hampered by donor fatigue, competing global emergencies, and bureaucratic hurdles that continue to obstruct the delivery of aid to those in greatest need.

The international community's inaction has largely failed to address the escalating crisis in Ethiopia. The African Union, despite being headquartered in Addis Ababa, has not enforced its own peace agreements. The United Nations Security Council remains paralyzed by geopolitical divisions, unable to take meaningful action. Meanwhile, Western donors continue to fund the Ethiopian government despite well-documented atrocities, placing greater emphasis on counterterrorism and migration control than on the protection of human rights.

Despite the severity of the crisis, Ethiopia still has an opportunity to reverse course. An immediate ceasefire, overseen by the United Nations or the African Union, is essential to halt the violence in Amhara and Oromia. At the same time, sustained international diplomatic pressure is necessary to ensure the withdrawal of Eritrean forces from Ethiopian territory.

Comprehensive negotiations involving all political and armed groups are crucial to addressing the structural drivers of conflict. Humanitarian corridors must be fully reopened, and international donor support significantly increased to avert further deepening of poverty. A South Africa-style Truth and Reconciliation Commission is critical for confronting wartime atrocities and rebuilding public trust. Additionally, constitutional reforms are needed to establish a more equitable framework for power-sharing. Finally, strengthened regional diplomacy with neighboring countries is vital to prevent proxy conflicts and safeguard the stability of the Horn of Africa.

Ethiopia's crisis transcends a national tragedy; it serves as a critical test of global governance, African solidarity, and international accountability. Without decisive intervention, the consequences could reverberate across the entire region, threatening broader stability. Yet, hope remains. If Ethiopians, alongside their international partners, commit to inclusive politics, justice, and lasting peace,

the nation can recover and reclaim its role as a regional leader.

The choice is clear: either accept continued failure and suffering or seize this opportunity for peace and recovery. The moment for bold, coordinated action is now.

Source: [Ethiopia: Tipping Point: Ethiopia Edges Toward Crisis As Renewed Tensions Loom Over Tigray - Conflict Spreads in Amhara, Oromia - allAfrica.com](https://www.allAfrica.com)

FINANCIAL DATA IS FUELING AFRICA'S FINTECH BOOM – BUT ACCESS STILL LAGS BEHIND.

JULY 25TH 2025

Africa's fintech ecosystem is undergoing a powerful transformation. From mobile payments to peer-to-peer lending, startups are innovating in ways that are reshaping how people across the continent access and manage money. Ethiopia, in particular, is seeing a surge of tech-driven solutions aimed at improving financial inclusion and enabling economic mobility.

But behind every successful fintech product lies one critical foundation: data.

To build apps that provide real financial value – investment tools, budgeting platforms, business dashboards – startups need access to reliable, timely, and structured financial data. This includes company fundamentals like income statements, balance sheets, cash flows, and earnings calendars. Such information empowers users to make smarter financial decisions, and it enables platforms to educate, advise, and engage customers more effectively.

Unfortunately, this type of high-quality data

One platform offering such access is: <https://finage.co.uk/product/fundamentals>

Finage provides structured, real-time and historical access to global company fundamentals. Developers can pull essential data points – including revenue, profit margins, debt ratios, and earnings reports – directly into their fintech applications via

is still out of reach for many developers and entrepreneurs in emerging markets. Public sources often lack depth or accuracy, and enterprise data vendors charge premium prices that small teams simply can't afford. As a result, African fintech innovators are often forced to work with outdated, limited, or manually sourced information – restricting their ability to scale and compete.

However, this gap is rapidly closing thanks to the rise of financial data APIs. These services deliver institutional-grade data through scalable endpoints, making integration faster, cheaper, and more accessible than ever.

clean and well-documented APIs. No need for massive infrastructure or expensive licenses.

For African developers, this means they can finally build apps that compare company performance, analyze growth potential,

teach financial literacy, or offer personalized investment insights – using the same caliber

of data available to fintechs in Europe or North America.

As fintech in Africa moves from mobile wallets to sophisticated financial ecosystems, access to quality financial data will define which solutions thrive. It's not just about technology – it's about information. And platforms like Finage are helping to ensure that innovators across Africa have the tools to succeed.

BADEA APPROVES USD120 MILLION TO SUPPORT SHELTER AFRIQUE DEVELOPMENT BANK CAPITALIZATION PROGRAM

JULY 31ST 2025

Nairobi, Kenya – 31 July 2025 – Shelter Afrique Development Bank (ShafDB) has announced the signing of a strategic agreement with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) to support its transformative capital increase initiative.

Effectively, BADEA has approved a landmark USD 120 million to support the capitalization program of Shelter Afrique Development Bank, the leading Pan-African institution focused on affordable housing and urban development. The concessional financing facility will help eligible member states settle and increase their capital subscriptions to ShafDB.

This initiative, developed in partnership with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), introduces an innovative financing mechanism through which eligible member states can access on-lending at competitive terms. The BADEA-supported facility, totaling USD 120 million, will be used to settle and boost member states' capital subscriptions to Shelter Afrique Development Bank (ShafDB).

"This agreement with BADEA marks a critical step in strengthening our capital base and advancing our mission of financing affordable housing and sustainable urban infrastructure across Africa," said Thierno Habib-Hann, Managing Director of Shelter Afrique Development Bank. "We are

grateful to BADEA for its strong partnership and unwavering support in this pivotal phase of our institutional evolution."

The new capital increase program includes an initial equal allocation to all member states, followed by a phased reallocation, first on a pro-rata basis, and then on a first-come, first-served basis. This approach aims to encourage active participation by member states and to strengthen ShafDB's capital adequacy in a balanced and transparent manner.

Commenting on the program, the president of BADEA H.E. Abdullah KH ALMUSAIBEEH, "We see this capital program as a strategic milestone in Shelter Afrique Development Bank's evolution. BADEA is proud to back this initiative and we remain committed to our shared mission of enabling access to decent housing and inclusive urban development across Africa."

The need to enhance equity capital has become critical following the institution's transformation into a Development Bank, a milestone formally

approved by Shelter Afrique's shareholders during the Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) held in Algiers, Algeria, in October 2023.

Building on this transformation, a significant achievement was realized during the Annual General Meeting in June 2024 in Kigali, Rwanda, where shareholders demonstrated strong leadership by endorsing a transformative capital increase program, and the board approved in December 2024 a

capital increase of over a USD 200 million.

"Expanding capital base will enable the Bank to scale up financing along the housing value chain, access more competitive funding from international and African capital markets, and reinforce its role in addressing the housing deficit and driving inclusive urban development across its 44 member states," Mr. Hann said.

INCREASED LEVERAGE

The capital increase program has been designed to significantly strengthen ShafDB's balance sheet over the medium-term, expand its shareholder capital base, and to significantly mobilize debts. The capital raised will also support the Bank's plans to attain investment-grade credit ratings, attract new institutional investors, and expand its lending and technical assistance programs in member countries.

