



Classification of incidents

Security Incident Information Management has become a key part of security risk management. Sharing of security information and collaborating with others to improve the collective security of all is increasingly recognised as beneficial to the aid sector.

Categories of incidents are used to describe and record different types of events that can happen to the organisation, employees, communities they work with, and other bystanders. The use of standard definitions facilitates analysis, data exchange, and cross-organisation comparisons. This document lists suggested definitions. Not all categories have to be used. The lists below should be understood as a menu from which organisations can choose the most appropriate categories for the context in which they work.

How to use this document in the context of inter-agency security collaboration

Improving the flow of security information is a core function of most security collaboration mechanism in the field. However, there are often different opinions as to what constitutes a security incident and what information is relevant to the security of aid workers. How security incidents are defined and the boundaries between other significant incidents, such as corruption or safeguarding allegations, or violence in the wider operating environment, are not always clear.

The purpose of this document is to serve as a menu of options that can be used to help define the specific focus of each collaboration effort. This document can be used to agree on the types of incidents the mechanism will monitor, share and disseminate, and to issue clear guidance to the NGOs involved.

The document is structured around topics that the network may choose to include or to exclude. Under each topic, multiple categories are listed with a suggested definition that can be added to the list of included events, if desired by the network.

This document can be used in conjunction with the [datasheet](#) that contains all fields with dropdowns. This can be taken as the starting point and users can delete those columns they do not want to monitor.



Topics included are:

- Accident or Illness
- Aid Delivery Activities
- Crime
- Conflict and War
- Information about the Victim
- Killed, Injured or Killed (KIK) or Critical Incidents
- Motive
- Near Miss
- Operational space restricted or threatened
- Perpetrator
- Programme Affected
- Road Safety Accidents (RSA)
- Security Measures
- Sexual Violence and Abuse
- Type of Organisation Affected
- Type of Location in the Incident Occurred
- Unrest
- Weapons Used
- Explosive Weapons Used
- Other Weapons

Accident or illness

Any accident involving employees or organisational property and other incidents that were not intentional (e.g. sudden illness).

Accidental death

Any unintentional death that cannot be attributed to natural causes. Causes of accidental death may include vehicle accidents or complications from injuries.

Illness

Any serious illness of an employee.

Natural death

Any death that can be attributed to a natural cause (e.g. heart attack, illness, stroke, etc.).

Natural fire

Any fire damaging the property or endangering employees of a natural or unintentional cause. This may include wildfires or accidental fires (e.g. electrical fires, gas leaks, etc.).

Other accident

A random incident that results in harm to employees and/or damage to the organisation's property.

Suicide

The voluntary and intentional death of an employee who has taken his/her own life.

Aid delivery activities

Any incident that took place at a project site or during aid distribution, including looting of aid supplies, intimidation, harassment, or threatening behaviour towards staff members during aid delivery. This includes incidents that occur in the context of conflict war or crime.

Armed activity

Activity involving weapons carried out by state, non-state or organised armed entities.

Beneficiary affected

Threats and/or violence were used against a beneficiary.



Aid delivery activities continued

Face-to-face harassment

Incident in which an employee is directly harassed by a person or group of people (e.g. harassment over the organisation's programmes or programme activities).

Face-to-face threats

Incident in which an employee is directly threatened by a person or group of people. It should include some form of consequence for non-compliance (e.g. a threat of retaliation for not including someone in an organisational activity).

Looting

Theft during unrest, violence, riots or other upheavals.

Crime

Criminally motivated incidents that affect employees, their property or the organisation's property.

Armed robbery

A robbery at gunpoint or when the perpetrator(s) carried firearms that affected employees or property.

Arson

Any fire damaging property or endangering employees that is caused intentionally. Arson includes, but is not limited to, the use of incendiary devices, the intentional sabotage of electrical systems or gas lines/tanks, and the use of an accelerant to destroy the property.

