

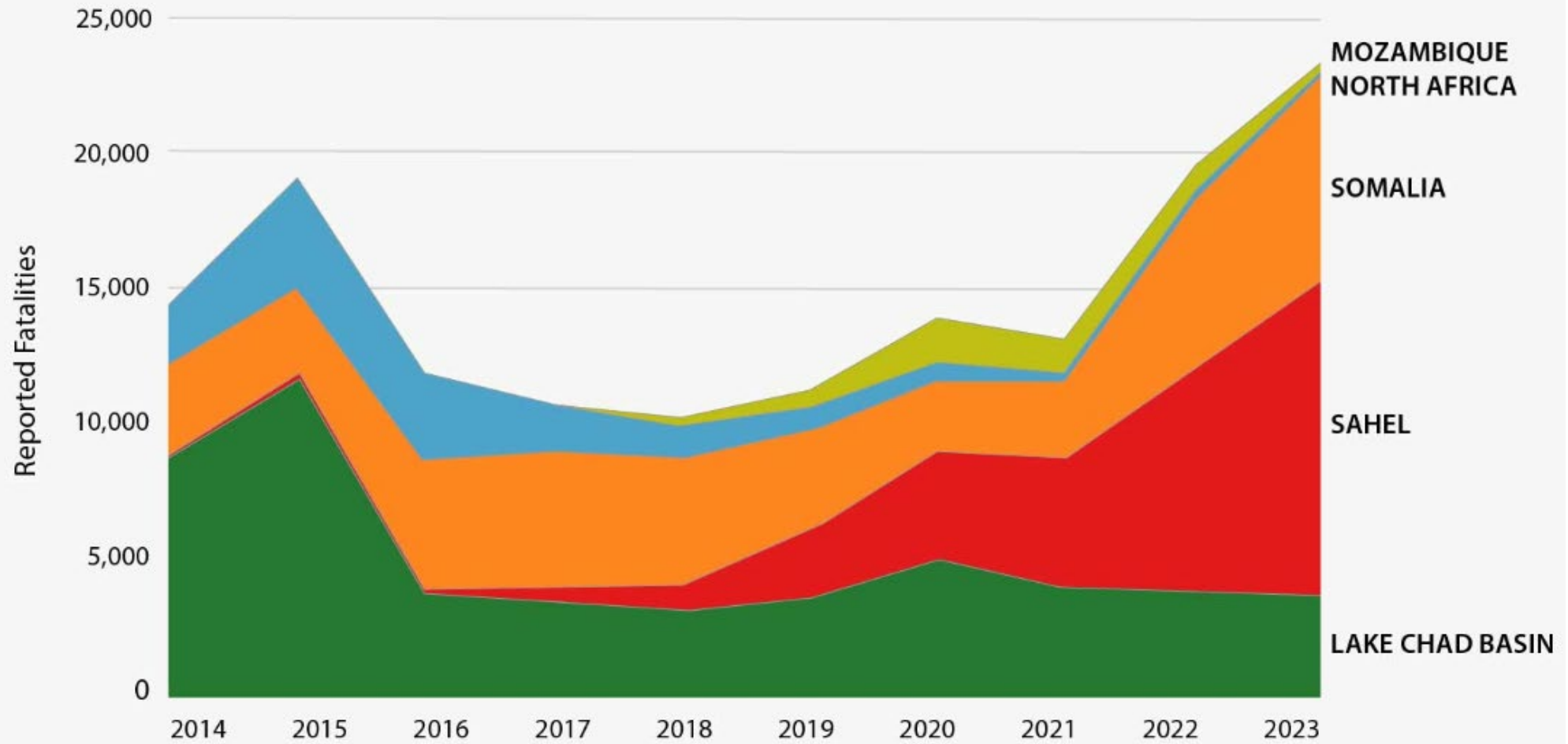


AFRICA CENTER
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

Violent Extremism in Africa Drivers

Dr. Daisy Muibu
June 2024

