

# Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

## Bayelsa State: April-May 2019

### 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 February-April 2019

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), there was an increase in conflict risk and lethal violence in Bayelsa state in April 2019. Incidents reported during this period included political violence, criminality, mob violence, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG).

**Political Violence:** In February, a ward chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and the Bayelsa state government house photographer were reportedly killed by gunmen suspected to be political thugs in Oweikorogha, Southern Ijaw LGA.

**Violent Criminality:** In March, two male members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) were reportedly killed by gunmen in Swali community, Yenagoa LGA. Separately, gunmen reportedly killed two policemen guarding a hotel and made away with their rifles in Yenagoa LGA. In another incident, two robbers were reportedly arrested by the police in Biogbolo community, Yenagoa LGA. In April, the father of a chieftain of the Peoples Democratic

Party (PDP) was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Sagbama LGA. Separately, a member of a robbery gang was reportedly killed by one of his colleagues during a disagreement over the sharing of loot in Yenagoa LGA.

**Mob Violence:** In March, a mob reportedly killed and burned a suspected cultist in Akenpai community, Yenagoa LGA. The suspect was caught while trying to dismember the corpse of a young woman he had killed for ritualistic purposes. In April, a mob reportedly killed two robbers who attempted stealing a child in Edepie community, Yenagoa LGA. Separately, two robbers were killed by a mob in Biogbolo community, Yenagoa LGA.

**Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG):** In addition to the impact of criminality on women and girls listed above,

killing of women for ritualistic purposes was also reported in the state during this period. In April, for instance, a man reportedly shot dead his girlfriend during a disagreement over a domestic issue in Oluasiri community, Nembe LGA.

### Recent Incidents or Issues, May 2019

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

**Cult Violence:** During the month, a male cultist was reportedly killed during a clash between members of two rival cult groups in Akaba community, Yenagoa LGA. Separately, some persons reportedly sustained injuries during a clash between members of the Bargas and Greenlanders cult groups in Twon community, Brass LGA.

Figure 1: Incidents & Fatalities, Bayelsa State

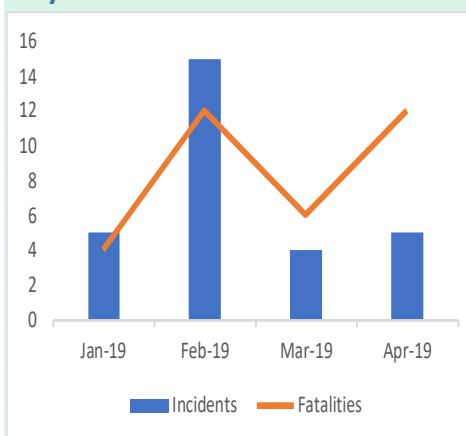
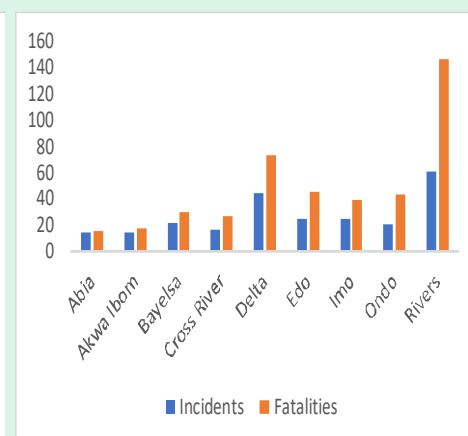


Figure 2: Incidents & Fatalities, Niger Delta (January - April 2019)



Reported incidents and fatalities from January—April 2019 in Bayelsa State and regional trends. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

**Criminality:** The wife of a staff member of the Niger Delta University (NDU) was reportedly kidnapped by gunmen in Gbarantoru community, Yenagoa LGA. The kidnappers reportedly arrived in a speedboat and invaded the residence of the victim through a river. They abducted the woman when they could not find her husband who was their target. Separately, a 40-year old man reportedly drugged and raped a young boy in Oruma community, Ogbia LGA.

