

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Imo State: November-December 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 September-November 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 2), Imo was one of the least violent states in the Niger Delta during the period. Incidents reported in the state during this period included criminality, political violence and protests.

Violent Criminality: In September, a Catholic priest was reportedly killed by robbers in Orlu LGA. Separately, a police sergeant was reportedly killed by gunmen in Owerri Municipal LGA. The robbers made away with an AK-47 riffle belonging to the police officer. A passer-by was also hit by a stray bullet fired by the hoodlums. In another incident, two men were reportedly arrested by the police for allegedly stealing a corpse from the mortuary and demanding a 5-million naira ransom in Ikeduru LGA. In October, a 28-year old architect was reportedly shot dead by robbers who made away with his Sports Utility Vehicle (SUV) in Abba community, Nwangele LGA. Separately, the police reportedly killed two kidnappers during an operation to rescue a kidnap victim in Aboh-Mbaise LGA. In November, a

young man was reportedly electrocuted while attempting to vandalize an electricity transformer in Owerri municipal LGA.

Kidnapping: In October, the police reportedly arrested a woman who attempted kidnapping a primary school pupil in Orji, Owerri North LGA. The suspect allegedly took the victim from his school and changed him into a mufti on the pretense of taking him to the hospital. She was accosted by a teacher.

Political Violence: In October, a 28-year old male aide to the chairman of Isiala Mbano LGA was reportedly killed by political thugs after the governorship primary election of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Amaraku community, Isiala Mbano LGA. Separately, one person was reportedly killed and three buses burned during a primary

election of the APC in Amike and Mbieri communities, Mbaitoli LGA. In November, a chieftain of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was reportedly killed by assassins in Egwedu-atta, Njaba LGA. The body of the deceased was found in a bush.

Protest: In November, there was a protest by policemen over alleged eviction from housing units in Owerri Municipal LGA. The policemen barricaded roads, set bonfires and shot sporadically during the protest.

Recent Incidents, December 2018

Incidents during the month related mainly to criminality and protest.

Criminality: During the month, a retired Deputy Commissioner of Police and his wife were reportedly killed by unknown gunmen

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Imo State

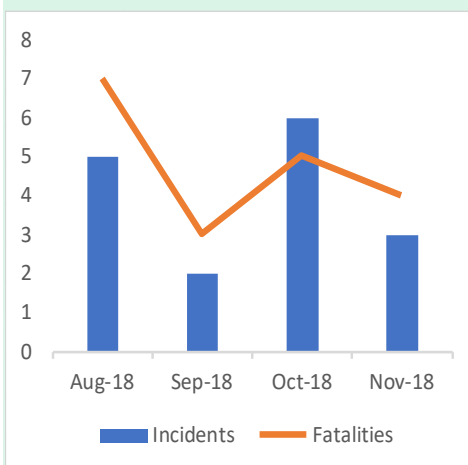
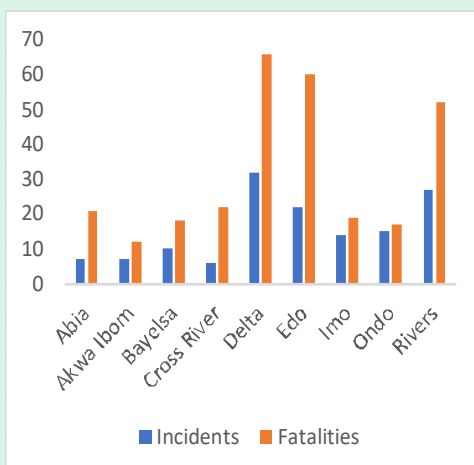


Figure 2: Incidents and Fatalities, Niger Delta (Aug - Nov 2018)



Reported incidents and fatalities from August – November 2018 in Imo state and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

in his home in Umuoke community, Obowo LGA. The killing caused apprehension among residents who fear for their safety in the area. Separately, operatives of the Federal Special Anti-Robbery Squad (F-SARS) reportedly arrested a kidnap kingpin who abducted a lawyer in Owerri Municipal LGA.