Source: [BADEA Approves USD120 million to support Shelter Afrique Development Bank Capitalization Program | ETHIOPIANS TODAY](#)

SUDAN

SUDAN: LIFE-SAVING AID MUST REACH THE PEOPLE CAUGHT BETWEEN THE RAINS AND CONFLICT.

14TH JULY 2025

Following the start of the rainy season in Sudan's North Darfur region, Amnesty International's Director for East and Southern Africa, Tigere Chagutah said:

To stop this humanitarian emergency from spiraling further, parties to the armed conflict must facilitate rapid, unconditional and safe access to humanitarian aid, and end all attacks on humanitarian objects and personnel.

Tigere Chagutah, Amnesty International's Director for East and Southern Africa,

"The rainy season is a terrifying prospect for many Sudanese who have fled fighting in North Darfur between armed groups. Internally displaced persons and refugees have told Amnesty International that they fear the coming rains will heighten the risk of diseases and make already dire conditions in their areas even worse. They are desperate for food, including seeds to plant ahead of the rains, water and medical services. Adequate shelter also remains a major concern. One 90-year-old woman told us that she didn't have any proper shelter and was living under the trees. Others are in similar situations.

BACKGROUND

Since the latest armed conflict broke out in Sudan in April 2023, over 11 million people have fled their homes. Displaced persons live in dire conditions in Sudan, including in Darfur, one of the regions most severely affected by fighting, as well as other countries. Cases

"Sudan is the world's largest displacement and humanitarian crisis, yet the humanitarian response for 2025 is grossly underfunded. This will go down in history as an abject failure unless Sudan's international partners rise to the occasion and increase emergency funding for the humanitarian response in Sudan, as well as for Sudanese refugees.

"To stop this humanitarian emergency from spiraling further, parties to the armed conflict must facilitate rapid, unconditional and safe access to humanitarian aid, and end all attacks on humanitarian objects and personnel.

"Sudan is the world's largest displacement and humanitarian crisis, yet the humanitarian response for 2025 is grossly underfunded. This will go down in history as an abject failure unless Sudan's international partners rise to the occasion and increase emergency funding for the humanitarian response in Sudan, as well as for Sudanese refugees. More must be done to save lives. The international community cannot afford to look away."

of cholera outbreak are already being reported in North Darfur.

Parties to the conflict continue to impede humanitarian access and attack humanitarian objects and personnel. Diplomatic efforts have

so far failed to ensure sufficient humanitarian aid to a suffering population.

The rainy season in Darfur typically lasts from June to September. In April, MSF already

Source: [Sudan: Life-saving aid must reach the people caught between the rains and conflict - Amnesty International](#)

warned that the rainy season threatened to worsen the ongoing malnutrition crisis. In August 2024, the UN confirmed famine conditions in Zamzam camp and identified 13 other areas at risk of famine.

SUDAN TIMELINE JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025: DAILY ATTACKS, DISEASE, AND DISASTER OBSCURE PLANS FOR PEACE

The June 30 March of the Millions anniversary seems a distant memory as Sudan steps into the rainy season in earnest. The overarching themes of the period are the increased spread of diseases such as cholera, malaria, and dengue fever, regular reports of the brutal killing of civilians by warring parties, and flooding and natural disasters. Sudan hits the international stage due to a devastating landslide in Darfur.

In the North Darfur capital, El Fasher, the warring parties continue to battle it out, causing widespread and horrific destruction. The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) carry out one of the deadliest massacres of the war yet in the Kordofan region, but begin to lose ground to the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF). Meanwhile, Sovereignty Council leader and SAF commander-in-chief Lt Gen Abdelfattah El Burhan and RSF Commander Mohamed 'Hemedti' Dagalo play politics.

Amidst reports of heavy civilian casualties throughout the country, hunger and disease is rife. Critical funding shortages force drastic cuts to life-saving food assistance, whilst international leaders struggle to puzzle together a plan for peace, which is met with derision and dismay.

Experts and academics call for a "homegrown path to tolerance and transitional justice." Sudanese people lament the complex challenges that face a country, rich in resources but stripped of all abilities to make sustainable use of them, due to international, national, and regional plays for power, control, and wealth.

The rainy season takes hold in July, as concerns over flooding and heavy rainfall are raised through discussions about the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). Attention is pulled from the bloody reality of war towards the dam itself, climate change, and natural disasters. The risks associated with the rainy season, including the spread of waterborne diseases, compound the dire humanitarian situation. International efforts to create a peace plan begin in earnest, led by the US, as the International Criminal Court (ICC) publishes a damning report citing ongoing war crimes and crimes against humanity. The RSF and SAF continue to battle over strategic ground and political prowess, leaving civilians in their wake at every turn.

July 1: Several parties call for an urgent investigation as a mine collapse claims at least 11 lives, while other sources indicate that the actual number of victims may exceed 50. The World Food Programme (WFP) warns that food aid to some Sudanese refugees could dry up within two months.

July 3: The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports

that since July 2024, over 83,000 cholera cases and 2,100 deaths have been reported, with over 32,000 suspected cases recorded in 2025 alone. Ethiopia announces plans to inaugurate the GERD in September, dismissing concerns raised by critics by extending an invitation to Sudan, Egypt, and all Nile Basin countries to attend.

July 6: The SAF claims to have regained strategic ground in Kazgeil and El Rayash, located along the southern border of North Kordofan. Local authorities forcibly deport 1,200 displaced people from Ed Damer, River Nile state, amid security tensions.

July 7: War disruption to education puts children at risk of becoming a “lost generation.” Nonetheless, league football returns to the country, as eight clubs compete to determine Sudan’s champions.

July 8: The Federal Emergency Operations Centre confirms 603 cholera cases in one week across 17 Sudanese states, including eight deaths.

July 9: Massad Boulos, US President Donald Trump’s Special Adviser on African Affairs, reveals plans for a ministerial-level meeting with the Sudan Quartet, consisting of the US, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Egypt, to re-engage on Sudan.

July 10: The 41st report of the Prosecutor of the ICC to the United Nations Security Council is published, detailing ongoing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Darfur.

July 11: On UN World Population Day, Radio Dabanga sources report that 72 per cent of facilities in Khartoum, capital of Sudan, are no longer functional.

July 12: RSF attacks several villages around the city of Bara in North Kordofan, killing at

least 238 people.

July 13: SAF airstrikes kill dozens of civilians in West and North Kordofan amid SAF airstrikes, as a brutal RSF attack kills 11 in Shaq El Noum and 46 in Hilat Hamid. The UN Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF) announces that over 450 civilians were killed in the “horrific attacks” in the area over the past two days, and 3,400 people were forced to flee.

July 14: Trump announces efforts to resolve disputes between Egypt and Ethiopia over the GERD. Uganda announces that it will halt dual citizenship for Sudanese, amid heightened national focus on citizenship issues in the lead-up to Uganda’s 2026 elections.

July 15: Amid displacement and limited infrastructure, Sudanese youth continue to seek learning pathways where they can, on World Youth Skills Day. Arbitrary detentions and social media incitement undermine the rule of law, warns the Sudan Media Forum.