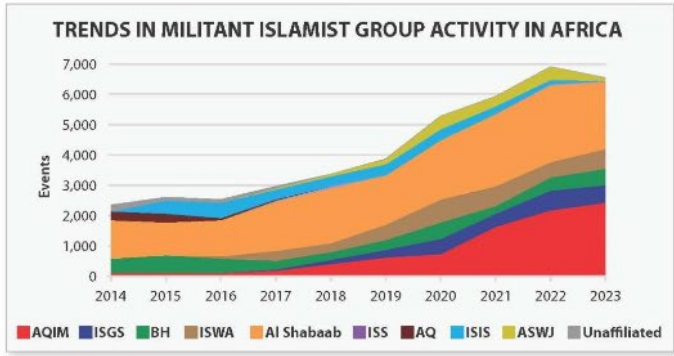
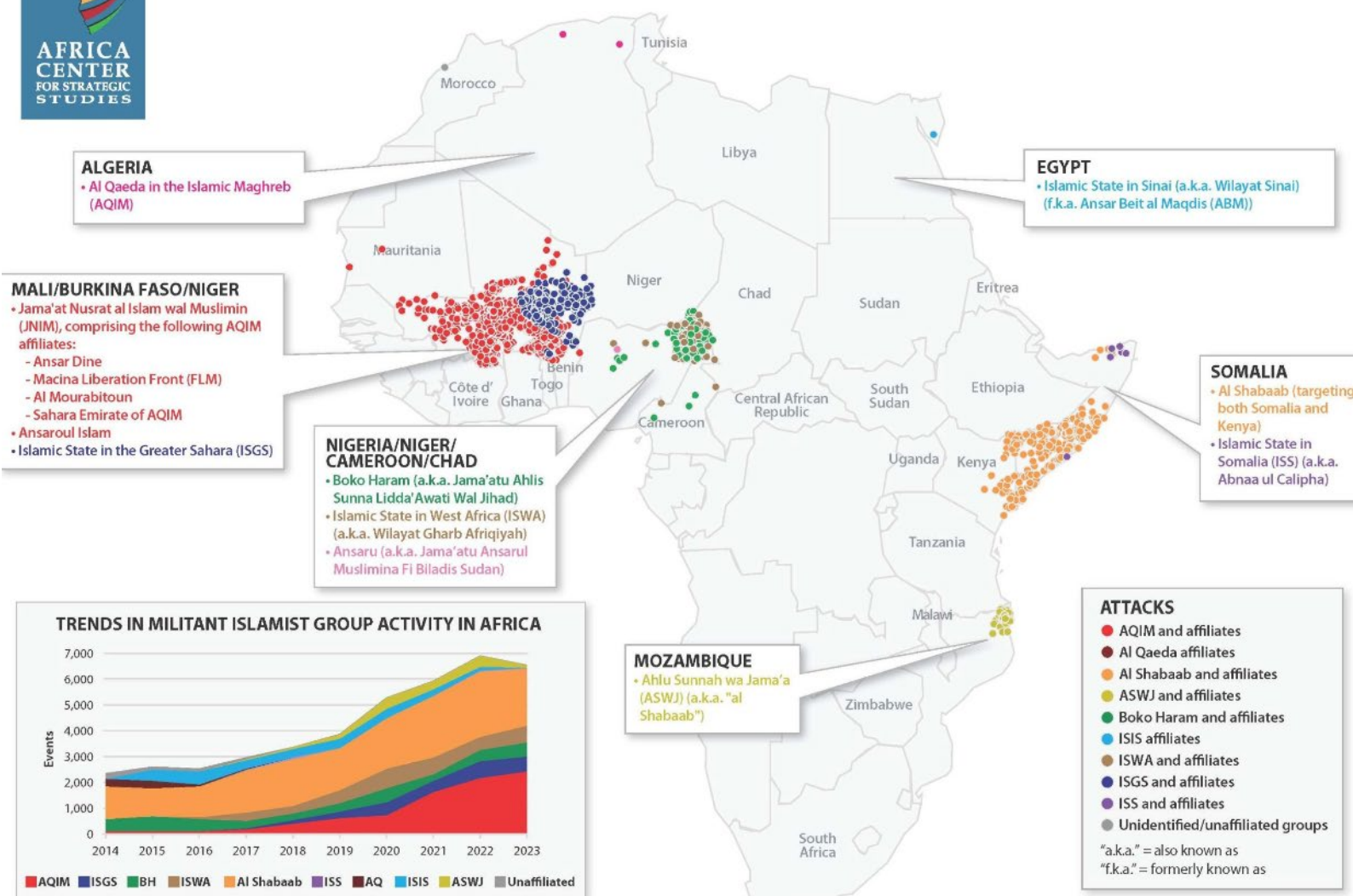
FATALITIES LINKED TO MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUPS IN AFRICA BY THEATER



