



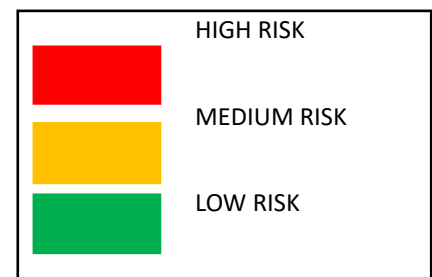
**Gen. LEO Irabor
Early Warning
Systems Centre**



The Early Warning Monitor

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As global fault lines deepen, this week's developments reveal a world edging toward overlapping crises where security threats, political instability, public health risks, and climate pressures are no longer isolated events but interconnected stressors shaping regional and global stability. Climate risks are intensifying globally, with Ireland's coastal communities facing long-term displacement due to rising sea levels and erosion. A deadly earthquake in Afghanistan highlights the human cost of weak infrastructure in hazard-prone regions. Warnings from the World Meteorological Organisation show that current climate degradation could trigger irreversible changes lasting for centuries, reinforcing the urgency of long-term adaptation and mitigation strategies.

In Somalia, the resignation of Abdiiaziz Hassan Mohamed Laftagareen has triggered a political crisis, exposing deep tensions between federal and regional authorities. The dispute, rooted in contested electoral processes and constitutional disagreements, risks escalating into broader instability without inclusive dialogue and a credible political roadmap.

Nigerian forces successfully repelled a coordinated insurgent attack in Borno State by fighters linked to Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province, underscoring both military resilience and persistent insurgent capability. Meanwhile, conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and Rapid Support Forces continues to intensify, with increasing civilian harm and cross-border spillover into neighbouring states. Rising geopolitical tensions involving Iran, Israel, and the United States are also elevating risks to global energy infrastructure and maritime security, with potential economic ripple effects across Africa. The World Health Organisation has warned of a worsening cholera outbreak in Southern Africa, driven by flooding, displacement, and weak sanitation systems. While the Democratic Republic of Congo has declared the end of its mpox outbreak, vigilance remains critical. Strengthened collaboration between the Africa CDC and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control signals progress in epidemic intelligence. However, the detection of vaccine-derived poliovirus in London highlights growing global vulnerability linked to declining immunisation coverage.

Across all themes, the signals are converging: localised crises are rapidly scaling into systemic risks. Without coordinated responses and forward-looking policies, these pressures could compound, transforming today's warning signs into tomorrow's widespread instability.

CLIMATE CHANGE

AFGHANISTAN EARTHQUAKE KILLS MEMBERS OF THE SAME FAMILY

An earthquake measuring about 5.8 magnitude struck northern Afghanistan, killing at least eight members of the same family when their home collapsed in Kabul province. The victims were reportedly living in a vulnerable structure, and the only survivor was a young child who sustained injuries. The tremor was felt across multiple regions, damaging homes and affecting dozens of families, while highlighting the country's persistent exposure to seismic hazards. Afghanistan's mountainous terrain, weak infrastructure, and prevalence of poorly constructed housing continue to amplify the human toll of such disasters.

The early warning implications of this incident underscore systemic vulnerabilities, including fragile housing, limited disaster preparedness, and constrained emergency response capacity. With many communities living in informal or weakened structures, often compounded by displacement and poverty, future seismic events could result in higher casualties. Delayed reporting from remote areas and limited access for rescue operations further increase risks. Additionally, recurring natural disasters, combined with humanitarian pressures such as refugee returns and funding shortfalls, may overwhelm already strained response systems, signalling potential escalation in disaster impact severity.

CLIMATE DEGRADATION WILL HAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR “HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF YEARS”

The *CleanTechnica* article highlights warnings from the World Meteorological Organization that current climate degradation will have consequences lasting “hundreds to thousands of years.” It emphasizes that rising global temperatures, driven largely by fossil fuel use, are pushing Earth systems toward long-term and potentially irreversible changes. These include melting ice sheets, rising sea levels, and shifting weather patterns that will persist even if emissions are reduced. The article stresses that climate change is not a short-term crisis but a prolonged transformation of planetary systems, with impacts extending far beyond current generations.

The early warning implications of these findings signal that humanity may be approaching critical climate tipping points, where environmental changes become self-reinforcing and irreversible. Long-term persistence of greenhouse gases means today’s emissions will lock in future warming, increasing risks of extreme weather, ecosystem collapse, and food and water insecurity. Failure to act decisively could result in cascading effects such as biodiversity loss, desertification, and large-scale displacement that intensify global instability and strain adaptation capacities, particularly in vulnerable regions.

