

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Cross River State: August-September 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 June-August 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in lethal violence in Cross River state in August 2019. Based on reported fatalities Cross River was one of the most violent states in the Niger Delta during the period. Incidents reported during this period included communal violence, criminality, cult violence, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG).

Communal Violence: In July, 50 people were reportedly killed and 10 communities destroyed during communal clashes over land dispute in Udukpani LGA. Separately, a man and his son were reportedly killed in the farm during a clash over a land dispute between Usumutong and Ebom communities in Abi LGA. In another incident, two persons were reportedly killed during a clash over a land dispute between Obudu community, Cross River state and neighboring Tsar community in Vandiekya LGA, Benue State. In August, there was a reported clash between Ebom and Usumutong communities in Abi LGA. Militias allegedly from Ebom community reportedly attacked Usumutong community. The attackers were later repelled by soldiers.

Violent Criminality: In June, a man who allegedly doubles as a pastor and traditional medicine practitioner was reportedly arrested for robbery in Calabar South LGA. The suspect also reportedly raped a woman he was contracted to heal of an illness. In July, two people were reportedly killed by gunmen at Palm Street and Watt Market respectively in Calabar South LGA. Separately, gunmen reportedly shot a traffic police officer at Etta-Agbor, Calabar Municipal LGA.

Cult Violence: In June, security operatives reportedly arrested a male student of the University of Calabar for cultism and illegal possession of firearms in Calabar South LGA. In July, four people including a male final year student of the Cross River State University of Technology were reportedly shot dead by cultists at Ekpo Abasi, Calabar South 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 was also reported during this period. In June, for instance, a man who doubles as a pastor and traditional medicine practitioner reportedly raped a woman he was contracted to heal of an illness in Calabar South LGA.

### Recent Incidents, September 2019

Incidents reported during this period related mainly to communal conflict and protest.

Communal Conflict: During the month, eight men were reportedly killed and several houses destroyed during a clash over a chieftaincy tussle between Ajere and Aduma

Figure 1: Incidents & Fatalities, Cross River

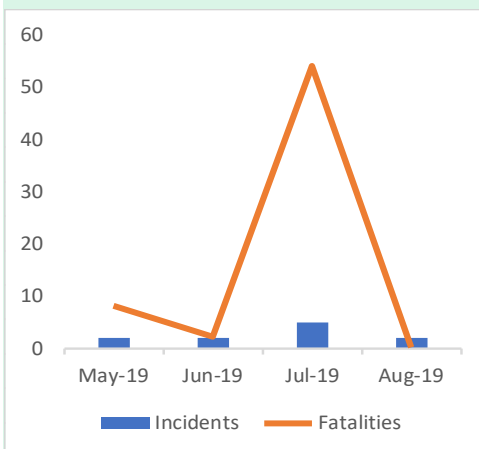
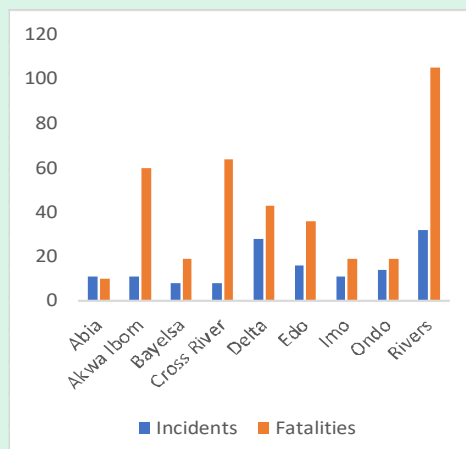


Figure 2: Incidents & Fatalities, Niger Delta (May - August 2019)



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

wards in Mkpani community, Yakurr LGA. Several others were reportedly injured during the incident.

**Human Trafficking:** A 40-year old woman reportedly took some young girls from Ekor community in Yakurr LGA to work for her in Ondo state. The girls were allegedly taken away without the consent of their parents.

**Other:** An operative of the Nigerian Air Force who was travelling in a commercial bus reportedly killed a police officer during a disagreement at a security checkpoint along the Ogoja-Kasina-Ala highway in Ogoja LGA. The incident happened during a stop-and-search operation by policemen at a highway security checkpoint.

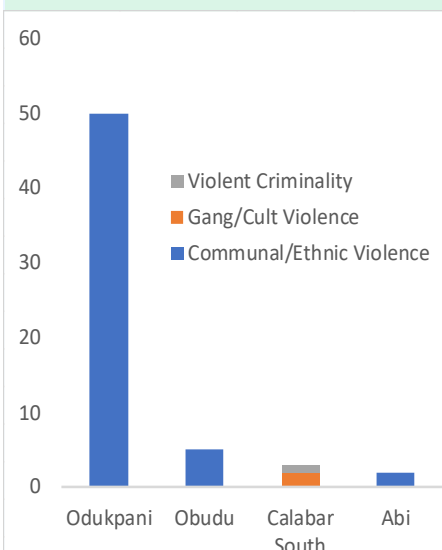
## Prognosis

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

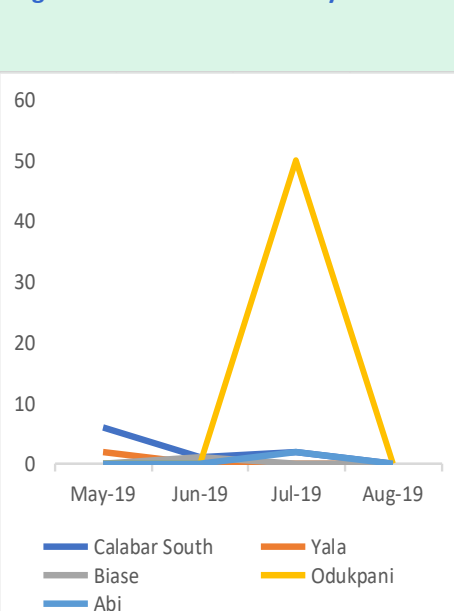
## Questions for Peace Agents

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 (June - August 2019)**

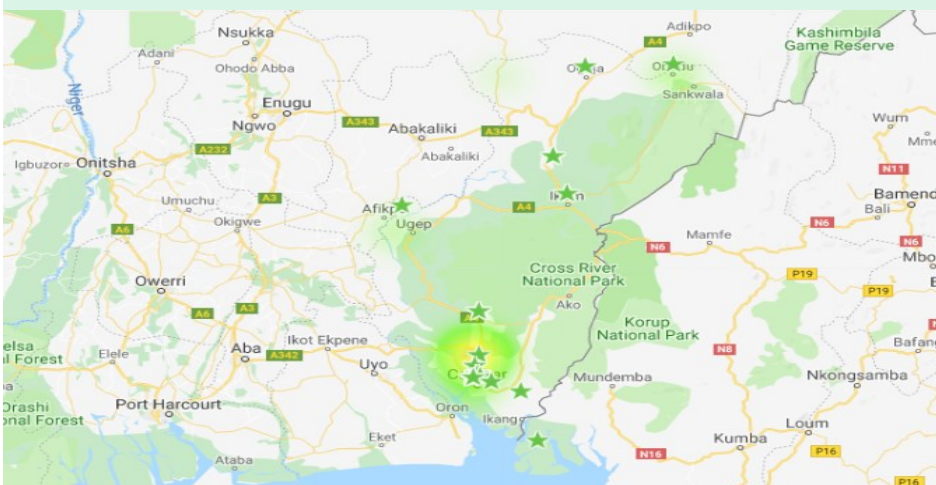


**Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) show that Odukpani 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](http://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 June - August 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](http://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](mailto:afeno@pindfoundation.org)