Data source: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project

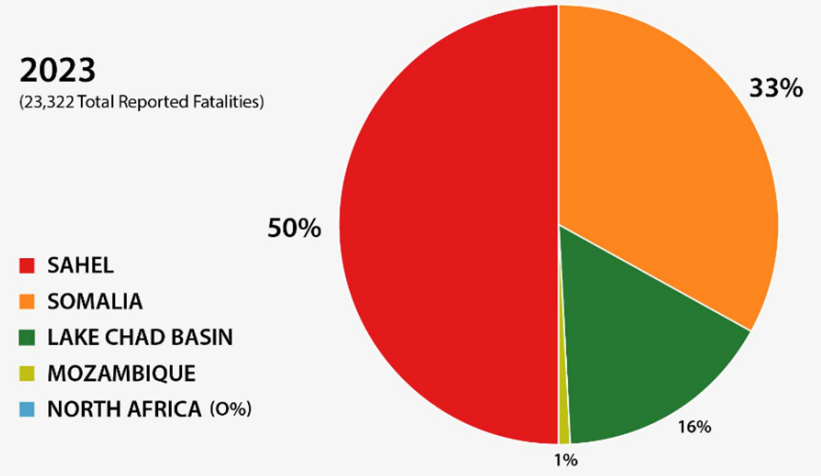


AFRICA'S ACTIVE MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUPS



MILITANT ISLAMIST GROUP-LINKED FATALITIES BY THEATER

2023
(23,322 Total Reported Fatalities)



Data source: Armed Conflict Location and Event Data Project

Updated: January 2024
Note: Compiled by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, this graphic shows violent events involving the listed groups over the 12-month period ending December 31, 2023. Data on attacks or fatalities does not attempt to distinguish the perpetrators of the events. Group listings are intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered official designations. Due to the fluid nature of many groups, the listed affiliations may change.
Sources: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED); Centro Para Democracia e Direitos Humanos; Hiraal Institute; HumAngle; International Crisis Group; Institute for Security Studies; MENASTREAM; the Washington Institute; and the United Nations.

