

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Imo State: November-December 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 September-November 2016

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in lethal violence during the month of November. Issues included cases of militancy, cult violence, criminality, and communal violence.

Communal Violence: In September, there was a protest by traditional title holders over a lingering kingship dispute in Ngor Okpala. Separately, a fatality was reported during a youth protest over the selection of a traditional ruler in Ehime-Mbano.

Militancy: In September, five militants were reportedly killed during a clash between a militant group and operatives of the Imo Security Network (ISN) in Ohaji/Egbema. In November, ex-militants reportedly attacked two communities and killed 11 people and set houses ablaze in Ohaji Egbema.

Violent Criminality: In October, an abducted businessman was reportedly found dead near his village in Owerri West. In another

incident, a Police Inspector attached to a chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC) was reportedly shot dead in Mbaitoli. Separately, a 12-year old primary school pupil was reportedly abducted from school and killed for ritualistic purposes in Ideato North. In November, kidnappers reportedly killed a nursing mother and abducted her 5-month old baby in Ngor-Okpala.

Cult Violence: In September, a university student was reportedly killed by suspected rival cult gangs in Owerri North. In October, One person was reportedly killed during a gun duel between two rival cult groups, also in Owerri North.

Mob Violence: In October, three kidnapping suspects were reportedly lynched by youths after a failed attempt to abduct a baby in

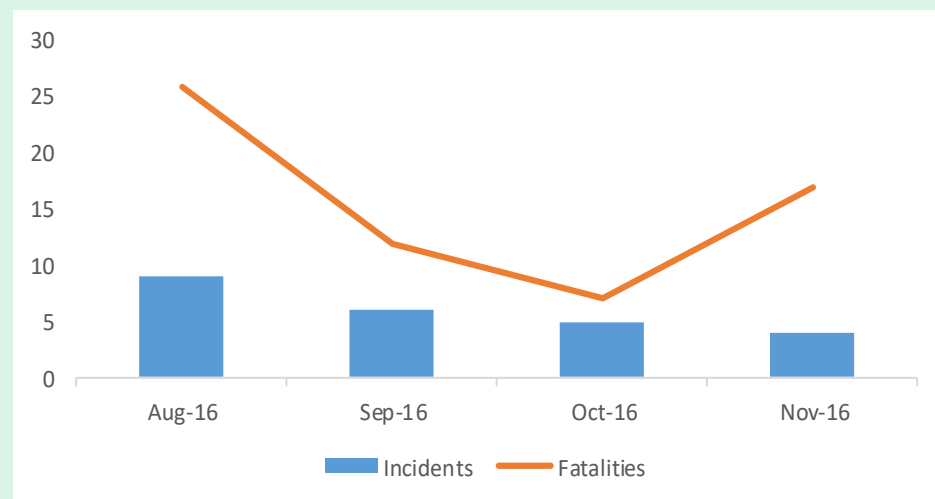
Unuimo. In November, two robbers were reportedly lynched by a mob in Owerri North. The robbers had reportedly snatched a lady's handbag and shot dead a motorcyclist in a bid to escape with the motorcycle. Separately, two robbers were reportedly burnt to death by a youth vigilante group in Ikeduru.

Recent Incidents or Issues, December 2016

Reported incidents in December included cult violence and protests.

Cult Violence: During the month four persons were reportedly killed by cultists in

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State



Reported incidents and fatalities from August-November 2016 in Imo state. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Ohaji/Egbema. The cultists who are reportedly members of 'Ashland' fraternity, attacked many communities during the Christmas period. Separately, a male student of the Imo State University was reportedly shot dead by cultists at a bar in Owerri Municipal.

Other Incidents: A man was reportedly shot dead by a policeman in Owerri Municipal when a dispute over a missing mobile phone escalated. Separately, there was a reported protest by pensioners in Owerri the state capital, over payment of pension arrears.

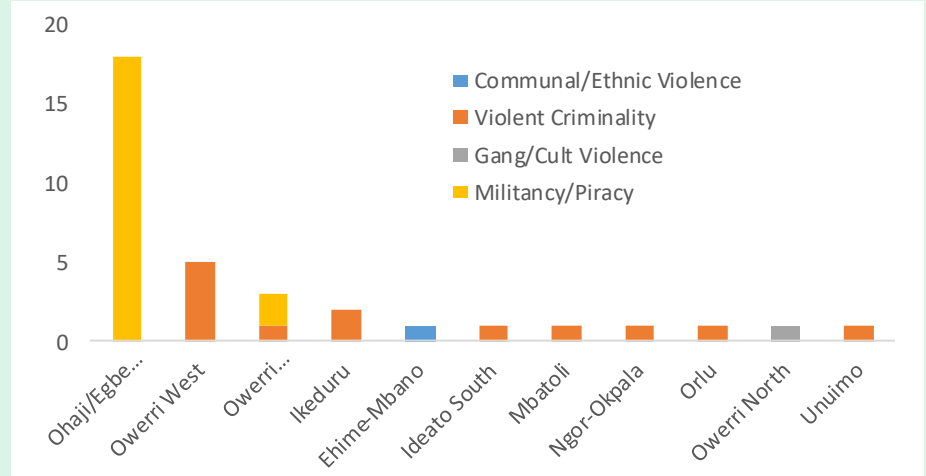
Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence in the state during this period were driven mainly by violent criminality and cult violence. Peace Agents must continue to monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents

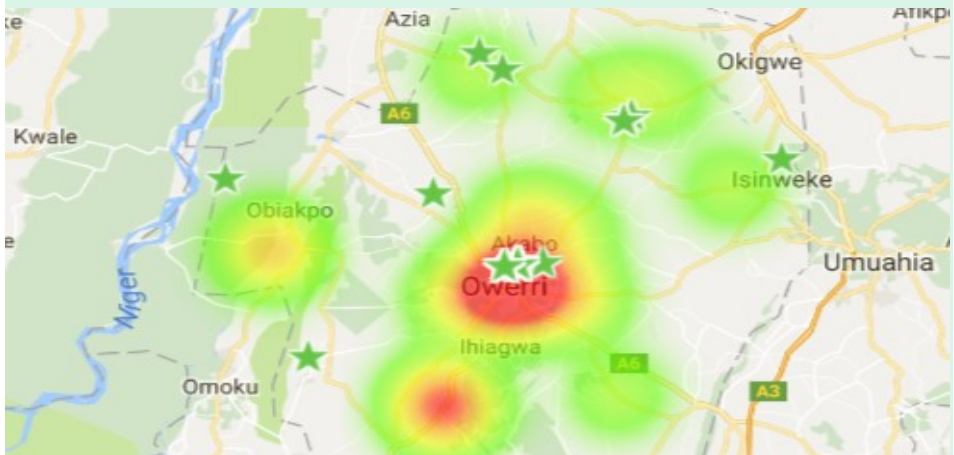
1. Is there anything significant missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a priority for you (as P4P Chapter, Prevent Committee, or other stakeholder)?
3. What are some likely trigger events in the next 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 (September - November 2016)



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Imo State shows that Ohaji/Egbema had the highest level of violence and conflict risk in the state. 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 Imo State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from September–November 2016 in Imo 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



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