

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: February-March 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

December 2016-

February 2017

According to Peace Map data, incidents during the period included communal tension, mob violence and protests.

Communal Tensions: In December, tensions were heightened following protests by farmers from several communities in Yenagoa and Ekeremor LGAs over the destruction of farmland by cattle. The farmers called on the state government to enact laws to restrict the movement of herders in the state.

Violent Criminality: In January, soldiers reportedly fatally shot two gunrunners and a boat driver in Yenagoa LGA. Separately, soldiers under the joint task force code-named 'Operation Delta Safe' raided a militant camp near an oil flow station in Nembe LGA and allegedly killed two militants in a shootout. In February, suspected oil vandals attacked Korokrosei community in Southern Ijaw. A young man was reportedly killed and two children injured during the attack. The attack was reported to be in revenge for their colleagues that were arrested.

Protest: In December, there was a protest by youth and women's groups over the proposed relocation of a gas company. Tension was elevated in the state following the alleged plan by an oil company to move its headquarters from the Niger Delta area. The Ijaw Youth Congress (IYC) warned that such move would escalate conflict in the region. In February, there was a protest in Yenagoa, over the state government's plan to allocate a portion of land to herdsman for grazing. The protesters were reportedly attacked by some ex-militants and hoodlums. Separately, staff of the State broadcasting corporation (Glory FM) embarked on a labor strike over a alleged industrial dispute.

Other Incidents: In January, a man was reportedly beaten to death by a mob for stealing from a trader in Brass LGA. Separately, a woman reportedly killed her

husband in Yenagoa. In another incident, a 7-year old boy was reportedly tortured to death by his father and step-mother over allegations of witchcraft in Yenagoa.

Recent Incidents or Issues, March 2017

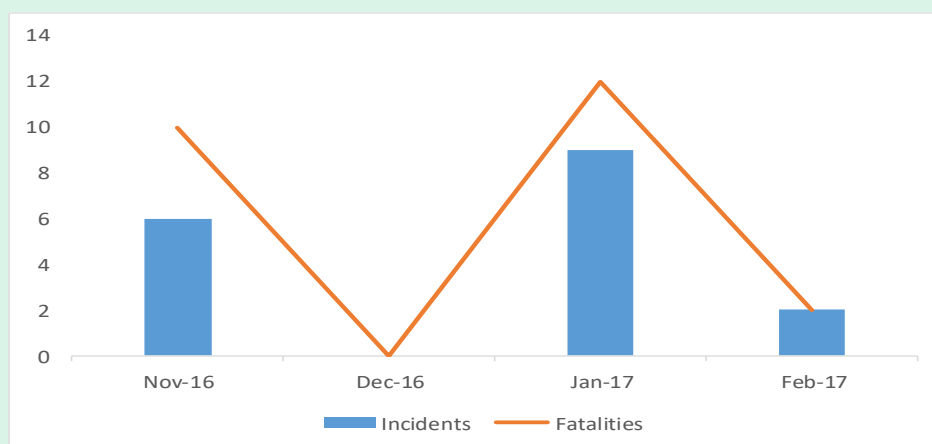
Incidents reported during the month included criminality, communal tensions, and domestic violence.

Criminality: A young man who deals in locally refined petroleum products was reportedly shot dead by unknown assailants in Ekeremor.

Communal Tensions: Tension was reportedly heightened following the death of a man in the creeks in Nembe. A neighboring village is accused of being responsible for the killing.

Domestic Violence: A woman reportedly beat her 11-year old daughter to death in Yenagoa.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from November 2016 - February 2017 in Bayelsa State.

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

Prognosis

There was a decrease in lethal violence and conflict risk in the state in February 2017. Conflict risk and violence during the period related mainly to criminality and protests. Peace Agents should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately, especially in the context of recent plans by government to license modular refineries in the Niger Delta.

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 (December 2016 - February 2017)

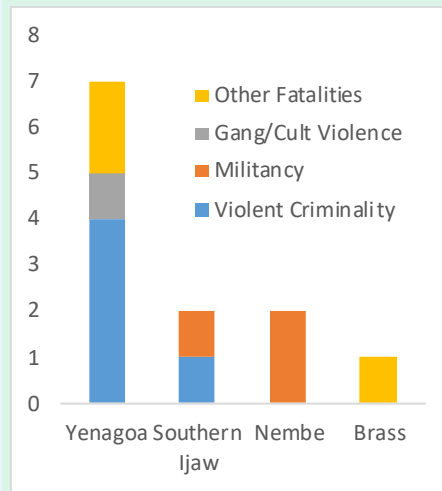
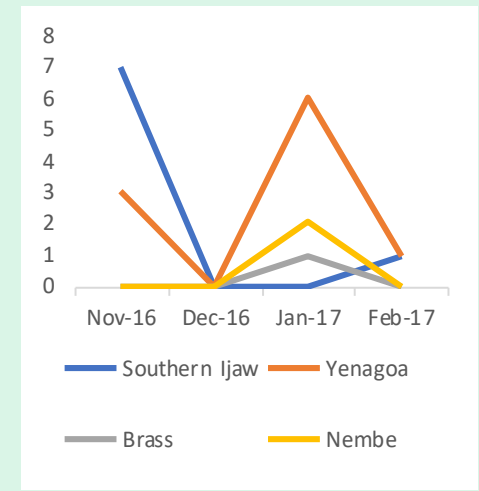
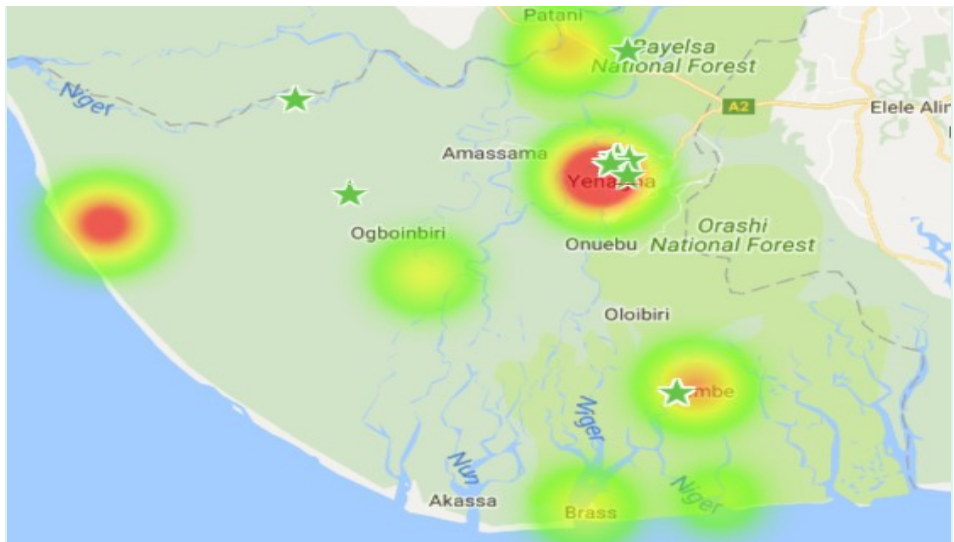


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Yenagoa 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 December 2016-February 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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