Blackmail

Threats, extortion or the manipulation of someone to compel them to do something. It includes obtaining something, especially money, by using force or threats.

Break-in

The act of unlawfully gaining entrance into an aid organisation's premises or vehicles with the intention of theft.

Burglary/robbery

A break-in to a staff residence, usually with the intention of theft.

- Burglary = when occupants are not present or unaware of the break-in during the incident (e.g. while sleeping)
- Robbery/armed robbery = when occupants are present and/or directly threatened during the incident.

Carjacking/hijacking

Any incident in which a vehicle owned by the organisation or is being used by an employee or employees, as a driver/passenger, is forcibly seized.

Cyber attack

Deliberate exploitation of computer systems or technology-dependent enterprises and networks resulting in disruptive consequences that can compromise data and lead to cybercrimes.



Crime continued

Damage to property

Any damage or harm in excess of a predefined amount that is done to the organisation's property either unintentionally (e.g. natural disasters, accidents) or intentionally (e.g. riots that cause property damage).

Extortion

The practice of obtaining something, especially money, from an employee or employees by using force or threats.

Fraud

Wrongful or criminal deception intended to result in financial or personal gain.

Intrusion

Wrongful or unauthorised entry into an organisation's premises, vehicles or staff residences.

Conflict and war

Incidents that occur in the context of armed conflicts or situations of severe political volatility that directly or indirectly impact an organisation, staff, or operations both local and international and in a private or professional capacity. Incidents may or may not directly affect the organisation, its staff, or infrastructure.

Armed activity

Activity involving weapons carried out by state, non-state or organised armed entities.

Coup

Coup, mutiny and other rebellion by any armed force. A coup is defined as an attempt (generally armed) to remove and replace a government. Whether it is successful or not and violent or not, an attempted coup may be politically destabilising.

Crossfire

Any situation in which an employee(s) or organisational property is caught in an attack or firefight between two or more armed parties. In this situation, the involved employees and properties are not the target of the attack.

Shooting

Deliberate shooting of people other than organisational staff.

Unexploded ordnance (UXO) discovery

Refers to the discovery of unexploded ordnance or explosive remnants of war that did not explode when they were deployed and still pose a risk of detonation.



Information about the victim(s)

When recording information about the victim(s) involved in an incident, consider including the categories below. This information should be kept confidential and any decisions made based on it should be non-discriminatory and in accordance with equality, diversity, and inclusion policies, and relevant legislation.

Diversity

Where relevant and appropriate, consider including information on other diversity factors such as sexual orientation or disabilities if this can help to identify underlying patterns of threats or violence.

Ethnicity

Where relevant and appropriate, consider including information on ethnicity if this can help to identify underlying patterns of threats or violence.

Gender

Classify victims by their biological sex or chosen gender identity (depending on your organisation's policy in this regard).

Killed, injured or kidnapped (KIK)

Any incident that results in an employee being killed, injured or kidnapped. These are usually considered to be critical incidents.

Abduction/hijacking/hostage-taking/kidnapping

Any incident in which employees are forcibly seized. This incident may or may not involve a ransom demand. Employee(s) killed while in captivity are categorised as 'kidnapped' and not 'killed'.

Beaten

Incident in which an employee was assaulted by someone using their fists, feet, or other body parts, or by objects (e.g. sticks or blunt objects).

Killed

Any death that has been intentionally caused (e.g. shooting, physical attack, poisoning). Intentional deaths do not include suicides. Employee(s) killed while in captivity are categorised as 'kidnapped' and not 'killed'.

Missing

An incident in which an employee has disappeared or is missing. The distinction between missing and kidnapping include the following factors:

- *The actor:* non-state actors tend to kidnap people, while state actors tend to 'disappear' people who are then referred to as 'missing'. ('Disappear' means to cause to disappear, usually as part of a secret program of political terror.)
- *How the perpetrator communicates about the employee that has been taken:* kidnappers tend to make demands (e.g. for a ransom to be paid), while 'disappeared' and missing people are usually never heard from again.
- *The motive:* kidnapping tends to be for a specific demand, while disappearances tend to occur to silence a staff member, often for political reasons.



