

ISSUES TO WATCH – JANUARY 2014

- ▶ High number of deaths
- ▶ Intra-familial conflict
- ▶ Youth involvement in violence
- ▶ Border conflict

High number of deaths reported (6)

Belun's Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) monitoring for the month of January continued to report an alarming increasing trend in murders. In Dili, three young males died in separate incidents: a fight between a group of young people in Lahane Oriental Suku (village) resulted in one of the males being killed; a boy was beaten to death with a steel pipe in the Mate La Hotu Aldeia (hamlet) in Comoro, and in Becora, a man was stabbed by a group of young people. In the Bobonaro Sub-district (Bobonaro), an officer of Timor-Leste's National Police Force (PNTL) shot a mentally ill man who was trying to attack a child with a machete. In the Bazartete Sub-district (Likisá), a man was killed and his wife injured by a man with a machete.

Out of the six perpetrators responsible for the murders occurring this month, five of them have already undergone trial and are in prison. The PNTL is currently searching for the remaining offender. The PNTL conducted an investigation into the case of the officer who shot and killed the mentally ill man in Bobonaro, however no disciplinary action had been taken as of the writing of this report.

Total number of incidents by district in January 2014	
District	Incidents
Aileu	1
Ainaro	4
Baucau	6
Bobonaro	3
Covalima	2
Dili	26
Ermera	1
Lautem	6
Likisá	3
Manatuto	3
Manufahi	3
Oekusi	10
Vikeké	3
Total	71

SITUATION REVIEW JANUARY 2014

Intra-familial conflict

Incidents involving family members constituted 18% of the total reported incidents for the month of January. This is an increase in comparison to previous months. Intra-familial conflicts occurred in the following districts: Manatuto (3), Oekusi (3), Bobonaro (2), Baucau (1), Lautem (1), Dili (1), Ermera (1), and Likisá (1).

Incidents involving youth

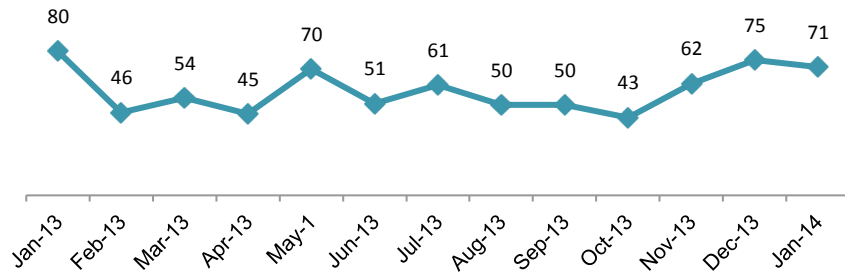
Youth involvement in violence continues to constitute one of the leading categories of conflict captured by EWER monitoring. Similar to previous months, Dili is the predominant location for reported incidents of youth violence, with 15 incidents reported this month. Other districts where youth were involved in violence included: Baucau (4), Lautem (2), Manufahi (2), Vikeké (1), Ainaro (1), and Covalima (1). The fact that Dili and Baucau are the two locations with the highest number of reported incidents of youth violence is consistent with the trend of rural-urban migration, in which youth seeks opportunities for employment in more urbanized areas.

Border conflict

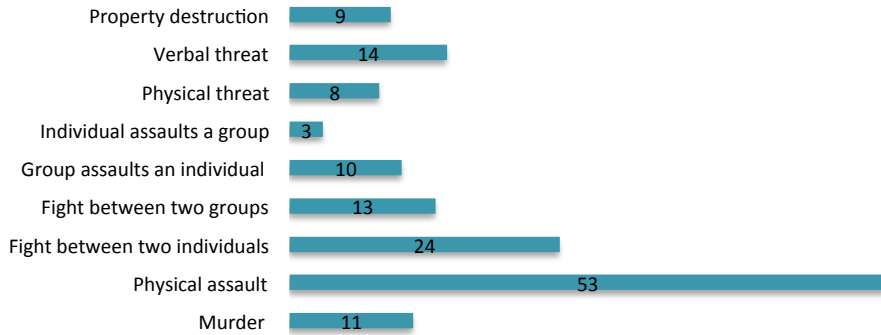
In October 2013, violent confrontations escalated from a border dispute between the Naibenu (Kupang – Indonesia) and Lakufaoan communities (Pante Makassar, Oekusi). In January 2014, tensions arose again when the community of Naibenu accused people from Lakufaoan of stealing livestock. Insults and verbal arguments between the two communities led to the destruction of three announcement boards in Lakufaoan (by individuals from Naibenu). Timorese Border Patrol Police and Indonesian National Army (TNI) intervened to stop the conflict from escalating further. A delegation from Timor-Leste's Ministry of Foreign Affairs approached the TNI Commander in Kefamenanu to initiate a dialogue between the two governments. On 28 February, a Commission was established to facilitate dialogue and the implementation of a Tara Bandu, in order to culturally link the two communities and foster more harmonious co-habitation. This commission will include representatives from the Ministry of Social Solidarity, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Territorial Management, The Asia Foundation, as well as the Oekusi District Administrator and Secretariat of State for Security.

INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

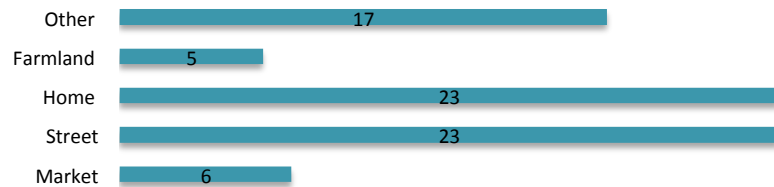
Total incidents reported: Jan '13 - Jan '14



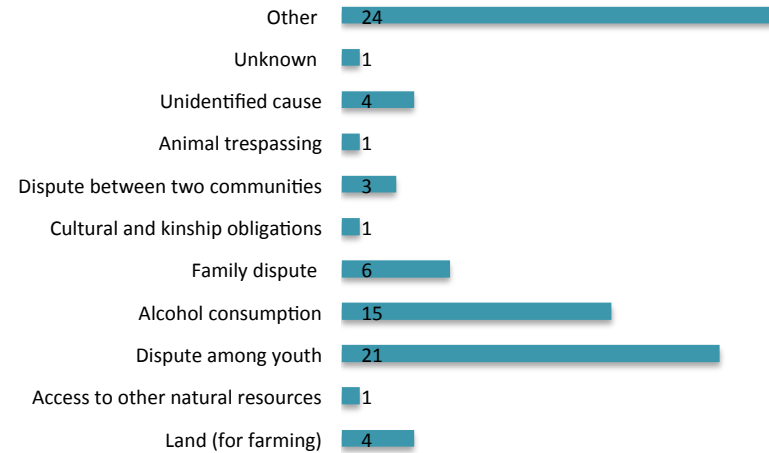
Incident Type



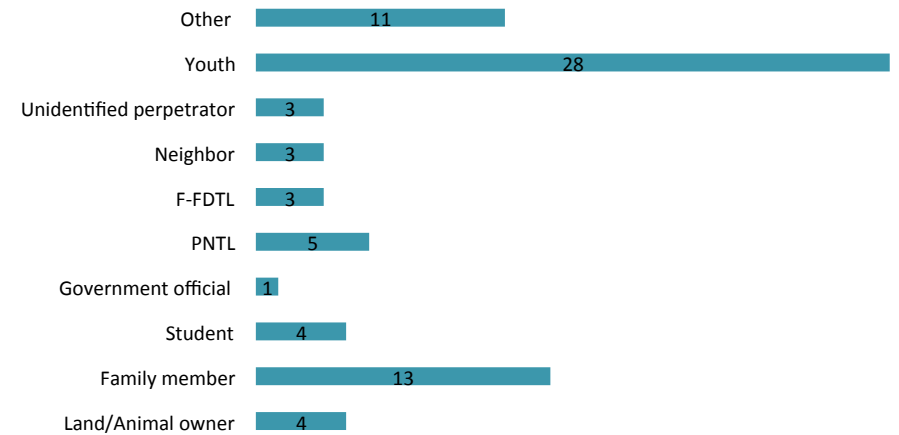
Incident Location



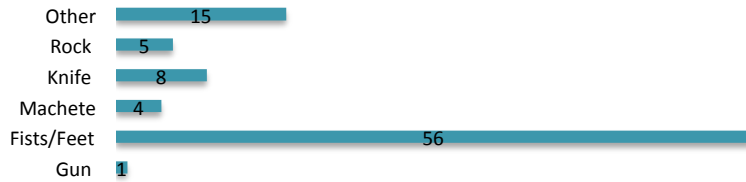
Underlying Cause of Incident



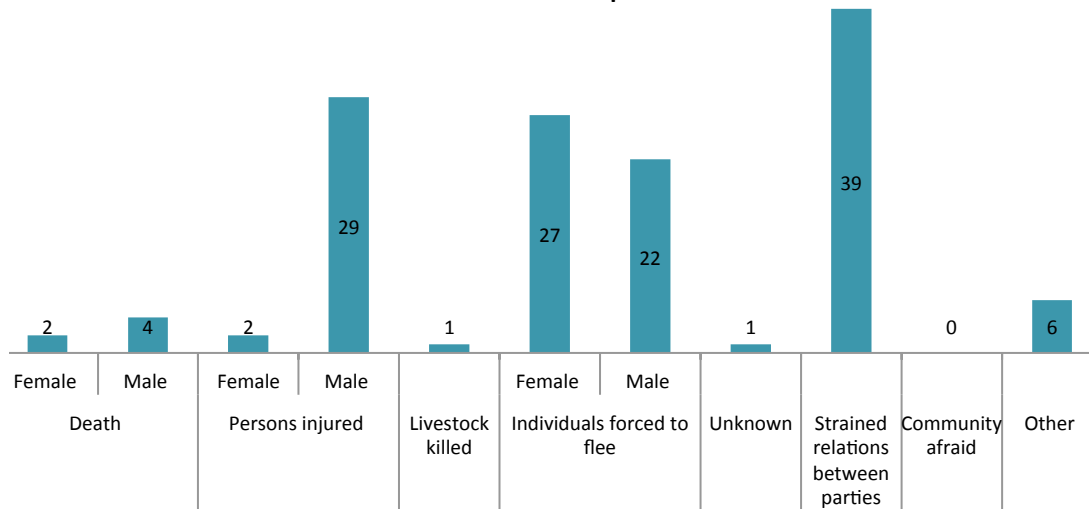
Who Initiated the Incident?



Weapon Used



Incidents Impact



CONFLICT PREVENTION & RESPONSE ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

By the Land Mediation and Dispute Resolution (LMRD) team

- ▶ 22-24 January: the LMRD team conducted training on land dispute mediation and resolution for the National Directorate for Land and Property staff, and community leaders and representatives from the sub-districts of Metinaro, Cristo Rei and Nain Feto (Dili).

- ▶ 28 January: the LMRD team conducted two mediations of land disputes in Caicoli (sub-district of Vera Cruz, Dili). No solution was found, so the disputants agreed to take their case through the formal court process.
- ▶ 29 January: the LMRD conducted mediation for a land dispute in Sau (sub-district of Manatuto, Manatuto). A consensus was reached, and both parties signed an agreement.



Manager of the LMRD program providing training to participants on mediation and resolution of land disputes (Dili).

By the Democracy and Action through Media and Empowerment (DAME) team

- ▶ 16-17 January: the DAME team received training on facilitation skills, monitoring and evaluation.
- ▶ 28 January: through the Small Grants fund, CPRNs in the sub-district of Zumalai (Covalima) implemented their action plan of community dialogue on land rights.
- ▶ The DAME team provided trainings to CPRNs on proposal writing, leadership and mediation in the following sub-districts:
 - 21-24 January: Nain Feto and Cristo Rei (Dili)
 - 27-28 January: Laleia (Manatuto)
 - 29-30 January: Manatuto (Manatuto)
 - 31 January: Lacro (Manatuto)

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DAME Team facilitating training for CPRNs in Covalima.

By the Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) team

25-27 January: the EWER team facilitated training on conflict monitoring for five new monitors coming from the districts of Baucau, Covalima, Manufahi, Aileu and Ainaro. Training was conducted in Belun’s office in Farol (Dili).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ministry of Social Solidarity