July 16: Sudanese legal experts and rights defenders slam ICC briefing, saying it “lacks seriousness and tangible results.” Sudan’s childhood immunisation rate drops to just 48 per cent, the lowest in more than 40 years, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) and UNICEF.

July 18: A new Yale Humanitarian Research Lab (HRL) report corroborates the RSF massacre in North Kordofan, as the EU sanctions Sudanese commanders and entities over rights abuses. Pakistan explores joint agricultural ventures with Sudan, alongside Saudi Arabia.

July 20: Defamation, discrimination and exclusion of women are on the rise, reports Sudan Media Forum.

July 21: Sudan's Telecommunications and Post Regulatory Authority announces a nationwide block on WhatsApp calls, citing security concerns.

July 22: Khartoum remains gripped by violence, theft, and insecurity as authorities push for the return of displaced people.

July 23: The African Centre for Justice and Peace Studies (ACJPS) calls the situation in Sudan "one of the world's most severe humanitarian emergencies."

July 25: The Islamist movement is making moves to make a political comeback, according to Ahmed Haroun, chairman of the former ruling National Congress Party (NCP) and one of four Sudanese people wanted by the ICC.

July 26: The Sudan Founding Alliance (Tasees), led by the RSF, announces a new founding government in South Darfur capital, Nyala, triggering fierce and polarised reactions across the country.

July 27: Civil society organisation Darfur Union UK condemns the formation of the new Tasees founding government. Agriculture in El Gezira is collapsing after three years without harvest, as Sudan's pastoralists pay a heavy price for the ongoing civil war.

July 28: Multiple sources report hundreds of deaths among thousands of cases of cholera across Darfur, and deaths rise as Port Sudan swelters in 47°C (116°F) heat amid prolonged power cuts. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees visits Kiryandongo camp in northern Uganda, following the death of a Sudanese refugee in a knife attack which injured dozens.

July 29: The National Mine Action Centre discovers three minefields planted in and around Khartoum, allegedly by the RSF. As

the Sudan Quartet summit gets underway in Washington DC, the African Union Peace and Security Council rejects the Tasees "so-called parallel government." Attacks in South Kordofan cause hundreds of deaths, mass displacement and the collapse of essential services.

July 30: The RSF and SAF both claim control of key North Kordofan town, Umm Sumeima, amid widespread displacement. On World Day Against Trafficking In Persons, Sudanese children living on the streets of Tripoli, Libya, face homelessness and exploitation.

July 31: The Sudan Liberation Movement (SLM-AW) faction leader Abdelwahid El Noor calls for a UN intervention to combat cholera. A student's 10-year prison sentence for a joke about joining the RSF is denounced as "unfair and unjust."

In August, El Fasher once again becomes the flashpoint for the war between the RSF and SAF. Disturbing news emanates from the North Darfur capital of famine, genocide, summary executions, and fortification of boundary walls as the RSF siege hits its 500th day. The world's largest displacement crisis sees a glimmer of respite, as Sudanese people begin to return to safer areas. The month draws to a close with a devastating natural disaster in Darfur, which makes international news, one day after Hemedti is sworn in as head of a new parallel government.

August 2: The SAF claims to have repelled an RSF attack on El Fasher, after repelling a large-scale attack on the northeastern and southwestern axes of the North Darfur capital the day before.

August 3: UNICEF report a deadly cholera outbreak is sweeping through Darfur and other conflict-affected regions of Sudan, with children bearing the heaviest toll.

August 4: People are reportedly surviving on ambaz, a byproduct of peanut production usually used as animal fodder, as the UN warns of famine in North Darfur. The UN Security Council holds closed consultations to review the worsening humanitarian and political situation in Sudan.

August 6: The SAF claims to have destroyed an Emirati aircraft carrying "mercenaries and military equipment destined for the RSF" in Nyala, but an Emirati source refutes the claim. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) suspends flights to and from Sudan. De Volkskrant highlights how Radio Dabanga is "a beacon" for millions of Sudanese, where access to independent news is "a matter of life and death."

August 8: The WHO warns against spreading hunger and disease in Sudan.

August 9: On World Day of Indigenous Peoples, Sudan remains the world's largest displacement crisis, with nearly 13 million people displaced. The RSF dismisses the SAF's claim of destroying an Emirati aircraft earlier that week.

August 11: The Darfur Union in the UK accuses the RSF and allied factions of committing genocide in El Fasher. "Civilians are enduring a deepening crisis with ongoing attacks, acute hunger and starvation," UN Spokesperson Stéphane Dujarric tells reporters. The Sudan Transparency and Policy Tracker (STPT) publishes a report on the regional and international dimensions of conflicts in eastern Sudan.

August 12: As the world marks International Youth Day, young Sudanese are keeping the spirit of the UN Sustainable Development Goals alive, against the odds. The RSF continues to intensify the offensive on the besieged city of El Fasher, launching violent assaults that

leave dozens dead.

August 13: The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, condemns a large-scale attack by the paramilitary RSF on El Fasher and the nearby Abu Shouk Camp for displaced people.

August 14: NPO Radio 1 visits the studios of Radio Dabanga in Amsterdam to interview Editor in Chief Kamal Elsadig about the situation in Sudan, which is often "a forgotten country."

August 17: The RSF claims to have seized the SAF Central Reserve Forces headquarters in southwest El Fasher. More than 20 newspapers have halted publication since the outbreak of the war, plunging the country into an information blackout.

August 18: Darfur and eastern Chad witness a sharp rise in cholera cases, especially within camps for internally displaced people and refugees. A video which allegedly shows a summary execution of a civilian by an RSF member in North Darfur sparks outrage. El Burhan appoints new senior officers in a reshuffle that strengthens his hold on the military.

August 19: On World Humanitarian Day, at least 84 humanitarian workers have been killed in Sudan since the conflict erupted in April 2023. The RSF announces its incursion into El Zayadiya neighbourhood in El Fasher, claiming control of El Najah School, just two kilometres from the SAF Sixth Infantry Division.

August 20: The bombing of a WFP aid convoy in Mellit, North Darfur, sparks mutual accusations. Sudan secures a spot in the African Nations Championship football quarter-finals.

August 21: The Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa (SIHA) convenes a regional webinar as women and girls face the full force of the war.

August 22: Ten days of “brutal” RSF attacks have left at least 89 people dead in the western region of Darfur, says Volker Türk.

August 23: The Sudan Conflict Monitor warns that “Sudan’s warring elites are entrenching divisions while civilians pay the ultimate price.” RSF units launch another offensive on southern El Fasher, allegedly repelled by the SAF Joint Force. Radio Dabanga reports on art as resistance and survival on the International Day for Remembrance of the Slave Trade.

August 24: The outbreak of war has led to the destruction or closure of most public and private hospitals and health facilities that provide medical care to women. The pace of issuing death sentences against civilians on charges of collaborating with the RSF continues to escalate.

August 25: The RSF renews artillery shelling on Abu Shouk camp in El Fasher; in Nyala, capital of South Darfur, the paramilitary group claims to have shot down a Turkish-made drone. More than two million displaced Sudanese returned to seven states of Sudan between November and July, according to an International Organisation for Migration (IOM) report, and a UNICEF aid convoy reaches South Kordofan for the first time since October 2024.

