**IHS ECONOMICS & COUNTRY RISK** 



26 FEBRUARY 2015

## **COUNTRY RISK WEBCAST**

## Top violent risks to watch out for in 2015

Richard Jackson, Deputy Head of Violent Risk Forecasting Firas Abi Ali, Head of Middle East & North Africa Forecasting Gus Selassie, Deputy Head of Africa Carlos Cardenas, Deputy Head of Americas Forecasting Omar Hamid, Head of Asia Forecasting

### Agenda

#### Introduction

- Middle East/North Africa: Terrorism Forecast

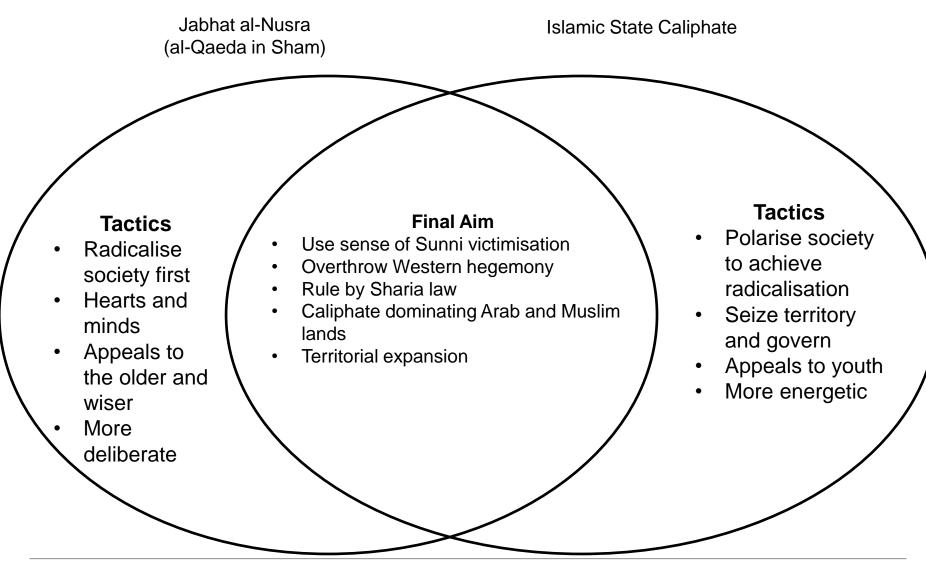
   Islamic State and the spread of jihadism
- Africa: Nigerian elections and terrorism in east Africa
- Latin America: Mexican cartel violence and the prospect for peace with the FARC in Colombia
- Asia Pacific: Afghanistan after ISAF and India's political violence outlook.
- Question & Answer

# Middle East/North Africa: Islamic State and the spread of jihadism, conflict between Israel and Lebanon and the outlook for Egypt in 2015

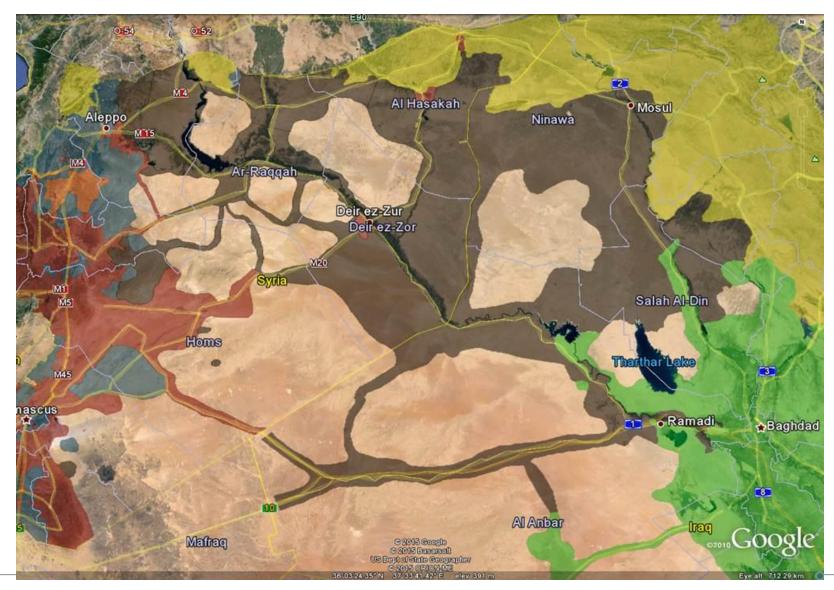
Firas Abi Ali, Senior Manager, MENA – IHS Country Risk

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## Jabhat al-Nusra, al-Qaeda more dangerous than Islamic State?



