

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: July-August 2016

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

May–July 2016

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a rise in violence in July 2016. Incidents reported included militancy, piracy, vandalism, and violent criminality.

Militancy and Piracy: In May, a group of militants and pirates reportedly killed three soldiers under the Joint Task Force (JTF), Operation Pulo Shield in Southern Ijaw. Separately, two naval officers and four oil workers were reportedly killed by suspected pirates in Brass.

In June, the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA) reportedly blew up a crude oil pipeline. Separately, two workers of another oil company were reportedly killed by suspected pirates in Nembe. Also, a boat captain was allegedly shot dead by suspected operatives of a joint military task force deployed to guard oil pipelines against vandalism in the waterways of Southern Ijaw.

In July, the NDA reportedly attacked a crude oil facility in Nembe. Separately, two militant groups were reportedly engaged in a gun battle over a missing speed boat in Gbaran community of Southern Ijaw. The Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) surveillance patrol team was ambushed by

pirates when monitoring oil installations. One of the officers was reportedly killed. The same group of pirates allegedly also killed two civilians.

Vandalism: In May, an oil pipeline operated by an international oil company (IOC) was reportedly set ablaze during a clash between rival armed groups over disputed pipeline surveillance contracts in Southern Ijaw.

Violent Criminality: In June, robbers reportedly attacked a commercial bank in Yenagoa and killed a student of the Niger Delta University (NDU). In July, pirates reportedly ambushed and killed an officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in the creek of Southern Ijaw. Separately, a staff member from the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Ogbia. In Ekeremor, three boys were reportedly killed by Gbaran militants.

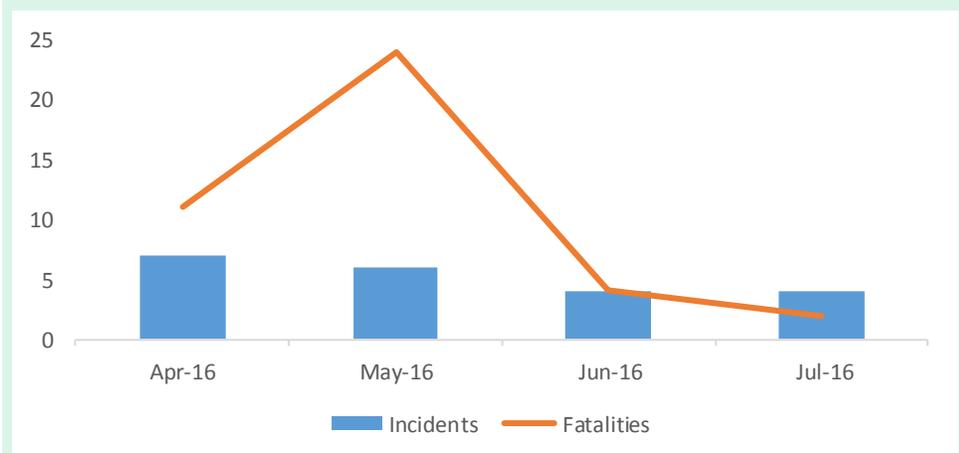
Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2016

Key incidents reported in August included militancy, violent criminality, communal tension and domestic violence.

Militancy: Operatives of the Joint Task Force (JTF) code named 'Operation Delta Safe' reportedly attacked the hideout of members of the NDA in Southern Ijaw and killed two militants and arrested three others. Separately, suspected members of the NDA attacked a military checkpoint, killed three soldiers and made away with their rifles and gunboat in Nembe.

Violent Criminality: A 17-year old boy was reportedly shot dead by the police for armed robbery. Some sources reported that the victim who was the son of a Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) official, and was unarmed when he was shot by the police in Yenagoa. Separately, the father of a lawmaker was reportedly kidnapped in

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from April-July 2016 in Bayelsa State.

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

Yenagoa. During the month, several reported incidents of piracy in Ekeremor.