Killed, injured or kidnapped (KIK) continued

Tortured

Intentional physical maiming/injury that is explicitly characterised as torture of staff.

Wounded

An incident in which an employee was injured with a weapon, as opposed to being beaten.

Deprivation of liberty

The outcome of any action that deprives individuals of their liberty, e.g. kidnapping, hostage-taking, abduction, arrest or detention.

Escaped

The victim escaped or attempted to escape, which may have been successful or resulted in his/her death.

Freed

The incident was resolved through the victim being freed.

Killed in captivity

The victim was killed in captivity or during a rescue mission or attempted escape.

In captivity

The victim is still being held by the actor who abducted/kidnapped him/her.

Missing

The victim is reported as missing.

No information

There is no further information of what happened to the victim.

Rescue mission

An attempt to release a victim that may have been successful or resulted in the death of the victim.

Motive

The classification of the reason(s) why the perpetrator(s) did what they did.

Assumed selective

A targeted action used specifically against an employee, organisation or beneficiary, but the motive remains unclear.

Indiscriminate

A targeted action used against civilians and not specifically aimed at a specific employee, organisation or beneficiary.

No information

The report does not contain enough information to determine if the incident was targeted or not.

Selective assets

A targeted action used against an employee, organisation or beneficiary, but with the motive of material gain or obtaining access to goods or infrastructure rather than the intention to hurt the employee, organisation or beneficiary.



Motive continued

Selective military action

Someone or something was selectively targeted and the employee, organisation or beneficiary was affected as a result. This category is specific to incidents that occur during active conflict.

Selective other

Someone or something was selectively targeted, and the employee, organisation or beneficiary was affected as a result.

Selective programme

A targeted action used against an employee, organisation or beneficiary because the employee or organisation provided a programme or service, or the beneficiary used a particular programme or service.

Selective provider

A targeted action used against an employee, organisation, or beneficiary because of the identity or core values of the organisation.

Near miss

Incident that could have caused harm or otherwise affected the delivery of aid. Includes any situation in which a security incident almost happened but did not happen, happened near an aid worker/organisation/programme, or happened where those affected were able to avoid any serious harm. If harm results, the incident should be classified under a different category.

Crime near miss

The near miss occurred in the context of a crime incident.

Killed/injured/kidnapped (KIK) near miss

An incident in which an employee narrowly avoided being killed, injured or kidnapped.

Operational space restricted or threatened

Direct or indirect actions taken or threats made by a state or non-state actor that affect humanitarian access.

Abuse of power

The use of legislated, executive or other authorised powers by government officials for illegitimate private gain. An illegal act by an office holder constitutes abuse of power only if the act is directly related to his/her official duties.

Access denied

Acts that:

- Prevent an organisation from reaching beneficiaries or potential beneficiaries for needs assessments or direct service provision
- Prevent beneficiaries from reaching services provided by an organisation.



Operational space restricted or threatened continued

Accusation

A charge of wrongdoing laid against an organisation or its employees by the authorities of the host country.

Application of laws

The application of existing or new laws, executive orders, decrees or regulations that, when applied, have an actual effect on the delivery of aid. This may include the confiscation of equipment or putting people/organisations on watch lists.

Arrest

An employee is taken into custody. The person/group carrying out the arrest must be operating in a governmental capacity (such as the police) in order to differentiate this incident from a hostage-taking incident. Arrests usually follow formal charges.

Attack on another organisation

Reported attack on another organisation that did not affect one's own organisation directly.

Charges

The formal accusation made by a governmental authority asserting that somebody has committed a crime.

Checkpoint

A non-border or frontier checkpoint that impacts the provision of aid, erected in areas under control by the military, paramilitary, or an armed group with the aim of monitoring or controlling the movement of people and materials.

