

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Delta State: March-April 2018

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 2018

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), conflict issues during the period included communal tensions, cult violence, and criminality including militancy and kidnapping for ransom.

Communal Conflict: In February, two persons including a male primary school pupil, were reported killed during a clash between Aladja community in Udu LGA and Ogbe-Ijoh community in Warri South West LGA. In March, herdsmen reportedly chopped off fingers and toes of a 45-year old male farmer in Abraka, Ethiope East LGA. Separately, a farmer was reportedly beheaded by herdsmen in Uwheru community, Ughelli North LGA. In another incident, herdsmen killed four men who were on a fishing expedition in Ughelli North LGA. In a separate incident, a police sergeant was reportedly killed during a communal clash over a leadership tussle in Obodo-Eti community, Ndokwa West LGA. The leadership tussle escalated into a supremacy battle between loyalists of opposing factions during the community annual festival. Communal conflict was a driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during this period. In January, for example, a woman was raped by herdsmen in Aniocha North LGA.

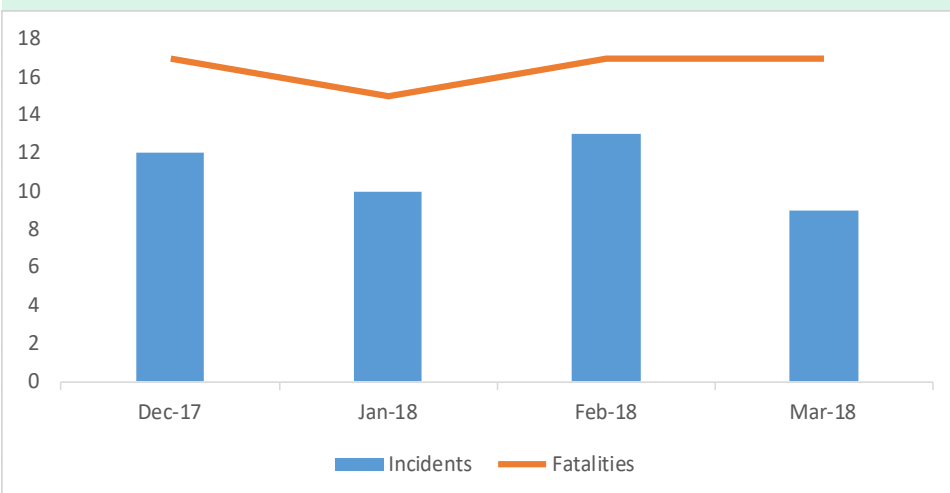
Violent Criminality: In February, a 23-year old cultist was reportedly killed by his former colleagues for leaving the group to join another cult group in Ughelli South LGA. In March, a 54-year old leader of a vigilante group was reportedly killed by gunmen in Ndokwa West LGA. Separately, a member of a community vigilante group reportedly killed three people during a funeral ceremony in Otokutu, Ughelli South LGA. Also, in Ughelli South, the police killed two robbers who double as kidnappers. An 18-year old boy was arrested by the police for defiling his six-year old sister and killing his 8-year old half-brother in Ofagbe, Isoko South LGA. In another incident, a 33-year old robbery suspect who allegedly killed a commercial motorcyclist was reportedly clubbed to death by a mob in Ogbe-Ogume community, Ndokwa West LGA.

Militancy/Kidnapping: In January, a prominent militant who doubles as a kidnap kingpin was reportedly killed during a gun

battle between his gang and soldiers in Burutu. Separately, five workers of an indigenous oil servicing firm were reportedly abducted by gunmen at a waterside community in Warri North LGA. Criminality was a key driver of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG) in the state during this period. For instance, in January, a 74-year old woman was reportedly strangled for ritualistic purposes in Oshimili South LGA.

Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG): In addition to the impact of communal conflict and criminality on women and girls listed above, other forms of violence were also reported during this period. In February, a female student of a polytechnic in Delta state was reportedly killed for ritualistic purposes in Ozoro, Isoko North LGA. In a separate incident, a middle-aged man attacked and cut his wife with a cutlass, and later committed suicide in Oshimili South.

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Delta State



Reported incidents and fatalities from December 2017– March 2018 in Delta State.
Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org.

Recent Incidents or Issues, April 2018

Reported incidents during the month related mainly to criminality and cult violence.