August 26: The nationwide death toll hits 2,561 as cholera, dengue fever, measles, hepatitis, and heatstroke outbreaks peak. UN Secretary-General António Guterres has a phone call with Kamil Idris, Sudan’s transitional prime minister.

August 27: At least eight are reported dead, and homes and roads washed away, amid flash

floods in Khartoum, River Nile state, Red Sea state, Sennar, Darfur, and parts of the Northern State. UNICEF warns that after 500 days under siege, El Fasher has become “an epicentre of child suffering.”

August 28: Yale HRL reports that the paramilitary RSF has built over 31 kilometres of earthen walls around El Fasher to control population movements and the entry of food and medicine. Sudan Doctors report 24 killed and 55 wounded in an RSF attack on densely populated areas in the North Darfur capital.

August 29: Former Sudan Foreign Minister Omer Gamareldin, in an interview with Radio Dabanga, says: “Stop the war first, then look for governments... Nyala and Port Sudan have no legitimacy.”

August 30: On International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, families press for justice and truth about loved ones who have vanished. Hemedti is sworn in as head of the Tasees parallel government.

August 31: At least 1,000 people are reported killed by landslides in Jebel Marra, a mountain range on the border of Central and South Darfur. Reports indicate the waters of the Blue Nile have receded to unprecedented levels due to the GERD, disrupting the annual flood season.

September sees more military and militia leaders sworn into positions of power in Sudan. People pick up the pieces of the Jebel Marra landslide, searching for loved ones, as flooding continues to wreak havoc across the country. Radio Dabanga reports on detainees dying of cholera in South Darfur, gross human rights violations in North Kordofan, and the tragic death of Sudanese youths attempting to cross the Mediterranean. El Fasher residents are still subject to shelling, artillery fire, and drone attacks, but towards the end of the

month, small SAF wins crack open a window of opportunity to break the siege.

September 1: As the El Fasher RSF siege deepens, a hospital strike kills 35 people in Nyala, during the swearing-in of Mohamed Hassan El Tawashi as Prime Minister of the RSF-led parallel government. Experts discuss how successful Tasees will be.

September 2: Sudanese certificate exams finally conclude for 5,260 Sudanese refugee students in Chad. Near the Nyala, ACJPS reports that detainees are dying in cholera-ridden Deqris Prison. El Burhan swears in Wahbi Mohammed Mukhtar as president of Sudan's Constitutional Court in Port Sudan.

September 3: As an increasing number of people displaced by the war return to Khartoum, talk of chemical contamination in the city has increased. News of the Jebel Marra landslide, covered widely in international media, is met with global expressions of sympathy and solidarity.

September 4: The RSF claims to have downed an SAF drone over Mershing in South Darfur.

September 5: Warring parties are waging a "war of atrocities" that deliberately targets civilians, the UN's Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Sudan warns, citing crimes against humanity.

September 6: "Unifying civilian voices, halting the war, and delivering relief to Sudan are an urgent priority," says STPT Executive Director Suleiman Baldo in an interview with Radio Dabanga.

September 7: Conflicting death tolls are reported in the wake of the Jebel Marra landslide, as authorities make headway in recovering bodies.

September 8: The US trial of French bank BNP Paribas begins over the company's alleged role in Sudan human rights abuses.

September 9: The Tasees coalition of armed groups and political parties led by the RSF claims responsibility for drone strikes in Khartoum.

September 10: Between 30 August and 10 September, Yale HRL satellite imagery confirms more than 50 shelling incidents in Abu Shouk camp for displaced people in El Fasher. Sudanese women are at the centre of economic war and systemic exclusion, say experts at the SIHA regional webinar.

September 11: The SAF and Joint Forces seize control of Bara city in North Kordofan, loosening the RSF's grip on the state.

September 12: Following their meeting in Washington DC, the Sudan Quartet proposal of a roadmap to peace garners mixed reactions from international actors.

September 13: 51 Sudanese youths drown while trying to reach Greece across the Mediterranean, in one of the most painful recent disasters associated with migration.

September 14: Five Sudanese people are reported dead in an attack in the area of Bashma, close to the border between South Darfur and the Central African Republic. "The identity of a homeland is at stake" as warring parties continue to damage museums, archaeological sites and cultural institutions.

September 15: International Day of Democracy highlights Sudan as a stark example of a nation where the promise of democratic participation has been silenced by war.

September 16: Since the war began, the

Sudanese Observatory for Human Rights has documented the detention of 3,300 people in the cities of Wad Madani, El Hasahisa, and Rafaa in El Gezira state. Malaria, dengue, and typhoid spread as mosquitoes multiply in Khartoum.

September 17: The Emergency Response Rooms of Sudan win the Rafto Prize 2025 for "saving lives and strengthening communities in one of the worst humanitarian crises of our times." The RSF claims to have repelled an SAF attack on the Rahid El Nuba area in North Kordofan, as ACJPS warns of serious escalations in gross human rights violations.

September 18: Consultations begin to extend the mandate of the UN fact-finding mission on human rights in Sudan, as fighting in North Kordofan escalates and artillery shelling continues in El Fasher.

September 19: In El Fasher, El Safiya Mosque and nearby homes in the El Daraja Awla neighbourhood are struck at dawn by an RSF drone attack, killing at least 75 people. UN reports that ethnically-driven killings have increased this year.

September 20: Islamic thinker El Mahboub Abdelsalam calls for a "homegrown path to tolerance and transitional justice," in an interview with Radio Dabanga.

September 22: The SAF Sixth Infantry Division reports that its troops repelled a large-scale RSF assault on the southern and north-eastern outskirts of El Fasher, as the RSF claims to have reached the El Quba neighbourhood.

September 23: Over 5,000 cases of malaria, typhoid, and dengue fever, accompanied by

dozens of deaths, have been reported in the past month in one area of Khartoum.

September 24: The UN, alongside international partners including the United Kingdom and Kenya, sounds the alarm again over Sudan's rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis. Tens of thousands of Sudanese people have fallen victim to dengue fever and other diseases, Sudan's health minister says.

September 26: Prime minister Idris addresses the 80th session of the UN General Assembly to warn that his country faces "existential dangers" from war, genocide, and foreign mercenaries.

September 27: Contested Umm Sumeima in North Kordofan comes under attack by the SAF, forcing the RSF to retreat westward. "Sudan is becoming the world's largest hotbed of terrorism and violent extremism," says security expert Essam Abbas.

September 28: The emergency room of the Abu Shouk displacement camp in El Fasher reports the deaths of at least 73 children under five and 22 elderly people in just 40 days. "The independence of the media and the press are prerequisites for a functioning democratic system in Sudan," writes Kamal El Sadig, Editor in Chief of Radio Dabanga.

September 29: Military experts say the balance of power looks set to shift, after a successful SAF airdrop of ammunition and supplies into besieged forces in El Fasher.

September 30: As the Nile floods across five Sudanese states, opinions are mixed on the impact of the GERD.

