

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Akwa Ibom State: July-August 2017

Background

This monthly tracker is designed to update Peace Agents on patterns and trends in conflict risk and violence, as identified by the Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) early warning system, and to seek feedback and input for response to mitigate areas of conflict.

Patterns and Trends May-July 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a rise in lethal violence in Akwa Ibom in July. Incidents reported during the period included communal tensions, criminality, cult violence, and labor strike.

Communal Tensions: In May, gunmen suspected to be members of ethnic militias attacked a fishing community and killed over 45 people in Uruan LGA. The attack is reportedly related to a land dispute between communities in Akwa Ibom, and communities in neighboring Odukpani LGA, in Cross River state. In June, twenty were reportedly killed in a renewed clash over a land dispute between Oku Ibukun community in Itu LGA of Akwa Ibom and Ikot Offiong in Odukpani LGA, Cross River state. In July, militants and pirates reportedly attacked a fishing communities and killed over 35 people and displaced several others in Itu and Uruan LGAs. Separately, youths from a neighboring community in Cross River state reportedly killed a man who was fishing in a disputed river in Itu LGA.

Criminality: In July, two, comprising a youth leader and a lawyer, were reportedly killed by gunmen in Ukanafun LGA. Separately, the vice principal of a community secondary school was reportedly shot dead by robbers in Ukanafun. The victim had earlier received a letter from the robbers asking him to either pay them a million Naira or be killed. In another incident, robbers reportedly shot dead a policeman attached to an expatriate in Uyo.

Gang/Cult Violence: In May, three were reportedly killed in a rival cult clash between Klansmen and Black Axe confraternities in Uyo. In June, a couple were reportedly shot dead by gunmen on a motorcycle in Etim Ekpo LGA. The incident is believed to be a revenge killing.

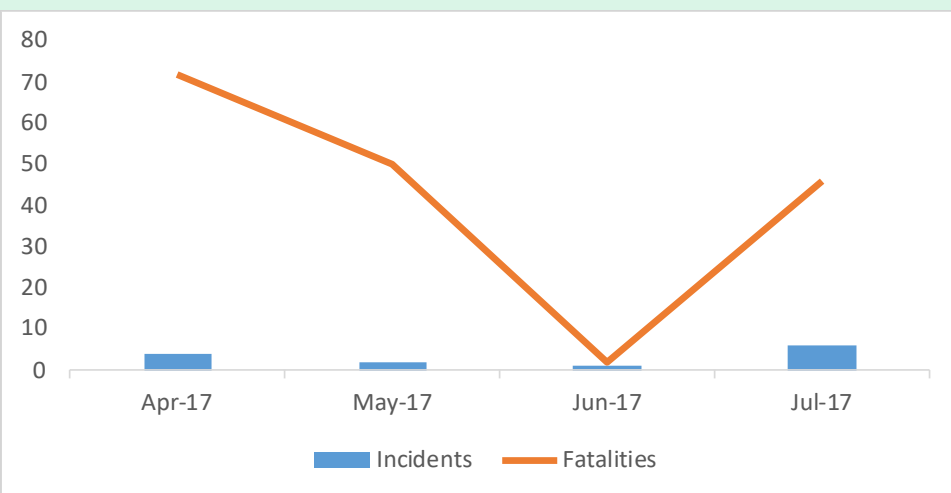
Labor Strike/Protest: In May, members of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) embarked on a day-long labor strike in Uyo, the state capital, in protest over oil companies' preference for expatriate workers over Nigerians.

Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2017

Incidents during the month included criminality, cult violence and protests.

Violent Criminality: A policeman was reportedly killed during a shootout with robbers in Uyo. The robbers accosted two government officials who had withdrew some money from a bank, but they were confronted by the police.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Akwa Ibom State



Reported incidents and fatalities from April - July 2017 in Akwa Ibom State.

Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Gang/Cult Violence: Several cult related fatalities were reported in Etim Ekpo LGA during the month. Four persons were reportedly killed when about ten cultists attacked a village. The victims included the village head and his brother. Separately, cultists reportedly killed a man during a funeral procession. In another incident, cultists attacked some communities, killed four, and set ablaze several houses and a market.

Prognosis

Incidents of conflict risk and violence during this period related mainly to communal tensions, criminality, cult violence, and labor strikes/protests. Peace actors should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately, especially in the context of the upcoming local government elections scheduled for November 2017.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything significant missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a priority for you (as P4P Chapter, Prevent Committee, or other stakeholder)?
3. What are some likely trigger events in the next 6 months that could escalate this conflict?
4. Who are the key stakeholders that have influence on the conflict?
5. What will you do to help mitigate the conflict in the short, medium, and long term?

Figure 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (May - July 2017)

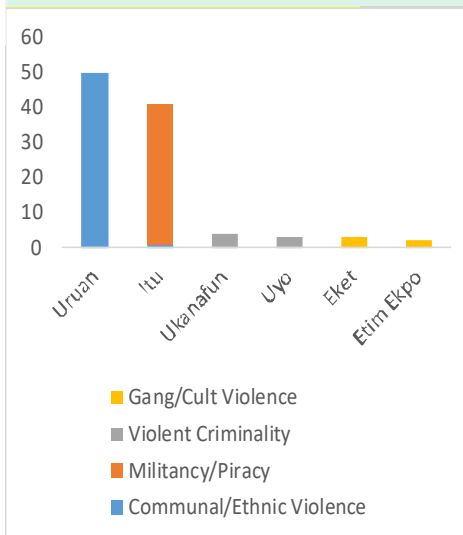
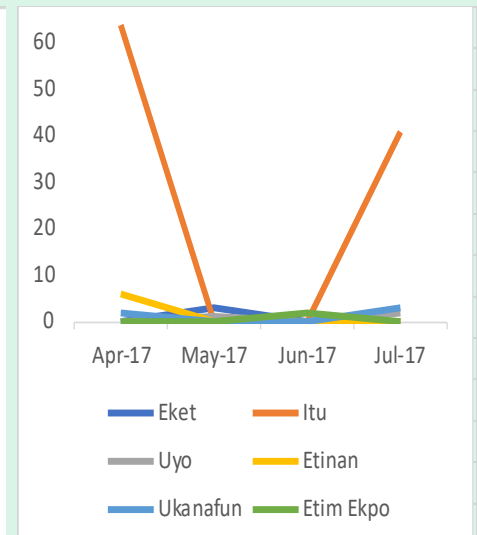
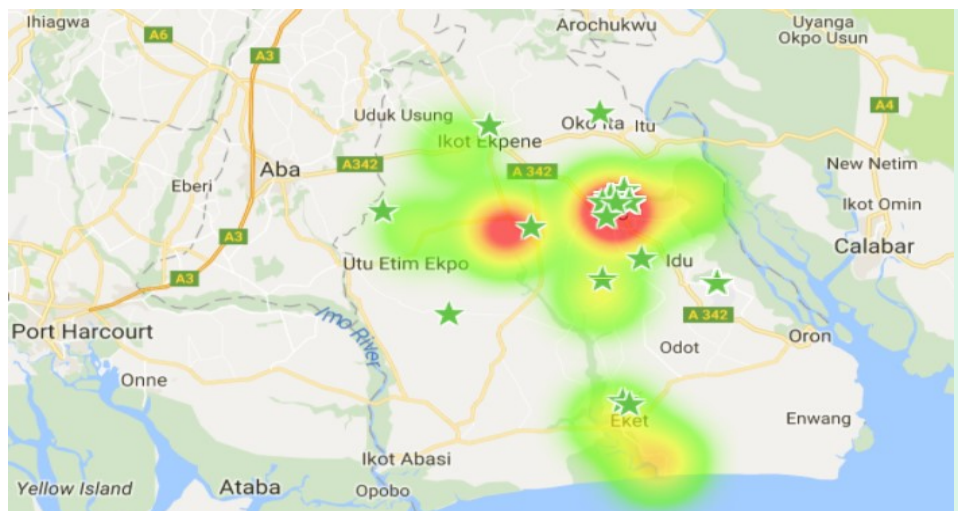


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) shows that Uruan, followed by Itu had the most reported lethal conflict during this period. Source (Figure 2): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 3): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Akwa Ibom State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from May-July 2017 in Akwa Ibom; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents. Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system:

Text: 080 9936 2222

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and Brief Incident Description

Contact Us



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