### **Islamic State map**



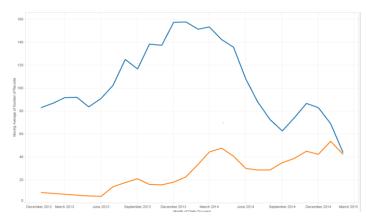
## Egypt will need to balance labour and business demands to maintain stability, but is constrained by insurgency

#### Challenges

- Investors, Labour and Deficit Cuts
- · Return of Mubarak and allies
- Bloated, corrupt and inefficient bureaucracy
- Unrest turning to Terrorism

#### Implications

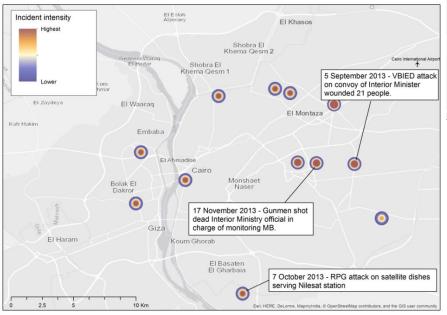
- Terrorism risks to gov't energy and tourism assets
  - Sinai and Western Desert
  - Police stations, courts, Interior Ministry, Army
- Economic failure would lead to severe risk of destabilising unrest in 3 year outlook

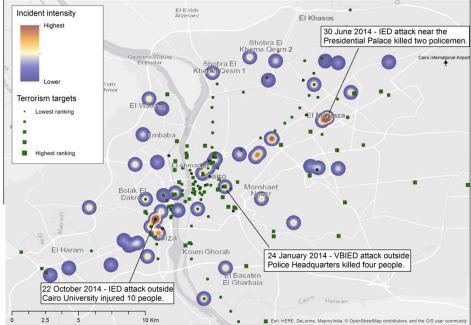




## **Egypt: Changing attack patterns**

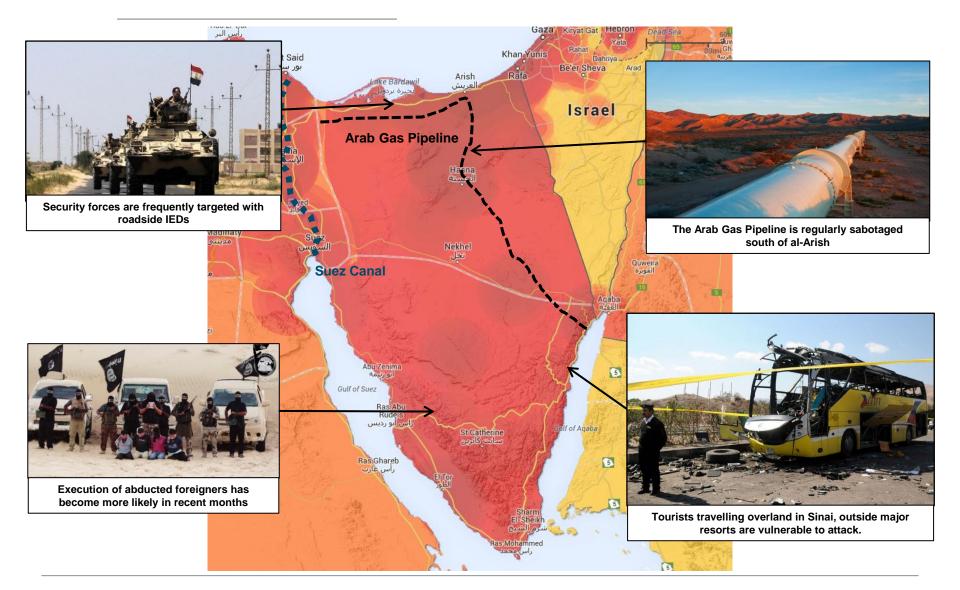
The 2014 graphic (right) indicates a marked increase in terrorism on 2013 (below)





