

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: September-October 2017

Background

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

Patterns and Trends

July-September 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), reported incidents during the period included criminality, militancy, cult violence, and political tensions.

Violent Criminality: In July, a 20-year old undergraduate of the Nigerian Defense Academy- Kaduna, was reportedly shot dead by street gang members in Yenagoa. The killing of the military cadet led to a protest by residents. Separately, a 20-year old man was reportedly killed in a clash between soldiers and youths suspected to be pipeline vandals in Southern Ijaw. The youths reportedly clashed with the soldiers while they were protesting their alleged exclusion from a 'Petroleum Task Force' set up by the local government council. In August, the home of a former acting governor of Bayelsa state was reportedly attacked by gunmen in Yenagoa, the state capital. In September, pirates reportedly attacked a passenger boat and killed a man and a woman in Brass LGA. Separately, pirates reportedly ambushed a security patrol team and killed a policeman and an operative of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Southern Ijaw. In another incident, gunmen attacked a police security checkpoint and killed a police

sergeant, and made away with weapons in Ogbia. A policeman and a civilian were reportedly injured during the attack.

Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. Crime, particularly piracy affects the safety and livelihoods of women and girls.

Militancy: In August, militants reportedly killed four soldiers and a civilian in Ekeremor LGA. The militants allegedly ambushed the soldiers along the waterways. Following the incident, the Joint Task Force (JTF) code-named 'Operation Delta Safe' commenced a military operation in the area.

In addition to the impact of militancy on the livelihoods of women and girls, counter-insurgency operations by the security forces also affect the human rights and safety of women and girls.

Cult Violence: In July, a 24-year old student

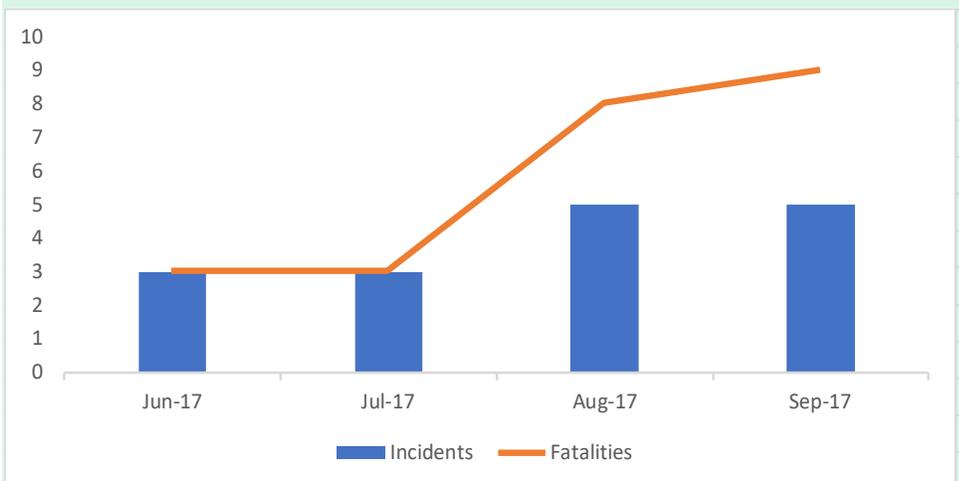
of a polytechnic in Delta state was reportedly killed during a clash between two rival cult groups in Southern Ijaw LGA. In September, the corpses of two young men suspected to be killed in cult-related attacks were discovered by the police near a drinking spot in Yenagoa.

Political Violence: In August, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash between two factions of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Yenagoa. The clash reportedly occurred during the inauguration of the acting chairman of the Bayelsa state chapter of the APC

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)

(VAWG): In August, a 33-year old woman was reportedly killed by her husband in Yenagoa. In September, a 47-year old man reportedly killed an 18-year old sister of his wife in Yenagoa. The man allegedly killed and buried the baby boy delivered by the girl, in an attempt to cover up the crime.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from June - September 2017 in Bayelsa State.

