



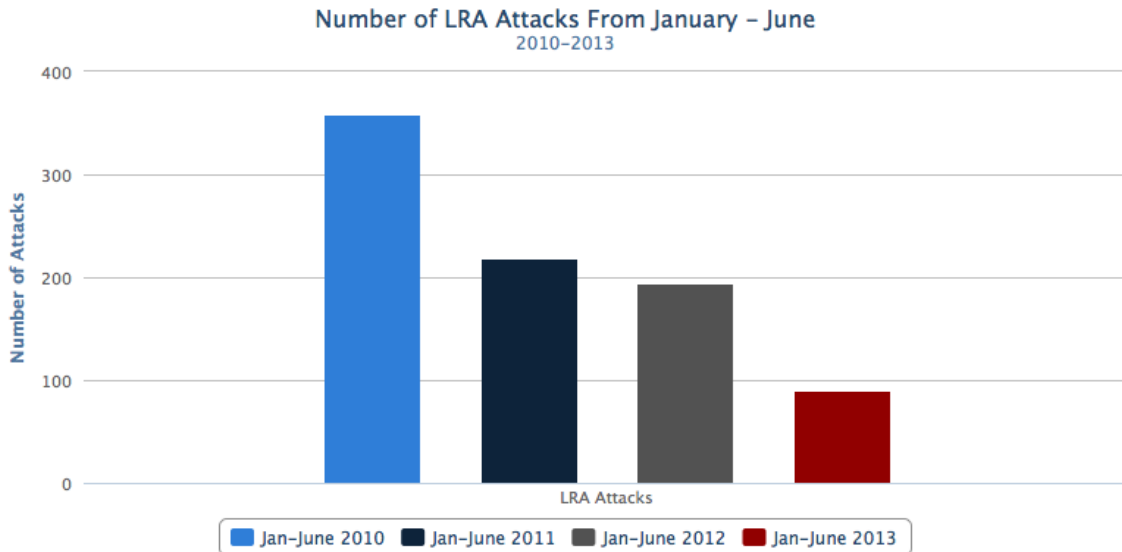
LRA CRISIS TRACKER

MID-YEAR BRIEF JANUARY-JUNE 2013

Executive Summary: 3 Key Trends in LRA Activity

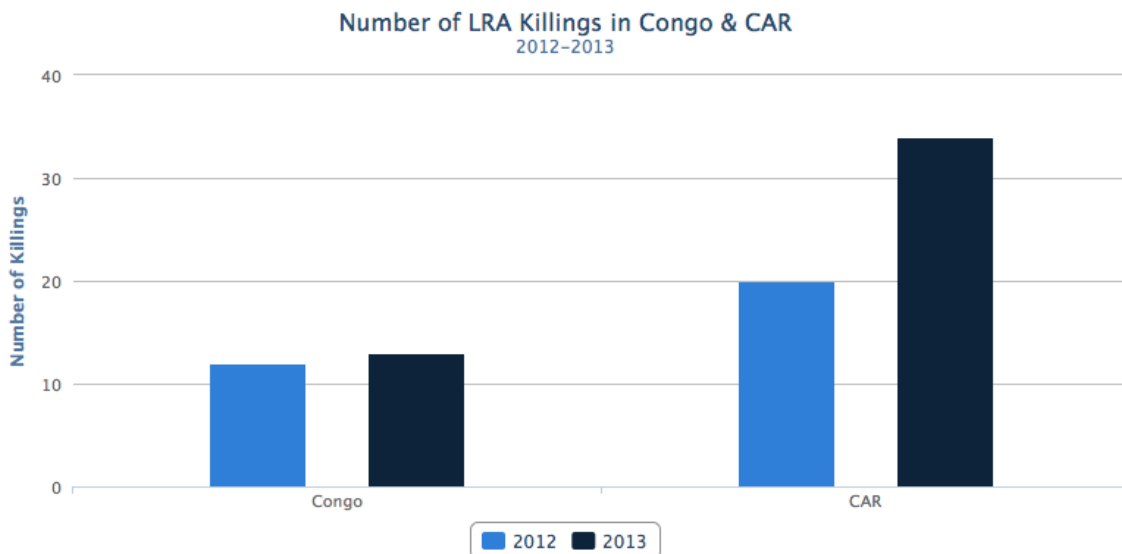
1. LRA attacks continue to decline, particularly in Congo

The LRA committed 90 attacks in the first half of 2013, a 54% drop from the 194 attacks it committed in the first half of 2012. In particular, Democratic Republic of the Congo (Congo) experienced a significant drop, from 158 in the first half of 2012 to 66 in the first half of 2013.



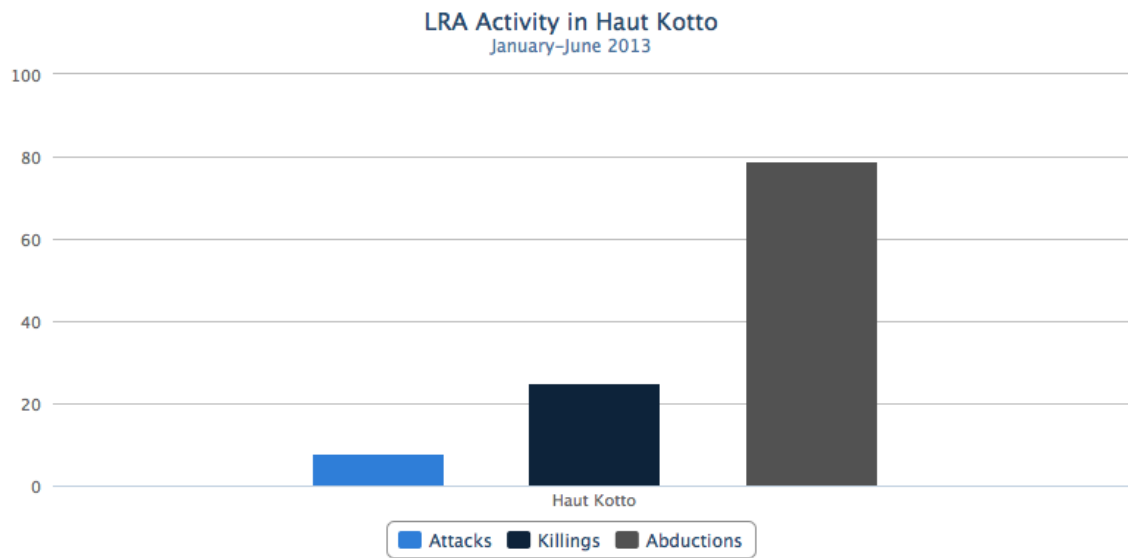
2. Despite decrease in attacks, LRA killings on the rise

Despite the dramatic drop in attacks, LRA forces killed more civilians in the first half of 2013 (47) than they did in the first half of 2012 (32), a 47% increase.



3. LRA groups exploiting security vacuum in eastern CAR

The LRA committed its most notable attacks in the first half of 2013 in Haut Kotto and Mbomou prefectures, areas of eastern Central African Republic (CAR) experiencing a security vacuum since the March 2013 coup in Bangui. In June 2013 alone, LRA groups killed XX civilians and abducted XX more in these prefectures, which Ugandan and US soldiers stationed in nearby Haut Mbomou prefecture cannot access. Overall, 56% of LRA killings and 42% of LRA abductions in the first half of 2013 occurred in Haut Kotto and Mbomou.





Inauguration for Michael Djotodia, self-appointed president of CAR (Reuters)

