

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: August-September 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

June-August 2017

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

Violent Criminality: 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. In August, the home of a former acting governor of Bayelsa state was reportedly attacked by gunmen in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Militancy: In August, 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.

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.

Political Violence: In August, 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: In June, a journalist who was arrested for allegedly being a militant

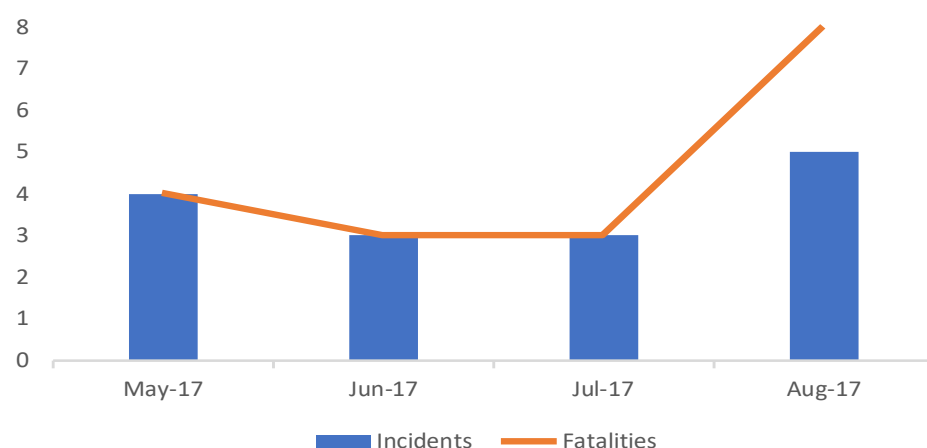
reportedly died in detention in Yenagoa. In August, a 33-year old woman was reportedly killed by her husband in Yenagoa.

Recent Incidents or Issues, September 2017

Incidents reported during the month included criminality, cult violence, and violence affecting women and girls.

Violent Criminality: Pirates reportedly attacked a passenger boat and killed a man and a woman in Brass LGA. Separately, pirates reportedly ambushed a security patrol team and killed a policeman and an operative of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in the waterways of Southern Ijaw. In another incident, gunmen attacked a police security checkpoint and

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from May - August 2017 in Bayelsa State.

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

killed a police sergeant, and made away with weapons in Ogbia. A policeman and a civilian were reportedly injured during the attack.

Cult Violence: The corpses of two young men suspected to have been killed in cult-related attacks were discovered in Yenagoa. The corpses were discovered by the police near a drinking spot.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG): A 47-year old man reportedly impregnated a minor in Yenagoa then killed and buried the baby boy.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to militancy, piracy, 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 (June - August 2017)

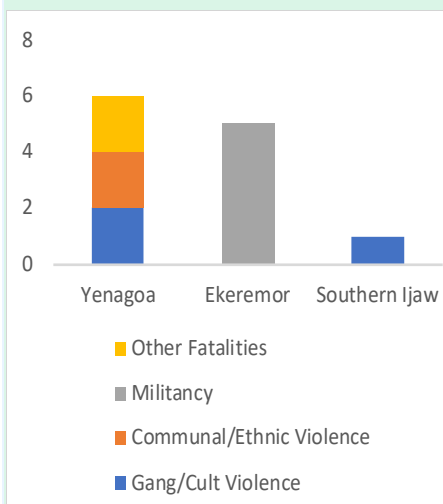
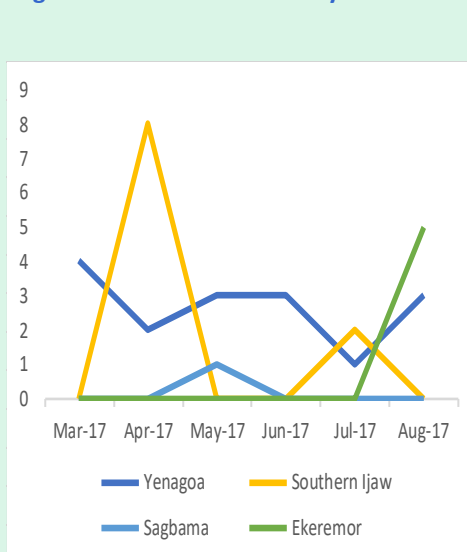
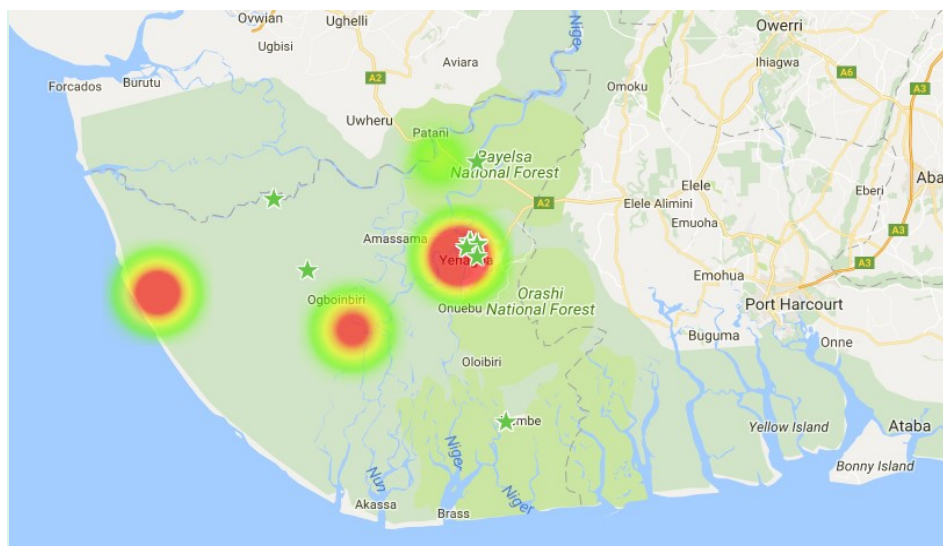


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Yenagoa, followed by Ekeremor 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 June-August 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



Inquiries: Afeno Super Odomovo,
IPDU Research Coordinator

Telephone: 08172401595

Email: afeno@pindfoundation.org