September 2013 saw the first attempted attack by a Sinaibased group in Cairo

### **Islamic State in Sinai**



## Israel Lebanon war risks – Will it involve Syria?

#### Status

- Israel prefers Sunni victory in the region
- Iran-P5+1 deal may pave way for Shia victory
- Hizbullah already expanding along the Golan
- Frequency of incidents growing

#### **Risk Implications**

- Israeli opportunity to reverse the balance of power
- Strike Hizbullah, Syrian Army to prolong war, prevent Iranian victory
- Severe risk to infrastructure, border areas, ports, airports, energy assets

1 Forecast	Briefs $\leftrightarrow$ 95 Insight Briefs $\leftarrow$ 510 Indicator Events	
13 Feb 15	Israel/PA - Syrian rebels reportedly provided locations of Hizbullah and Syrian government units near the Golan Heights and requested that the IDF attack them.	911 J & E
28 Jan 15	Lebanon - Hizbullah sent a message to UNIFIL's senior commander in southern Lebanon saying it was not interested in a further escalation of forces with Israel.	900 5 <del>0</del> 6
28 Jan 15	Lebanon - In the disputed Sheeba Farms area, Hizbullah reportedly fired an anti-tank missile at an IDF vehicle, injuring seven soldiers and killing two.	<b>(**</b> 5 0 0
27 Jan 15	Israel/PA - An IDF source claimed that the two rockets fired into the Israeli occupied Golan Heights from Syria had been fired by Hizbullah.	(nt 5 4 1
26 Jan 15	Israel/PA - The Israeli government sent a 'strong warning' to Lebanon that it would respond with force should Hizbullah launch attacks against Israeli interests.	(m 5 0 1
20 Jan 15	Israel/PA - A security official claimed the IDF strike against a Hizbullah unit in Syria had not meant to target a senior member as well as an Iranian general.	(M) 5 4
18 Jan 15	Syria - Near Hadr, Quneitra province, the Israeli airstrike on a Hizbullah building and two vehicles reportedly killed five Hizbullah leaders.	<b>(**</b> 5 0
18 Jan 15	Israel/PA - Near Quneitra, an IDF helicopter reportedly fired missiles at a Hizbullah unit, killing senior commander, Jihad Mughniyeh, son of Imad.	<b>(# 5</b> 0
18 Jan 15	Lebanon - Hizbullah mobilised its forces across Lebanon and threatened retaliation after an Israeli airstrike in Syria had reportedly killed leading members.	(M) 5 4
15 Jan 15	Lebanon - Hizbullah leader Hasan Nasrallah said that Israeli attacks on pro-government targets in Syria constituted an attack on Hizbullah, Syria and Iran.	(M) 5 4
09 Dec 14	Syria - A social media source claimed two 7 December 2014 airstrikes ascribed to Israel killed three Hizbullah fighters	(m 5 ¢
08 Dec 14	Israel/PA - Israel re-iterated it would not to allow the transfer of 'sophisticated weapons' to Hizbullah, amid the 7 December airstrikes in Syria.	(M) 5 4
08 Dec 14	Israel/PA - In the Golan Heights region, security forces detained nine individuals for allegedly waving Hizbullah flags.	<b>(# </b> 5 0
07 Dec 14	Syria - At the 90th Brigade Army base, Quneitra province, the Israeli Air Force struck a weapons shipment intended for Hizbullah, a social media source said.	<b>(#</b> 5 0 1
05 Oct 14	Israel/PA - A military official said Hizbullah posed a greater rocket threat to Tel Aviv than the Gaza Strip should a conflict break out with Hizbullah.	(M) 5 4 (

## Africa: Nigerian elections and terrorism in east Africa

**Gus Selassie, Deputy Head of Africa** 

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## Nigeria: Is the postponement of polls the PDP's last-ditch effort to retain power?



