

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Abia State: November-December 2017

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 September-November 2017

According to Peace Map data, (see Figure 1) there has been a decrease in conflict risk and violent fatalities in Abia since October 2017. Reported conflict incidents during this period related mainly to separatism/ethnic tensions, criminality, cult violence, and mob violence.

Separatism/Military Crackdown: In September, the Nigerian Army began a special military operation code named 'Operation Python Dance' in response to the activities of supporters of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB). During the month, there were several reported clashes between the Nigerian Army and supporters of IPOB in the state. In Umuahia North LGA, five were reportedly killed, several injured and property destroyed when soldiers invaded the home of IPOB leader, Nnamdi Kalu. In a separate incident in Umuahia North LGA, a clash between IPOB supporters and soldiers reportedly resulted in 22 fatalities. In Aba North LGA, a police station was reportedly set ablaze by IPOB

supporters, killing one policeman. In Ukwa East LGA, eight were reportedly killed and several others injured during a clash between IPOB supporters and soldiers.

Criminality: In October, four members of a vigilante group were reportedly killed by gunmen at a relaxation spot in Aba South LGA. Four others were injured during the attack. In November, a cleric was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Aba LGA. The victim was later rescued by soldiers in Obingwa LGA. In a separate incident, a 25-year old male apprentice was reportedly stabbed to death by his 21-year old colleague during a disagreement in Aba North LGA.

Others: In September, a businessman was reportedly killed by cultists in Aba North. In October, a middle-aged man was reportedly

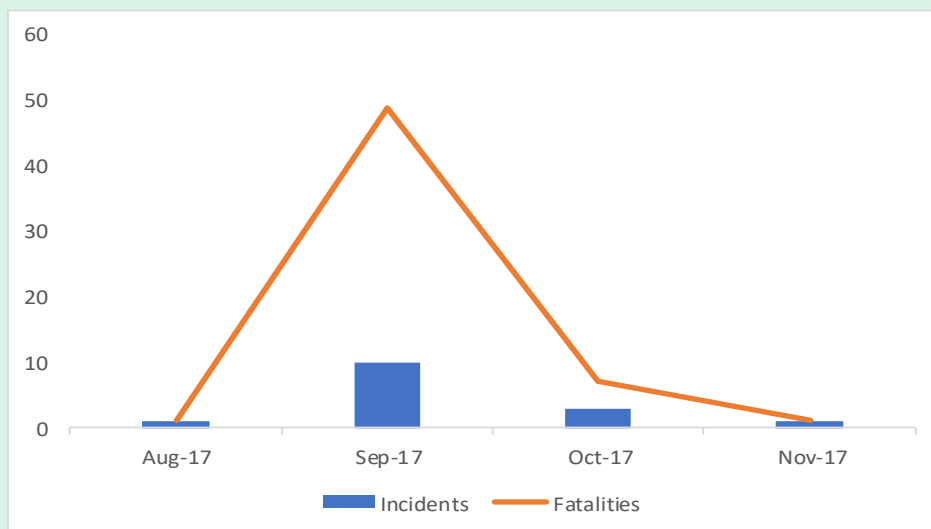
killed by a mob due to a dispute involving a woman in Bende LGA. Separately, a mentally ill teenage boy reportedly killed his parents in their sleep in Isiala Ngwa North LGA.

Recent Issues or Incidents, December 2017

Reported incidents during this period related mainly to criminality and protest.

Criminality: During the month, an ailing 76-year old man was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Aba South LGA. The police rescued the victim and recovered arms and ammunition from the kidnappers' hideout. The victim later died in the hospital. Also, two of the suspects later died from injuries sustained during a gun battle with the police.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Abia State



Reported incidents and fatalities from August – November 2017 in Abia State.

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

Separately, kidnappers reportedly killed a woman and stole her vehicle in Osisioma LGA. The victim is believed to have been killed while resisting an attempt by the kidnapers to abduct her.