Communal Conflict: Tensions was reportedly high in Agrissaba community in Nembe following the arrest of a traditional ruler by operatives of the Department of State Security (DSS) over his alleged involvement in a protest against an international oil company.

Human Rights: A 5-year old girl was reportedly raped to death in Sagbama. In Ekeremor, a man reportedly burnt his mother-in-law to death and left his brother-in-law severely burnt.

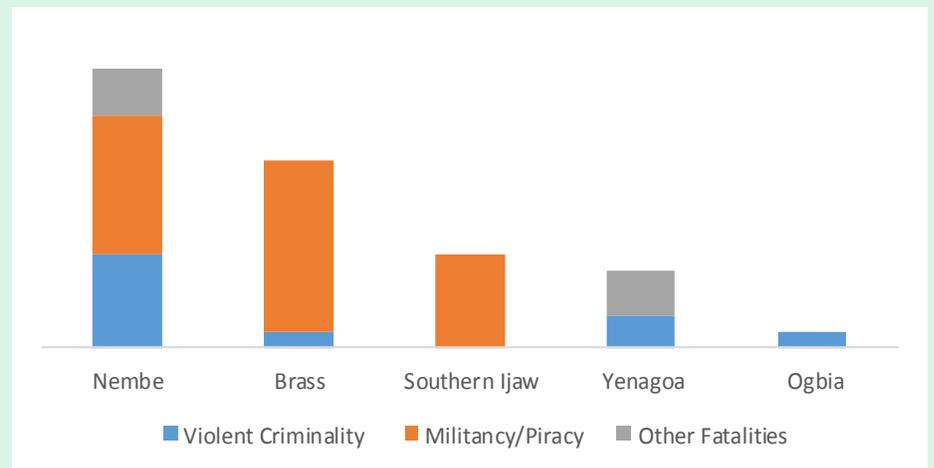
Prognosis

Although there has been a decrease in conflict fatalities, incidents of conflict risk and violence, especially incidents relating to militancy, piracy, and other violent criminality, have been elevated in the state. Peace Agents must monitor the 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 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?

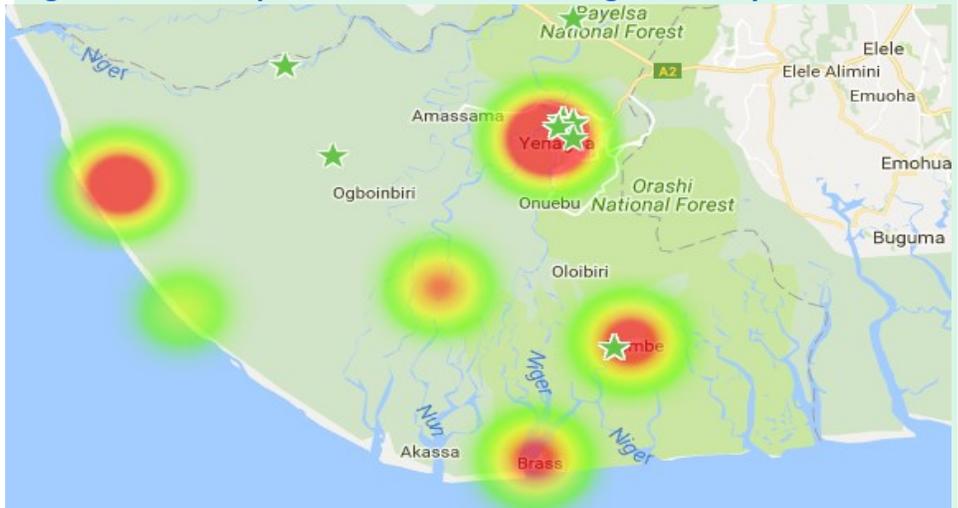
Figure 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (May – July 2016)



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Nembe and Brass had the most incidents of conflict risk and violence, predominantly related to militancy.

Source: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 3: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Bayelsa State



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



Inquiries: Afeno Super Odomovo,
IPDU Research Coordinator

Telephone: 08172401595

Email: afeno@pindfoundation.org