Ruling PDP (1999 – to date): Incumbent President Goodluck Jonathan

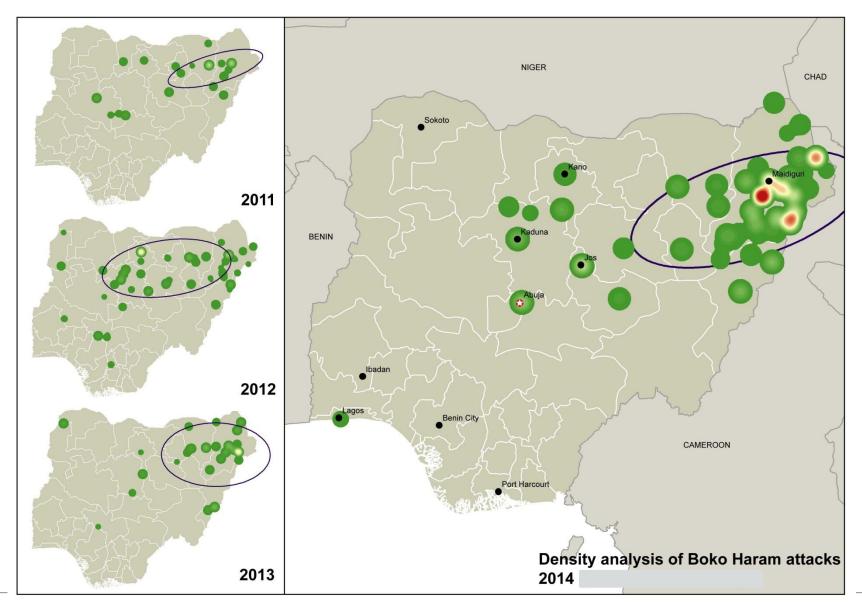
- Likely to secure the 2 of 6 geopolitical zones (South South and South East)
- If Jonathan is removed from office, exmilitants from his native Niger Delta region have threatened to 'go to war'
- Sabotage of oil infrastructure and disrupt production



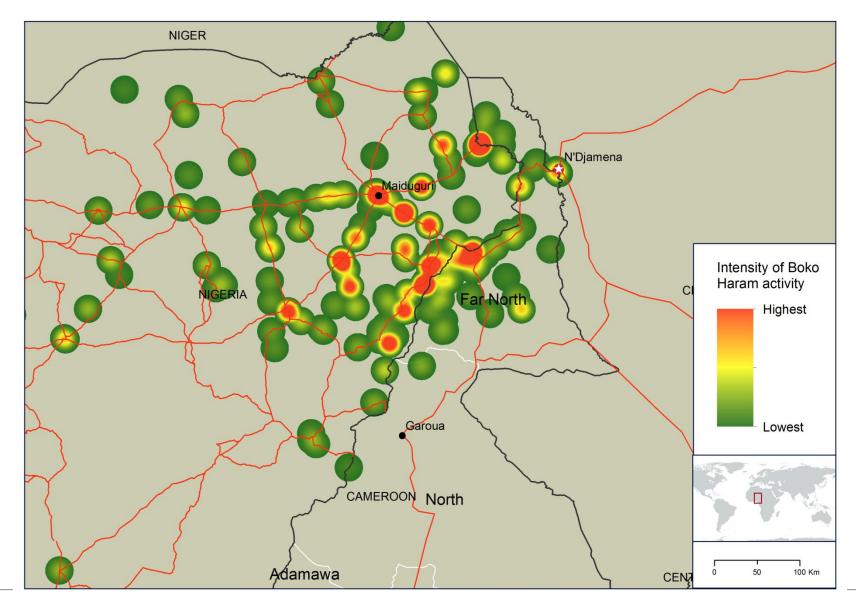
**Opposition APC:** Former Military ruler Muhammadu Buhari

- Likely to secure the 3 of 6 geopolitical zones (South West, North West and North East)
- If Buhari loses or an interim govt is created, likely to see rioting in Lagos and across northern cities, Kano and Kaduna
- If Buhari wins, likely to see review of contracts awarded for marginal oil fields, oil imports and privatised power assets

