

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Akwa Ibom State: March-April 2019

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 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there has been an increase in lethal violence in Akwa Ibom state since January 2019. Reported incidents during this period included political and election violence, criminality, and cult violence. Based on reported fatalities (see Figure 2), Akwa Ibom was one of the least violent states in the Niger Delta during the period.

Election/Political Violence: In January, political tension was reportedly elevated in Uyo, the state capital, following an alleged plan by some federal agencies to frame up key leaders of a major political party in order to arrest and detain them ahead of the general elections in the state. In March, a hoodlum was reportedly shot dead by soldiers during elections in Ikot Udo Ossiom village, Ukanafun LGA. The hoodlum was killed while trying to steal a ballot box from a voting center.

Hoarding of Voters' Cards: In January, in the run-up to the February 2019 elections, operatives of the Nigerian Navy reportedly

caught a man with 145 Permanent Voters' Cards (PVCs) and 27 Temporary Voters' Cards in Eastern Obolo LGA. A locally made pistol was also recovered from the suspect. Separately, security operatives reportedly arrested a man with 244 Permanent Voters' Cards in Mbo LGA.

Cult Violence: In January, two people were reportedly killed during a clash between members of the Black Axe and Deybam cult groups in Eket LGA. In March, five people were also reportedly killed during a clash between members of the Vikings and Iceland confraternities in Urua Ekpa community, Uyo LGA.

Violent Criminality: In March, a 45-year old member of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) was reportedly

killed by four policemen during a disagreement at Itam motor park in Uyo, the state capital. Separately, a soldier was reportedly killed by another soldier during a disagreement at a beach in Ikot Abasi LGA.

Recent Incidents or Issues, April 2019

Incidents during this period mainly related to criminality, cult violence, and domestic violence.

Criminality: During the month, an expatriate working with a construction company was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Uruan LGA. The kidnappers also killed a security operative attached to the expatriate.

Figure 1: Incidents & Fatalities, Akwa Ibom State

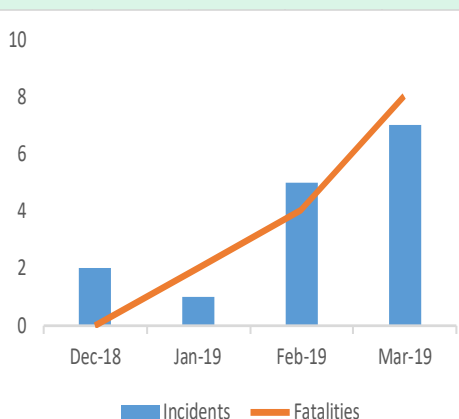
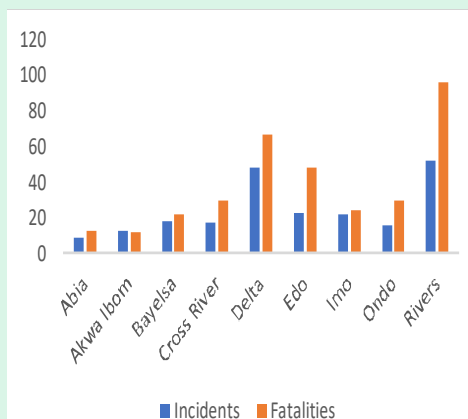


Figure 2: Incidents & Fatalities, Niger Delta (Dec 2018 - Mar 2019)



Reported incidents and fatalities from December 2018–March 2019 in Akwa Ibom State and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Cult Violence: Four students were reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult groups at a university in Uyo, the state capital.

Domestic Violence: A male pastor was reportedly killed by his younger brother during a disagreement over a domestic issue in Uyo, the state capital.

Other Fatalities: During the month, it was reported that 14 people have been killed by water borne diseases in Okoro-Utip community, Ibeno LGA. The outbreak of the diseases was reportedly caused by the activities of some oil companies operating in the area.

Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence during this period related mainly to criminality, cult violence, political and election violence. Peace actors should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything 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 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (January - March 2019)

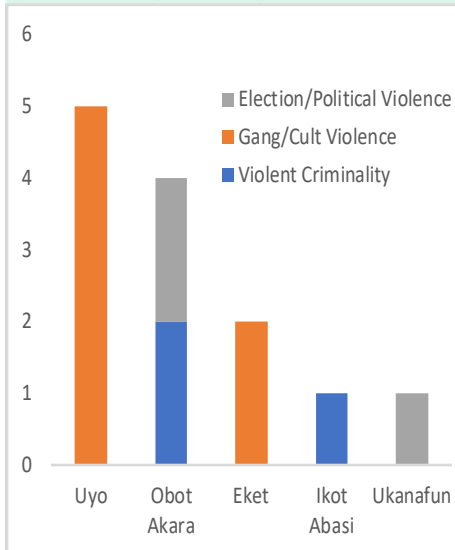
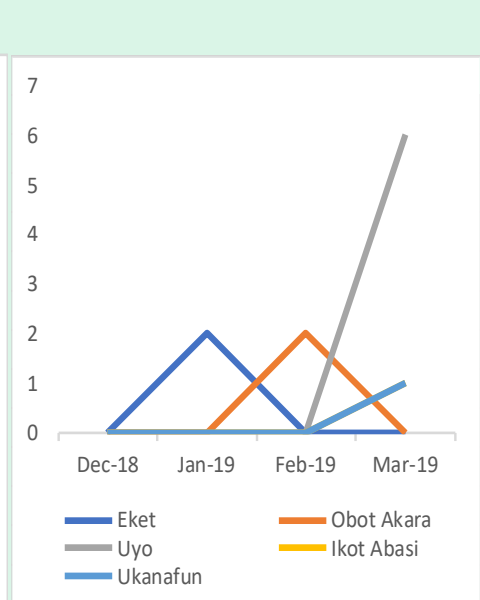


Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) shows that Uyo, followed by Obot Akara, had the most reported lethal conflict during this 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 Akwa Ibom State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from January - March 2019 in Akwa Ibom; 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