Protest: Pensioners reportedly protested over non-payment of pensions in Umuahia, the state capital.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to criminality and clashes between supporters of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) and soldiers under the military exercise code-named 'Operation Python Dance' in the state. Criminality, particularly kidnapping, was a key issue during this period. Peace agents must continue to monitor the security 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 or potential conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a top 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 (September – November 2017)

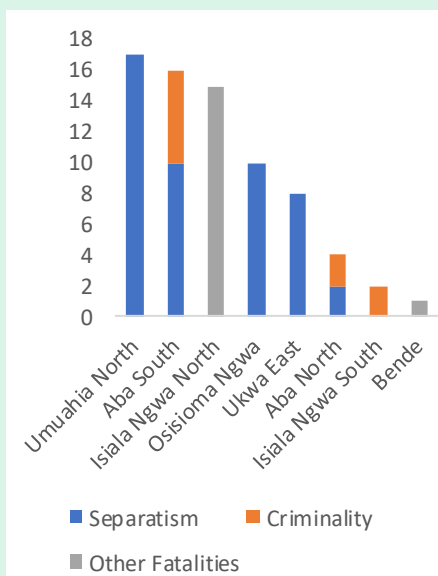
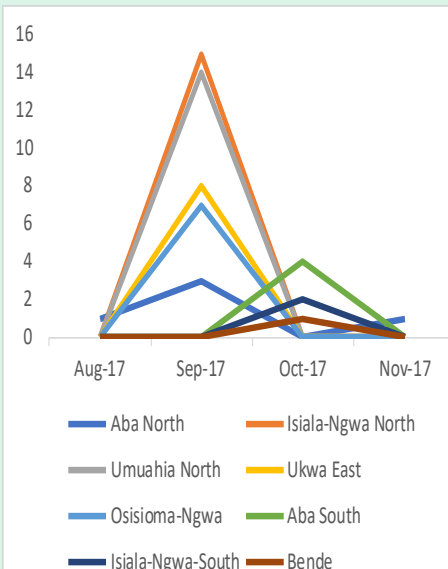
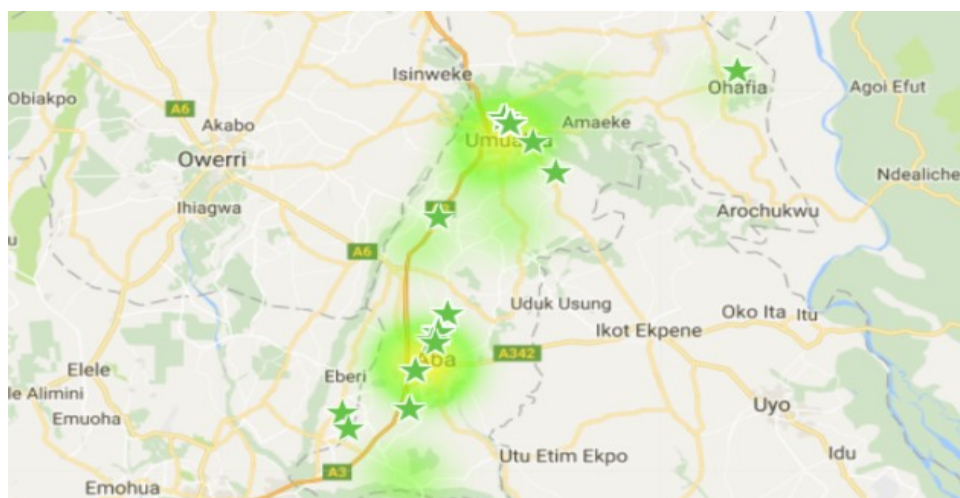


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (September – November 2017)



Reported fatalities show that Umuahia North had the most violent incidents during the last three months. 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 Abia State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from September-November 2017 in Abia State; 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

Contact Us



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