

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: April-May 2018

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 February-April 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), reported incidents in Bayelsa during this period included piracy, criminality, militancy, cult violence, and communal/political tensions.

Piracy: In March, pirates reportedly attacked a community, killed two and injured three others in Ayama community, Ogbia LGA. The pirates abducted a woman and made away with over 10 speedboats. Separately, pirates reportedly attacked a passenger boat and shot a man and a pregnant woman in Koluama community, Southern Ijaw LGA.

Criminality: In March, hoodlums reportedly robbed some members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) at their lodge in Sagbama LGA. A male corps member had one of his hands severed during the attack. In April, a 23-year old robber was reportedly killed during a gun battle between the police and his gang in Yenagoa LGA. One of the robbers, a 22-year old male, was injured during the incident, and later confessed that they are members of a cult group, the Bobos. Separately, cultists stabbed a

commercial tricycle operator to death in an attempt to rob him in Yenagoa LGA.

Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. In April, for instance, a 22-year old lady was reportedly raped by two men in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Communal/Political Tensions: In February, one was reportedly killed and several others injured during a clash among youths belonging to two different political parties in Okpoama community, Brass LGA.

Militancy: In March, a prominent militant who doubles as a kidnapper was reportedly killed by operatives of the Inspector General of Police's Intelligence Response Team in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Cult Violence: In March, suspected cultists attacked a police station, set it on fire, and injured two police officers in Oporoma, Southern Ijaw LGA. The cultists allegedly

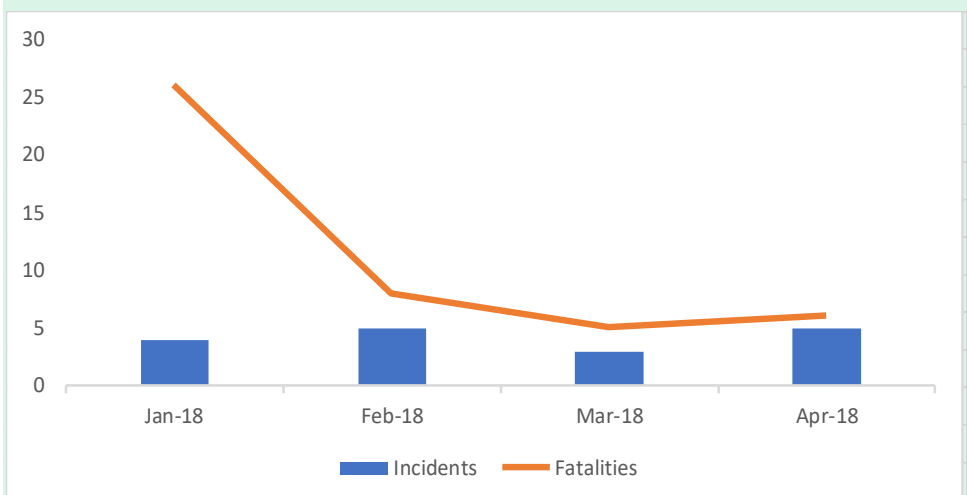
attacked the police station in protest over the death of their leader in police custody.

Recent Incidents or Issues, May 2018

Incidents reported during the month mainly related to criminality, human trafficking, and protests.

Criminality: An aid to the Bayelsa state governor was killed by assassins in Kaiama, Kolokuma/Opokuma LGA. The victim was ambushed and shot as he alighted from his car in front of his house. A helipad belonging to the Nigerian Airforce was reportedly attacked by gunmen in Yenagoa LGA. An airman was shot dead during a shootout between the gunmen and Airforce personnel at the facility. Separately, two abducted women were rescued by the police in Yenagoa LGA.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from January - April 2018 in Bayelsa State.

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

Human Trafficking: Operatives of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) rescued two girls aged 16 and 27, who were allegedly forced into prostitution in Ghana by a human trafficking syndicate in Yenagoa LGA. One of the suspects, a 27-year old woman, was arrested following a raid on their hideout.