Source: [Sudan timeline July-September 2025: Daily attacks, disease, and disaster obscure plans for peace - Dabanga Radio TV Online](#)

UGANDA

UGANDAN MILITARY HELICOPTER CRASHES IN MOGADISHU, LEAVING FIVE MISSING

JULY 2ND 2025

A Ugandan military helicopter carrying eight personnel crashed and caught fire at Mogadishu's Aden Adde International Airport on Monday, according to a statement from the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF).

Maj. Gen. Felix Kulaigye, spokesperson for the UPDF, confirmed that three individuals survived the crash and were evacuated with injuries. However, five others remain unaccounted for. The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

"We heard a loud explosion and saw smoke rising above the helicopter," said Farah Abdulle, an airport worker who witnessed the incident, speaking to Reuters.

Emergency responders quickly extinguished the resulting fire, according to Somalia's state-run news agency.

The helicopter had reportedly departed from Balidogle Airfield, located in the Lower Shabelle region approximately 90 kilometers northwest of Mogadishu. It was attempting to land in a section of the airport designated for military operations at the time of the crash.

The African Union Transition Mission in

Somalia (ATMIS), under which the Ugandan troops are deployed, confirmed that the three survivors were transported to a hospital for treatment. Search and recovery operations are ongoing to locate the remains of the missing personnel.

Both ATMIS and Somali authorities have launched investigations to determine the circumstances surrounding the incident.

Uganda contributes approximately 11,000 troops to the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia. The mission supports the Somali federal government in its ongoing efforts to combat the al-Shabab militant group, an al-Qaeda affiliate that has destabilized the country for more than two decades.

While the crash caused delays for at least one Turkish civilian aircraft scheduled to depart the airport, domestic flight operations reportedly continued without major disruption.

Source: [Ugandan Military Helicopter Crashes in Mogadishu, Leaving Five Missing - KAMPALA NEWS](#)

DELAYED POLICE REPORT RAISES QUESTIONS IN SH1.7 BILLION JOB SCAM CASE

JULY 12TH 2025

More than a year after hundreds of Ugandan job seekers were allegedly defrauded by a travel firm promising overseas employment, the Uganda Police has released a statement revealing that over **Shs 1.75 billion** was lost in what appears to be a well-orchestrated scam. The announcement has, however, raised critical questions about the timing, tone, and effectiveness of the law enforcement response.

According to Kampala Metropolitan Police spokesperson **Patrick Onyango**, the suspect, **Asiimwe Chris**, alias Don Chris, owner of **Skylines Tours and Travel**, is wanted for allegedly conning **over 350 individuals** between 2023 and 2024 with promises of jobs in Canada, the UK, Qatar, and Luxembourg. Each victim reportedly paid between **Shs 3.5 million and Shs 10 million**, often on a so-called “loan basis,” with guarantees of repayment upon employment abroad.

“Initially, 85 victims had reported being

PUBLIC REACTION: “TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE”

Observers have criticized the **delayed response**, questioning why police failed to issue public warnings, initiate early arrests, or conduct regular updates on the case as it unfolded. “This should have been a proactive investigation, not a reactive press briefing, when hundreds are defrauded over months, the police cannot afford to wait until the suspect vanishes to start sounding the alarm.”

The **tone of the report** detailing the scam without offering substantial updates on enforcement has also drawn scrutiny. Critics note that the police narrative reads more like an **investigative news piece** than a law enforcement update, with phrases like “sources suggest” and “police are tracking leads” lacking specificity on legal steps being taken.

NO CLEAR LEGAL ACTION DISCLOSED

Despite the scale of the fraud, **no formal charges or arrest warrants** were cited in the statement. There is no mention of engaging **Interpol** to track the suspect internationally or of holding officials accountable for the regulatory oversight that allowed the company to operate unchecked. There is a disturbing pattern in Uganda where travel and recruitment scams emerge, fleece the public, and vanish without serious prosecution.

conned, but the number has now risen to over 350... Don Chris is wanted for fraud and police are tracking leads to apprehend him,” Onyango stated.

The police report confirms that the company’s offices were found **abandoned**, and some exhibits were recovered. However, the suspect is believed to have **already fled the country**—a detail that has sparked public concern over **how a high-profile scam operated for so long without intervention**, and why the police only addressed it publicly **after the fact**.

In whatever area he was operating, you cannot have an office without the local council coming to collect its license money. He was not operating in his bedroom. He had an office.

There is need for police to account how such a business could continue under their watch instead of merely calling the public to be vigilant.

A SYSTEMIC ISSUE UNADDRESSED

The police acknowledged that fraudulent travel agencies remain a growing threat, but offered little assurance on **structural reforms** to prevent recurrence.

CALL FOR TRANSPARENCY AND REFORM

In light of the police's delayed disclosure and the suspect's apparent escape, no pressure is mounting on the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) to:

- Explain **why no early warnings** were issued;
- Publish a **timeline of investigations**;
- Disclose whether **immigration authorities** were alerted;
- Confirm whether **recovery of funds** is being pursued.

Uganda police is currently operating as a cartel. If you are not willing to pay them some money, they will not follow up on your case. There is a few cases they will work on to excuse themselves. It is only until you have an issue to report that you come to learn that the police are cartel only working for the highest bidder. It will not be a surprise if there are several police officers that received bribes in the span of that year that allow that fraudulent business to continue operating.

Source; [Delayed Police Report Raises Questions in Sh1.7 Billion Job Scam Case - KAMPALA NEWS](#)

UGANDA REOPENS BORDER WITH DR CONGO FOLLOWING M23 SEIZURE OF GOMA AND DIPLOMATIC BREAKTHROUGH.

JULY 15TH 2025

Uganda has reopened its border with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), six months after key crossings were closed due to escalating rebel activity in eastern Congo. The reopening follows the capture of Goma by the M23 rebel group, a development that had prompted the Ugandan government to shutter major entry points at Bunagana and Ishasha in North Kivu province.

The announcement was made by Chris Magezi, a senior military assistant, via social media on Monday. Magezi confirmed that the directive to reopen the border was issued by President Yoweri Museveni himself. He further indicated that individuals responsible for the initial closure, which disrupted trade and cross-border community relations, would be subject to investigation.

The move comes in the wake of a peace agreement signed in Washington, where officials from both Rwanda and the DRC pledged to support future negotiations between the Congolese army and the M23 rebel group. The accord is viewed as a critical step toward stabilizing the volatile Great Lakes region.

The M23, predominantly composed of ethnic Tutsi fighters, re-emerged in late 2021 after

years of dormancy. The group has launched a sustained offensive throughout 2024, capturing significant territory in eastern DRC, with Goma—one of the region's most strategic urban centers—falling under its control.

Kinshasa has repeatedly accused Kigali of backing the insurgents with arms and personnel, a charge that Rwanda has consistently denied. However, the United States and other Western governments have lent credence to the DRC's claims, citing what they describe as credible intelligence linking Rwanda to the rebel advance.

