

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Cross River State: May-June 2019

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 March-May 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in conflict risk and lethal violence in Cross River state in May 2019. Incidents reported during this period included communal violence, criminality, cult violence, human trafficking, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG).

Communal Violence: In March, some people were reportedly killed in renewed clashes over land disputes between Ukelle community in Yala LGA, Cross River state and Izzi community in Ebonyi state. Separately, four people were reportedly killed during a clash between communities in Biase LGA, Cross River state, and Ikwo community in neighboring Ebonyi state. Following the clash, three communities - Egbor, Ipene and Abanwan - in Biase LGA, Cross River State, were reportedly destroyed by attackers from Ebonyi state. In April, 10 people were reportedly killed during a clash over a land dispute between some communities in Obubra LGA, Cross River state and Ikwo community in neighboring Ebonyi state. In May, two people were reportedly killed during a renewed communal clash over a land dispute in Odukpani LGA.

Violent Criminality: In April, gunmen reportedly killed a police constable at the office of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in Ikot Effiom, Bakassi LGA. In May, a man reportedly killed his elder brother in Wanihem community, Yala LGA. He beheaded the victim with a machete during a domestic disagreement. Villagers reportedly buried the suspect alive with the victim.

Cult Violence: In April, four people were reportedly killed during a clash between Black Axe and Klans cult groups in Calabar Municipal. The clash was reportedly triggered by a fight at a drinking spot in the area. In May, two people were reportedly killed during clashes between rival cult groups at two different locations in Calabar Municipal LGA.

Human Trafficking: In April, a man was reportedly arrested by the police for attempting to sell his two children, a boy and

a girl, at Murray Street, Calabar Municipal LGA.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG): In addition to the impact of communal violence and criminality on women and girls listed above, sexual violence against women and girls was also reported during this period. In April, for instance, a 59-year old man was reportedly arrested for raping a 12-year old girl in Calabar Municipal LGA. Separately, a 45-year old man was reportedly arrested for having carnal knowledge of a 5-year old girl in Mkpang Street, Calabar Municipal LGA.

Recent Incidents or Issues, June 2019

Incidents reported during this period related mainly to criminality and cult violence.

Criminality: During the month, a man who

Figure 1: Incidents & Fatalities, Cross River

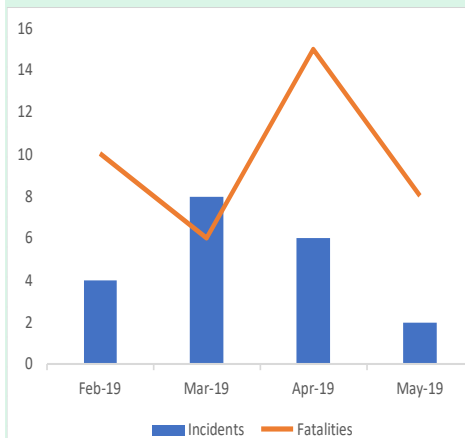
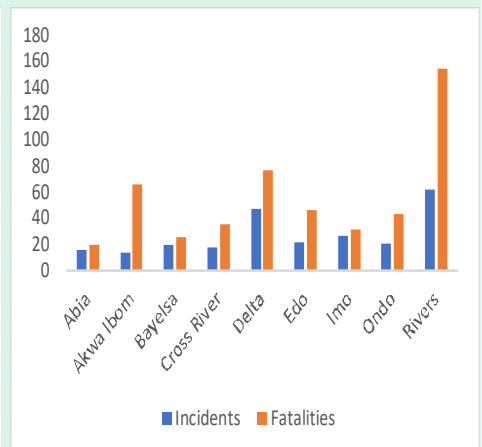


Figure 2: Incidents & Fatalities, Niger Delta (February - May 2019)



Reported incidents and fatalities from February – May 2019 in Cross River State and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

allegedly doubles as a pastor and traditional medicine practitioner was reportedly arrested for robbery in Calabar South LGA. The suspected also reportedly raped a woman he was contracted to heal of an illness.

Cult Violence: Security operatives reportedly arrested a male student of the University of Calabar for cultism and illegal possession of firearms in Calabar South LGA. The suspect reportedly identified himself as a member of the Black Axe confraternity.

Prognosis

Conflict risk and lethal violence in Cross River state during this period were driven mainly by communal conflict, criminality, cult violence, human trafficking, domestic violence and other Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). Peace Actors in the state should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything 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 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (March - May 2019)

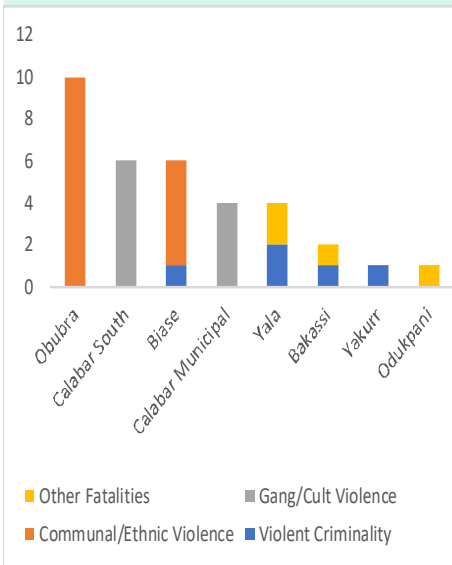
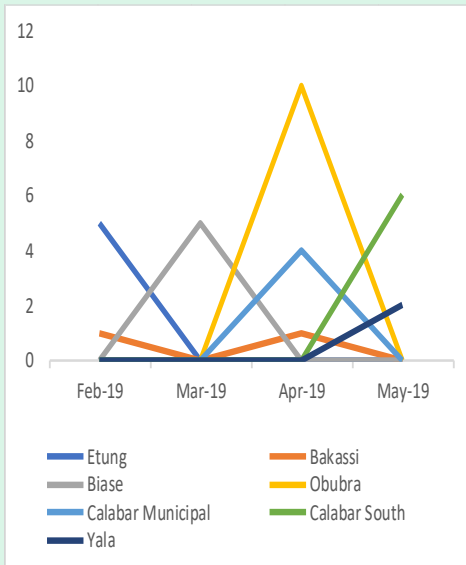


Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) show that Obubra, followed by Calabar South and Biase, had the most reported lethal conflict incidents during this period. Sources (Figure 3): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 4): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 5: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Cross River State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from March - May 2019 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

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



Inquiries: Afeno Super Odomovo, IPDU Research Coordinator

Telephone: 08172401595

Email: afeno@pindfoundation.org