

Niger Delta Weekly: Spotighting Homicidal Violence and Targeted Killings in Ondo State

November 27 - December 03, 2022

Description

This update spotlights lethal violence in the Niger Delta with a focus on homicidal violence and targeted killings in Ondo State. According to data (see map below), targeted killings and homicide caused over 200 fatalities in Ondo State between January 2019 and September 2022. Recent incidents indicate an increase in targeted killings in the State. In October 2022, for instance, a 35-year-old man from Akpata community in Ese-Odo LGA was allegedly murdered by unknown assailants in Ilaje community, Ilaje LGA. The incident reportedly elevated communal tensions in the area. Separately, in October, gunmen reportedly killed a 55-year-old man at his residence in Okuta Elerinla community, Akure South LGA. A 20-year-old daughter of the deceased was also allegedly killed under similar circumstances in the same place few months ago. In November, a 54-year-old man reportedly set ablaze five of his step-children in Ondo Town, Ondo West LGA. Recently, on November 26, 2022, two security guards were allegedly killed and mutilated by gunmen at different locations in Ikare-Akoko community, Akoko North-East LGA.

Why it Matters

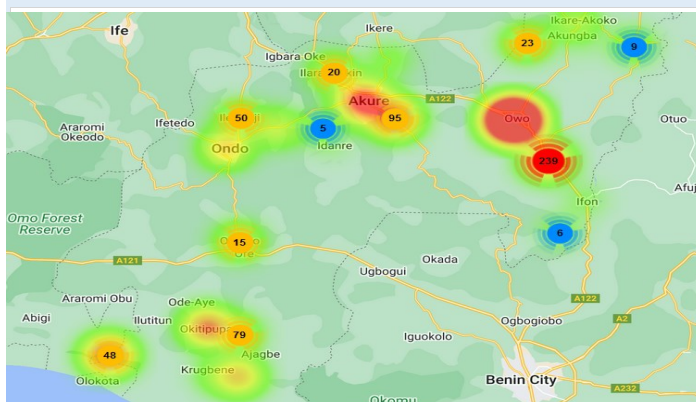
The recent rise in homicidal violence and targeted killings of residents by gunmen could negatively impact the peace and security landscape in the State, especially against the backdrop of rising political and communal tensions in the lead up to the 2023 general elections. The situation could trigger a series of reprisal killings, lawlessness, and the deployment of security measures that could result in human rights violations. This could cause social, economic and political disruptions.

Social: Homicidal violence and targeted killings could bring about serious psychosocial and health consequences that could undermine communal stability and social wellbeing of residents. The prevalence of targeted killings could cause a 'siege mentality' and general feeling of insecurity that could cause public unrest, vigilante justice and mob violence. This could deepen social tension and insecurity in the State.

Economic: The prevalence of targeted killings could create an atmosphere of insecurity that is detrimental to economic development. The situation could cause a general feeling of insecurity that could result in the restriction of movement and the disruption of economic activities. It could also increase private and public expenditure on security, and consequently undermine the economic wellbeing of residents.

Political: The prevalence of homicidal violence and targeted killings could destabilize politics and governance in the State. Recurrent incidents of targeted killings could cause public dissatisfaction with government efforts to provide security for residents. This could result in violent protests which could present additional security challenges for the State. It could also increase government spending on security.

Fatalities Heat Map of Homicidal Violence and Targeted Killings in Ondo State, Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical spread of homicidal violence and targeted killings in Ondo State from January 2019—September 2022. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Prognosis

The recent upsurge in homicidal violence and targeted killings has the potential to escalate and intensify insecurity in the State. Stakeholders should collaborate with the relevant government security agencies to deploy appropriate preventive measures to de-escalate the situation. Peace and development actors should also work with the State government and reputable community leaders to identify and address the underlying drivers as well as the triggers of the recent wave of homicidal violence and targeted killings in the State.

Contact Us

Inquiries: PINDfoundation.org

Contacts: info@PINDfoundation.org +234 (0) 9 291 0454

What do you think about the report? - [We value your feedback](#)

Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system: Text report to **080 9936 2222**

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief incident description.



FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA



FOUNDATION FOR NIGER DELTA PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE