

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Abia State: January-February 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

#### Nov 2017-Jan 2018

According to Peace Map data, (see Figure 1), reported conflict incidents during this period related mainly to communal violence, child trafficking, protests, and criminality including kidnapping for ransom.

**Criminality:** In November, a cleric was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Aba. The victim was later rescued by soldiers in Obingwa LGA. In a separate incident, a 25-year old male apprentice was reportedly stabbed to death by his 21-year old colleague during a disagreement in Aba North LGA. In December, an ailing 76-year old man was reportedly abducted by kidnappers in Aba South LGA. The police rescued the victim and recovered arms and ammunition from the kidnappers' hideout. The victim later died in the hospital. Also, two of the suspects later died from injuries sustained during a gun battle with the police. In January 2018, hoodlums reportedly attacked and set ablaze a police station in Umuahia South LGA. A police patrol van and a commercial tricycle parked within the station were destroyed during the attack.

Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. In December 2017, for example, kidnappers reportedly killed a woman and stole her vehicle in Osisioma LGA. The victim is believed to have been killed while resisting an attempt by the kidnappers to abduct her.

**Communal Tensions:** In January, communal tension was reportedly elevated in Umuahia North LGA following alleged threats by herdsmen to attack an agrarian community. The herdsmen threatened to attack the community for refusing to allow their cattle to graze on their farm land. The planned attack was averted by the intervention of a team of public security forces.

**Child Trafficking:** In January, a 12-year old girl was reportedly arrested for kidnapping

and trafficking her stepbrothers, aged two and three years in Aba South LGA.

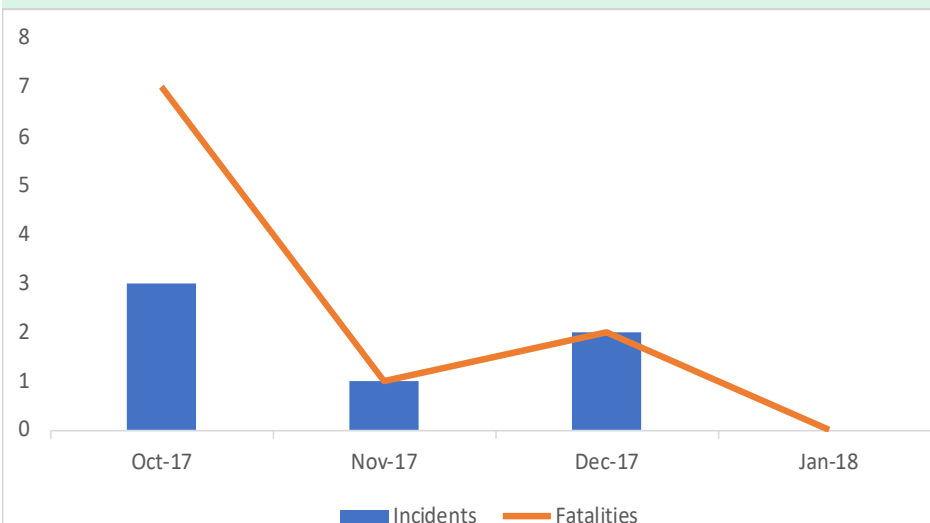
**Protest:** In December, pensioners reportedly protested over non-payment of pensions in Umuahia, the state capital.

### Recent Incidents or Issues, February 2018

Reported incidents during this period related mainly to protests and fire outbreak.

**Protest:** During the month, a group of lawyers protested over the mishandling of one of their female colleagues by the police in Umuahia South LGA. The police allegedly detained and torture a female lawyer who visited a police station to bail a client.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Abia State



Reported incidents and fatalities from October 2017 – January 2018 in Abia State.

Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

**Fire Outbreak:** Fourteen shops and goods worth several millions of Naira were reportedly destroyed by fire at a market in Aba South LGA. Separately, fire destroyed two hostels at a high school in Aba South LGA. The fire consumed property belonging to students, who were on midterm holiday during the incident.