## **Evolution of Boko Haram attacks**

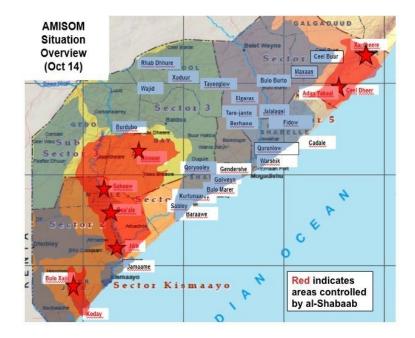


## **Impact on Chadian and Cameroon cargo routes**



### East Africa: Al-Shabaab key losses (territorial)





### East Africa: Al-Shabaab key losses (personnel)

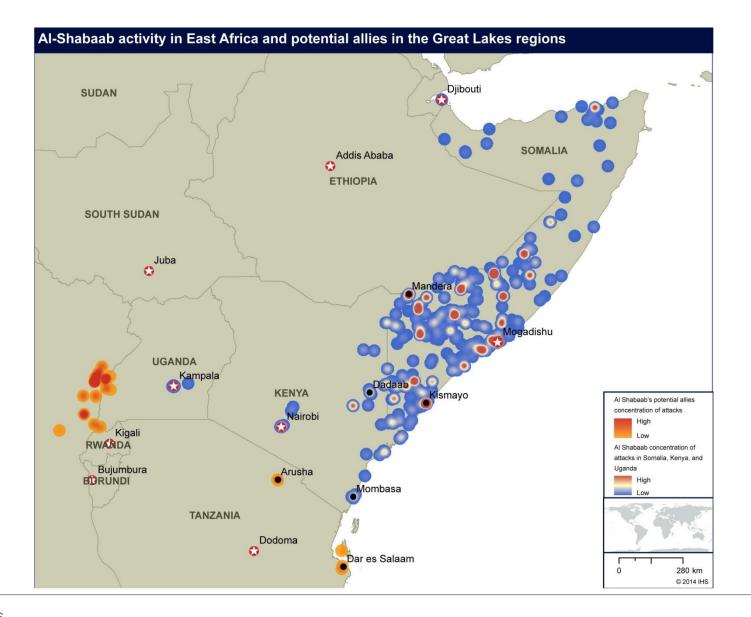
#### **Targeted killings**

Ahmed Abdi Godane (Leader, September 2014) Abdinasir Hassan Barakobe (Head of Intelligence, December 2014) Abdi Nur Mahdi (Chief of External Operations for Intelligence, January 2015)

#### Internal assassinations and defections

Ibrahim Meeaad al-Afghani (Al-Shabaab Co-founder, June 2013) Shiekh Maalim Burhan (Former Leader of Shura, June 2013) Abu Mansoor Al-Amriki (American-born jihadist, September 2013) Mukhtar Robow (Deputy Leader, June 2013) Sheikh Hassan Dahir Aweys (Senior Member and former leader, June 2014) Zakariya Ismail Ahmed Hersi (Former Head of Intelligence, – December 2014)

### **East Africa: Regional aspirations of al-Shabaab**

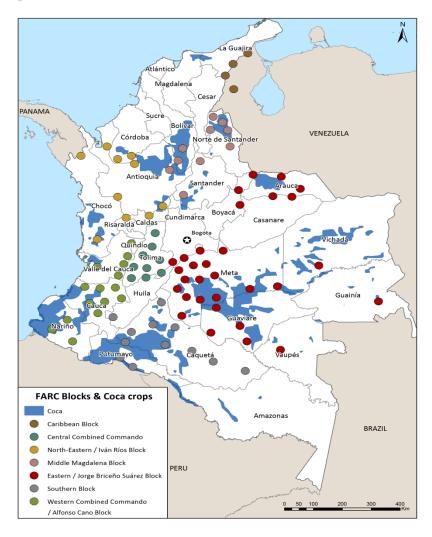


## Latin America: The prospect for peace with the FARC in Colombia and Mexican cartel violence

**Carlos Cardenas, Deputy Head of Latin America** 

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## Colombia: Security outlook connected to ongoing peace talks