Denial of visa

Delay or denial of an official stamp, visa, or other permit granting permission to an aid organisation employee to enter a country or territory to deliver aid.

Detention

Keeping an employee in custody prior to official charges or without laying any official charges; includes temporary detention for hours or days.

Expulsion

The act of forcing an employee or organisation to leave a country or territory.

Face-to-face harassment

Incident in which an employee is directly harassed by a person or group of people (e.g. harassment over the organisation's programmes or programme activities).

Face-to-face intimidation

Incident in which an employee is directly intimidated by a person or group of people (e.g. when a staff member feels intimidated by armed actors patrolling near a food distribution activity or site).

Face-to-face threats

Incident in which an employee is directly threatened by a person or group of people; should include some form of consequence for non-compliance (e.g. a threat of retaliation for not including someone in an organisational activity).

Fine

Money that must be paid by the organisation as a punishment for not obeying a rule or law.



Operational space restricted or threatened continued

Forced closure

Order by the government or other authorities to halt operations in a country or territory; includes closure affecting only one or multiple programmes.

Government action

Action by a host or donor government that has a direct or indirect impact on the financial ability of an agency to deliver aid; includes freezing funds, introducing taxes or ending subsidies.

Imprisonment

The holding of an employee in a known official or unknown location, such as a prison, often after formal charges have been laid.

Introduction of laws

The drafting or passing of laws, executive orders, decrees or regulations that, when applied, will have a potential or actual effect on the delivery of aid. This may include, but is not limited to, restrictive registration procedures, import regulations or a law/regulation that requires the regular disclosure of an organisation's financial sources.

Investigation

Incident in which an external actor initiated an investigation, either for legitimate reasons or for unspecified or assumed political reasons.

Natural disaster

Actual or forecasted natural disaster that occurs, or is predicted to occur, in a city or country in which the organisation has an office. Natural disasters may include earthquakes, volcanoes, hurricanes, tornadoes, damage-producing storms (hail, flash floods), floods or tsunamis.

Other incident

An incident that cannot be adequately described by any of the predefined incident categories in this list. If this category is selected, the reporter should provide a full description of the incident in the 'incident description' field.

Property entry/search

Entry into or search of a premises by external authorities.

Remote threat against agency

Incident in which the organisation or an employee receives a threat not delivered face-to-face but by some remote mechanism (e.g. email, SMS, phone, or general threats issued on a website or social media). May include direct threats shouted by civilians during demonstrations.

Remote threat against organisation or staff

Incident in which an employee or organisation received any form of a specific threat that was not delivered face to face. These can include direct threats delivered by email, SMS or phone, or general threats issued on websites, in the media or in public statements, including in the form of demonstrations by angry civilians. Remote threat incidents have 'Communication' as the coding under 'TypeOfArea'.

Reputational risk

Incident involving a perceived, real, actual, or potential risk to the organisation's branded logo/emblem, image, or reputation.



Operational space restricted or threatened continued

Takeover/occupation of an organisation's offices

The seizure and occupation of an organisation's building, warehouse, or compound by civilian or government agents.

Threat of closure

Incident involving the threat of forced closure of an activity, programme or organisation.

Witness

Incident in which a staff member witnesses an attack or crime against another staff member, family member(s), or beneficiaries.

Perpetrator

The classification of the perpetrator(s) reportedly responsible for the incident.

Administration

This refers to the activities of individuals who determine laws or regulations, and/or order their enforcement. Such individuals can be an administrator/authority of a country/territory, a member of the high-command level of an armed force, or someone within an armed group that has assumed the de facto control of a territory.

Beneficiary

A direct beneficiary of aid.

Civilian

A civilian (e.g. refugee, IDP, villager, settler, etc.), but not a direct beneficiary.

Criminal

A criminal either acting alone or as part of an organised crime group.

Employee or former employee

A current or former employee of the organisation.