**Protest:** There was a protest against an oil company over issues relating to employment for the locals in Nembe LGA.

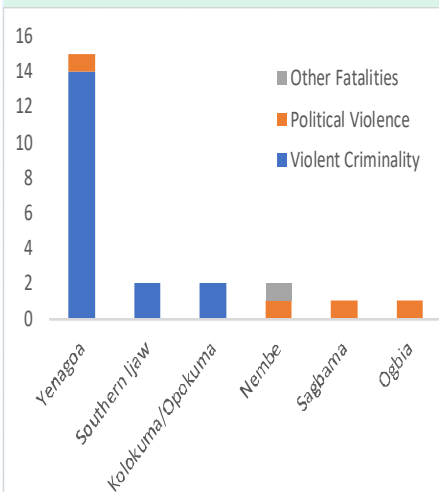
## Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence in Bayelsa state during this period related mainly to criminality, political violence, cult violence, mob violence, protest, and Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). Peace Agents should monitor the security situation closely and respond appropriately.

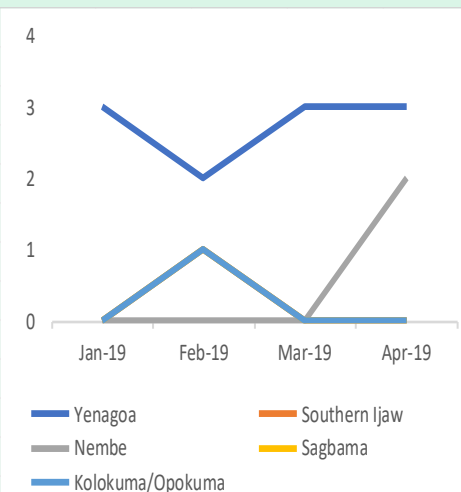
## Questions for Peace Agents

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 (February - April 2019)**

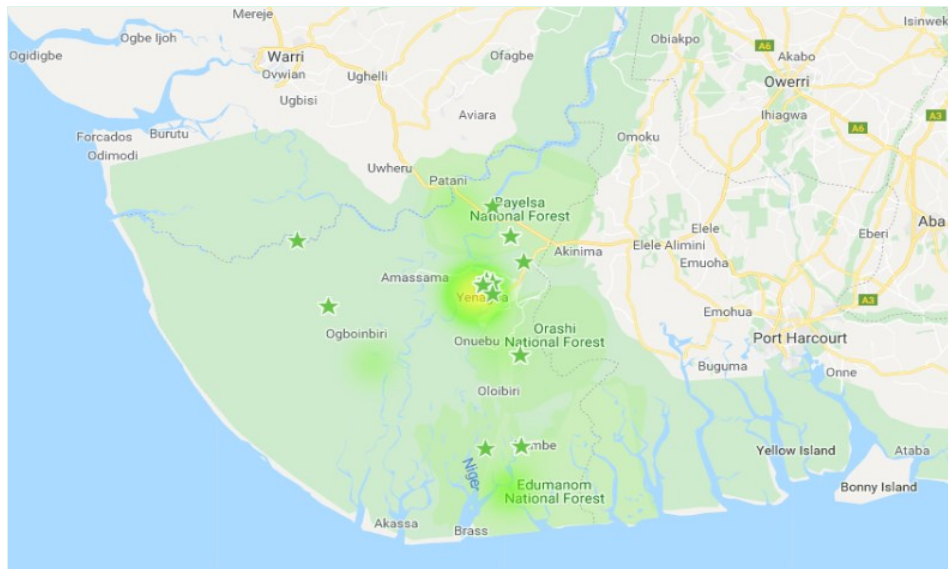


**Figure 4: Conflict Fatalities by LGA**



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State this period show that Yenagoa had the highest levels of lethal violence. 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](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

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



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from February - April 2019 in Bayelsa; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents. Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://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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