

Conflict Incident Monthly Tracker

Abia State: August-September 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 June-August 2016

According to Peace Map data (see Figure 1), issues reported during the quarter related mainly to criminality, communal conflict, child trafficking, and protests.

Violent Criminality: In June, kidnappers reportedly shot dead two policemen and abducted two businessmen in Aba. Separately, the leader of a kidnapping syndicate was reportedly killed by police during a robbery in Aba. In July, a medical director at the state polytechnic was reportedly abducted by gunmen in Aba. In August, a member of a robbery gang was reported shot dead by soldiers on Obi-Ngwa. Separately, a team of policemen reportedly killed a member of a robbery gang that had earlier killed a barber in Aba North. In another incident, soldiers reportedly raided a kidnappers' hideout in Ugwunabgo, and shot a suspect.

Intra-Communal Conflict: In August, there was reported tensions among community leaders over the establishment of a town

union in Owaza community in Ukwa West.

Vigilante Violence: In August, members of the Abia Vigilante Service (AVS) reportedly shot dead a woman who was celebrating her birthday at a restaurant in Aba North.

Child Trafficking: In August, a 54-year old man and his wife were reported arrested by the police for child trafficking. Several pregnant girls were rescued from a 'baby factory' operated by the couple at the Ogbor-Hill in Aba North.

Recent Incidents or Issues, September 2016

Incidents of conflict risk and violence that were reported in September included criminality, child trafficking and protests.

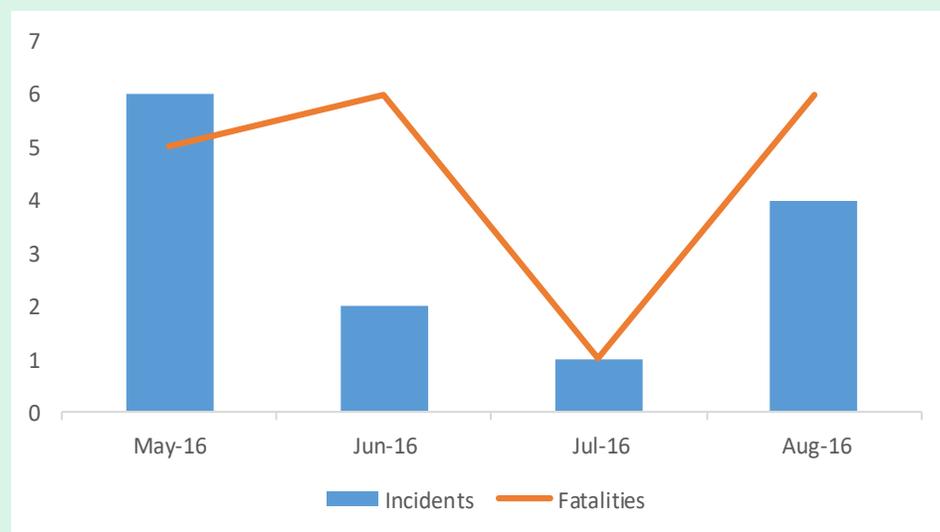
Kidnapping: Soldiers reportedly shot dead two kidnappers in Ukwa West. Separately, soldiers arrested three kidnapping suspects in Obi-Ngwa. In another incident, police reportedly arrested two kidnappers in their hideout, and rescued two victims.

Violent Criminality: A lawyer was reported trailed and murdered by unknown assailants in Obi-Ngwa. The victim was reportedly killed by machete.

Child Trafficking: Police reportedly arrested two teenage girls for allegedly attempting to sell their unborn babies in Aba. Separately, a 15-year-old baby girl who was reportedly stolen from the mother was rescued by the police in Umuahia.

Communal Tensions: Tensions were reportedly elevated in Obi-Ngwa over alleged police killing of a 70-year-old hunter

Figure 1: Incidents and Fatalities, Abia State



Reported incidents and fatalities from May–August 2016 in Abia State.

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

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Protests: There were reported protests in Umuahia and Aba over a court judgment that upheld the election of a senator in Aba North. Government security forces reportedly arrested four pro-Biafra agitators during the 17th anniversary of MASSOB in Umuahia. Separately, truck drivers protested over issues relating to taxes and levies in Aba South.