Law enforcement

Individual or organs of the law enforcement apparatus of the state (police and 'security forces') that act under the orders of the state's law enforcement system. This excludes military forces and private security actors.

Multiple

Multiple perpetrators from different categories were involved in the attack.

No information

The report does not identify the perpetrator, or the perpetrator is unknown.

Non-state armed groups

A named armed group that is not part of the state's law enforcement, military or security apparatus. Includes private armies, vigilantes, and rebel, guerrilla, or terrorist groups, but does not include private security actors.



Perpetrator continued

Private security

The perpetrator belongs to a private security firm or functions as a bodyguard or security guard.

Relative or associate

A family member, friend or other person(s) known by an employee or employees.

State actor

Soldiers of a state army who act under orders of the state military command.

Sub-contractor

Someone or an organisation (often an LNCO) that the aid agency employs to carry out its functions.

Unspecified non-military armed actor(s)

A group of unidentified or unnamed armed people, or if the report refers in a generic sense to rebels, extremists, or groups in some form affiliated with the military or using military-type structures or equipment (e.g. wearing army fatigues) without indication that they were linked to any state army.

Programme affected

The category to describe the type of programme affected by the incident. Please provide this information as fully as possible.

Aid

The services affected by this incident were related to aid delivery, where there is no indication the service was related to any of the types of services listed below.

Health

The services affected by this incident were health related.

Education

The services affected by this incident were education related.

Livelihood

The services affected by this incident were food or income related.

No information

The report did not include information about the type of service affected by the incident.

Other

Any other service not listed above.

Protection

The services affected by this incident were related to the protection of IDPs or refugees.

WASH

The services affected by this incident were related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programmes.



Road safety accident (RSA)

Any road safety accident involving an organisation's vehicles. 'Vehicle' refers to any form of transportation involved in a traffic accident occurring when staff are both on and off duty, including, but not limited to, cars, trucks, buses, motorcycles, or others (bicycles, boats).

Motorcycle fatalities

Motorcycle accident resulting in employee fatalities.

Motorcycle injuries

Motorcycle accident resulting in employee injuries.

Motorcycle no injuries

Motorcycle accident causing no employee injuries.

Other traffic accident

Other road traffic accidents not listed here. If this category is selected, the reporter should provide the details in the 'incident description' field.

Vehicle fatalities

Vehicle accident resulting in employee fatalities.

Vehicle injuries

Vehicle accident resulting in employee injuries.

Vehicle no injuries

Vehicle accident causing no employee injuries.

Security measures

Actions taken by aid agencies in response to generalised insecurity or a particular security incident.

Evacuation

Refers to the removal of employees from the country of operation. The moving of employees to another location within the country for security reasons is called relocation (see 'relocation of staff' below).

Evacuation: medical

An evacuation of an employee for medical reasons, generally involving injuries or illness that cannot be treated adequately at a local hospital, doctor's office or treatment centre.

Evacuation: non-medical

An evacuation of an employee for security reasons.

Hibernation

Process of sheltering in place until the danger has passed or further assistance is provided.

Imposed curfew

The imposition of a regulation requiring people to remain indoors between specified hours in a city or country in which the organisation has an office.

Office closure

A decision to close an office in response to the general security context or a specific incident.



Security measures continued

Ongoing monitoring

The process of actively monitoring a security situation with a view to potentially changing the security measures.

Programme suspension

The process of significantly modifying planned activities, usually by halting a specific activity or programme.

Relocation of staff

The movement of staff to another city or office within the country of operation for security reasons.

Restricted travel: no curfew

Any restrictions on travel that affect staff, but do not involve the imposition of a curfew. This type of incident is similar to a travel advisory and may be the result of political or social unrest, outbreaks of disease, or natural disasters.

Sexual violence and abuse

Any sexual act or attempt to commit a sexual act, sometimes done using violence or coercion. Sexual violence can range from unwanted sexual comments and harassment to rape.

