

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Bayelsa State: March-April 2018

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 January-March 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), reported incidents in Bayelsa during this period included piracy, criminality, militancy, cult violence, and communal/political tensions.

Piracy: In January, pirates reportedly attacked a police marine base, killed two marine policemen and injured an Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) in Ogbia LGA. The pirates made away with two rifles and a speedboat. In March, pirates reportedly attacked a community, killed two and injured three others in Ayama community, Ogbia LGA. The pirates abducted a woman and made away with over 10 speedboats. Separately, pirates reportedly attacked a passenger boat and shot a man and a pregnant woman in Koluama community, Southern Ijaw LGA.

Criminality: In January, an employee of the Nigerian Content Development Monitoring Board (NCDMB) was reportedly kidnapped by gunmen along the waterways in Brass LGA. In February, two contractors of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) were reportedly abducted by

gunmen in Ogbia LGA. Separately, a vigilante was reportedly killed by operatives of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) in Yenagoa LGA. In March, hoodlums reportedly robbed some members of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) at their lodge in Sagbama LGA. A male corps member had one of his hands severed during the attack.

Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during the period. Crime, particularly piracy, affects the safety and livelihoods of women and girls.

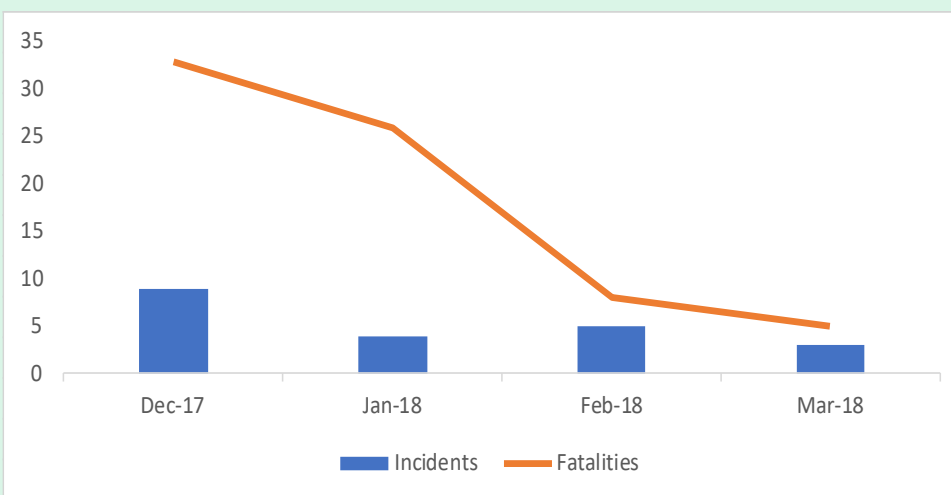
Communal/Political Tensions: In February, one was reportedly killed and several others injured during a clash among youths belonging to two different political parties in Okpoama community, Brass LGA.

Militancy: In January, four soldiers and 14 militants were reportedly killed during a

military operation against militants in Ekeremor LGA. The operation was initiated in reaction to the killing of a soldier by militants in the area. A militant leader was arrested during the military operation and later died during a gun battle between soldiers and his gang members. In March, a prominent militant who doubles as a kidnapper was reportedly killed by operatives of the Inspector General of Police's Intelligence Response Team in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Cult Violence: In February, two youths were reportedly killed during a clash between rival cult groups in Yenagoa LGA. In March, suspected cultists attacked a police station, set it on fire, and injured two police officers in Oporoma, Southern Ijaw LGA. The cultists allegedly attacked the police station in protest over the death of their leader in police custody.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Bayelsa State



Reported incidents and fatalities from December 2017 - March 2018 in Bayelsa State.

Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Recent Incidents or Issues, April 2018

Incidents reported during the month mainly related to criminality and sexual violence.