- ▶ Establish units to assist local authorities in offering mediation of familial disputes.

PNTL

- ▶ Provide regular training on conflict prevention & transformation skills to Community-based Police to strengthen their work in the community by applying the skills and information learnt.
- ▶ Strengthen PNTL internal regulations, enforcing disciplinary action against officers who are involved in violence.
- ▶ Establish police posts in areas prone to youth violence.

Secretariat of State for Youth and Sport

- ▶ Conduct in-depth research on the needs of youth in Timor-Leste in order to create a reference for policy-making on the topics of youth engagement and youth involvement in violence.

Religious Leaders

- ▶ Actively provide pastoral services for intra- and inter-familial disputes, family-strengthening and peacebuilding activities, in addition to advice, support and mediation when disputes arise.
- ▶ Strengthen campaigns against excessive alcohol consumption through pastoral programs in order to reduce the levels of alcohol-fuelled violence.
- ▶ Organize inter-faith activities and meetings for youth engagement, and encourage meaningful discussions on conflict prevention.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- ▶ Coordinate, consult and negotiate with the Government of Indonesia to finalize the border demarcation.
- ▶ Coordinate with the Government of Indonesia to establish a joint taskforce to respond to violent conflicts escalating out of disagreements between communities in the border areas.

Community leaders

- ▶ Organize regular meetings with family members (once every three months), sharing information on conflict prevention & resolution methods for familial disputes.
- ▶ Respond to intra-familial conflicts immediately upon receiving reports in order to avoid the escalation of conflict.

Conflict Prevention and Response Networks

- ▶ Develop action plans for Conflict Prevention workshops – particularly focusing on intra-familial issues – with speakers including Government officials and religious and community leaders.

ABOUT THIS SITUATION REVIEW

This situation review reports on key issues relevant to incidents and trends identified by monitoring through the Early Warning Early Response (EWER) system in Timor-Leste during January 2014. Belun strives to share information which is up-to-date and verified. Considering that situations change rapidly, we appreciate receiving information to clarify or update our EWER monitoring data.

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