

# Monthly Conflict Incident Tracker

## Bayelsa State - February 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 Nov 2015-Jan 2016

Although violence has been gradually decreasing since 2009, according to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), incidents of conflict increased from November, in the build-up to the December 5th Gubernatorial elections which was characterized by tension and violent clashes between supporters of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and All Progressive Congress (APC).

In January 2016, there was a significant rise in fatalities following supplementary elections in Southern Ijaw, along with some polling units in Brass, Ekeremor, Nembe, Sagbama, Yenagoa and Ogbia. The January 9, 2016 supplementary elections was reportedly characterized by political violence, especially in Southern Ijaw and Ekeremor. Other reported incidents of violence in January included kidnapping and vandalism of energy infrastructure by militants in Brass and Kolokuma/Opokuma.

### Recent Incidents or Issues, February 2016

There were reported incidents of kidnapping by ex-militants between January 14 and 29 in Bayelsa. This trend continues into February.

**Pirates/Ex-militants:** Ex-militants hijacked a chemical tanker off the coast of Nigeria near Brass, and kidnapped two Filipinos, two Russians and a national of Georgia. Media reports suggest the Nigerian Navy staged a rescue operation on February 26, resulting in the fatality of a pirate.

**Kidnapping:** The 35-year old nephew of former President Goodluck Jonathan was kidnapped in Ogbia, and later found dead on

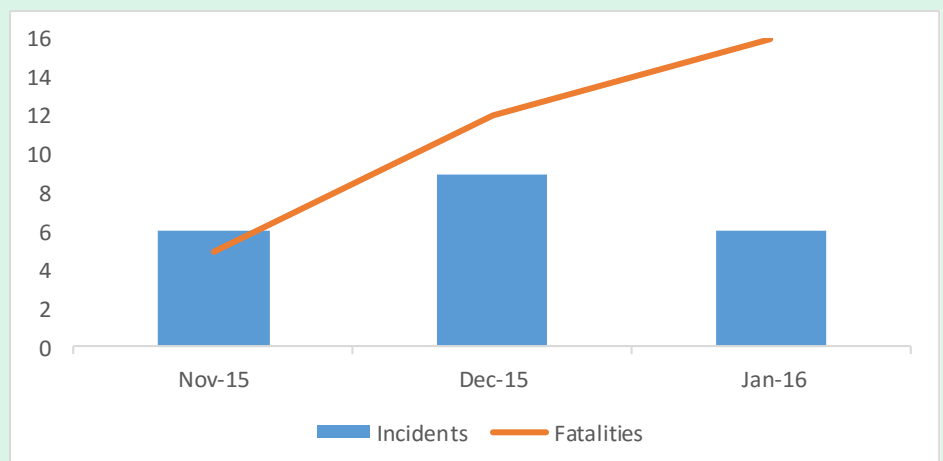
February 19. The victim was abducted alongside the former President's 72-year old foster father.

**Protest against Oil Multinational:** Hundreds of youth from Koluama protested over alleged neglect by an oil company operating in their area. The grievances related to a 2012 oil rig explosion in Southern Ijaw.

### Prognosis

There is an upward trend in violence and insecurity in the state, particularly fatalities. Predominately due to kidnapping and piracy, peace actors must continue to monitor conflict risks closely.

Figure 1: Bayelsa State Incidents and Fatalities

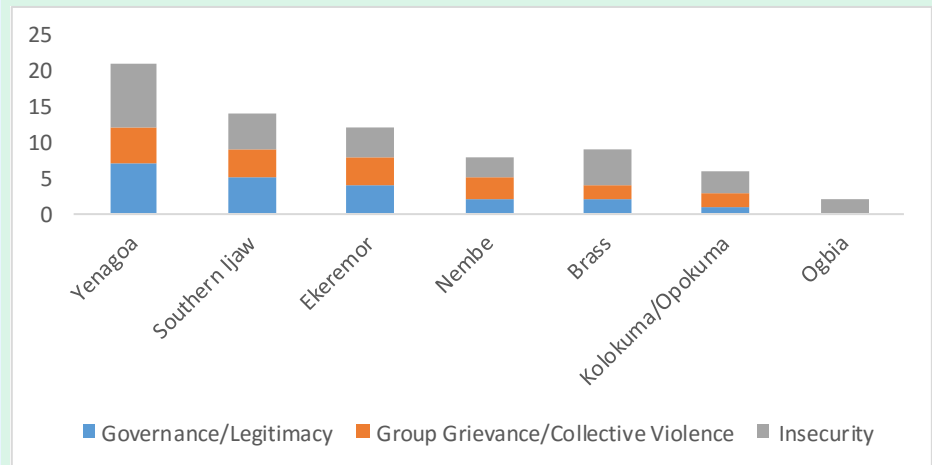


Reported incidents and fatalities from November 2015-January 2016 in Bayelsa State.  
Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org).

## 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?

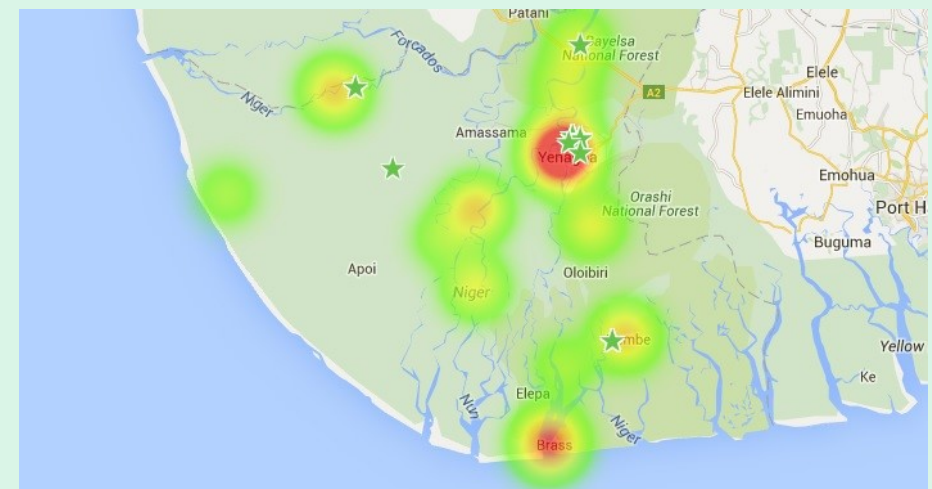
**Figure 2: Trends in Conflict by LGA (Nov 2015 -Jan 2016)**



Reported incidents by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Yenagoa and Southern Ijaw had the most incidents across the three indicators.

Source: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map [www.p4p-nigerdelta.org](http://www.p4p-nigerdelta.org)

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



Heatmap shows concentration of incidents reported from November 2015-January 2016 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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