

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Rivers 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 (figure 1) incidents reported during the period included cult violence, political tensions, and criminality.

Cult Violence: In September, dozens were reportedly killed in several cult clashes in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni. In October, cultists reportedly killed and beheaded two rival cult members in Khana. Also, four persons were reportedly killed and several houses set ablaze in a reprisal attack by rival cult members in Khana. Separately, a cultist, who had allegedly killed a police officer, was reportedly shot dead by a rival cult group in Port Harcourt. In November, a group of cultists were reportedly caught with two human skulls in Ikwerre.

Violent Criminality: During this period, several kidnappings were reported in Asari-Toru, Andoni, Khana, Port Harcourt, Ikwerre, Emuoha, Obio/Akpor, and Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni. In October, gunmen reportedly attacked the palace of a traditional ruler in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni and killed five persons including a police officer who tried to repel

the attack. In another incident, two pirates were reportedly killed during a gun duel with soldiers in Akuku-Toru. Also, two robbers were reportedly killed in a gun duel with policemen in Obio/Akpor. In November, four personnel of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) were reportedly killed by gunmen in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni. Separately, police reportedly killed three robbers in a gun duel in Port Harcourt.

Political Tensions: In October, gunmen reportedly killed a chieftain of the All Progressives Congress (APC), and three other persons including a young woman in Tai.

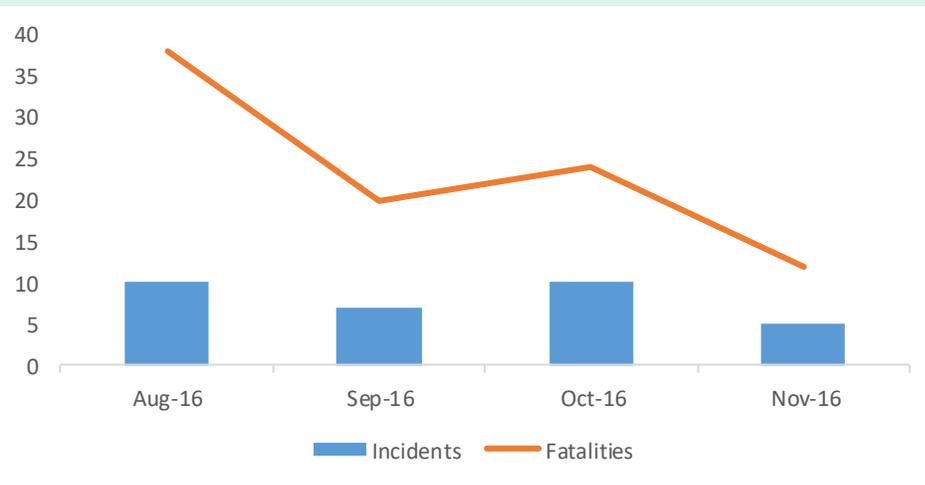
Other: In October, a stray bullet from a shot fired by the army reportedly killed a football player with the Ibadan-based Shooting Stars Sports Club (3SC) in Ahoada West. In November, a female staff of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) was reportedly murdered by her friend in Port Harcourt.

Recent Incidents or Issues, December 2016

Incidents during the month are mainly related to political violence, violent criminality, and communal tensions.

Political Violence: Multiple fatalities were reported in incidents related to the December 10 re-run legislative elections in the state. Five people were reportedly shot in clashes with security personnel during the election in Tai LGA. A Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) was reportedly beheaded in Omoku in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA. A clash was also reported between APC and PDP supporters in Opobo/Nkoro. There were reported protests over irregularities and security forces high handedness during the elections in Ahoada West, Gokana, Tai and Port Harcourt LGAs. In the aftermath of the elections, tensions were elevated between

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Rivers State



Reported incidents and fatalities from August-November 2016 in Rivers State.

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

APC and PDP supporters who accused each other of arms stockpiling and assassination of party members.

Violent Criminality: Gunmen in military camouflage reportedly killed eight people including a personnel of a Joint security Task Force in Omoku in Ohaji/Egbema/Ndoni LGA. Also in Ohaji/Egbema/Ndoni, masked gunmen reportedly killed two persons and abduct another in Omoku.

