
Overview of Criminal/Terrorist Groups in Sub Saharan Africa by FCN

In this overview, the focus is on organised criminal gangs, corrupt officials, fraudsters, cyber criminals or hackers, proliferators and traffickers and terrorist groups across Sub-Saharan Africa.

In the case of organised crime, it is estimated by this Threat Assessment, (based on the estimated levels of criminal proceeds generated as set out in Part 1 above), that organised crime generates an estimated **US\$27 billion** across the SSA region.

According to the OCI¹:

- "State Embedded Actors" were rated highest at 6.6/10 across the African continent as one of four most prevalent organised crime types, followed by "Criminal Networks" (5.7/10), "Foreign Criminal Actors" (5.6/10) and "Mafia Style Groups" (3/10).
- State Embedded Actors were also seen as primarily responsible for perpetuating organised criminal activities throughout many countries in the region
- Countries that have the highest levels of State Embedded Actors tend to be authoritarian in nature, and include; Angola (8.5/10), Zimbabwe (8.5/10), Nigeria (8/10), DRC (8/10) Uganda (7.5/10), Kenya (7.5/10) & South Africa (7.5/10).
- Across SSA, the highest scores for "Criminality" are in East Africa (5.5/10),

followed by West Africa (5.3/10), Central Africa (4.7/10) and Southern Africa (4.4/10).

Additional highlights include:

- Whilst the police should be a bulwark against criminal activity, in many countries in the region, they are in fact the most corrupt public institution, with nearly half (47%) believing that most or all police officers are corrupt, based on a TI Survey². This perception extends to a significant number of government officials (39%) and parliamentarians (36%) as well.
- Proliferators and traffickers are more likely to come from South Africa, judged as a Tier 1 country by ISIS in a 2019 Report³, followed by 10 Tier 2 countries, which represent less of a threat, namely Malawi, Zambia, Ghana, Namibia, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Madagascar and Uganda, with the remaining SSA countries considered a lower threat & rated as Tier 3.
- Cybercriminals cost Africans an estimated US\$3.5 billion, generating >US\$1 billion, with approximately 10% of global cyber incidents occurring on the African continent.
- Terrorist groups designated by countries operating in SSA by countries such as Australia, Canada, EU, UK, US and / or the UN are Al-Shabaab, Lords Resistance Army, Boko Haram, and it's affiliate or splinter group, Ansaru.

¹ See: <https://ocindex.net>

² See: https://www.transparency.org/files/content/pages/2019_GCB_Africa.pdf

³ See: https://isis-online.org/uploads/isis-reports/documents/ThePeddlingPerillIndex2019_POD.pdf