

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Edo State: July-August 2016

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

May-July 2016

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in violent fatalities in July 2016. Incidents reported during the period included cult clashes, political tensions, and general criminality.

Cult Violence: In May, four people were reportedly shot dead in a clash between the Black Axe and Eiyee cult groups. There were also reports of a clash between Eiyee and Maphite confraternities. In July, a man was reportedly killed by a rival cult group.

Political Tensions: In May, there were several reported cases of political tension in Benin City, the state capital, following the impeachment of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Edo House of Assembly.

Criminality: In June, several killings were reported in Esan South-East. In Ikpoba-Okha, an All Progressives Congress (APC) youth leader was reportedly shot dead by robbers who were trying to evade the police. Separately, a commercial motorcyclist was reportedly shot dead in a clash with police in Esan North-East. Following the incident, a

policeman was reportedly lynched by a mob. In June, at least six murders were reported; bodies were found at different locations in Esan South-East, including a middle aged man whose organs had been mutilated. In July, there was reportedly an attempted bombing at an oil well in Ovia North East that was stopped by police.

Protest: In May, a student was reportedly killed during a protest at the Federal Polytechnic-Auchi in Etsako West, over the decision of by the school authorities to implement a policy for mandatory payment of tuition fees before students are allowed to sit exams. In July, ex-militants reportedly blocked roads in Benin City in protest over unpaid stipends.

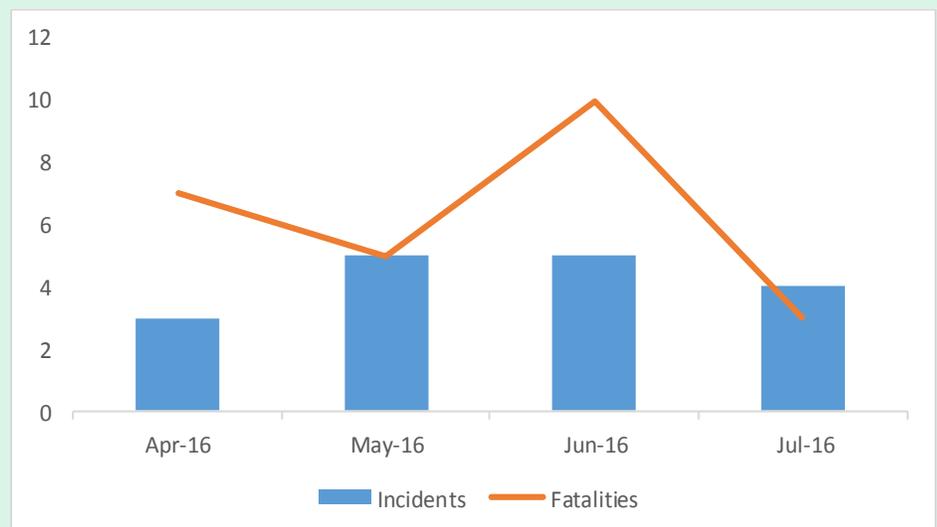
Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2016

Incidents reported in Edo state in August included violent criminality, cult violence, political tensions, and protests.

Violent Criminality: The wife of a pastor was reportedly shot dead at her residence by two gunmen in Esan West. Also, a highway robber was reportedly shot dead during a shootout between his gang and the police in Ovia North-East.

Cult Violence: Three people were reportedly killed during a clash between Aye and Eiyee cult groups in Oredo. The clash reportedly resulted from a disagreement between members of the rival cult groups at a

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State



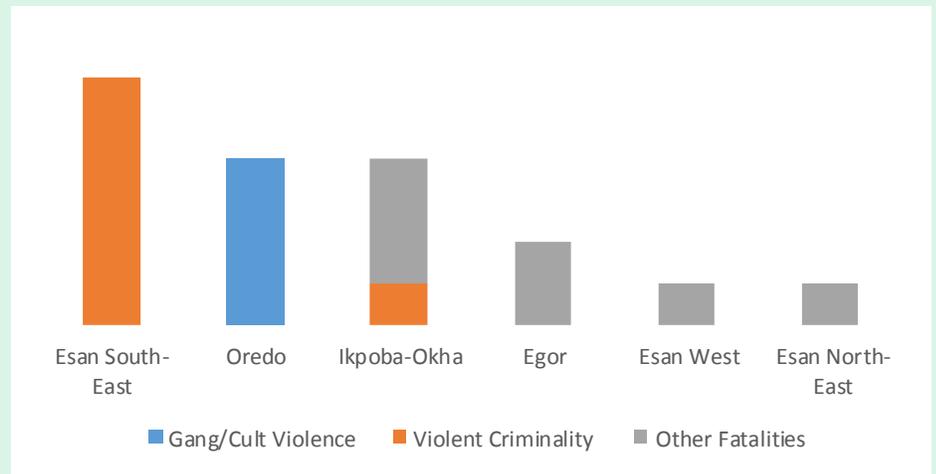
Reported incidents and fatalities from April - July 2016 in Edo State. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

drinking spot. Separately, two young boys were reportedly killed by suspected cultists in Benin city.

Political Tensions: The campaign team of the governorship candidate of the PDP was reportedly attacked by youths suspected to be supporters of an opposing party in Jattu, Etsako West.

Protests: There were reported protests by the state chapter of the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) and the National Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) in Benin City over working conditions and non-payment of salaries respectively. Separately, ex-militants reportedly protested in Benin City over non-payment of their stipends.

Figure 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (April - June 2016)



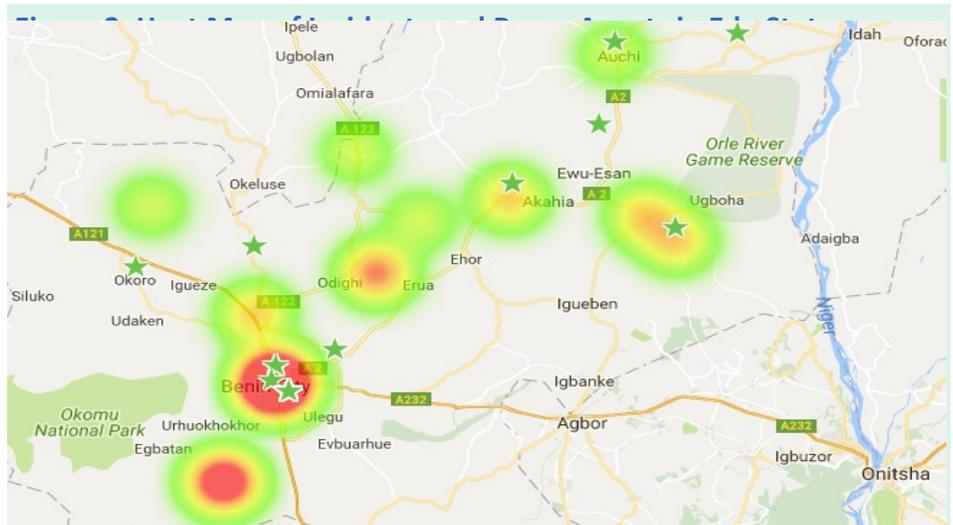
Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Edo State during this period show that Esan South-East had the most conflict fatalities in the state. Source: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the

Prognosis

In the context of the upcoming gubernatorial elections in September in the state, Peace Actors should monitor the security situation closely to mitigate escalation of violence throughout the election period.

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 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?



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from May-July 2016 in Edo 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

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