With the border now reopened and diplomatic channels reactivated, attention turns to the viability of peace negotiations. Analysts caution that progress will depend on a sustained international commitment to the peace process and a genuine readiness among parties to reach a political solution.

For now, the reopening of the Uganda-DRC border signals a tentative step toward regional de-escalation and renewed economic and humanitarian cooperation between neighboring communities long affected by the protracted conflict.

Source: [Uganda Reopens Border with DR Congo Following M23 Seizure of Goma - KAMPALA NEWS](#)

RWANDA

RWANDA MOVES FORWARD IN PEACE AND PROGRESS AMID REGIONAL AND DOMESTIC TRIUMPHS

JULY 16TH 2025

On July 16, 2025, a significant day for Rwanda and the broader Great Lakes Region unfolded as President Paul Kagame led a pivotal Cabinet meeting at Urugwiro Village, symbolizing the country's unwavering commitment to peace, economic growth, and national development.

A major highlight was the ratification of the historic Peace Agreement between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), signed in Washington D.C. and mediated by the United States. This milestone agreement signals hope for regional stability after years of conflict, promising to foster peace, security, and economic integration across the region. President Kagame expressed Rwanda's dedication to implementing the deal and eagerly anticipates the conclusion of ongoing Doha Talks, with support from the African Union and Qatar.

Back home, Rwanda's thriving mining sector continues to forge a pathway for economic transformation. The government approved new licenses for mineral exploration, signaling a boost in high-value mineral discovery and investment that promises to uplift local

communities and create opportunities for Rwandans.

The Cabinet also took steps to strengthen Rwanda's international relations through agreements with Nigeria and Austria, promoting tax cooperation and financial development. Additionally, appointments across various government ministries and diplomatic missions reflect Rwanda's ongoing effort to build a skilled and dedicated leadership committed to national progress.

For ordinary Rwandans, these initiatives mean a future rooted in peace, economic opportunity, and regional harmony—values reflected in the government's commitment from the highest levels of leadership, aiming to uplift every citizen and foster sustainable growth across Rwanda.

Source: [Rwanda Moves Forward in Peace and Progress Amid Regional and Domestic Triumphs | TOP AFRICA NEWS](#)

KIGALI: LAUNCH OF INFINIX PHONES EQUIPPED WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY AI

JULY 25TH 2025

On Wednesday, July 23, 2025, Infinix Rwanda launched these phones in three versions, featuring a high-performance 5.95 mm thickness, an artificial intelligence camera, and durable glass that protects it in the event of an accidental drop.

Infinix, a Hong Kong-based phone manufacturer, launched the new "Infinix Hot 60" phones on the Rwandan market, offering free calls within a 1.5-kilometer radius.

All these phones, upon launch, are

equipped with artificial intelligence (AI). Shema Gilbert, Public Relations Manager of Infinix Rwanda, said this is a phone equipped with modern technology, thus encouraging young people to use it.

"It's a phone that can be described as youth-friendly because it is equipped with modern technology, and young people are often the ones who know how to use it." But everyone should have it because it makes life easier." He added, "You can ask it for anything you need. For example, you can ask it to call someone, play music, etc." Shema Gilbert, Infinix's Public Relations Manager, explained the features of these phones.

Shema added that the Infinix Hot 60 has the unique feature of calling without using a

The Infinix Hot 60 Proclass, Rwf 337,999, the Infinix Hot 60 Pro Rwf 273,999, and the Infinix Hot 60 ai Rwf 184,999.

ABOUT INFINIX

Infinix mobility has caused a stir in Africa's telecommunication industry with the release of infinix Hot2. The brand which is barely 3 years here, became the first to partner with Google in producing the first device to be enrolled under the Android One program in Africa.

Infinix Mobility is a Hong Kong based company with its headquarters in Shanghai which also houses its research and development centre. It has its design centre in Paris and its production centre in Shenzhen- the electronic hub of the world.

The company prides its success in its experienced executives which is led by its

mobile phone, but instead uses Bluetooth to call anyone within a 1.5-kilometer radius.

In partnership with MTN Rwanda, a 20% discount has been offered to customers who purchase units via Mobile Money. They will also benefit from 15 GB of internet and 300 minutes of calls

To facilitate the purchase, a payment method has been introduced, allowing customers to pay in three, six, or one-year installments. This payment method is available at Yellow Financing stores. These phones were launched on Thursday, July 24, 2025, and are available at all Infinix stores nationwide.

Directors of the Media House of various newspapers were present.

CEO, Benjamin Jiang. Benjami Jiang has a track record in the mobile phone industry as he joined Bird Co., LTD- Chinese mobile phone pioneer- in 2003 as the Head of project management. By 2007, he joined Longcheer holding- a leading Chinese mobile handset design house- as GM of International Business Unit. He remained there up until he became the CEO of Infinix Mobility in 2012.

Source: [Kigali: Launch of Infinix phones equipped with modern technology Ai](#)

SPIRO EXPANDS IN RWANDA, BOOSTS ELECTRIC MOBILITY AND GREEN JOBS

JULY 26TH 2025

SPIRO, Africa's leading electric mobility company, is accelerating its growth in Rwanda as part of a wider effort to transform urban transport across the continent.

With more than 22,000 electric motorbikes operating in seven African countries, SPIRO has already established Rwanda's largest electric vehicle charging network, with 156

stations nationwide. The company plans to expand that number to 400 by August 2025, according to Chanton Ngabire, SPIRO Rwanda's Head of Commercial.

TECHNIC TEAM OF SPIRO RWANDA

"Our goal is to deploy 25,000 electric motorbikes," Ngabire said. "We are partnering with banks to provide riders with affordable loans so they can start earning a stable income quickly and sustainably."

SPIRO's rapid expansion aligns with Rwanda's environmental goals and broader efforts to embrace clean energy. The company's CEO,

Koushik Burman, praised Rwanda's climate policies, calling the country "a leader in climate action."

ASSEMBLING PARTS ON SITE

"Few countries provide such strong support for electric mobility as a key strategy to address the climate crisis," Burman said. "Our mission is to build a long-term, sustainable electric vehicle ecosystem across Africa."

Despite the progress, some customers have raised concerns about delays in receiving their motorbikes after payment. SPIRO attributed the issue to global supply chain disruptions and growing demand for electric vehicles, noting its team is working to speed up deliveries.

Beyond offering an eco-friendly alternative to traditional transport, SPIRO is also creating jobs and promoting economic empowerment, especially for youth and women. Many riders have improved their livelihoods through SPIRO's initiatives.

MOTORCYCLES READY TO BE DELIVERED TO CUSTOMERS

"SPIRO is not just about mobility—it's about empowering communities," Ngabire said. "We are creating an ecosystem where sustainability meets opportunity."

With its battery-swapping technology and customer-centered approach, SPIRO is positioning itself at the forefront of

Africa's transition to cleaner, more inclusive transportation.

Source: [SPIRO Expands in Rwanda, Boosts Electric Mobility and Green Jobs](#)

KENYA

FIRST LADY LAUNCHES BOREHOLE DRILLING A SCHOOL

JULY 31 2025

First Lady Rachel Ruto has launched the drilling of a borehole in Unoa Comprehensive School in Makueni Sub County to provide clean water for consumption and alleviate the water problem.