Protest: There was a protest by a community over alleged neglect by oil companies in Ohaji/Egbema LGA. The protesters stated that they can no longer endure the negative impacts of the activities of oil companies in the area. Separately, lawyers in the state reportedly boycotted court sittings in protest over the assassination of a magistrate in Oru West LGA. The protesters called on the relevant security and law enforcement agencies to investigate the killing and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Prognosis

Incidents during the period related mainly to political violence, protest, and criminality including kidnapping. Peace Agents must continue to 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?
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 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (September - November 2018)

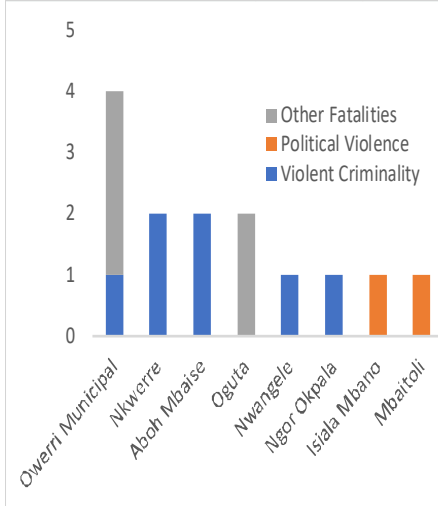
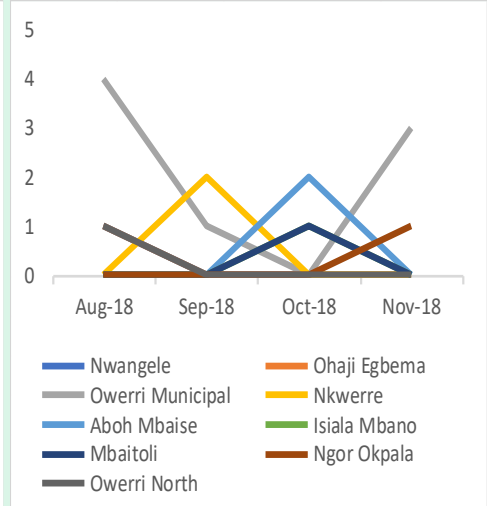
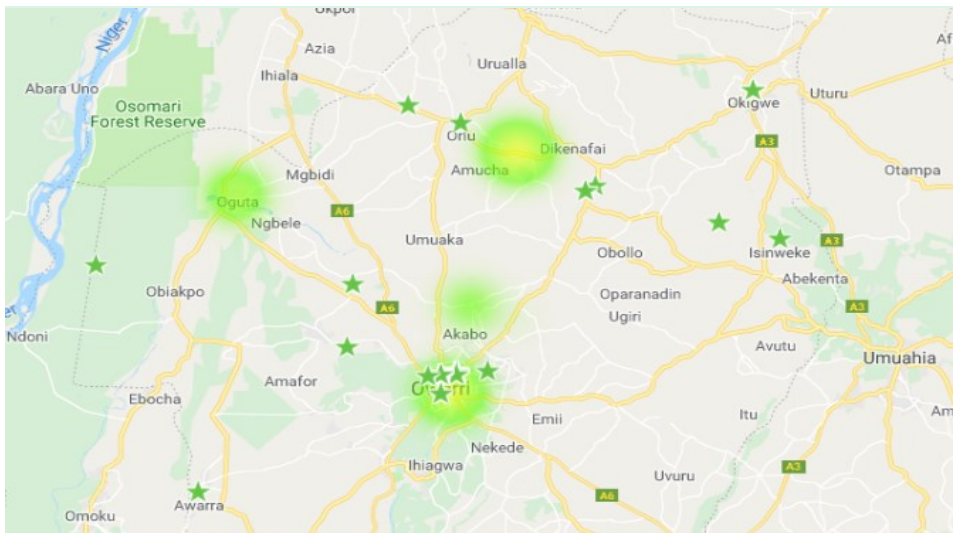


Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (September - November 2018)



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Imo State shows that Owerri Municipal had the highest level of violent fatalities and conflict risk in the state during the period. Sources (Figure 3): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 4): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 5: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Imo State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from September – November 2018 in Imo State, 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



Inquiries: Afeno Super Odomovo, IPDU Research Coordinator

Telephone: 08172401595

Email: afeno@pindfoundation.org