

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Edo State: December 2017-January 2018

### 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 October-December 2017

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was a decrease in violence and conflict fatalities in the state in December 2017. Incidents included criminality, cult violence, communal tensions, and violence affecting women and girls (VAWG).

**Violent Criminality:** In November, several incidents of criminality were reported in Oredo LGA. A man was abducted from a drinking spot and killed by hoodlums. Separately, three robbery suspects were reportedly killed by vigilantes. In another incident, kidnappers abducted an 80-year old retired professor and demanded a 500 million naira ransom. The victim was later found dead in a bush. A lawyer was reportedly kidnapped in Benin City. In December, a 42-year old man was reportedly killed by gunmen during the burial ceremony of his mother in Oredo LGA.

**Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG):** In October, the wife of an abducted musician was killed by kidnappers in Egor LGA. Separately, in Oredo LGA, a 14-year old female secondary school student was reportedly raped by three boys. In

November, the headless body of a young girl was discovered in a suitcase on the road in Oredo. Separately, a female student was reportedly killed by a stray bullet fired by a vigilante invited to provide security during a graduation ceremony at a polytechnic in Esan West LGA.

**Gang/Cult Violence:** In November, several were killed in rival cult clashes in Oredo LGA. A young man was beheaded by rival cultists during a supremacy battle. Separately, a boy was killed and his body dumped on road by members of a rival cult group.

**Communal Tensions:** In November, tension was heightened between ethnic Binis and the Ijaws in Ovia North East LGA over the installation of a paramount ruler by the Ijaw leaders. The Binis contend that the Oba of Benin is the only recognized paramount ruler

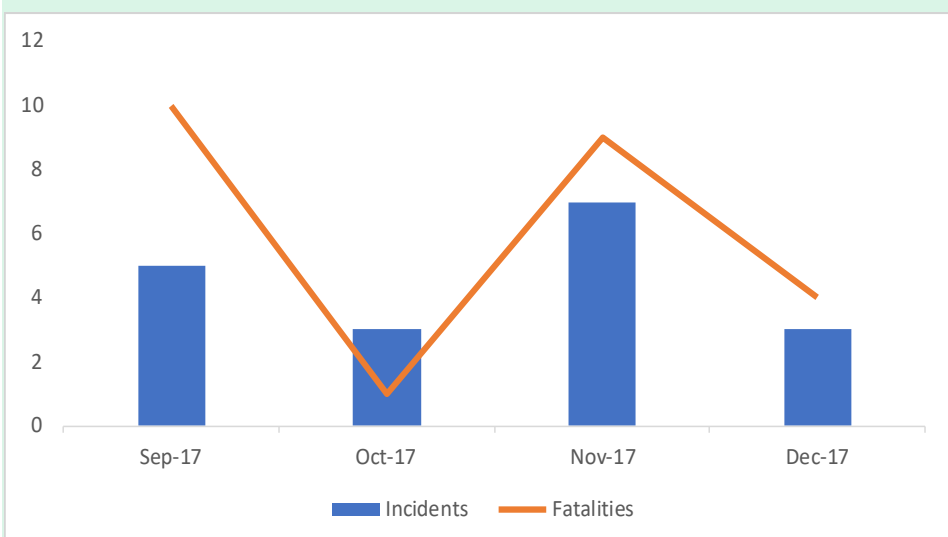
in the area.

### Recent Incidents or Issues, January 2018

Incidents reported during the month mainly related to criminality, communal violence, and cult violence.

**Criminality:** A university lecturer was killed by robbers at his residence in Oredo LGA. One of the robbers was later killed by the police during a shootout. In Ovia North-East, an 87-year old man was kidnapped and killed by his driver who dumped his body in a pit toilet after he had collected two million Naira ransom from the deceased children. In Ikpoba-Okha, two brothers reportedly killed their grandmother for ritualistic purposes. In Oredo, the state capital, a retired female military officer was reportedly killed and set

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Edo State



Reported incidents and fatalities from September– December 2017 in Edo State. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

ablaze in her house by her security guard. In Etsako East, the police reportedly arrested a couple and other for illegally manufacturing Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in their apartment. One of the bombs exploded and killed one of the suspects. In a separate incident, a suspected cultists and kidnapper who allegedly participated in the new year killings in Ogba/Egbema/Ndoni LGA, Rivers state, was reportedly shot dead by the police in Etsako West LGA.