Aggressive sexual behaviour

Potentially violent behaviour focused on gratifying sexual drives.

Attempted sexual assault

Attempted act of sexual contact on the body of another person without their consent.

Other sexual acts

When a person takes or shares nude pictures or videos of another person without permission.

Rape

Sexual intercourse (oral, vaginal, or anal penetration) against the will and without the consent of the person.

Sexual assault

Act of sexual contact on the body of another person without his/her consent.

Sexual violence in conflict

Occurs in regions affected by conflict. The perpetrator is a conflict actor such as a member of state forces or non-state armed groups and the survivor is a member of a social group affected by conflict recognizable by the fact that they sought protection in an IDP or refugee systems.

Sexual exploitation

Any actual or attempted abuse of position or vulnerability, differential power or trust, for sexual purposes, including but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.



Sexual Violence and Abuse continued

Sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)

Occurs when an aid worker, field staff member or local official working in the aid response attempts or performs acts of sexual exploitation, violence or abuse on children, families, and communities where they are working.

Sexual harassment

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that affects the employment of the targeted person. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. Examples:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly regarding the terms/conditions of an individual's employment.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as a basis for employment decisions affecting the individual.

Sexual violence in the aid workplace

This occurs when a person attempts to perform or performs acts of sexual violence against a colleague, peer, former employee or volunteer at work.

Solicitation of transactional sex

A request for transactional sex (see 'transactional sex', below).

Stalking

When a person carries out unwanted or repeated surveillance of or actions directed at another person.

Transactional sex

The exchange of money, employment, goods or services for sex, including sexual favours, and other forms of humiliating, degrading or exploitative behaviour, e.g. being forced to engage in sexual activity in order to retain or gain employment.

Unwanted sexual comments

Verbal advances that include whistling, shouting, and/or saying sexually explicit or implicit phrases or propositions that are unwanted.

Unwanted sexual touching

Unwanted touching of a sexual nature regardless of the intensity of the touch. May include massaging, groping, grabbing, or grazing of any part of another person's body.

Type of organisation affected

The classification of the organisations affected in the incident.

INGO

The services affected by this incident were provided by an international NGO.

LNGO

The services affected by this incident were provided by a local NGO, usually working as a subcontractor to an international or UN service provider.



Type of organisation affected continued

No information

The available report did not include information about the affected service provider.

Other

The services affected by this incident were provided by another type of organisation not listed above.

RCRC

The services affected by this incident were provided by a member of the Red Cross and Red Crescent family, e.g. either the ICRC, the IFRC or a national society.

UN

The services affected by this incident were provided by a United Nations (UN) body, usually the WHO, or a specialist agency providing a particular form of health care (e.g. UNICEF for children, etc.).

Unspecified NGO

The services affected by this incident were provided by an NGO, but it is unclear if it was an INGO or LNGO.

Type of location of incidents

This refers to the type of location where the incident took place.

Administration

During an administrative procedure or while the victim was obeying an order from a recognised/ government authority.

Airstrip

On an airstrip; includes an airport or an aircraft in the air.

Checkpoint

At a checkpoint, gate or roadblock.

Communication

In the form of a communication (e.g. phone call, SMS, letter, email, etc.).

Compound

At or in a compound of the service provider concerned.

Crowded area

In an open public space where many people are moving about, such as a market or bazaar.

Health building

At or in a health-related building, hospital, clinic, hospital office or first aid post.

IDP or refugee camp

At or in a temporary or permanent camp for refugees or internally displaced persons (IDPs).

No information

It is unclear from the available information where the incident took place.



Type of organisation affected continued

Office building

At or in an office building or compound.

Open space

The incident occurred in an open space such as a field, an open market or any other open space.

Other

In any area not listed here. If this category is selected, the reporter should provide the details in the 'incident description' field.

Police station

At a police station or compound.

Project site

At the location of a project.

Public building

At or in a public building (e.g. restaurant, church, mosque, hotel, etc.).

