

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Cross River State: March-April 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 January-March 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in lethal violence in Cross River in March 2018. Incidents reported during this period included communal violence, criminality, cult violence, and child trafficking.

Communal Violence: In February, 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. In March, eight people were reportedly killed during a clash over a land dispute between Okwabang and Beebo communities in Boki LGA. Separately, over two thousand economic trees including palm trees and raffia palms were reportedly destroyed following renewed tensions over land dispute between Etap Ayip, Kasuk Qua Clan II and Ikot Ansa communities in Calabar Municipal LGA.

Violent Criminality: In January, several incidents of kidnapping were reported in the state. In Akamkpa LGA, a male medical doctor was kidnapped and later released by gunmen. In Itu LGA, a pastor was reportedly kidnapped on the highway. In February,

three businessmen were reportedly kidnapped at different locations in Calabar South LGA. Separately, a 62-year old businessman was killed by assassins in his house in Calabar Municipal. In March, a woman reportedly killed a man who was fighting with her husband in Yala LGA. The woman hit the deceased with a stick during a fight with her husband.

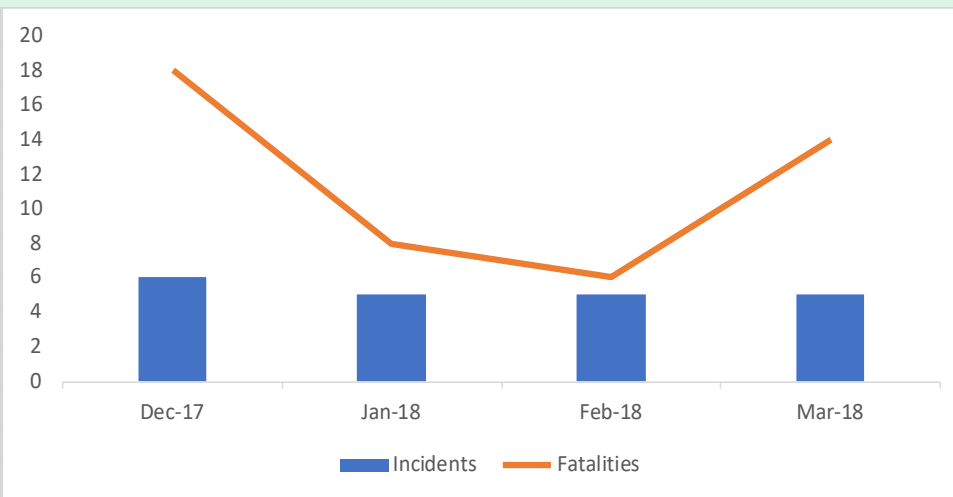
Criminality was a driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. In January, for instance, a female medical doctor with the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital (UCTH) was abducted in Calabar Municipal. Separately, in January, a female medical doctor was kidnapped in Akamkpa LGA.

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. 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. In March, three people were reportedly killed during a clash between the KKK and Vikings cult groups in Calabar Municipal. The clash was part of an ongoing supremacy battle between rival cult groups on the campus of the University of Calabar.

Others: In February, 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. In March, there was a protest by women over the raping of their colleague by a 5-man gang of robbers in Ikom LGA. In a separate incident, nine people including a 10-year old boy suffered severe burns following explosions caused by adulterated kerosene at different locations in Calabar Municipal.

Figure 1: Conflict Incidents and Fatalities, Cross River State



Reported incidents and fatalities from December 2017 – March 2018 in Cross River State.
Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Recent Incidents or Issues, April 2018

Incidents reported during the month related mainly to sexual violence and criminality.

Sexual Violence: A 48-year old pastor reportedly raped his 12-year old housemaid in Calabar Municipal LGA. Separately, a 25-year old man was reportedly arrested for defiling a 9-year old girl in Calabar Municipal. The suspect dragged the victim into his room and raped her.