Criminality: A 23-year old robber was reportedly killed during a gun battle between the police and his gang in Yenagoa LGA. One of the robbers, a 22-year old male, was injured during the incident, and later confessed that they are members of a cult group, the Bobos. Separately, cultists stabbed a commercial tricycle operator to death in an attempt to rob him in Yenagoa LGA.

Sexual Violence: A 22-year old lady was reportedly raped by two men in Yenagoa, the state capital.

Prognosis

Reported incidents during the period related mainly to communal and political tensions, cult violence, and criminality including piracy and militancy. Peace Agents should 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 (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: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (January - March 2018)

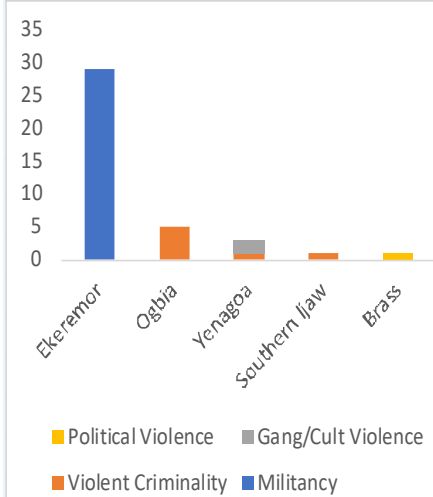
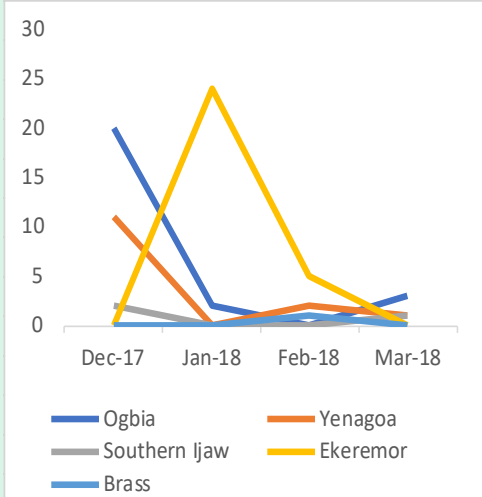
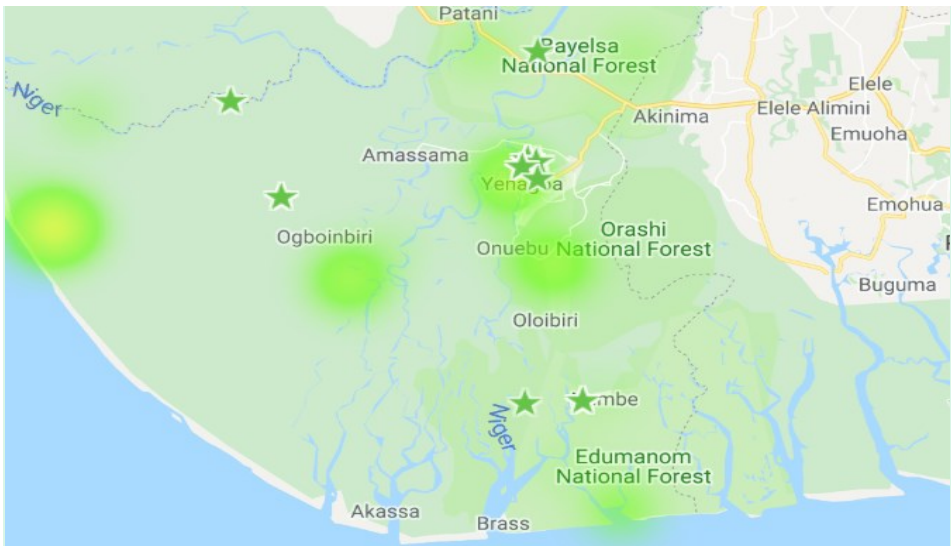


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA) in Bayelsa State in this quarter shows that Ekeremor had the most reported incidents of lethal violence. Sources (Figure 2): ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map. Source (Figure 3): Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 4: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Bayelsa State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from January - March 2018 in Bayelsa; 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



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