

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Cross River 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), there was a decrease in conflict risk and violent fatalities in Cross River in January 2018. Incidents reported during this period included communal violence, criminality, militancy, cult violence, and child trafficking.

Communal Violence: In December, four people, including a policeman, were reportedly killed during a clash between Ojor and Uyangha communities in Akamkpa LGA. Separately, four were reportedly killed during a clash between herdsmen and residents of Mbiabong community in Odukpani LGA. In Ito community, Odukpani LGA, residents reportedly fled their homes after herdsmen arrived in the area with large herds of cattle.

Communal violence was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. In November for instance, there was a protest by women over frequent herder/farmer clashes and the destruction of crops by cattle in Yala LGA.

Violent Criminality: In January, a robber was reportedly killed during a gun battle between members of his gang and the police in Calabar South LGA. Arms, laptops money were recovered from the robbers. There

were also incidents of kidnapping during the month. In Akamkpa LGA, a male medical doctor was kidnapped and later released by gunmen. In Calabar Municipal, a female medical doctor with the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital (UCTH) was abducted. In Itu LGA, a pastor was reportedly kidnapped on the highway. The kidnappers demanded a 50-million Naira ransom.

Criminality was a driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. For example, in November, a woman was kidnapped in Ikom LGA.

Militancy: In December, suspected militants reportedly attacked a community with a gunboat and killed three residents in Calabar South LGA. It was reported that the militants had targeted local oil dealers in the area, but accidentally fired at residential buildings.

Gang/Cult Violence: In January, four people were reportedly killed during a rival cult clash between Bendeghe Mafia and another

local cult group in Boki LGA. A policeman was reportedly injured during a shootout with the cultists. Separately, a man was reportedly shot dead by members of a cult group, known as the King Crackers during a political assembly in Calabar South LGA.

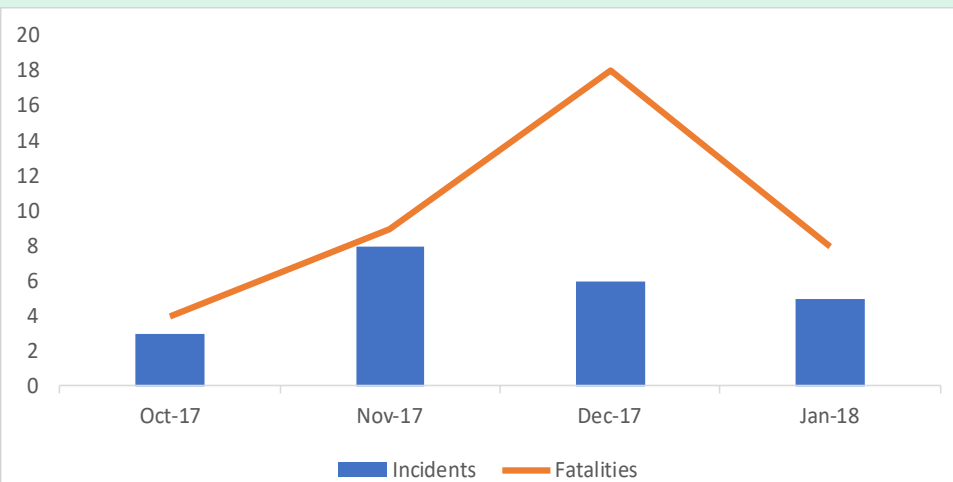
Child Trafficking: In December, a 62-year old woman was reportedly arrested by immigration officials for trafficking a 4-day old baby girl in Calabar Municipal.

Others: In December, a revenue collector was reportedly killed by a stray bullet fired by an operative of the police Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) in Bekwara LGA. Separately, six people including three soldiers were killed in a fire when an oil tanker exploded in Biase LGA.

Recent Incidents or Issues, February 2018

Incidents reported during the month related mainly to criminality, and protest.

Figure 1: Conflict Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State



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

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

Criminality: Three businessmen were reportedly kidnapped at different locations in Calabar South LGA. One of the victims was kidnapped from his residence. Separately, a 62-year old businessman was killed by assassins in his house in Calabar Municipal.

