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

June-August 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in lethal violence in the state in August. Incidents reported during the period included communal tensions, criminality, cult violence, militancy, and communal tensions.

Violent Criminality: In July, robbers reportedly attacked a bullion van and injured some policemen and bank officials in Ondo East LGA. Separately, three kidnappers were reportedly killed and several others injured during a police operation to rescue abducted school children in Ile-Oluji/Okeigbo LGA. In another incident, gunmen reportedly killed a 50-year-old man and stole his motorcycle in Akure South. In August, gunmen reportedly abducted four passengers who were travelling on a commercial bus and shot dead another in Akoko North East LGA. Separately, robbers reportedly killed a pastor and stole his motorcycle in Okitipupa. In another incident, a policeman reportedly shot dead his superior during an argument and thereafter committed suicide in Odigbo.

Communal Tensions: In July, a man was reportedly killed by hoodlums over a kingship tussle in Akoko North-West LGA. In August, herders reportedly attacked a farm in Odigbo LGA and killed a farmer who confronted them. Separately, herders reportedly killed four farmers and destroyed crops in Akure South. The incident sparked off a protest by villagers.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG): In July, five college students were reportedly arrested by the police for raping an 18-year-old female student of the institution. Separately, a 24-year-old woman was reportedly killed by unknown persons at a farm in Okitipupa LGA. In August, two female students of a college were reportedly kidnapped and killed for ritualistic purposes in Ondo West LGA. Separately, a 72-year-old woman was reportedly in her farm in Odigbo LGA, increasing communal tensions between farmers and herders.

Others: In July, two were reportedly killed in separate clashes between Eiye and Aiye confraternities in Akure South. Separately, fifteen were reportedly injured during a clash between factions of the Ondo State chapter of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in Akure South LGA.

Recent Incidents or Issues, September 2017

Incidents during the month related mainly to criminality and communal tensions.
Communal Tensions: A boy was reportedly killed and 20 others injured during a clash between youths from Ugbonla and Ugbo communities in Ilaje LGA. Separately, two were reportedly killed during a clash over a leadership tussle in Ilaje LGA.

Criminality: Robbers reportedly killed five members of the same family who were on a trip and stole their vehicle in Ese-Odo LGA. Separately, a 28-year old surveyor was reportedly killed by gunmen in Akure North.

Others: During the month, a high profile member of the Boko Haram group who has been on the wanted list of the Nigerian Army was reportedly arrested by the police in Akoko South East LGA. In Idanre LGA, a 65-year old woman was reportedly beaten to death by a 30-year old man.

Prognosis
Reported incidents during this period related mainly to criminality, communal tensions, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). Peace Agents must monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents
1. What is missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue 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, medium, and long term?