Consequently, Mrs. Ruto said that the borehole that is being drilled will be up and running before children resume learning in the third term while saying the water will also be distributed to the community surrounding the school.

She further said that the water from the borehole will also assist the school to put up a kitchen garden in an effort to improve food security at the institution.

"Water from this borehole will improve sanitation, food security through kitchen gardens, nutrition and enhance overall performance of the school," said Mrs. Ruto while addressing learners at Unoa Comprehensive School after launching the drilling of the borehole on Wednesday.

The First lady also said that the water from the borehole will be used to plant trees in an effort to meet the 15 billion trees target by 2032 and also plant grass at the Unoa Sports ground that is very dusty.

During the event, she expressed her concern over the use of firewood in school kitchens that impacts negatively on the health of cooks and even learners.

In this regard, the First lady urged schools to partner with stakeholders to acquire

alternative sources of clean cooking energy to avert this worrying trend, noting that clean energy will promote environmental conservation.

"I will push for the adoption of a clean cooking energy solution under the Ministry of Energy. Schools need to adopt clean cooking energy as a way to protect both health and the environment from desertification," she observed.

Mrs. Ruto was fulfilling her promise that she made during the commemoration of the Day of the African Child (DAC) on June 6, 2025 when she officiated the event at Unoa sports Ground.

Speaking at the same event, the Principal Secretary (PS) State Department for Water and Sanitation, Mr Julius Korir, said that the national government will construct a sewerage system at Wote town with funding from the African Development Bank (ADB).

During the launch, the First Lady was accompanied by the Principal Secretary of the State Department for Children Services, Carren Ageng'o; Anita Mutula; Makueni County Commissioner Duncan Darusi; County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Gender Eng. Sabastian Kyoni; his counterparts for Education and Water, Mr. Japheth Mang'oka and Eng. John Kieti; among other government officials from both levels of government.

Source: [First Lady launches borehole drilling a school school - Kenya News Agency](#)

AMBASSADORS INTENSIFY GRASSROOTS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACE

The Neutral Voice of Peace Ambassadors Forum has vowed to intensify efforts to foster peace, unity, and national cohesion amidst rising political tensions and public anxiety in various parts of the country.

Speaking during a press briefing in Nairobi, the Forum's Secretary Mr. Munyori Kinyenje emphasised the organisation's apolitical stance and its commitment to promoting peaceful dialogue, reconciliation, and civic awareness at the grassroots level.

"As Neutral Voice of Peace Ambassadors, our mission is to offer non-partisan and community-centred peace solutions," said Munyori. "We are deeply concerned about the growing mistrust, misinformation, and incitement being spread, particularly through social media. Our response is to engage directly with communities through constructive dialogue and education."

Munyori said the Forum is rolling out a nationwide peace initiative involving structured town hall engagements, youth mentorship sessions, and interfaith forums designed to reduce tensions and create platforms where diverse voices could be heard and respected.

"We are deploying trained peace ambassadors in all counties to lead conversations that promote understanding and respect across political and ethnic divides. Peace is not just the absence of conflict; it is the active presence of justice, tolerance, and mutual respect," he stated.

Forum Chairman Mr. Joachim Maragia echoed Munyori's remarks, reiterating the Forum's commitment to championing peace as a shared responsibility.

He pointed out that political and civic leaders

alone could not shoulder the burden of reconciliation and unity.

"Our message is simple: peace begins with each of us. Every citizen, regardless of their background, has a role to play in creating a harmonious society," Maragia said.

He added that the Forum would not align itself with any political faction but would instead serve as a neutral platform to promote constructive dialogue, understanding, and healing.

"We will use every peaceful tool available – dialogue, education, culture, and faith-based engagements – to ensure our communities are resilient against hate speech, propaganda, and any attempt to divide them," he said.

The Forum is also focusing on the youth, who Maragia said were often the most vulnerable to manipulation and incitement.

He said through mentorship and community service programmes, the Forum seeks to empower young people with the values of peace, patriotism, and civic responsibility.

"Kenya's young people must be seen not as a risk but as a resource in peacebuilding. We want them to lead by example in rejecting violence and embracing dialogue," he noted.

Rev. Anne Favour, the Treasurer of the Forum, called on faith leaders to take a front-line role in reconciling communities and nurturing moral values that encourage peaceful coexistence.

"As religious leaders, we must rise above denominational and political boundaries to preach peace and understanding. When communities pray together and talk together, they find common ground," she said.

Rev. Favour said the Forum would also collaborate with women's groups, schools, and local administrators to establish sustainable peace structures at the community level.

"We believe in homegrown peace solutions. By listening to the people on the ground and working hand in hand with community leaders, we can prevent the eruption of conflict and ensure that grievances are addressed through dialogue and institutional channels,"

Source: [Ambassadors intensify grassroots efforts to promote peace - Kenya News Agency](#)

she added.

The Neutral Voice of Peace Ambassadors Forum is a national non-profit movement comprised of civic leaders, clergy, youth advocates, and community organisers who are committed to restoring peace and promoting unity across Kenya. Its approach is guided by inclusivity, neutrality, and the belief that peacebuilding must be people-driven.

As the country navigates a period of heightened political activity, the Forum has pledged to remain vigilant, responsive, and committed to bridging divisions before they escalate into unrest.

SECURITY TEAM CRAFTS MEASURES TO ADDRESS RAISING CRIME IN MADOGO

Tana River County Commissioner David Koskei has directed all chiefs, their assistants and headmen to initiate community-policing programmes and involve members of the public in fighting crime in Madogo location, Bangale Sub County.

Among the people to be included in the programme are community elders, religious leaders, youth, women leaders and the business community in the area.

The administrators will be required to map all crime hotspots, classify criminal activities for each area and forward their reports to the sub-county security committee for action.

The Madogo area has been facing a high crime rate reportedly orchestrated by a criminal gang popularly known as kayole.

Young people, some aged as low as 12 years, have been wielding knives, runkus and machetes, terrorising citizens by robbing them of their valuables and even breaking into houses.

Speaking during a public meeting on security, Koskei further warned residents against attacking police officers arresting suspects, noting that tough action will be taken against anyone who obstructs security officers from carrying out their duties.

The county commissioner reiterated that Kenya is a country of the rule of law and not a banana republic and if the residents continue to attack security officers, a General Service Unit (GSU) team will be deployed to deal with them.

"If a person commits a crime and police come to take action, woe unto you if you run into the police station to obstruct police from working. There is no difference between the suspect and you, who go to ask for suspects to be released.

Keep completely off these matters or you will be arrested too," Koskei said.

"I have heard that when a person is arrested, you all go to the station to demand their release because they are your people. A criminal is a criminal, if you want to help them, let them

go to prison and in a few years, they will have reformed," he added.

The county security team has also, with immediate effect, banned scrap metal businesses and activities, which are said to be fuelling crime in Madago.