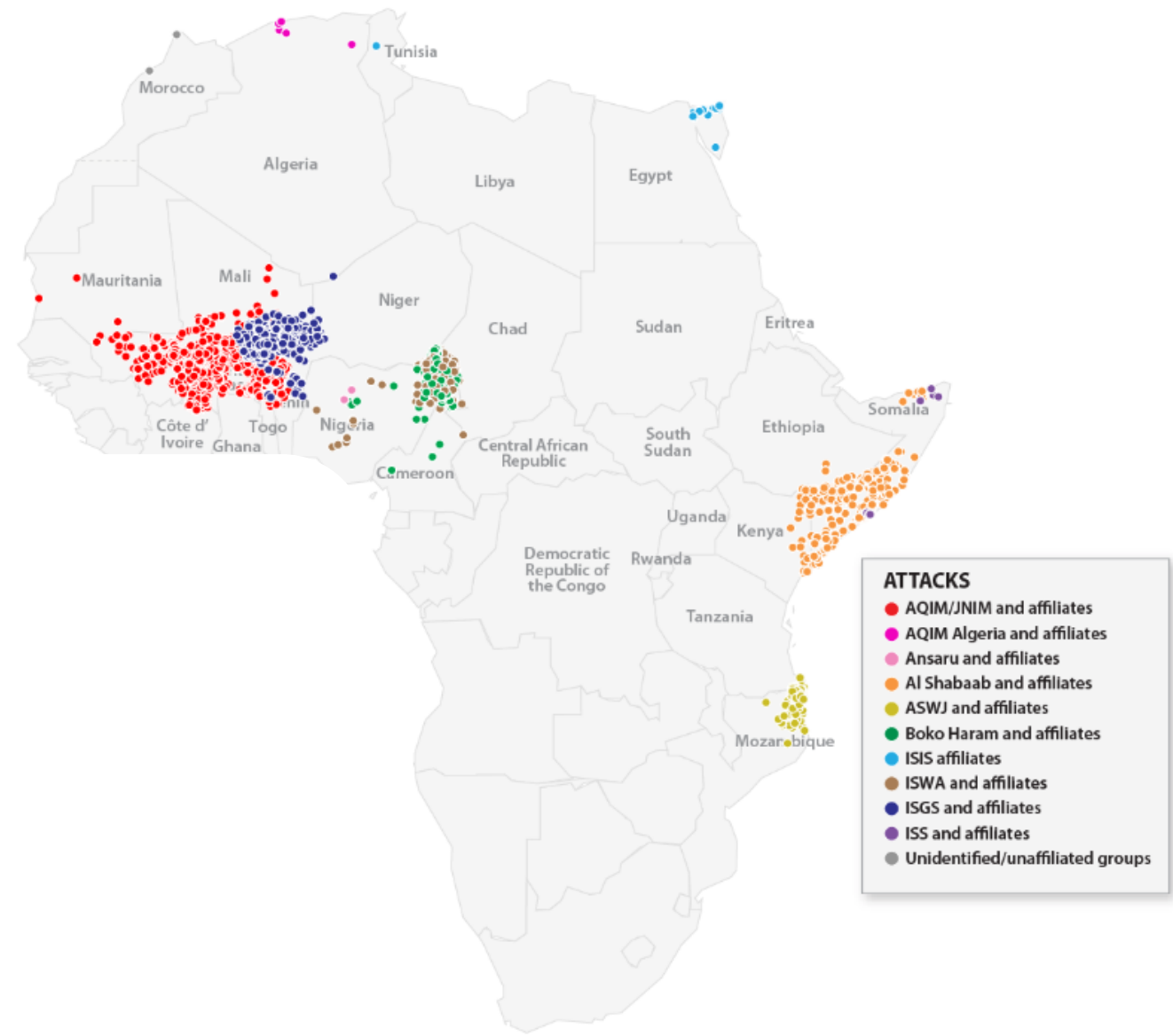


Common assumption:

