

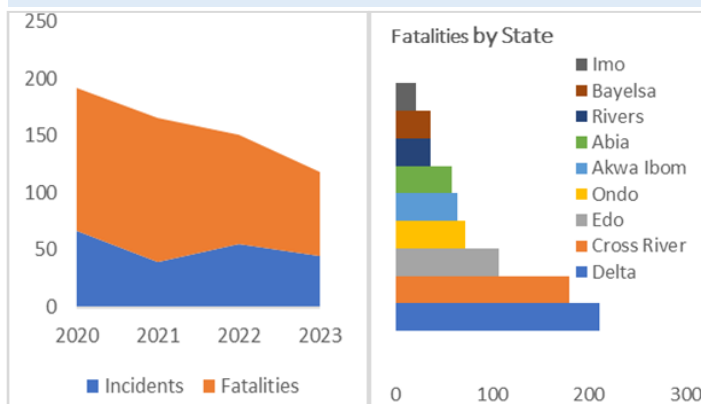
Niger Delta Weekly: Mitigating the Impact of Communal Violence on Agricultural Investments

May 12-18, 2024

Background

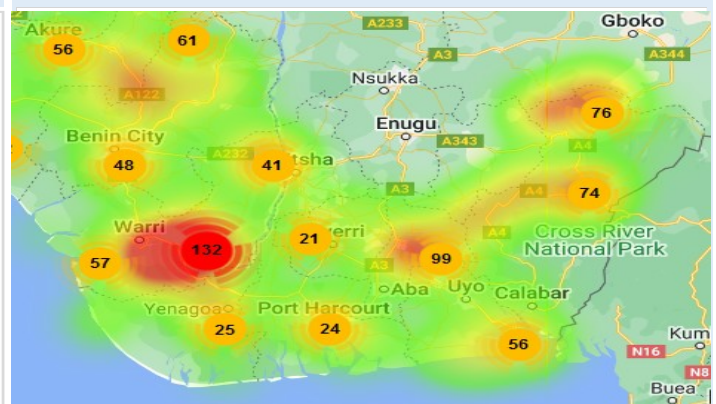
This special edition of the weekly update spotlights the impact of communal conflicts on agricultural investments in the Niger Delta. Communal conflict over land and other natural resources is a major driver of violence and instability in the region. According to data (see map below), land and natural resource related conflicts caused over 700 fatalities in the Niger Delta between January 2020 and March 2024. Recent data shows that communal land conflict is increasingly taking on different criminal dimensions including targeted abduction and killing of farmers and deliberate destruction of farms and farming infrastructure. In April 2024, for instance, a farmer was allegedly killed and two others abducted by herdsmen at a farm in Abavo community in Ika South LGA, Delta State. In May, a long-standing conflict over an oil palm plantation allegedly intensified communal tensions in Biase LGA, Cross River State. Also, between May 06 and 13, 2024, four employees of an oil palm company were allegedly killed and eight vehicles burned in a series of attacks by ethnic militias in Okomu community in Ovia South-West LGA, Edo State.

Key Facts and Figures: Trends and Dynamics of Communal Violence in the Niger Delta



Data shows that Delta and Cross River States had highest number of fatalities caused by communal violence during the period. Sources: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Fatalities Heat Map of Communal Violence in the Niger Delta of Nigeria



Heat Map shows geographical concentration of fatalities caused by communal violence in the Niger Delta from January 2020 - March 2024. Sources: All data sources formatted on the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Why it Matters

The growing prevalence and intensity of communal land conflict and associated criminal violence could disrupt agricultural productivity and investments in the Niger Delta. The destruction of farming infrastructure and killing of farmers can cause labor displacement which could reduce availability of skilled labor in the agricultural sector. It could also disrupt the supply and distribution of inputs and outputs which could create price shocks. This could make agricultural investments difficult to maintain, and thus reduce investors' confidence.

Anticipated Trends and Dynamics

The current trajectory of communal conflicts signifies increased risk of escalation in ways that could damagingly impact the different actors in the agricultural value chain. Stakeholders should work with the relevant government agencies to address the underlying drivers, including efforts to redress long-standing grievances and hostilities. Peace actors should also set up community-based early warning systems and conflict resolution committees to proactively identify and respond to potential triggers of communal conflict.

Contact Us

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Report Incidents: IPDU Early Warning System

Please report any verified incident of conflict to the IPDU SMS early warning system: Text report to **080 9936 2222/0912 233 4455**

Incident Details: Kindly include the State, LGA, Town, Date, and brief incident description.



FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA



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