

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: January-February 2018

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

Nov 2017-Jan 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), reported incidents during this period included criminality, cult violence, and violence affecting women and girls (VAWG).

Violent Criminality: In December, several incidents of criminality were reported in Yenagoa, the state capital. A former commissioner in the state was killed by gunmen. The chairman of a local chapter of the Maritime Workers Union of Nigeria (MWUN) was killed by pirates. In January, pirates reportedly attacked a police marine base, killed two marine policemen and injured an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) in Ogbia LGA. The pirates made away with two rifles and a speedboat. Separately, an employee of the Nigerian Content Development Monitoring Board (NCDMB) was reportedly kidnapped by gunmen along the waterways in Brass LGA. The kidnappers later demanded a 30-million Naira ransom.

Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. Crime, particularly piracy, affects the safety and livelihoods of women and girls.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls

(VAWG): In November, a 21-year old woman was reportedly killed by her 24-year old husband with a machete in Kolokuma/Opokuma LGA. In December, a female journalist was shot by some youths.

Militancy: In January, four soldiers and 14 militants were reportedly killed during a military operation against militants in Ekeremor LGA. The operation was initiated in reaction to the killing of a soldier by militants in the area. The soldier was killed while negotiating with a prominent militant leader to disarm. The militant leader was arrested during the military operation and later died during a gun battle between soldiers and his gang members.

Cult Violence: In December, a 30-year old man was reportedly shot dead by cultists in Yenagoa. Also in Yenagoa, a policeman was mistakenly killed by his colleague during a gun duel with cultists.

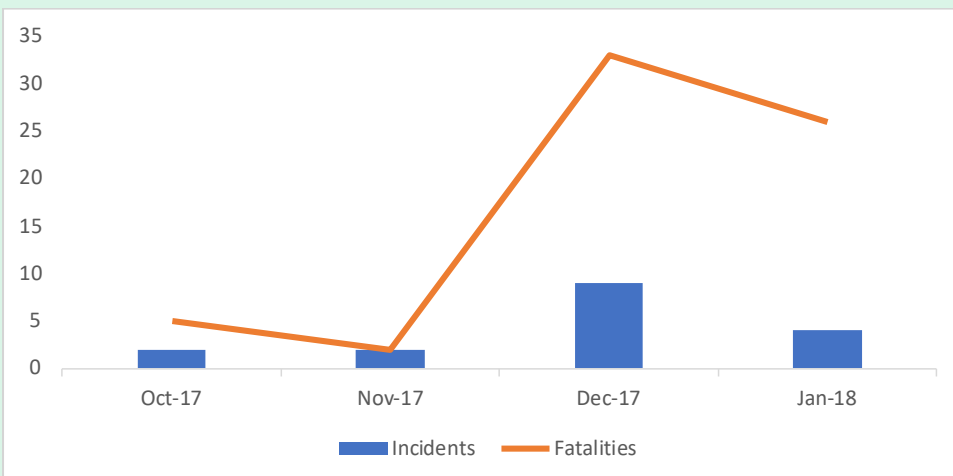
Others: In December, two youths were reportedly killed during a communal clash over the control of oil pipeline surveillance jobs in Southern Ijaw LGA. Separately, 20 were reported killed by fire caused by explosion at a local petroleum refining site in Ogbia LGA.

Recent Incidents or Issues, February 2018

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

Violent Criminality: Two contractors of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) were reportedly abducted by gunmen in Ogbia LGA. The gunmen kidnapped the contractors after a gun duel with soldiers. Separately, an oil pipeline was reportedly vandalized and resulted in a

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from October 2017 - January 2018 in Bayelsa State.

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

spillage in Yenagoa LGA. In another incident, a vigilante was reportedly killed by operatives of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in Yenagoa LGA. The NSCDC operatives arrested a suspected female pipeline vandal in a community. This resulted in a confrontation between the security operatives and a local vigilante group in the community.

Cult Violence: Two youths were reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult groups in Yenagoa LGA.

Communal/Political Tensions: One was reportedly killed and several others injured during a clash among youths in Okpoama community, Brass LGA. The clash is believed to have occurred between youths belonging to two different political parties in the area.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to criminality, cult violence, militancy, and violence affecting women and girls. 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 (November 2017 - January 2018)

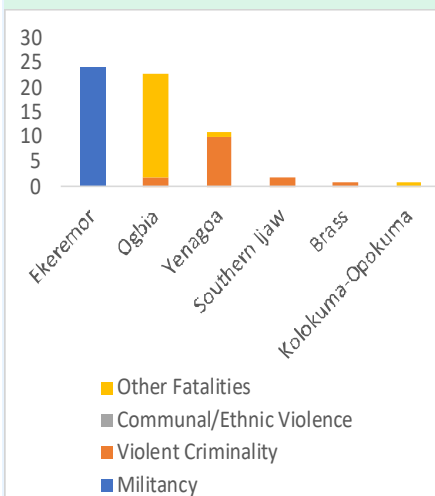
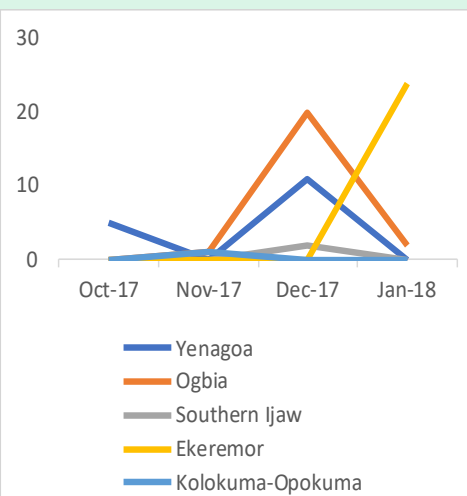
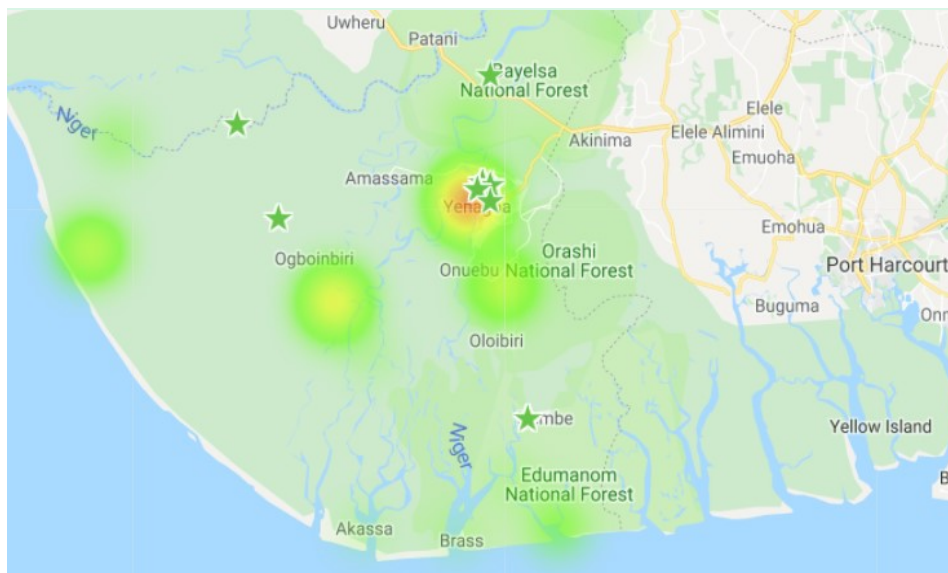


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Ekeremor and Ogbia had the most reported incidents of 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 November 2017-January 2018 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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