Radical religious ideologies as a driver of extremism

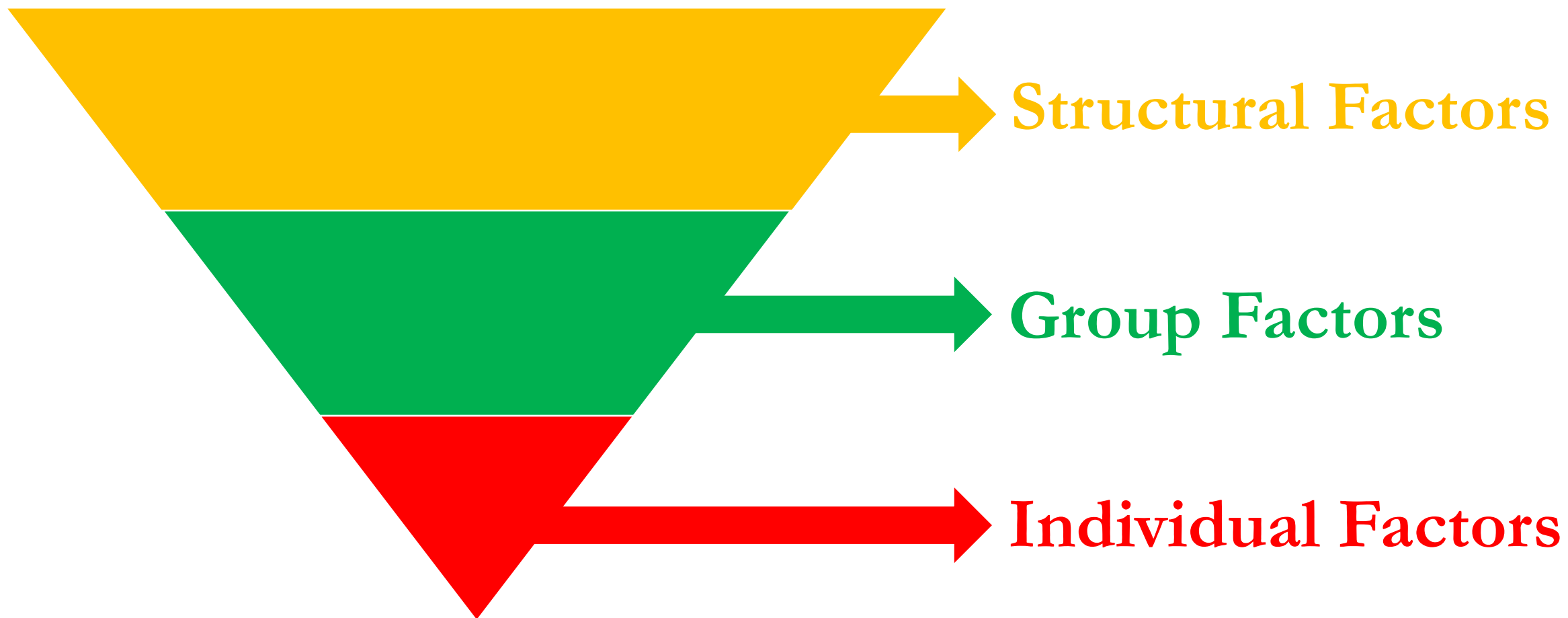
What is violent extremism & radicalization?