- FARC: Unilateral ceasefire
- ELN: Likely to enter parallel peace talks

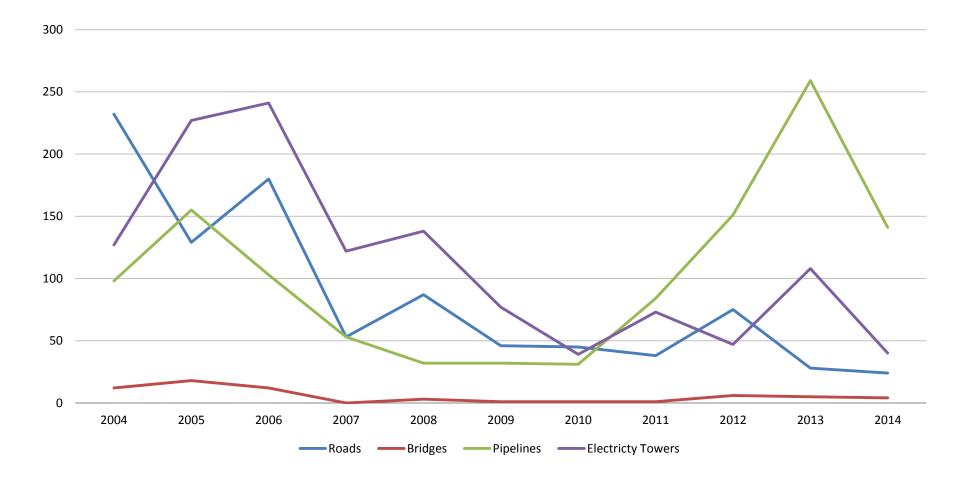
#### Success (good prospects):

- Reduction in politically-motivated rebel attacks.
- Probable FARC fragmentation in coca-crop areas.
- Failure: Renewed rebel offensive

#### **Typical targets:**

- Bicentennial pipeline (NE-NW)
- ≻Caño-Limón Coveñas oil pipeline (NE)
- Transandino oil pipeline (SW)
- Cerrejón coal mine & railway line (NE)
- Oil trucks Puerto Asís (Putumayo).
- Electricity substations/towers (Antioquia, Nariño, Cauca).

## **Colombia: Terrorist attacks on a downward trend, though pipelines still face high risks**



## **Mexico terrorism: Extortion risks rising**



Subsidiary of PepsiCo warehouse set on fire in 2012



Site of July 2014 arson attacks against FEMSA (Arcelia, Guerrero)

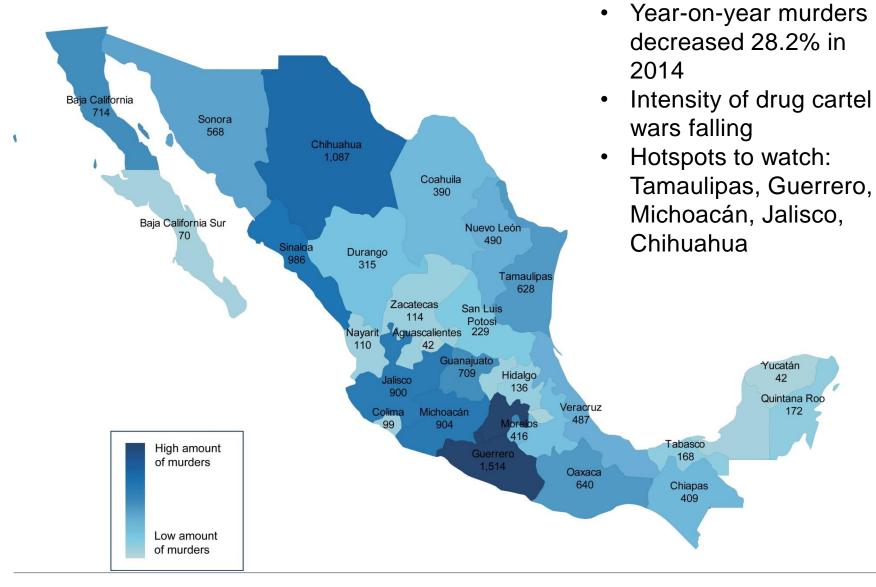
### Targets:

- Retailers, supermarkets, auto-repair shops, petrol stations
- Local services providers
- International firms not primary target, though there are exceptions

### Key Events:

- 30 July 2014, FEMSA shuts down plant in Guerrero following arson attack on trucks
- American Chamber of Commerce reporting its members have been harassed by extortionists
- In 2013, three large Mexican conglomerates demanded protection from extortionists
- In 2012, four warehouses and 40 vehicles belonging to PepsiCo's Sabritas in Guanajuato and Michoacán (companied denied it was extortion)
- In 2012, Arson attack against small hotels in Acapulco, Guerrero.
- In 2011, Casino Royale arson attack in Monterrey