Other measures announced to tame crime include mopping up all street children and arresting their parents for child neglect.

Source: [Security team crafts measures to address rising crime in Madago - Kenya News Agency](#)

SOMALIA

AL-SHABAAB'S 2025 OFFENSIVE AND THE UNRAVELING OF SOMALIA'S FEDERAL COUNTERINSURGENCY.

JULY 24TH 2025

On July 20, al-Shabaab, al-Qaeda's branch in East Africa, recaptured the towns of Sabiid and Anole, located roughly 40 kilometers southwest of Mogadishu in Somalia's Lower Shabelle region. The takeover followed the abrupt withdrawal of African Union forces, primarily Ugandan troops, and Somali government forces, which ceased defensive operations amid a wave of deadly al-Shabaab assaults targeting the joint force. The group appears to be maneuvering toward encircling Mogadishu, a strategy underscored by high-profile attacks such as the March 2025 assassination attempt on President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, carried out with a remote-detonated IED inside the capital. While it is unclear whether al-Shabaab currently possesses the capability to seize Mogadishu outright, its intent to isolate the city and weaken the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) is becoming increasingly apparent. This renewed push comes amid escalating political tensions between the federal government and regional states like Puntland, whose leadership has publicly criticized Mogadishu for neglecting core security threats in favor of domestic political aims.

Uganda's withdrawal followed the deaths of twenty Ugandan peacekeepers serving under the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission (AUSSOM) after al-Shabaab carried out a suicide vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (SVBIED) attack. This was the second deadly bombing in recent weeks targeting Ugandan forces in the towns of Sabiid and Anole, following another SVBIED attack last month that claimed the lives of over a dozen troops. These twin attacks reflect al-Shabaab's increasing use of coordinated, high-casualty operations aimed at targeting both state and international forces. The group's tactical shift is not only military but psychological, aimed at weakening the morale and cohesion of joint security deployments.

Since launching its Shabelle Offensive in April 2025, the group has rapidly gained strategic and territorial ground across Middle and Lower Shabelle, as well as eastern Hiran. Earlier advances began in February and have brought

the group within 50 kilometers of Mogadishu, including the recapture of strategic towns such as Adan Yabaal, which had previously served as the group's regional operational hub before its capture by government forces. On July 14, al-Shabaab militants seized the town of Tardo in Hirshabelle, south of Moqokori, reportedly without resistance, after Somali security forces and allied clan militias, known as the Macawiisley, withdrew. Tardo's capture followed the fall of Moqokori a week earlier, underscoring the collapse of local resistance in a region long dependent on community militias and irregular forces for defense. Al-Shabaab fighters reportedly advanced unopposed, and propaganda images released by the group show militants engaging with residents in an effort to legitimize their control.

The seizure of Moqokori and the nearby town of Gumare by al-Shabaab, following coordinated suicide car bomb attacks on government positions, took place in early

July 2025. According to al-Shabaab media, 47 soldiers and Macawiisley militiamen were killed during the Moqokori assault, with 65 wounded. The group also claimed to have seized a substantial loot of weapons and military equipment. Moreover, local residents have reported that al-Shabaab has begun setting up roadblocks and collecting taxes in Moqokori, indicating early-phase efforts to institute parallel governance structure and extract revenues. The offensive also appears designed to undermine the morale of Macawiisley fighters who were central to the government's initial territorial gains against the group.

Al-Shabaab's control is now firmly entrenched over Moqokori, Tardo, and Buq-Aqable, forming a triangular stronghold in central Somalia that effectively encircles key areas of Hiran and Middle Shabelle. Control over these strategic towns allows the group to directly challenge federal authority. Moqokori is located near major highways connecting to Bulobarde -- a government-held town defended by Djiboutian African Union forces -- and facilitates al-Shabaab's efforts to sever critical supply lines and weaken state presence in central Somalia. In recent weeks, al-Shabaab has tightened its grip on road access to Bulobarde and Jalalaqsi, a Djiboutian-manned base further south, likely with the intent of isolating both towns and preparing for potential future offensives.

Al-Shabaab's renewed offensive has effectively undone years of progress by the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) in reclaiming territory from the group, highlighting both its resilience and enduring strength. The FGS had launched a counteroffensive in August 2022, supported by the United States and Türkiye, which resulted in the recapture of more than 215 locations—primarily in Hirshabelle and Galmudug—according to a 2023 report by the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED). However, since

then, al-Shabaab has not only regained much of the territory it had lost, but it has also expanded its recruitment efforts across Somalia and East Africa, sustained its financial strength as al-Qaeda's wealthiest affiliate, and preserved access to weapons and ammunition.

The group's advances have taken place against a backdrop of Somalia's increasingly fragmented domestic political landscape. Ongoing power struggles between the FGS and member states like Puntland and Jubaland have undermined coordination and counterterrorism efforts. The National Consultative Conference (NCC) in May which was not attended by two of the most populous and military significant regions of Somalia, Puntland and Jubaland, highlighted political fragmentation and firm disagreement with President Mohamud's perceived push to centralize executive power and weaken the federal model. While renewed cooperation on national security was expounded upon at the NCC, SCC-Kaatumo -- located in northern Somalia -- was recognized as a federal member state. The formal recognition without participation from the Darood-level regions of Jubaland and Puntland does not bode well for counterterrorism cooperation.

Although Somali security agencies have launched a handful of retaliatory actions against al-Shabaab, these efforts appear constrained and reactive. On July 13, Somalia's National Intelligence and Security Agency (NISA) claimed responsibility for an airstrike near Buq-Able -- in Bulo Hog village -- that reportedly eliminated seven militants, with follow-up raids reported the next day. Yet, such operations have had a marginal impact on the momentum of the insurgency or recent acceleration in territorial gains.

The U.S. has primarily centered its 2025 counterterrorism efforts on Islamic State (IS) cells in northern Puntland. According to data from ACLED, over 30 strikes have been conducted against suspected IS positions in the

Cal Miskaad range so far this year, while fewer than two dozen have targeted al-Shabaab. The U.S. military has offered few details on the outcomes or precise scale of these missions, casting a shadow on their effectiveness. This imbalance has led to growing concerns that the international response may be lagging

behind the pace of al-Shabaab's resurgence in central and southern Somalia. The U.S. focus on IS in Puntland is partially driven by the goal of preventing an international IS "safe haven," however it is clear that al-Shabaab is leveraging this shifting international focus to reconsolidate its areas of operations.

Source: [Al-Shabaab's 2025 Offensive and the Unraveling of Somalia's Federal Counterinsurgency - The Soufan Center](#)

CSPS
MONITOR



**CENTER FOR STRATEGIC
AND POLICY STUDIES**
Living the future today

© 2025 CSPS. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without permission in writing from CSPS, except in the case of brief quotations in news articles, critical articles, or reviews. Please direct inquiries to: CSPS

P.O. BOX 619, Hai Jebrona, Adjacent to Martyrs School,
Opposite Simba Playground, Juba, South Sudan.
Tel: +211 (0) 920 310 415 | +211 (0) 915 652 847
<https://cspss.org.ss>