Communal Tensions: There was reportedly heightened tensions between Wiikemaa and Wiyakara communities in Khana. Wiikemaa women reportedly protested over attacks by militiamen from Wiyakara.

Prognosis

Violent criminality, political and cult violence remain prevalent in the state. The recurrent incidents of lethal violence has the potential to exacerbate the current insecurity in the state, particularly in the aftermath of the December 10, 2016 Re-run elections in the state. Peace Agents should 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)

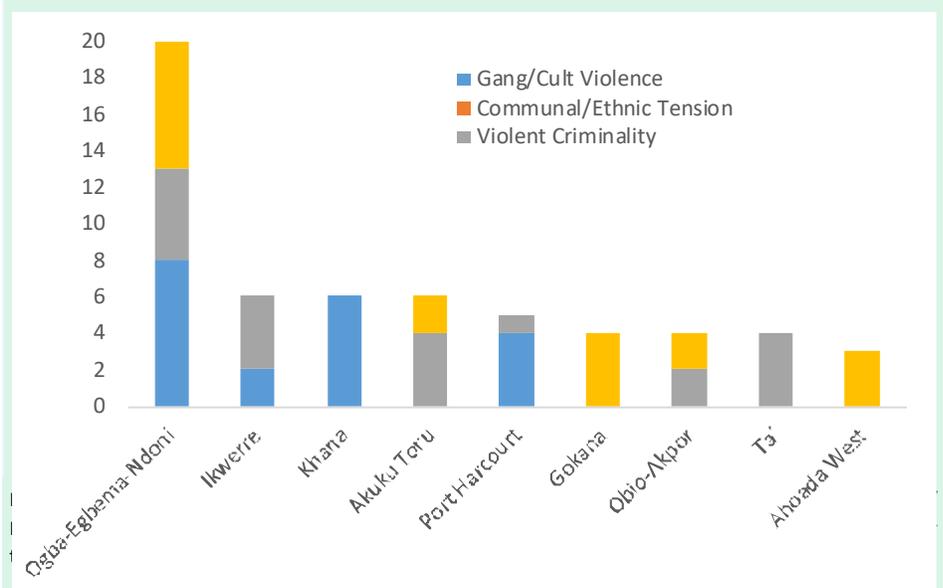
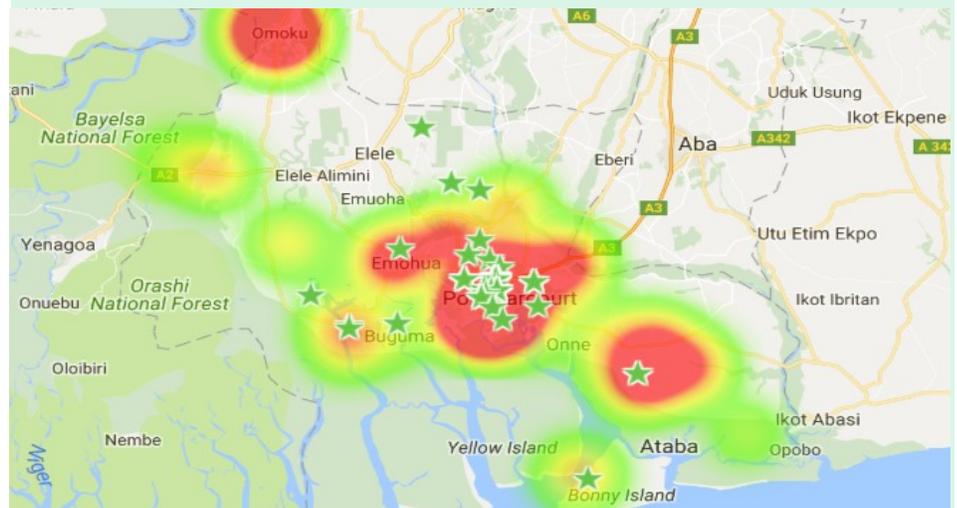


Figure 3: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Rivers State



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