**Communal Violence:** A herdsman reportedly inflicted a fatal injury on a woman at her farm in Akoko-Edo LGA. Separately, a local vigilante arrested nine herdsman allegedly responsible for killings and kidnapping in their community, and hand them over to the police in Akoko-Edo LGA.

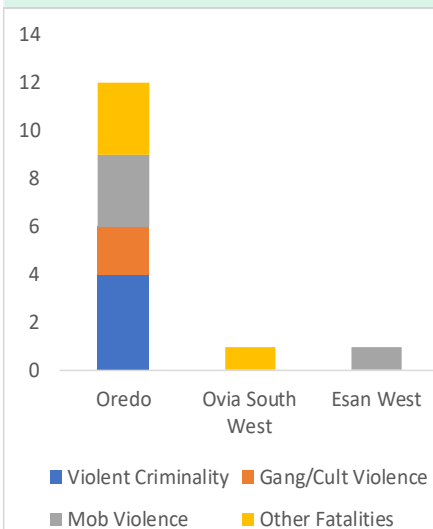
## Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to communal tensions, criminality, and cult violence. Many involved violence affecting women and girls (VAWG). Peace Actors should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

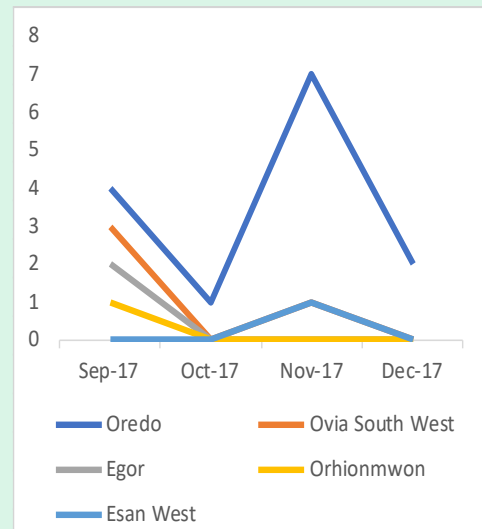
## Questions for Peace Agents

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 top 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 (October - December 2017)**

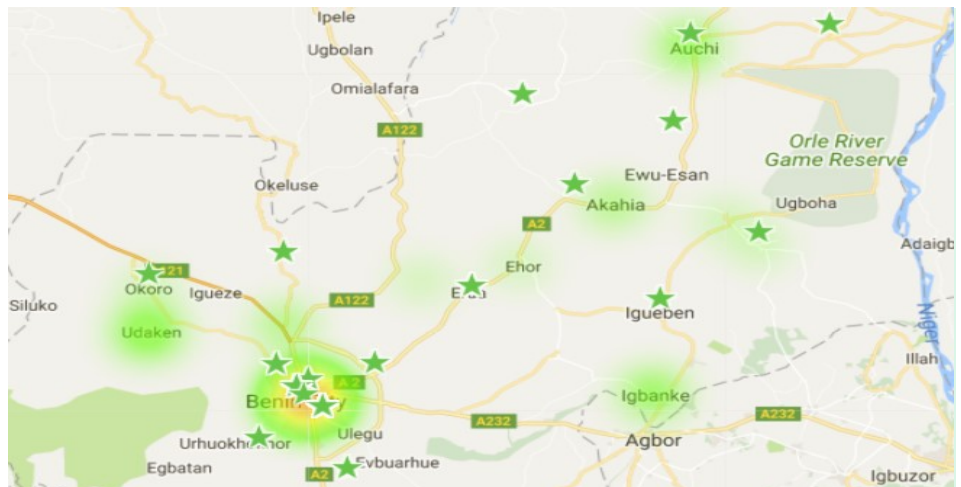


**Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (October - December 2017)**



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Edo State during this period show that Oredo had the most reported conflict fatalities 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](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

**Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Edo State**



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from October-December 2017 in Edo State; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents. Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://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](mailto:afeno@pindfoundation.org)