

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Imo State: June-July 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

April-June 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), incidents reported during this period included criminality, cult violence, and communal tensions.

Violent Criminality: In April, robbers reportedly killed a man along with his wife and son in their residence in Owerri Municipal. In another incident, four people, including a 30-year old banker, were reportedly shot dead by robbers at an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) point in Okigwe. In Isiala Mbano, a kidnapper was reportedly killed in a shootout with the police during a rescue operation. In May, the police reportedly rescued three kidnap victims and arrested seven suspects in Owerri West LGA. In June, robbers reportedly attacked an aide to a member of the Imo State House of Assembly and made away with the money he withdrew from the bank in Owerri Municipal. The robbers reportedly killed four including a tricycle operator during the attack. Separately, one was reportedly killed by robbers during an

attack on a community in Oru West LGA. In another incident, a robber was reportedly killed by the police in Oru LGA. Also in Oru West, the police arrested a female robber.

Communal Tensions: In May, a young man was reportedly killed by a mob in Ideato South LGA. In reprisal violence, several houses were burned including a community town hall. Separately, there was a reported protest over the selection of a traditional ruler in Ihiagwa community, Owerri West LGA.

Accidental Killings: In April, a security official was reported to have accidentally shot his colleague in Oru West. In May, a passerby was reportedly shot by a policeman in Orlu LGA.

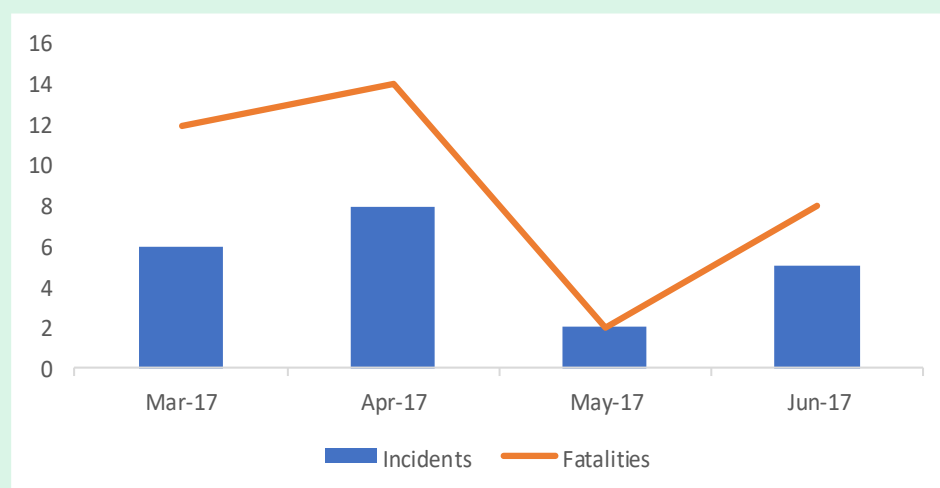
Others: In June, one person was reportedly killed by a cultist in Owerri West LGA. Separately, a murder suspect was reportedly killed by a mob in Ideato South LGA. A member of a street gang was reportedly killed by some youths in Owerri West. In retaliation, a house belonging to the father of one of those allegedly involved in the killing was set ablaze.

Recent Incidents or Issues, July 2017

Reported incidents during the month related mainly to criminality and cult violence.

Criminality: Five robbers and kidnappers were reportedly shot by police in Owerri West LGA. Separately, police also reportedly shot two robbers in Ideato North.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State



Reported incidents and fatalities from March – June 2017 in Imo state. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Gang/Cult Violence: Cultists reportedly attacked a community and destroyed houses belonging to rival cult members in Owerri West. The attack was reportedly a reprisal for the killing of their members by the rival cult group.

Others: A 35-year old man reportedly beheaded a man at a funeral ceremony in Ihitte/Uboma LGA.

Prognosis

Incidents during the period related mainly to communal tensions, criminality, cult violence, and accidental discharges by security forces. 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?
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 (April - June 2017)

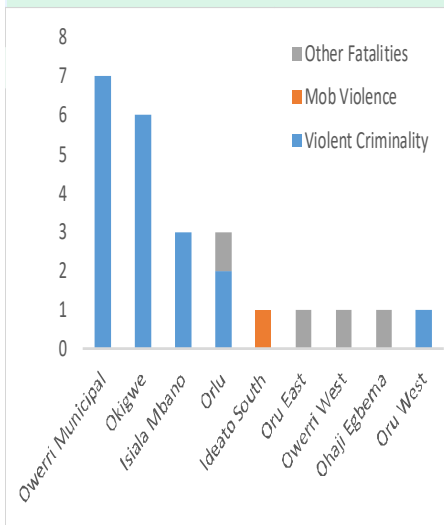
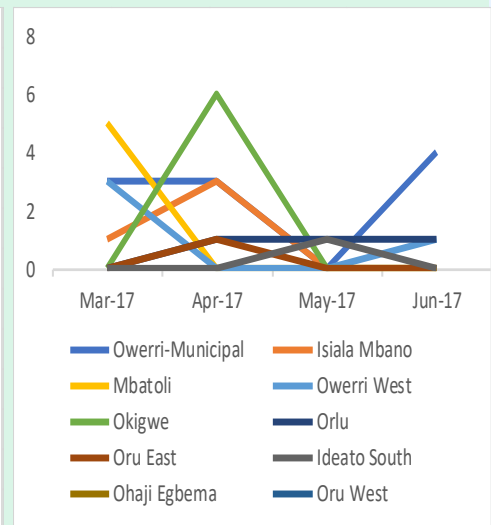
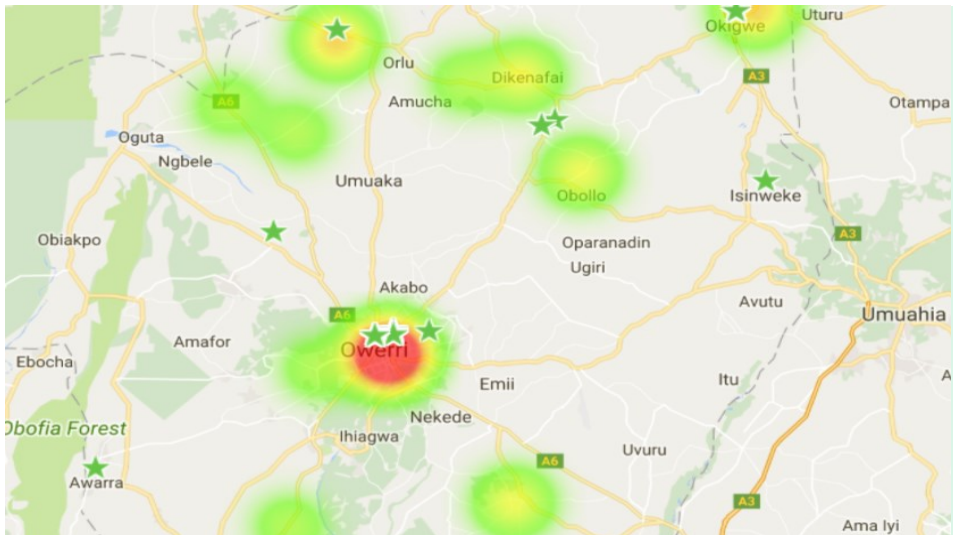


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Imo State shows that Owerri Municipal, followed by Okigwe had the highest level of violent fatalities and conflict risk in the state. 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 Imo State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from April–June 2017 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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