*Security in Numbers Database (SiND):*
*Monitoring actions that interfere with aid delivery*

**Information for Project Partners**

Insecurity Insight is building a database on security incidents affecting aid delivery from media sources and information provided by contributing partner organizations. The purpose of the database is to profile patterns of threat and vulnerability in order to allow agencies to identify evidence-based entry points to improve security management.

**The distinguishing features of this particular initiative are:**

- **The database is set up to generate information on the patterns and characteristics of all types and degree of severity of security incidents to help identify entry points for security management.**

The database is based on the Taback-Coupland theory of armed violence and offers unique features no other database on security incidents currently provides. The database tracks information about **who did what to whom, when, where, and with what weapon.** While the database can be used to look up global tallies, its main aim is to provide insight into the patterns and characteristics of incidents and therefore how to prevent them or mitigate their impact. The relational structure allows analysis of disaggregated and aggregated categories and the possibility for customization.

**Advantages of taking part in the project**

By joining this project, you will gain access to data about patterns and trends of violence across agencies and regions over time, as well as contribute to a better understanding of the threats and vulnerabilities facing aid workers and aid operations. Your participation enables you to gain a sense of the big picture of the patterns of violence as well as how your organization's patterns compare to other similar organizations. The quality and reliability of the information in the database improves with every additional agency that joins this initiative.

**By being a partner you gain:**

- **Access to country and regional overviews**

Events are searchable by country and regions, which means your agency can request a security profile for a country in which you are considering opening a new programme or to analyze trends in countries in which you already work.

- **Access to a broad range of type and degree of severity of incidents**

The database captures different elements of the incidents ranging from contexts (e.g. crime, active conflict, denial of access), to the effects on personnel (e.g. threats, injuries, deaths, kidnapping), impact on agency operations (e.g. loss or theft of supplies, damage to property). The database also tracks responses to security incidents by agencies (e.g. evacuations, withdrawal) and relevant authorities (e.g. arrest, prosecution).

- **Access to a broad range of long-term trends**

The database contains media reported incidents of various types and severity. This allows for tracking for trends over time.

- **Access to aggregated information about security incidents affecting other agencies**

The database abides by a strict confidentiality policy but codes the type of affected agency in generic terms (e.g. INGO, UN Agency). This allows partners to gain access to information from other agencies while maintaining confidentiality for all affected agencies.

**By having your own data included in the database you have the option to request:**

- **Tailor-made data analysis of patterns, threats, and vulnerabilities**

The relational structure of the database offers myriad possibilities for extracting information for further analysis. For example, this makes it possible to compare the incident patterns of your organisation with that of similar or different organisations (specific NGO to generic NGOs or NGO to UN or vice versa) or to compare operations in different contexts.

**In addition, you will receive copies of all non-confidential outputs from the database.**

**Contributing to the Project**

Participating organizations contribute basic incident descriptions to this database to supplement and complement information from public sources. Insecurity Insight will create individual Memoranda of Understanding with interested organizations to address specific interests or concerns.

Submitting information is quick and easy. The database creates an "event catalogue" that centers on the analysis of: **Who did what to whom, when, where, and with what weapon.** Basic information on these factors is all that is needed. Agencies can choose between different methods of contributing information to suit different working practices in terms of information storage and frequency of submission.
Information can be submitted:

- in the form of incident descriptions using plain English, French (or any other language after prior consultation)
- using a spreadsheet and codebook provided by Insecurity Insight

Agencies can decide on their own preferred frequency in which to submit information e.g. after an event occurred, at the end of every week / month / quarter / calendar year etc.

*Examples of event descriptions needed for inclusion in the database*

On the morning of 4 August, five armed men stopped a clearly marked car at a checkpoint outside the capital Mogadishu (Somalia), shot the driver (a local employee) and took three staff members hostage, one expatriate and two locals.

During the night of 5 to 6 September, a group of approximately 10 armed men wearing military fatigues entered the compound of our operations in Duja and took five computers and most of the medical and food supplies stored in the warehouse. One local staff member was injured.

If you are interested in becoming a partner in the project, please contact Christina Wille at Christina.Wille@insecurityinsight.org. We look forward to discussing how you might help build and benefit from the database, with only a minimal investment of time and energy.