WHY SOME OF IRELAND’S COASTAL COMMUNITIES MAY NEED TO PREPARE FOR RELOCATION

The *Irish Times* opinion article warns that climate change is increasingly threatening Ireland’s coastal communities, with rising sea levels, stronger storms, and coastal erosion placing some areas at long-term risk. It highlights that certain high-exposure

zones, particularly low-lying or erosion-prone coastlines, may become unsafe to inhabit, requiring a shift from traditional coastal defence to “managed retreat,” where communities gradually relocate inland. The author emphasises the need for improved coastal monitoring systems, proactive planning, and government support to help communities adapt while allowing natural coastal processes to function.

The early warning implication of this article signals a transition from reactive to anticipatory climate adaptation, where relocation may become unavoidable rather than optional. Without early planning, communities could face sudden displacement due to extreme weather events, storm surges, and flooding. The lack of coordinated relocation strategies, infrastructure investment, and community engagement increases the risk of social disruption, economic loss, and unmanaged climate migration. Early warning systems, evacuation planning, and long-term land-use policies will be critical to reducing future impacts.

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

NIGERIAN TROOPS REPEL MAJOR INSURGENT ATTACK IN BORNO STATE

Troops of the Nigerian Armed Forces successfully repelled a major insurgent attack on a military base in Borno State. Reports indicate that the attackers, believed to be members of Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP), launched a coordinated assault on the base but were met with strong resistance from Nigerian troops, supported by air operations. Military sources reported that a significant number of insurgents were killed during the encounter. Despite the tactical success recorded by the military, the scale and coordination of the attack demonstrate that insurgent groups still possess the operational capacity to carry out complex attacks on military installations in northeastern Nigeria.

The early warning implications of this incident suggest the possibility of retaliatory attacks by insurgent groups following the heavy losses suffered during the confrontation. There is a risk that insurgents may shift targets toward softer civilian locations, transportation routes, or isolated military formations. The incident also indicates that insurgent groups may continue to adapt their tactics, including the possible use of drones and coordinated assaults. If such attacks persist, it could lead to

increased displacement, humanitarian pressure, and prolonged insecurity across the Lake Chad Basin region, including Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon.

CONFLICT INTENSIFIES IN SUDAN AS REGIONAL INSTABILITY DEEPENS

The conflict in Sudan between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces continues to intensify, with increasing reports of civilian casualties, displacement, and destruction of infrastructure. Fighting has continued in key regions, including Darfur and Kordofan, with growing concerns that the conflict is beginning to spill across borders into neighbouring countries. Reports of cross-border attacks and refugee movements into Chad and other neighbouring states indicate that the conflict is gradually taking on a regional dimension.

The early warning implications of this development include the risk of further regionalisation of the Sudan conflict. Continued instability in Sudan could lead to increased arms trafficking, refugee flows, and cross-border militant activity in neighbouring countries. The prolonged conflict may also create ungoverned spaces that could be exploited by extremist groups and armed militias. If the conflict continues without a political resolution, it may lead to a long-term humanitarian crisis and broader regional instability across parts of North and East Africa.

ELECTION & GOVERNANCE

SOMALIA'S SOUTH WEST STATE INTERIM LEADER TAKES OVER AFTER PRESIDENT'S RESIGNATION

Somalia's fragile federal system has entered another phase of political uncertainty following the resignation of Southwest State President Abdiyaz Hassan Mohamed Laftagareen and the subsequent appointment of an interim leader. The crisis escalated after federal troops took control of Baidoa, the administrative capital of the Southwest State, amid growing tensions between regional authorities and the federal government in Mogadishu. Laftagareen's resignation on March 30, 2026, came just days after a controversial re-election that the federal government deemed illegitimate. The dispute was rooted in broader disagreements over constitutional reforms, electoral processes, and the balance of power between Somalia's federal center and its member states. The leadership transition in Somalia's Southwest State is more than a regional political

reshuffle it reflects deeper structural tensions within the country's federal system. Without inclusive dialogue and a credible electoral roadmap, the crisis risks escalating into wider instability, with significant implications for Somalia's political future and regional security in the Horn of Africa.

The early warning implication of Somalia's south-west state interim leader taking over after the president's resignation, an escalation of federal and regional tensions may trigger resistance or similar confrontations in other regions, further weakening Somalia's federal cohesion. An increase of risk in armed conflict and insurgency exploitation, continued instability could exacerbate food insecurity and limit access to essential services in an already vulnerable region. Legitimacy Crisis and more electoral Disputes may likely fuel broader national disputes ahead of Somalia's anticipated elections.