Protests: Three were reported killed and several others injured during a clash between security operatives and protesting community youths and women, over employment issues and the closure of a state-owned university in Amassoma, Southern Ijaw LGA. The women and youths were protesting the alleged removal of their names from the payroll of the university.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to communal and political tensions, cult violence, human trafficking, protests, and criminality including piracy and militancy. 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 (February - April 2018)

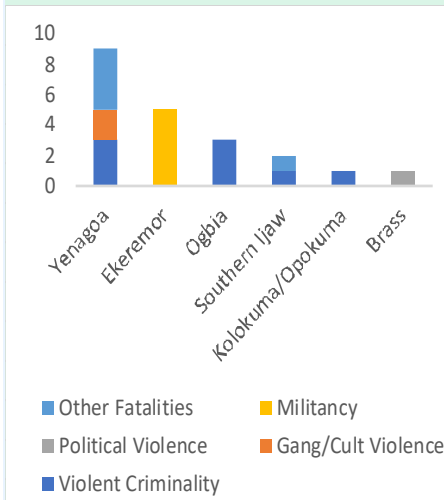
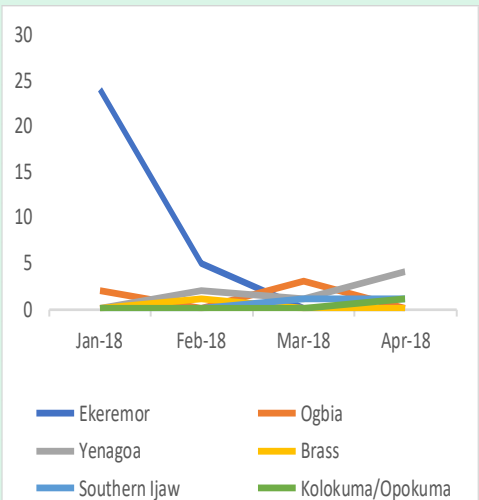
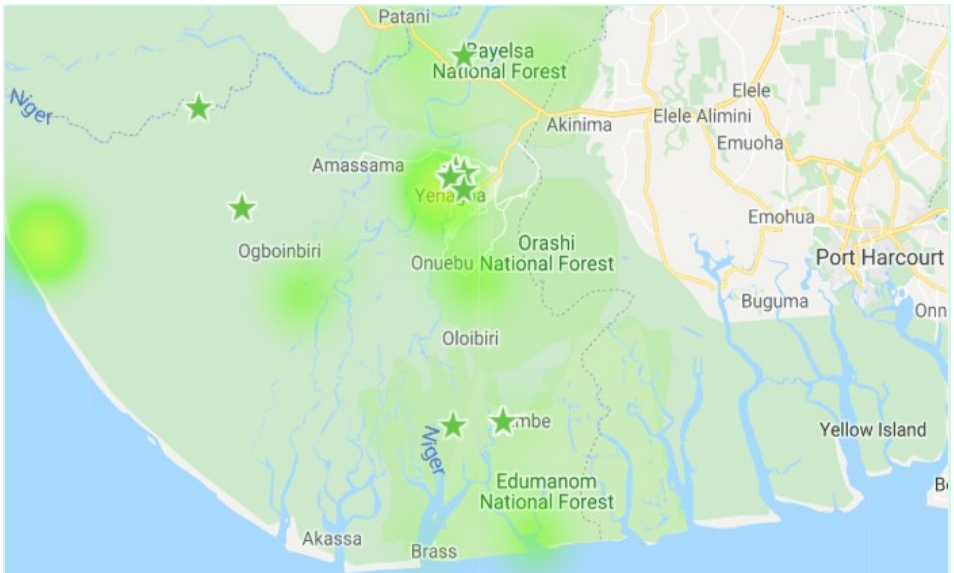


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Yenagoa, followed by Ekeremor had the most reported incidents of lethal violence. Sources (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 February - April 2018 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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