

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Cross River 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 Cross River state in July. Incidents reported during this period included communal violence, criminality, cult violence, mob violence, and protests.

**Communal Violence:** In June, four were reportedly killed during a clash between Nsobo community in Obubra LGA, Cross River, and Ofunakpa Inyimagu community in Ikwo LGA, Ebonyi state. Separately, four were reported killed in a clash over land dispute between Akamkpa and Ojor communities in Akamkpa LGA. In July, eighteen were reportedly killed during a communal clash over a land dispute between Wanikade and Wanhimen communities in Yala LGA.

**Violent Criminality:** In June, a businessman was reportedly shot dead in his shop by robbers in Calabar South LGA. In July, five robbers were reportedly killed in a gun duel with the police in Calabar South after stealing a man's money as he stepped out of a bank. Separately, a former staff of the National Assembly was reportedly shot dead during a gun duel between the police and his kidnappers in Calabar Municipal. In a

separate incident, a senior immigration officer was reportedly shot dead by robbers on his way from a night club in Calabar South.

**Gang/Cult Violence:** In June, six were reportedly killed in a supremacy battle between Italian and Vikings cult groups in Calabar South LGA. Separately, two were reported killed in a clash between Black Axe and Vikings confraternities at the palace of a traditional ruler in Yakurr LGA. In another incident, five were reportedly killed in a clash between Vikings and KKK cult groups in Ogoja LGA.

**Protests:** In May, there was a protest by youth leaders calling for the release of their colleagues allegedly arrested for weapon possession in Odukpani. Separately, tanker drivers went on strike to protest a road maintenance levy by the Cross River state government.

**Other Incidents:** In May, a clash between

some personnel of the Nigerian Navy and the police reportedly caused over ten fatalities in Calabar Municipal. A police station was reportedly set ablaze during the confrontation. In June, three suspects were reportedly lynched by a mob in Calabar Municipal after allegedly stealing a mobile phone belonging to a woman. In July, one person was reportedly killed during a clash between a group of militants and soldiers in Calabar South LGA. Separately, eleven were reportedly killed and several others injured during a fire outbreak in Calabar Municipal. The inferno was allegedly caused by the activities of illegal dealers in petroleum products.

### Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2017

Incidents reported during the month included communal tensions, criminality, cult violence, and natural disasters.

Figure 1: Conflict Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State



Reported incidents and fatalities from April – July 2017 in Cross River State.

Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

**Communal Violence:** A primary school teacher was reportedly shot dead during a clash between Bette community in Obubra LGA, Cross River and Tiv communities in Vandeikya LGA, Benue state. Separately, tension was reportedly elevated over a land dispute in Biase LGA. Five communities allegedly teamed up and attacked another community over a disputed land.

**Criminality:** A village head was reportedly assassinated in his residence in Bakassi LGA. The victim was a staff member of the audit department of the Cross River state Ministry of Finance. Separately, an 18-month old girl was reportedly killed for ritualistic purposes in Calabar South. The severed heart of the victim was reportedly found in a church.

**Cult Violence:** A suspected cultist was reportedly shot dead by members of a rival cult group in Calabar South.

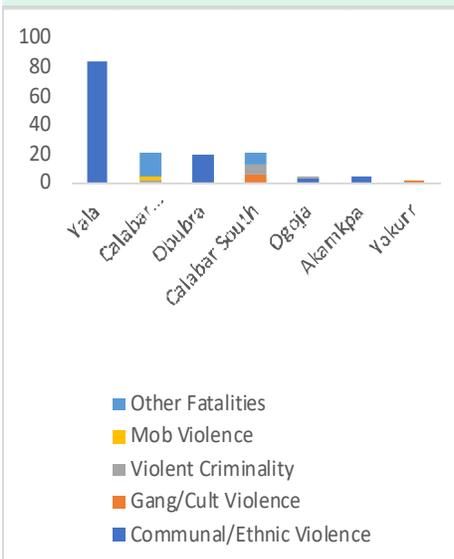
## Prognosis

Incidents during the period included communal conflict, criminality, protests, cult and mob violence. Peace Actors in the state should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

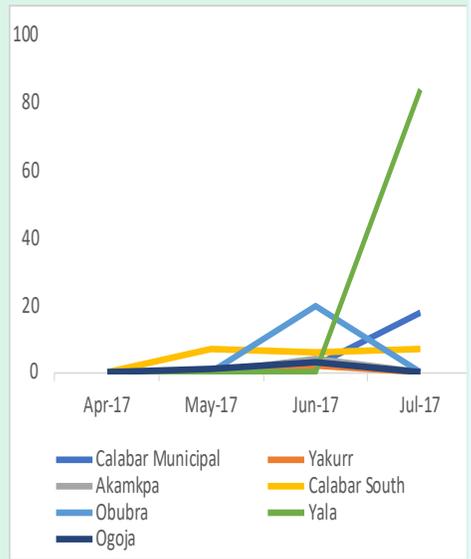
## Questions for Peace Agents

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 a Peace Agent?
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 and long term?

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

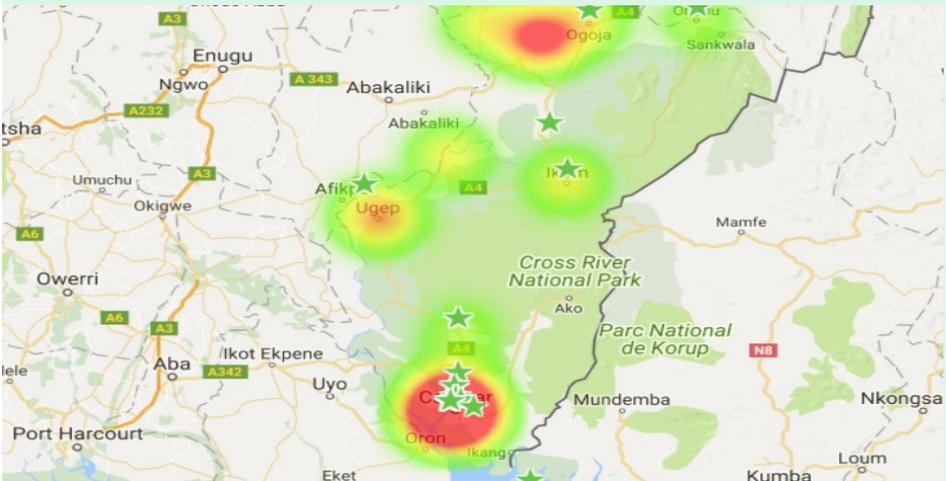


**Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) show that Yala had the most reported lethal conflict incidents 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](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

**Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Cross River State**



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from May-July 2017 in Cross River; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents. Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://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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