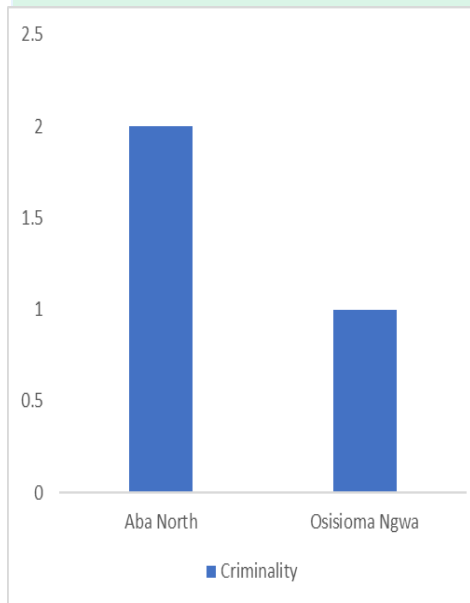
## Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to communal tensions, criminality, child trafficking, and protests. Peace agents must continue to monitor the security situation closely and respond appropriately.

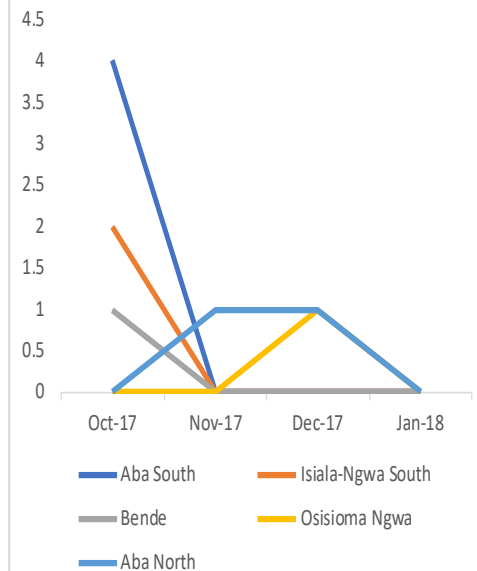
## Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything significant missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue or potential 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 (November 2017 – January 2018)**

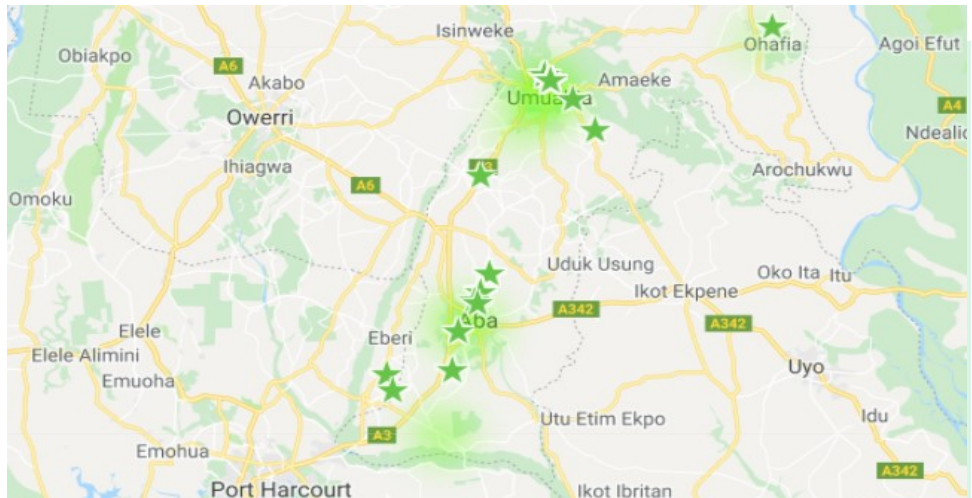


**Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported fatalities show that only Aba North and Osisioma Ngwa had incidents of criminality during the last three months. 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 Abia State**



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from November 2017-January 2018 in Abia 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

### Contact Us



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