

Monthly Conflict Incident Tracker

Bayelsa - January 2016

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 Oct-Dec 2015

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), violence increased steadily from October to November, in the lead up to the Gubernatorial elections on December 5th, with targeted violence and clashes between supporters of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and All Progressives Congress (APC). Incidents included the kidnapping and later killing of a close relative of the APC gubernatorial candidate in Yenagoa, the murder of a political party chieftain in Ekeremor, and the killing of a deputy ward chairman in Kolokuma/Opokuma. The Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) suspended voting in Southern Ijaw due to violence.

Separately, in November, dozens of pro-Biafran protestors were arrested in Yenagoa

when demonstrations sprung up across the region.

Recent Incidents or Issues, January 2016

New polls were held in Southern Ijaw on January 9, 2016 along with some polling units in Brass, Ekeremor, Nembe, Sagbama, Yenagoa and Ogbia. Political violence thus continued into January, especially in Ekeremor and Southern Ijaw.

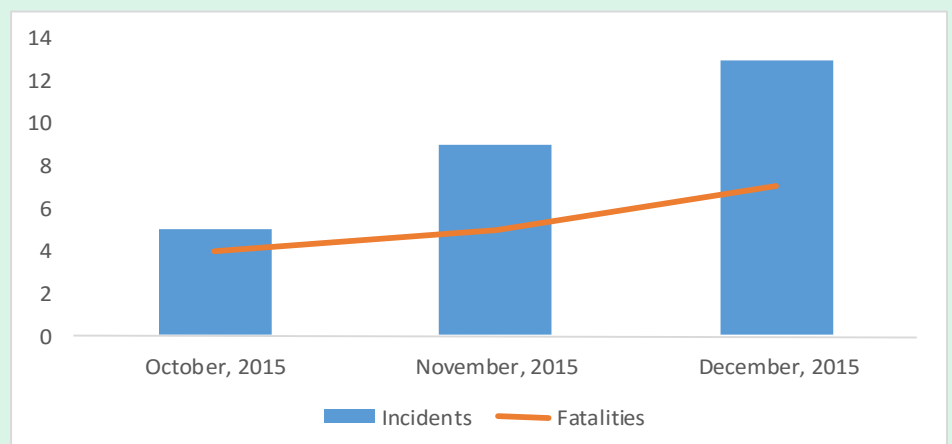
Other January incidents included vandalism of energy infrastructure and kidnapping in Brass and Kolokuma/Opokuma by militants

between January 14 and 29, continuing the upward trend in violence.

Prognosis

With the re-election of the PDP's Seriake Dickson announced on January 10th, tensions between supporters of the two parties are unlikely to dissipate quickly. Wider insecurity is also driven by piracy and kidnapping, which has risen in Brass and Kolokuma/Opokuma, as well as clashes between ex-militants and government security forces.

Figure 1: Bayelsa State Incidents and Fatalities



Reported incidents and fatalities from October-December 2015 in Bayelsa State. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is there anything significant missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?

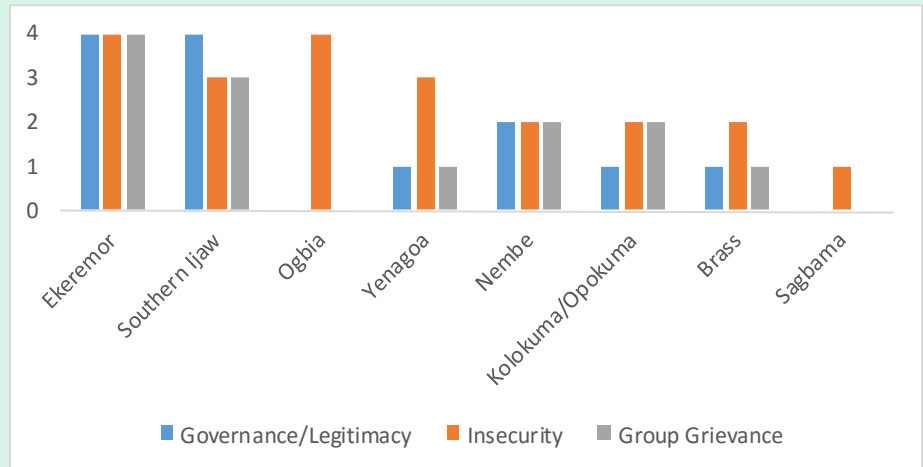
2. Which conflict issue or potential conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a top priority for you (as P4P Chapter, Prevent Committee, or other stakeholder)?

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?

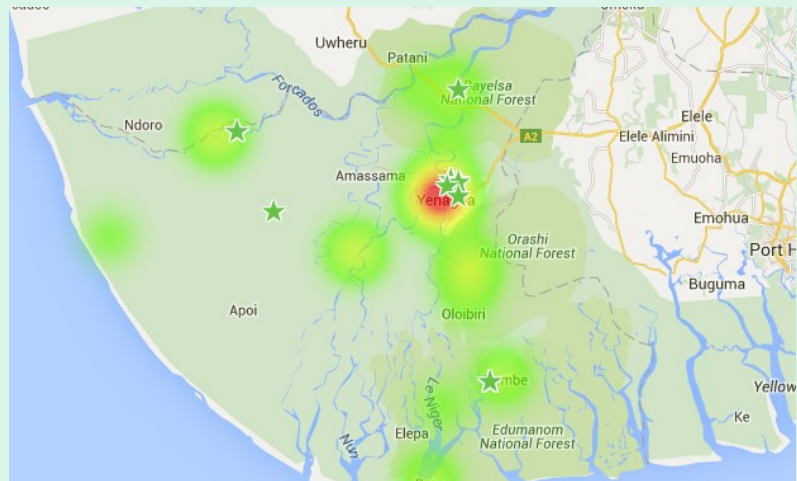
5. What will you do to help mitigate the conflict in the short, medium, and long term?

Figure 2: Trends in Conflict by LGA (Oct-Dec)



Reports by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State shows Ekeremor had the most incidents, followed by Southern Ijaw and Ogbia reflecting trends in heightened election violence. Source: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 3: Heatmap of Incidents and Peace Agents in Bayelsa State



Heatmap showing concentration of incidents reported in Bayelsa; with green stars representing the registered Peace Agents.

Source: All data sources formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Contact Us



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