Cognitive vs behavioral

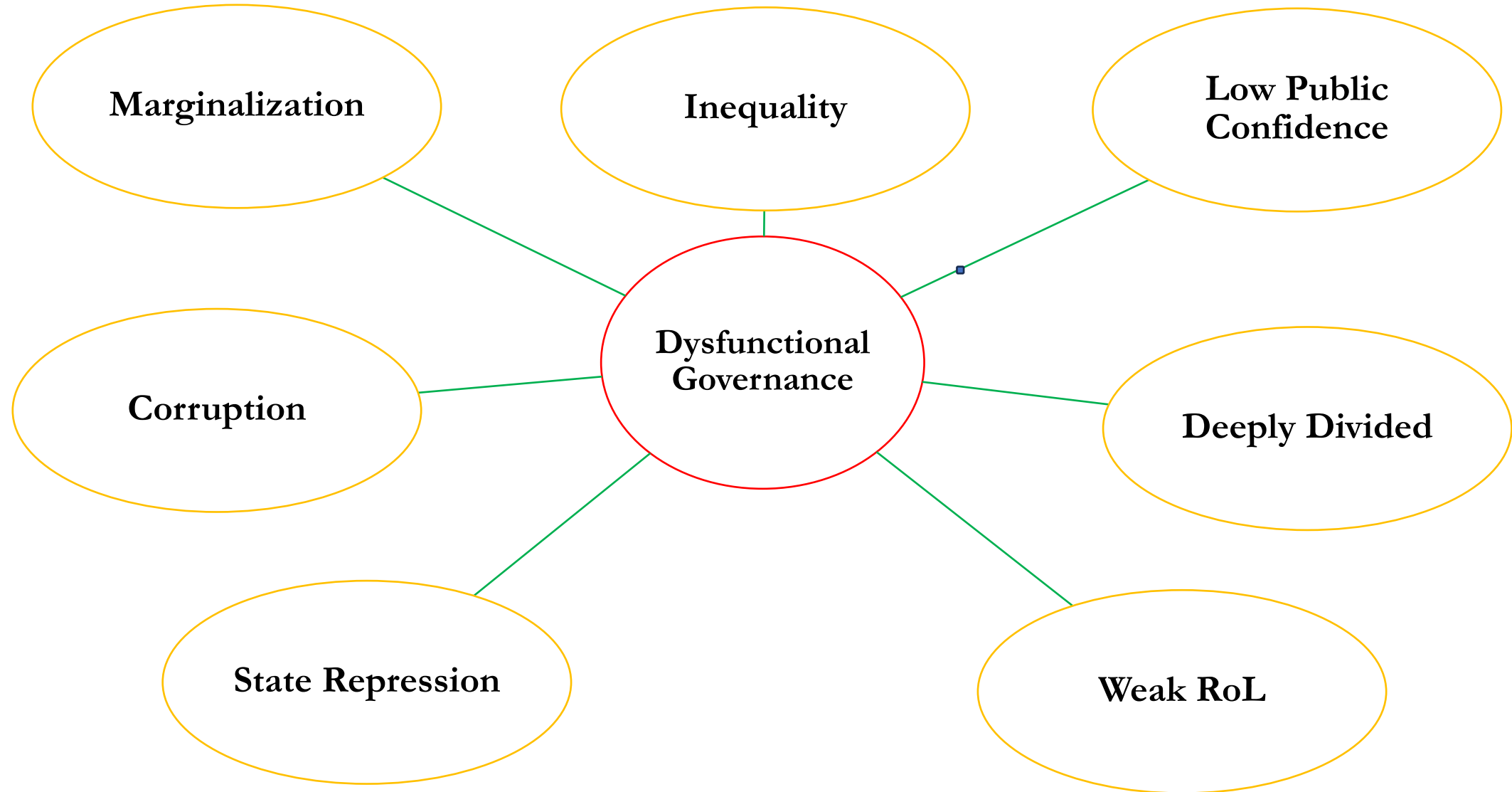


Note: Compiled by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, each map shows violent events involving the listed groups for a year ending June 30. Group designations are intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered official. Due to the fluid nature of many groups, affiliations may change.
Sources: Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED), Daniel Byman, HumAngle, Thomas Joscelyn, SITE Intelligence Group, The Soufan Group, Stratfor, Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium (TRAC), and Aaron Y. Zelin.

Drivers: How do we determine?



Structural Factors



Group Factors

Founders

Successors

Why: Explains and justifies the cause and drives reason for group's existence
How: Designs the methods and means to achieve goal via tactics and resource mobilization

Individual Factors



ICCT Policy Brief
May 2020
DOI: 10.19165/2020.2.05
ISSN: 2468-0486

The Last Frontier: Prisons and Violent Extremism in Mali

Authors: Liesbeth van der Heide and Julie Coleman

Journeys Through Extremism: The Experiences of Former Members of Al-Shabaab

Deradicalisation and Disengagement in Somalia Evidence from a Rehabilitation Program Former Members of Al-Shabaab

James Khalil, Rory Brown, Chris Chant, Peter Olowo and Nick Wood

Journeys through Extremism: The Experiences of Forced Recruits in Boko Haram

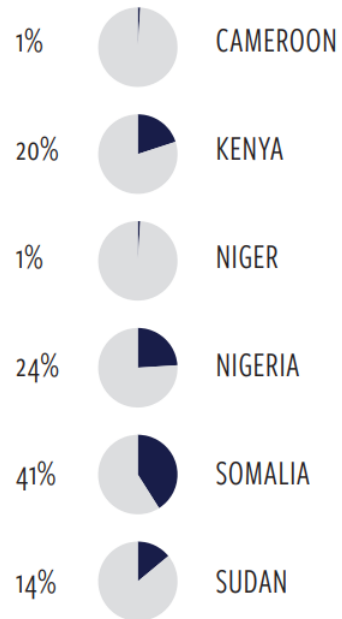
The "Off-Ramp" from al-Shabaab: Disengagement during the Offensive in Somalia