IMPLICATIONS OF A MIDDLE EAST WAR FOR AFRICAN NATIONS

African economies face the risk of a sharper growth slowdown this year if the war in the Middle East drags on, with prolonged disruption to trade, energy and fertiliser supplies threatening to ripple across the continent. The report by two UN agencies, the African Union and the African Development Bank, said African economies could lose 0.2 percentage points of GDP growth in 2026 if the conflict lasts more than six months. Trade disruptions would also be significant with the Suez Canal and the Red Sea serving as vital arteries for global commerce, linking Africa to European and Asian markets.

The early warning implications of the Middle East war for African nations would be supply disruptions and potential inflation shocks across African economies. A spike in global food prices would also be seen as an impact of the war, and a rise in the cost of living in Africa. Potential spillover of instability from the region with heightened extremist activity in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa.

PUBLIC HEALTH

WHO WARNS OF RISING CHOLERA CASES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The World Health Organisation has warned of a growing cholera outbreak in Southern Africa following a sharp rise in cases across several countries. Health authorities reported increasing infections linked to flooding, displacement, and poor sanitation systems in countries such as Mozambique, Malawi, and Zambia. The WHO noted that

the situation could worsen in the coming months if urgent interventions are not implemented, especially in communities with limited access to clean water and healthcare services. Efforts are ongoing to strengthen response measures, including surveillance, water, sanitation, and vaccination campaigns in affected areas.

The early warning implication of this outbreak is that although this outbreak is outside Nigeria, it shows how quickly cholera can spread when flooding and poor sanitation come together. Nigeria faces similar environmental conditions, especially during the rainy season, and this creates a real risk of similar outbreaks. Movement of people across African countries also means diseases can be imported if monitoring is weak. This situation is a warning for Nigeria to strengthen water and sanitation systems, improve preparedness in flood-prone areas, and maintain active surveillance before the rainy season fully sets in.

CONGO SAYS ITS MPOX OUTBREAK IS OVER AFTER 2 YEARS AND MORE THAN 2,200 SUSPECTED DEATHS

The Democratic Republic of Congo has declared the end of its mpox outbreak after nearly two years. The outbreak recorded over 161,000 suspected cases and more than 2,200 deaths, according to health authorities. The country had been the epicentre of the outbreak, which spread to neighbouring countries and led the World Health Organization to declare a global emergency in 2024. Although the emergency was lifted in 2025, the disease remained a major concern. Authorities say most patients recover, but the outbreak required sustained national and international response efforts.

The early warning implication of the end of the outbreak is that this does not remove the risk completely. Mpox has already shown that it can spread across borders when surveillance is weak. For Nigeria, this is a reminder that once attention drops, diseases can quietly re-emerge. It also shows that outbreaks can last for years when early response is slow. Nigeria needs to maintain strong surveillance for zoonotic diseases and not wait until cases rise before responding.

AFRICA CDC AND ECDC STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP ON EPIDEMIC INTELLIGENCE AND RESPONSE

Africa CDC and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control have strengthened their partnership to improve epidemic intelligence and public health

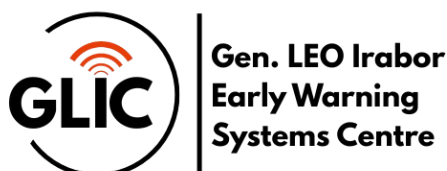
response across Africa and Europe. The collaboration will focus on antimicrobial resistance, data sharing, and strengthening health systems under a new five-year programme starting in 2026. The initiative aims to improve coordinated responses to outbreaks and enhance global health security.

The early warning implications of this partnership show that public health is now treated as a security issue globally. For Nigeria, it creates an opportunity to benefit from better data sharing and early warning systems. However, it also means Nigeria must strengthen its own internal systems to fully benefit from such partnerships. If local surveillance and response systems remain weak, international cooperation alone will not prevent outbreaks.

POLIO VIRUS DETECTED IN LONDON SEWAGE RAISES CONCERNS OVER VACCINATION GAPS

Poliovirus has been detected in sewage samples in London, raising concerns about potential transmission in communities with low vaccination coverage. Health officials say the detected strain is vaccine-derived and can spread in areas where immunization rates are declining. Experts warn that falling vaccination rates and funding cuts to global eradication programmes could increase the risk of outbreaks, even in countries where polio had previously been eliminated.

The early warning implication of this reappearance of polio in a developed country shows that no country is completely safe once vaccination drops. For Nigeria, this is very important because the country only recently controlled polio. If immunisation efforts weaken, there is a risk of reintroduction. It also shows that global health funding issues can affect Nigeria indirectly, especially for diseases that require international coordination to control.



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