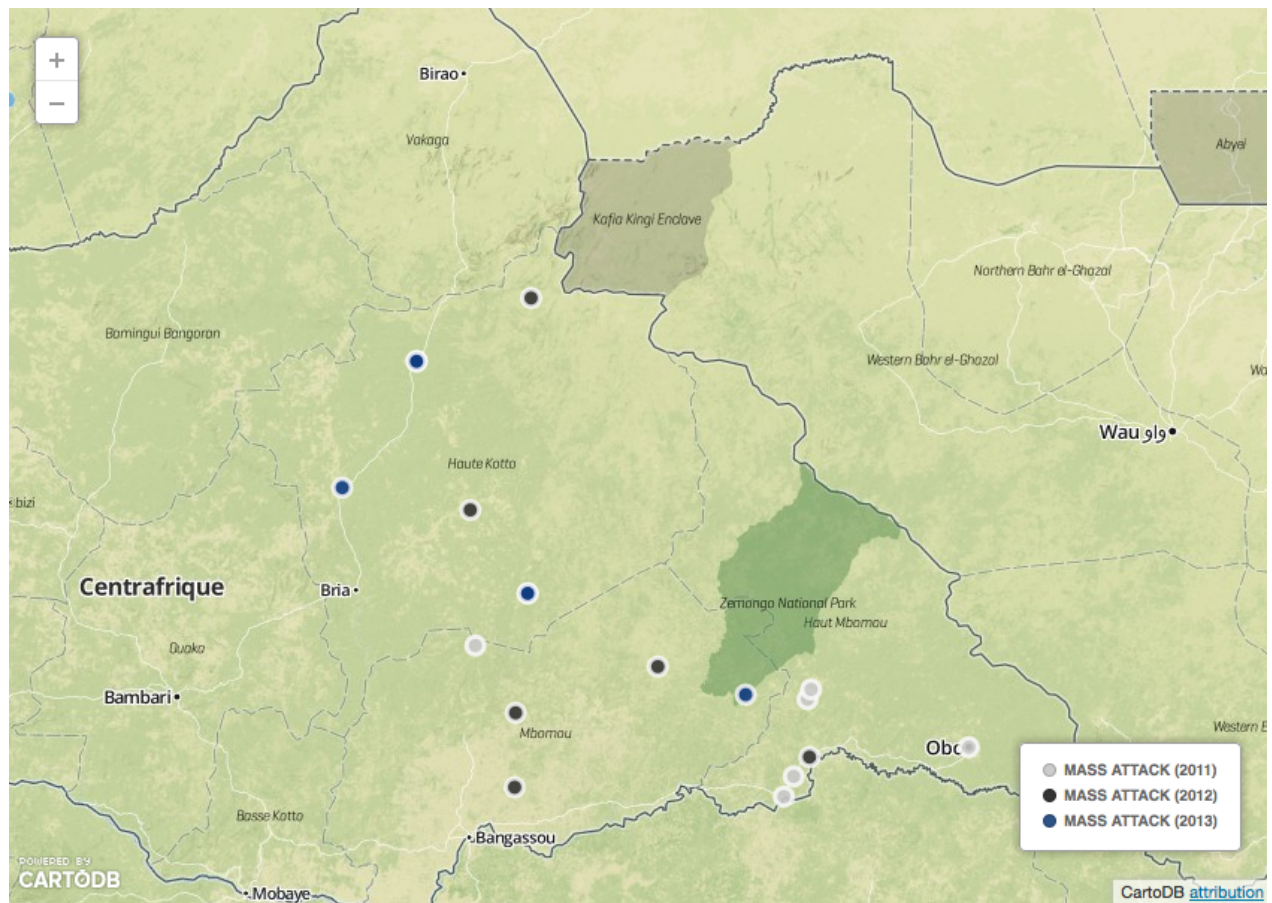
Notable Political Context

Seleka fails to stabilize CAR: Seleka, a coalition of four rebel groups primarily from northern Central African Republic (CAR), overthrew the government of President François Bozizé in March 2013. However, the new authorities, led by self-proclaimed President Michael Djotodia, have failed to establish security within Bangui and surrounding towns since the coup, and the coalition is increasingly fragmented. Seleka troops continue to kill, rape, and loot civilians with impunity, causing widespread discontent and periodic unrest, particularly in Bangui.

AU launches peacekeeping force in CAR: On July 19, the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council authorized the African-led International Support Mission in the CAR (AFISM-CAR), which will incorporate elements from the existing Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the CAR (MICOPAX). The mission was given several mandates, including protection of civilians and restoring the authority of the central government. It will operate alongside the AU-authorized counter-LRA mission (AU RTF), though no mechanism to coordinate activities and share information has yet been established.

Ugandan operations remain stalled: Ugandan troops operating in southeast CAR under the authority of the AU RTF officially suspended counter-LRA operations following the March 2013 coup. Tensions between the new CAR authorities and Ugandan troops spiked after Djotodia threatened to send Seleka troops to Ugandan-controlled territory following an unsuccessful attack on the town of Obo by a new armed group. However, in June 2013, Djotodia signed a statement reaffirming his support of the AU RTF and permitting Ugandan troops to resume operations against the LRA. Both the AU Peace and Security Council and UN Security Council have also encouraged the Ugandan military to resume operations. The Ugandan government has yet to do so, expressing concern that the new CAR government does not control some Seleka forces operating in the area.

Kony likely returns to Kafia Kingi: Joseph Kony, leader of the LRA, has periodically travelled to the Sudanese-controlled Kafia Kingi enclave, a disputed area on the border of South Sudan and Sudan, since 2010. He resided there throughout late 2012 and into early 2013, when he reportedly returned to northeastern CAR. However, recent reports indicate that Kony has again returned to Kafia Kingi, in which Ugandan and other AU RTF troops do not have permission to operate.



Map: Major LRA Attacks in Eastern CAR, January 2011 - June 2013

Note: A major LRA attack is defined as 5 or more killings and/or 10 or more abductions