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

Recent Incidents or Issues, October 2017

Incidents reported during the month mainly related to criminality.

Violent Criminality: During the month, four robbery suspects were reportedly killed during a shoot out with the police in Yenagoa. The suspects had robbed some residents before they were confronted by the police.

Other: A 13-year old male secondary school student was reportedly killed by a police corporal in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to militancy, piracy, cult violence, political tensions, and other criminal activities. Peace Agents 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 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 (July - September 2017)

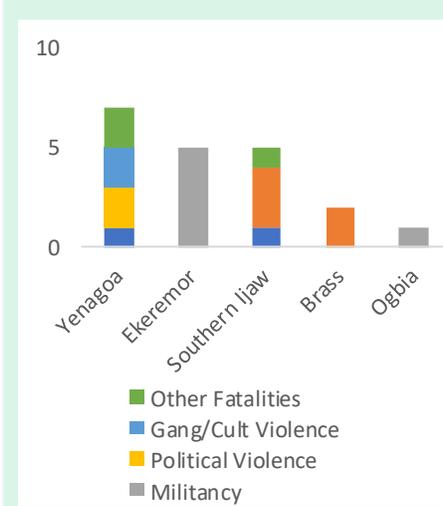
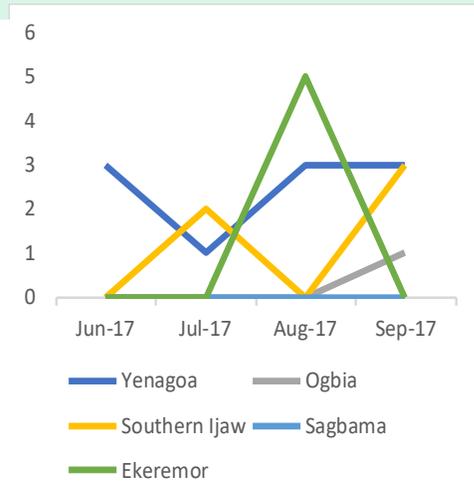
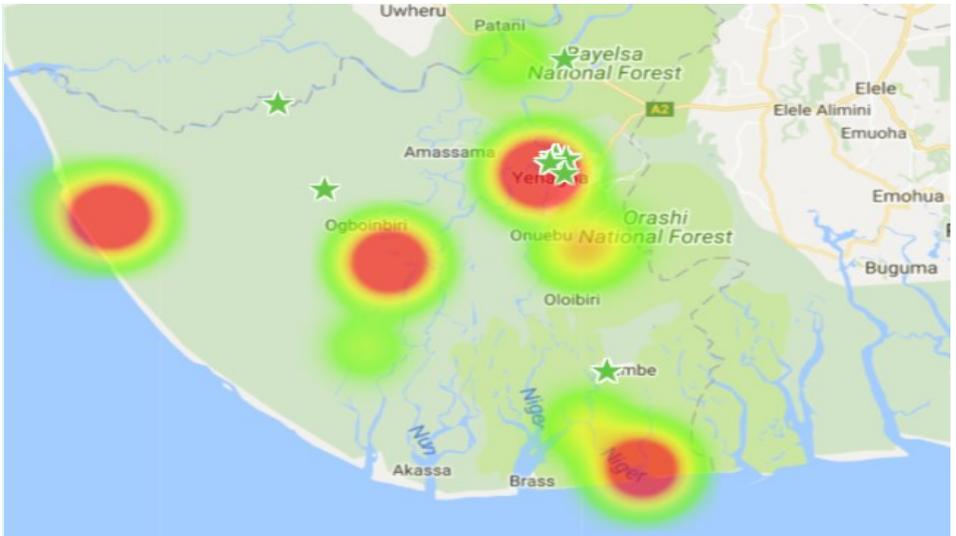


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Ekeremor, followed by Yenagoa and Southern Ijaw had the most reported incidents of conflict risk and violence. 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 Bayelsa State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from July-September 2017 in Bayelsa; 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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