ABSTRACT

Understanding the geographic distribution of insurgency violence is critical for assessing where counter-insurgency and civilian protections operations are effective. It allows researchers and policymakers to detect trends in violence and propose local programs designed to quell insurgency aggression in vulnerable areas. This study examines the spatial distribution of armed-conflicts in Central Africa committed by the Lord's Resistance Army from 2008 to 2012 and offers a quantitative evaluation regarding the fluctuation of violence throughout the region. Existing counter-insurgency programs are discussed, and additional analysis is performed on the development of a high-frequency radio network designed to facilitate information sharing between communities. Resulting geographic representations indicate a steady decline in armed-conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan with violence becoming more prevalent in the Central African Republic. Findings deliver important insights to a growing body of research exploring the evolution of violence and the capacity for counterinsurgency efforts in a region rich with resources yet afflicted with deep-rooted ethnic and ideological differences.