

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: July-August 2017

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 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), reported incidents during the period included criminality, cult violence, and labor strikes/protests.

Violent Criminality: In May, a chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was reportedly killed by gunmen in his residence in Yenagoa. Separately, gunmen reportedly attacked a police station and killed a police officer in Sagbama. In June, a police officer was reportedly killed by gunmen who made away with his rifle in Yenagoa. Separately, a policeman was reportedly shot dead during a kidnap attempt on an official of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Ogbia LGA.

In July, a 20-year old undergraduate of the Nigerian Defense Academy, Kaduna, was reportedly shot dead by street gang members in Yenagoa. The killing of the military cadet led to a protest by residents. Separately, a 20-year old man was reportedly killed in a clash between soldiers and youths suspected to be pipeline vandals in Southern Ijaw. The youths reportedly clashed with the soldiers while they were protesting their alleged exclusion from a

'Petroleum Task Force' set up by the local government council.

Cult Violence: In July, a 24-year old student of a polytechnic in Delta state was reportedly killed during a clash between two rival cult groups in Southern Ijaw LGA.

Labor Strikes/Protests: In May, union members demonstrated against employment practices by a university in Ogbia LGA. Separately, in Yenagoa, the state capital, a group reportedly protested the arrest and detention of a former Special Adviser to erstwhile Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) on allegation of fraud. In June, supporters of an accused bomber reportedly protested in Yenagoa, the state capital, calling for his release.

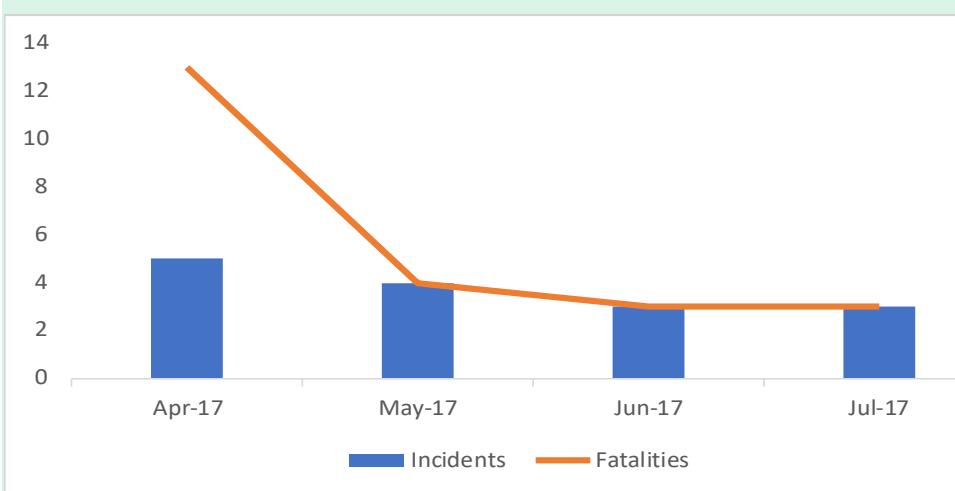
Others: In May, a 34-year old man was reportedly killed by a policeman over cultism in Yenagoa. In June, a journalist who was arrested for allegedly being a militant reportedly died in detention in Yenagoa.

Recent Incidents or Issues, August 2017

Incidents reported during the month included militancy, criminality, and political violence.

Militancy: Militants reportedly killed four soldiers and a civilian in Ekeremor LGA. The militants allegedly ambushed the soldiers along the waterways. Following the incident, the Joint Task Force (JTF) code-named 'Operation Delta Safe' commenced a military operation in the area. The ongoing military operation has elevated tensions among residents.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from April - July 2017 in Bayelsa State.

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

Political Violence: Two persons were reportedly killed during a clash between two factions of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Yenagoa. The clash reportedly occurred during the inauguration of the acting chairman of the Bayelsa state chapter of the APC.

Others: A 33-year old woman was reportedly killed by her husband in Yenagoa. Separately, the home of a former acting governor of Bayelsa state was reportedly attacked by gunmen in Yenagoa. The attackers escaped after the wife of the victim raised the alarm.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to protests, political tension, militancy, cult violence, and other criminal activities. 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 (May - July 2017)

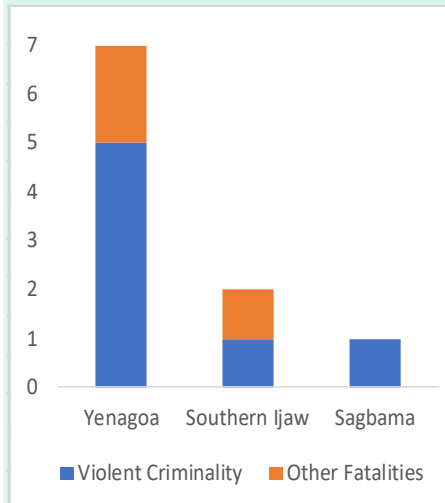
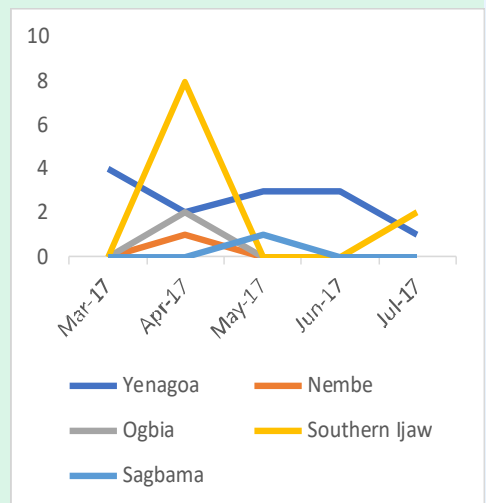
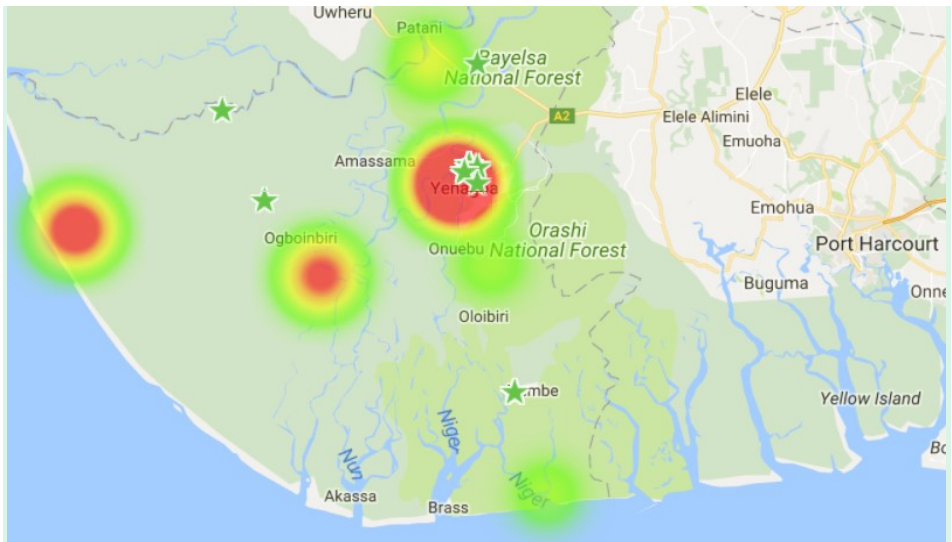


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Yenagoa, followed by Southern Ijaw had the most reported incidents of conflict risk and violence. 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 Bayelsa State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from May-July 2017 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



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