Criminality: A politician was reportedly shot by assassins in Isoko South LGA. The victim is one of the aspirants for the chairmanship of the Delta state chapter of the All Progressives Congress (APC). The assassins waylaid the politician and shot him in the stomach. Separately, herdsmen reportedly blocked an expressway and inflicted bullet wounds on five travelers in Ndokwa East LGA. The herdsmen also engaged the police and soldiers in a gun battle before they escaped into the bush. In another incident, the severed head of a man was found on the street of Uzere community, Isoko South LGA. The severed head is suspected to have been discarded by ritualists.

Cult Violence: A 26-year old man was reportedly killed by cultists in Ndokwa West LGA. The victim is a nephew to the chairman of the community's vigilante group.

Prognosis

Incidents during the period related mainly to communal violence, cult violence, and criminality. Peace Agents should monitor the situation closely and respond appropriately.

Questions for Peace Agents

1. Is 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 2: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (January - March 2018)

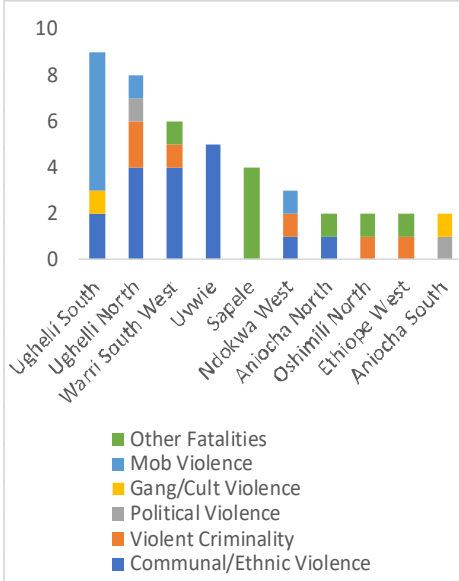
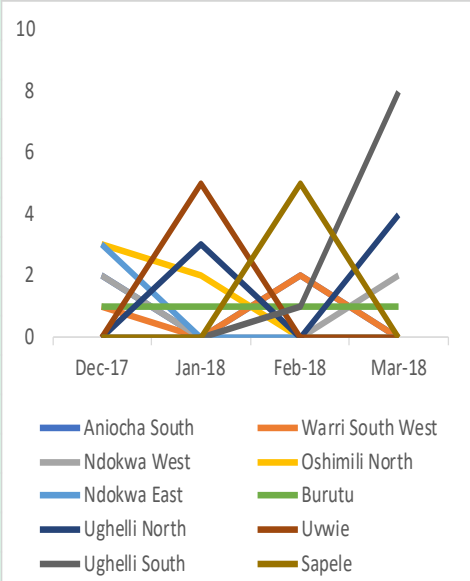
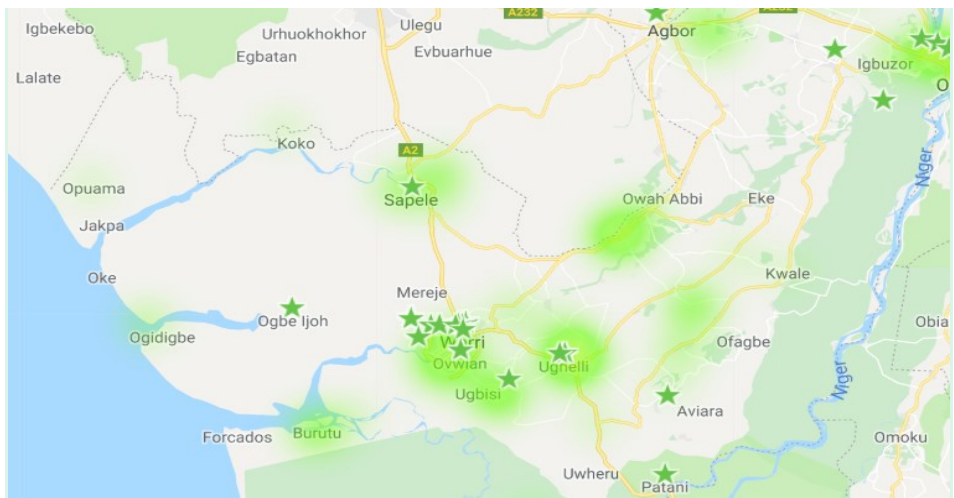


Figure 3: Conflict Fatalities by LGA



Reported fatalities by Local Government Area (LGA), in Delta State this quarter show that Ughelli South, followed by Ughelli North had the most reported fatalities. 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 Delta State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from January – March 2018 in Delta; 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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