

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Akwa Ibom State: February-March 2017

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

December 2016-

February 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in fatalities in February 2017. Incidents reported during the period included communal tensions, criminality, child trafficking and protests.

Communal Tensions: In December, a reported clash between communities from Itu LGA in Akwa Ibom state and Odukpani LGA in Cross River state resulted in multiple fatalities, kidnappings and burned houses. In January, five people were reportedly killed in a clash over fishing rights between Oku Iboku in Itu LGA, Akwa Ibom and Ikot Offiong community in Cross River. Separately, tension was reportedly elevated following clashes between Northerners and their host community in Uyo. Three people reportedly died from injuries sustained during the clash. In February, 20 people were reportedly killed in renewed clashes over a land dispute between Oku Iboku community in Itu LGA and Ikot Offiong community in Odukpani LGA

of Cross River state. The clash resulted in the closure of a major highway in the state. Separately, a village head and a youth leader were reportedly killed during a disagreement over the distribution of revenue from a community oil palm plantation in Ukanafun LGA.

Criminality: In January, a village head was reportedly shot dead by unknown assailants in his compound in Ukanafun LGA. The gunmen also allegedly killed two others in a neighboring village. The killing was reportedly related to a disagreement between the village head and a youth leader. Separately, kidnappers reportedly abducted a lecturer with the Akwa Ibom State University in Oruk Anam and demanded a 10 million Naira ransom. In February, kidnappers reportedly abducted a Catholic priest in Esien Udim and demanded a 20 million Naira ransom. The priest was said to

have been abducted on his way from a parish school where he teaches. Separately, a lecturer with the Akwa Ibom University was reportedly abducted in Oruk Anam.

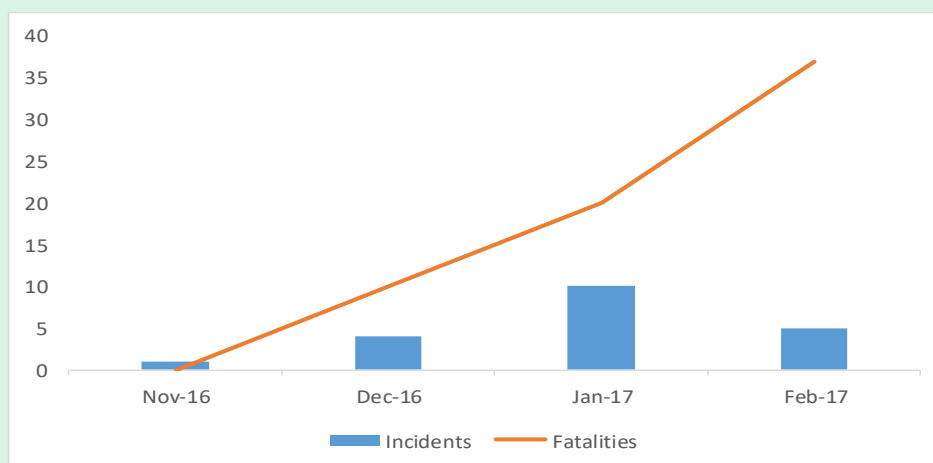
Cult Clash: A February clash involving the Icelanders reportedly killed a PDP youth leader and several others in Etim Ekpo.

Protest: In December, youths in Ibeno LGA protested the termination of contract workers by an oil company. Separately, families of deceased teachers in the state protested over payment of pensions and gratuities in Uyo.

Recent Incidents or Issues, March 2017

The only reported incident of conflict risk and violence in the state during March involved tensions over a road clash in Esien

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Akwa Ibom State



Reported incidents and fatalities from November 2016 - February 2017 in Akwa Ibom State.
Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Udim. A drunk driver reportedly crashed his Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) into a group of children who were standing by the road side. Five of the children died and two others sustained injuries. Residents reportedly apprehended the driver but when they found out that he was drunk they handed him over to the police.

Prognosis

There was a notable rise in lethal violence in the state in February 2017. Conflict risk and violence during this period are mainly related to communal tensions, criminality, and protests. Peace actors 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 (December 2016 - February 2017)

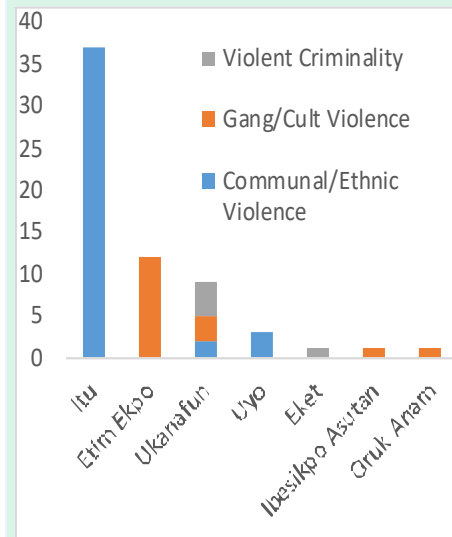
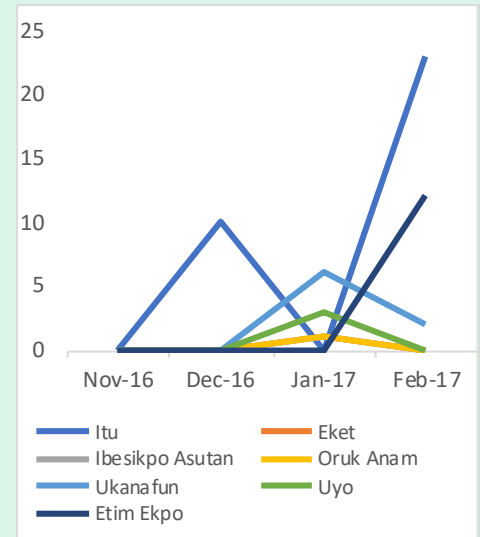
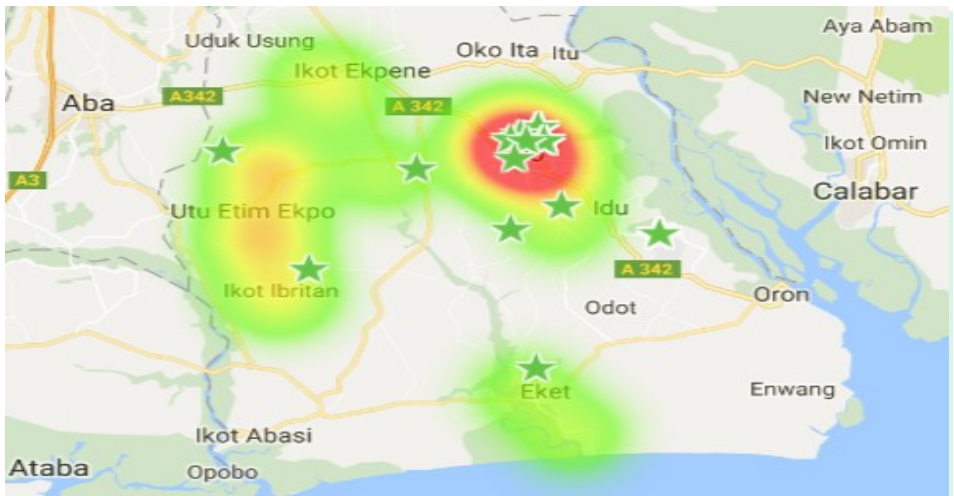


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) shows that Itu had the most reported lethal conflict during this period. Source (Figure 2): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map . Source (Figure 3): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Akwa Ibom State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from December 2016-February 2017 in Akwa Ibom; 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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