Criminality: A female drug peddler was reportedly killed by her gang members for betraying them in Calabar South LGA. She was reportedly killed because she failed to remit to her boss money realized from the sale of drugs, and later disclosed the hideout of her gang members to the police. Separately, three robbers who specialize in stealing motorcycles were reportedly burned to death by a mob in Bekwarra LGA.

Prognosis

Incidents during the period included communal conflict, cult violence, 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 (January - March 2018)

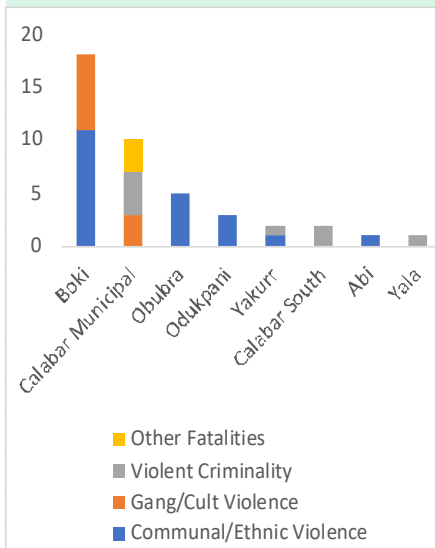
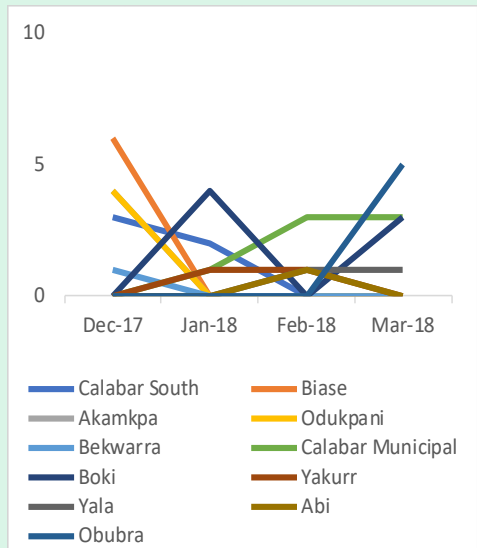
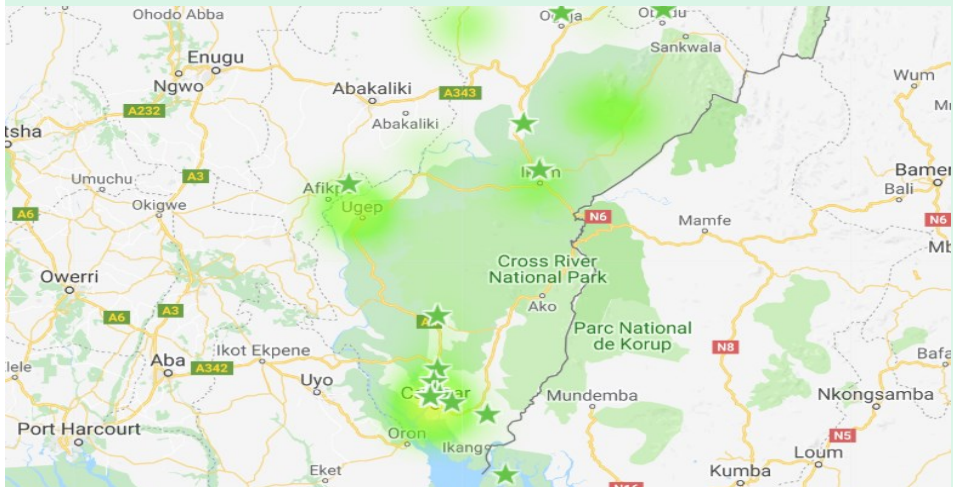


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) show that Boki, followed by Calabar Municipal had the most reported lethal conflict incidents during this period. Sources (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 January - March 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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