Residence

At or in a residence of an aid worker; include an incident that occurred immediately outside such a residence.

Road

On a road, including:

- Unspecified locations during a road journey
- Involving any mode of transportation (foot, motorbike, vehicle)
- Any incident that takes place between places or in transit.

School

At a school or place of education.

Ship

On a boat or ship.

Warehouse

At or in a warehouse, including docks.

Water

On or beside water (river, lake, sea, ocean).

Unrest

This refers to civil or political unrest and tumultuous or mob-like behaviour, including looting, prison uprisings, crowds setting things on fire or general fighting with police (typically involving protestors).

Demonstration

Any demonstration (protests, marches, sit-ins, picketing) that is non-violent; a mass gathering of people for a political or social purpose.



Unrest continued

Looting

Theft during unrest, violence, riots or other upheavals.

Other

Any other activity not listed above.

Strike/no show

Deliberate decision by staff not to come to work for reasons other than illness.

Weapon(s) used

This refers to civil or political unrest and tumultuous or mob-like behaviour, including looting, prison uprisings, crowds setting things on fire or general fighting with police (typically involving protestors).

Chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) weapons

Any use of biological, chemical, nuclear, or radiological weapons in a city or country where the organisation has an office.

Explosives

Any use of explosive weapons that involves the organisation's employees or property.

Firearm

Any use of firearms or handheld weaponry that involves the organisation's employees or property.

No information

A weapon or weapons were used in the incident, but the type of weapon is unclear.

Other weapon

Any use of a blunt instrument, fire, knife or stone that involves the organisation's employees or property.

Explosive weapons used

The type of explosive weapon(s) used in the incident that affected staff, infrastructure or the delivery of aid.

Aerial bomb

An explosive weapon dropped from the air (or air-dropped weapon), including incendiary weapons, but excluding cluster bombs and surface-to-surface missiles (see below).

Cluster bomb

Air-dropped or ground-launched explosive weapon that ejects smaller submunitions when it explodes.

Hand grenade

Small explosive device thrown by hand, designed to detonate after impact or after a set amount of time.



Explosive weapons used continued

Improvised explosive device (IED)

An informal explosive device built out of conventional explosive devices such as artillery shells, aerial bombs, other explosives, etc.

Landmine or mine

Usually an explosive device buried in the ground that explodes when a person or vehicle passes over and activates it.

Other

Any other explosive weapon not listed above, or a combination of the weapons listed above. If this category is selected, the reporter should provide the details in the 'incident description' field.

Radio-controlled improvised explosive device (RCIED)

An improvised explosive device that is detonated by a radio or mobile phone signal when the target is near.

Surface-launched weapon

Missiles, mortars, or shells that are launched from a mobile or stationary launch system; includes rocket-propelled grenades.

Suicide vest improvised explosive device (SVIED)

Person-borne improvised explosive device (e.g. explosive suicide belt, explosives in a backpack, etc.).

Vehicle-borne improvised explosive device (VBIED)

Improvised explosive device carried to its target in a vehicle.

Other weapon

Any other weapon used that does not fall into any of the categories above.

Blunt

Includes any blunt instrument (e.g. baton, bat, metal bar, etc.).

Fire

Includes any instrument associated with fire making (e.g. matches, kerosene, propellant, etc.).

Gas

Gas or substance mixed with gas, including teargas.

Knife

Includes stabbing or the use of any instrument with a sharp blade (e.g. machete, knife, axe, etc.). Use 'knife' for stabbings even when it is not specified what kind of instrument was used to attack the victim.

Multiple

Many types of weapon are involved in the incident.

Other

Any other items used not listed here.



Other weapon continued

Stones

Includes rocks, stones, sticks, etc.

Sword

A weapon consisting typically of a long, straight or slightly curved, pointed blade having one or two cutting edges and set into a hilt.

Technology

Includes any technological device used to deliver a threat (e.g. a phone).

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