## Mexico: Violent hotspots in the next year



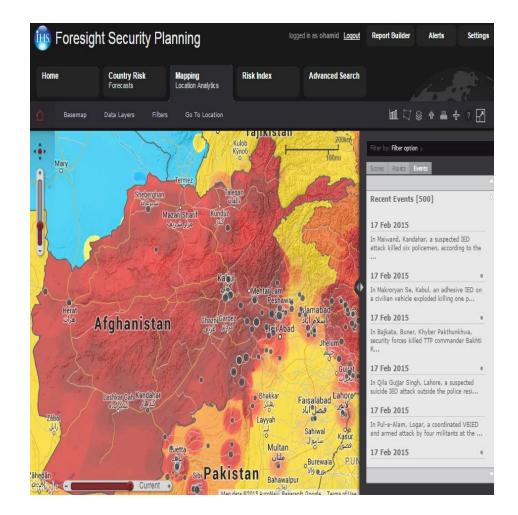
## Asia Pacific: Afghanistan after ISAF and India's political violence outlook

**Omar Hamid, Head of Asia Pacific** 

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## **Afghanistan outlook for 2015**

- Beginning of civil war style conflict
- Afghan Taliban continue to expose security vulnerabilities of ANSF
- US to continue offensive role in support of ANSF

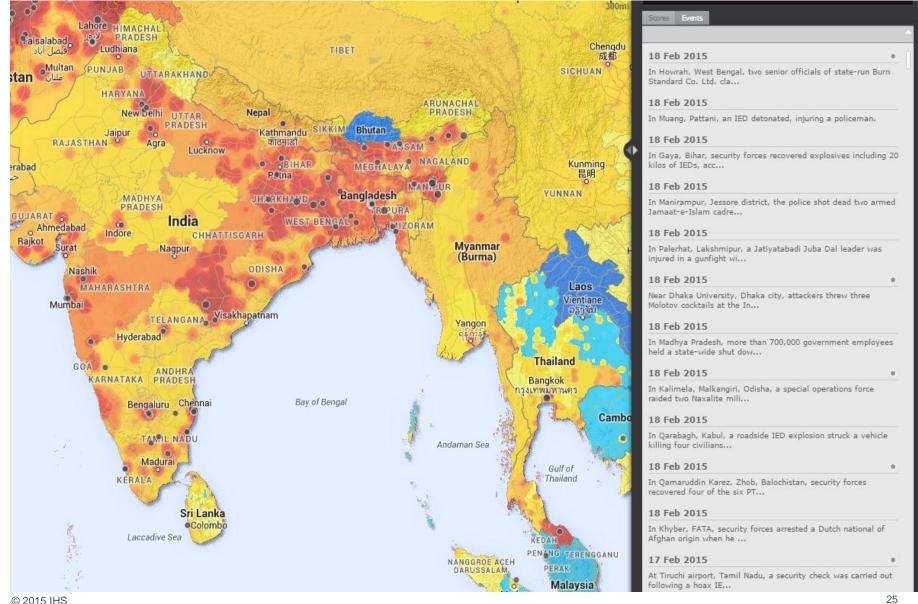


## Afghanistan

- Attacks likely to increase as Taliban look to improve leverage for peace negotiations
- Key indicator: Greater crossborder cooperation likely between Pakistan, Afghan and US forces
- Increase in targeting of Pakistan Taliban in eastern provinces by US/Afghan forces
- Quid pro quo, Pakistan to push Afghan Taliban for meaningful peace talks



### India violent risk outlook



## India violent risk outlook



- Modi's election likely to be a recruiting boon for domestic Islamist groups.
- If incidents of communal unrest increase, domestic groups like Indian Mujahideen and SIMI more likely to conduct attacks.
- Capability remains low: homemade IEDs in public spaces.
- Even if some groups align with Islamic State or Al Qaeda, this will not signify increase in capacity.

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## **QUESTION AND ANSWER**

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## **THANK YOU!**

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