James Khalil, Yahye Abdi, Sif Heide-Ottosen, Abdullahi Ahmed Nor, and Martine Zeuthen

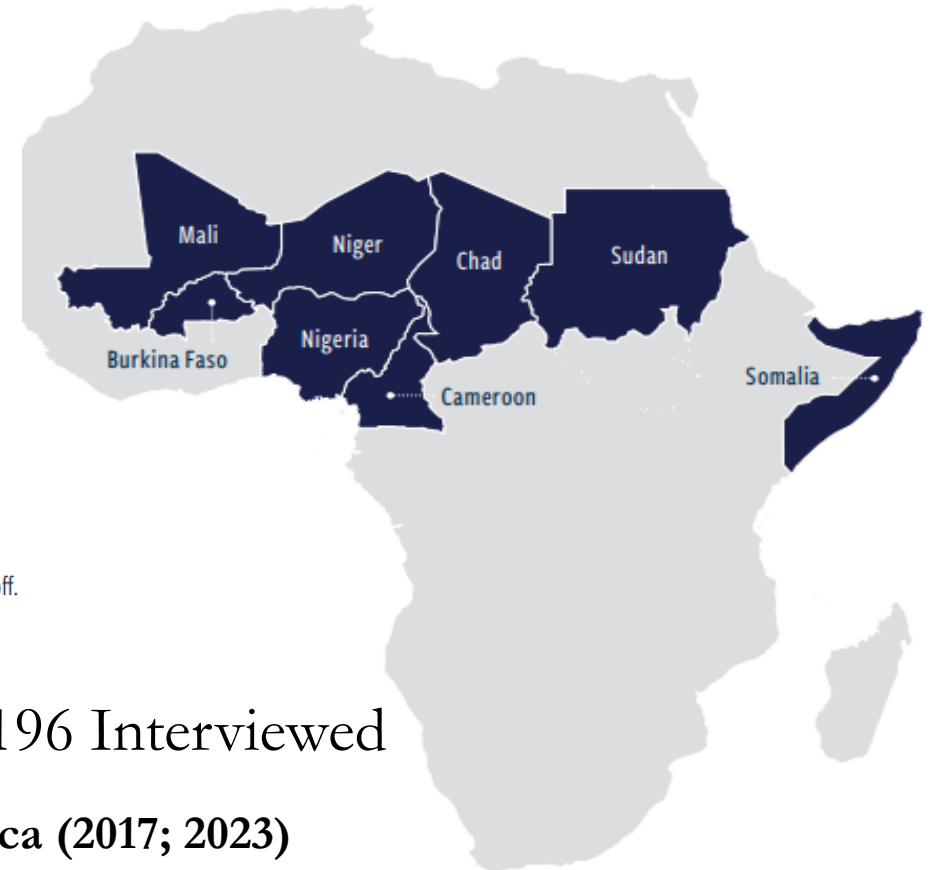
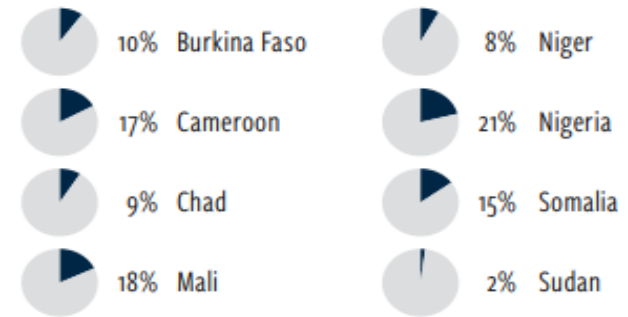
Individual Factors – Defectors, Detainees & Current Members



2017: 718 Interviewed



Numbers may not add up to 100 due to rounding off.



2023: 2,196 Interviewed

UNDP, Journey to Extremism in Africa (2017; 2023)

Individual Factors – Defectors, Detainees & Current Members

Religion **NOT** main factor explaining recruitment

Way Forward?

Prevention





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