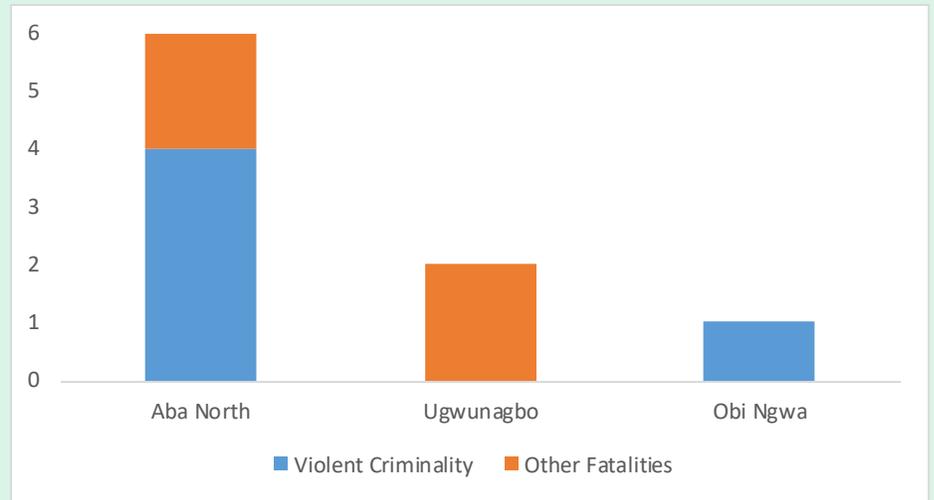
Prognosis

Conflict risk and violence, especially incidents violent kidnapping, child trafficking and communal conflict were reported in the state during this period. Peace agents should monitor the security situation closely.

Questions for Peace Agents

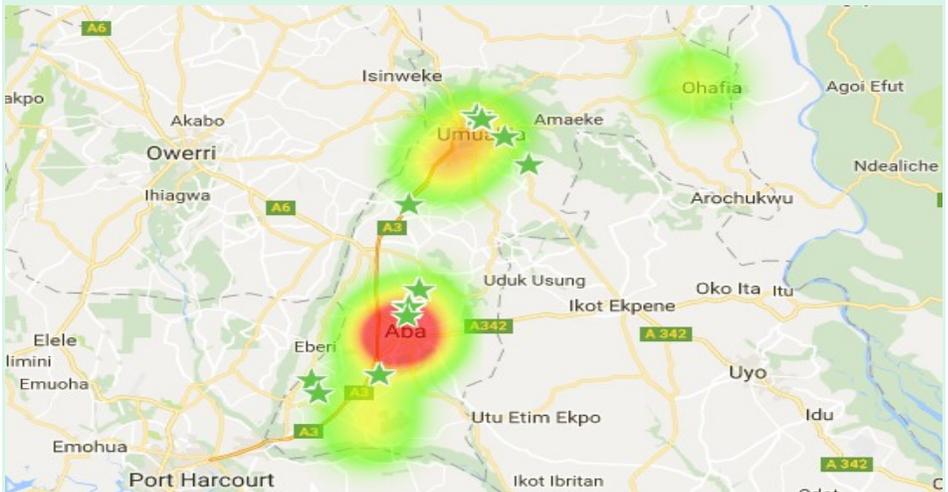
1. Is there anything significant missing from the tracker in terms of hotspots, trends, or incidents?
2. Which conflict issue or potential conflict issue suggested by, or missing from, this tracker is a top priority for you (as P4P Chapter, Prevent Committee, or other stakeholder)?
3. What are some likely 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: Conflict Fatalities by LGA (June – August 2016)



Reported incidents show the relative levels of violence by LGA during the last three months. Source: ACLED and Nigeria Watch data formatted for the P4P Peace Map www.p4p-nigerdelta.org

Figure 3: Heat Map of Incidents and Peace Agents in Abia State



Heat Map shows concentration of incidents reported from June-August 2016 in Abia State; 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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