Communal Tensions: A community leader was reportedly killed by the police during a protest by youths in Abi LGA. The youths were protesting the detention of some village chiefs and a youth leader over a missing cattle belonging to some herdsmen in the area.

Others: Cameroonian gendarmes reportedly killed three fishermen and injured two others in a border community in Ikom LGA. The incident happened while the gendarmes were in pursuit of separatists agitating for Ambazonia Republic in Southern Cameroon.

Prognosis

Incidents during the period included communal conflict, cult violence, militancy, child trafficking, and criminality including kidnapping and assassination. Peace Actors in the state 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 a Peace Agent?
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 and long term?

Figure 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (November 2017 - January 2018)

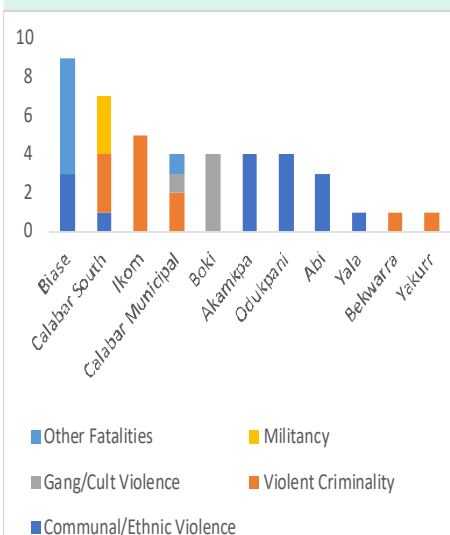
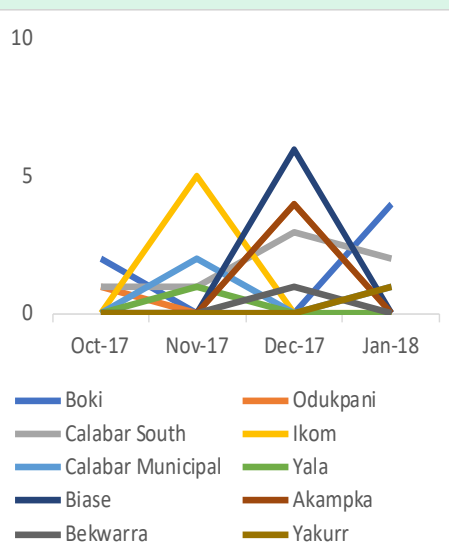
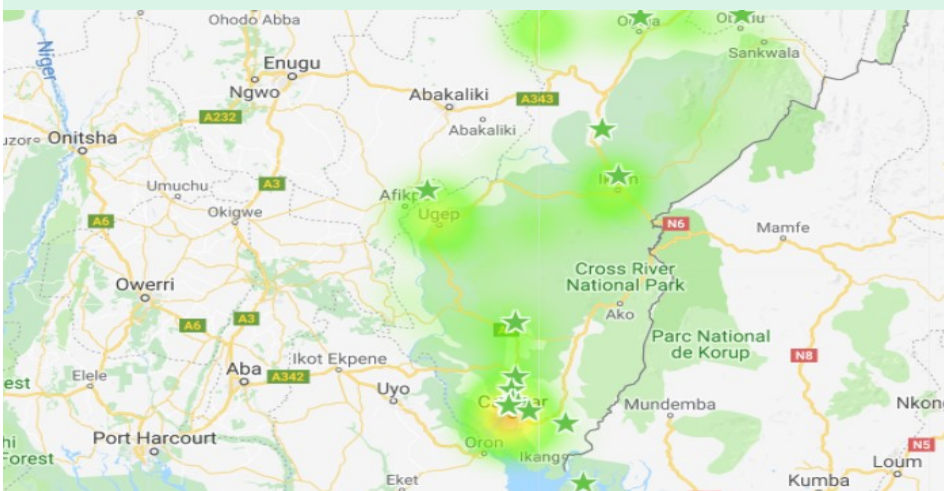


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) show that Biase, followed by Calabar South had the most reported lethal conflict incidents during this period. 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 Cross River State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from November 2017-January 2018 in Cross River; 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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