

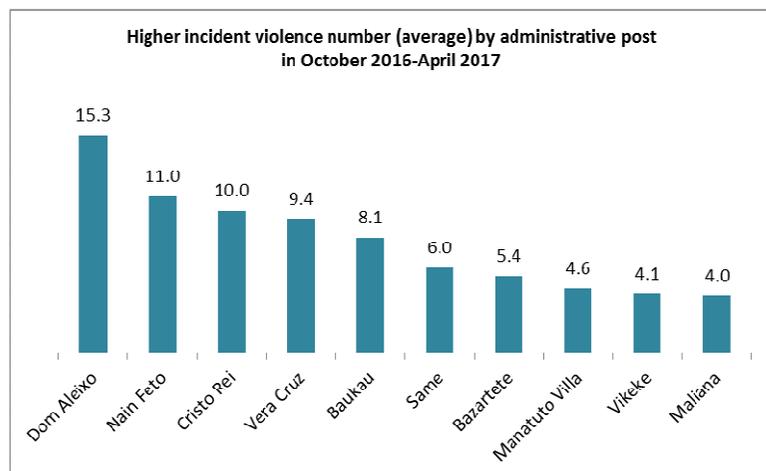
SITUATION REVIEW – APRIL 2017

ISSUES TO WATCH

- ▶ The number of incidents was high in some Administrative Posts between October 2016 and April 2017;
- ▶ Number of incidents related to Martial Arts Groups (MAG) and Ritual Arts Groups (RAP) increased in the month of April;
- ▶ Two serious incidents related to Police Intervention were recorded in April 2017, but the number of incidents related to members of the PNTL declined.

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS WAS HIGH IN SOME ADMINISTRATIVE POSTS BETWEEN OCT 2016 AND APRIL 2017

From October 2016 until April 2017, Belun's Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system collected high numbers of violent incidents, with an average of more than 4 incidents in the Administrative Posts of Dom Aleixo, Nain Feto, Cristo Rei, Vera Cruz, Baukau, Same, Bazartete, Manatuto, Vikeké and Maliana. The highest number of violent incidents that took place in the month of April occurred in the Administrative Post of Dom Aleixo, with a total of 15 incidents. Dom Aleixo's monthly average is 15.3 incidents, counted between the month of October 2016 and April 2017, followed by other Administrative Posts as shown in the graphic below.



Total violent incidents by municipality in April 2017	
Municipal	Incident
Aileu	5
Ainaru	3
Baukau	13
Bobonaru	6
Covalima	3
Dili	55
Ermera	8
Lautein	5
Likisá	7
Manatutu	3
Manufahi	9
Oekusi	9
Vikeké	6
Total	132

NUMBER OF MAG AND RAP RELATED VIOLENT INCIDENTS INCREASED IN APRIL 2017

In April 2017, 13 violent incidents were recorded that related to former Martial Art Groups (MAG) and Ritual Art Groups (RAP) that were banned by the government. This number increased more than four-fold since March 2017, which recorded only 3 incidents.

The incidents related to former MAG and RAP are as follows:

Nine incidents in Baukau Municipality: 4 incidents occurred in the Sub-village Samalakuliba, Buibau Village, Administrative Post of Baukau, where a group of youth assaulted another young man and wounded him severely. This incident escalated into 2 other incidents due to vengeance. The causes of this problem related to drivers facing competition in getting passengers, and also related to prior MAG issues. In the same place, former members of MAG, for vengeance reasons, assaulted students during the school's exam period. Members of former MAG also attacked each other during Market Day for vengeance reasons. This incident took place in Loilaku Sub-village, Nunira Village, Administrative Post Laga, with two people wounded. In the Sub-village Lialaisesu, Tirilolo Village, Administrative Post Baukau, members of former MAG attacked each other and 3 people were wounded. PNTL and F-FDTL intervened and arrested some former MAG members. Similar incidents took place in the Sub-village of Uaimanuboe, Wailili Village, Administrative Post of Baukau, but community members intervened. Former MAG members also attacked each other twice after drinking alcohol in the Sub-village Bahalale, Village Uato -Lari, Administrative Post Vemassee. This incident created fear inside that community.

Three incidents in Dili Municipality: former MAG members provoked each other and decided to fight, but no intervention was made by the community. In the second incident, PNTL intervened and separated them. This incident took place in the Sub-village Lurumata, Fatuhada Village, Administrative Post of Dom Aleixo. Another incident happened in the Sub-village of Has Laran, Bemori Village, Administrative Post Nain Feto, in which youth threw a stone at a man with a motorbike due to vengeance between neighborhoods, and also due to MAG and RAG issues.

One incident in Ermera Municipality: former MAG members fought with a pre-secondary student in the Sub-village of Aitemua, Fatubolu Village, Administrative Post of Hatolia. This incident occurred because of vengeance between former MAG members. Police intervened in the event but no solution was found.

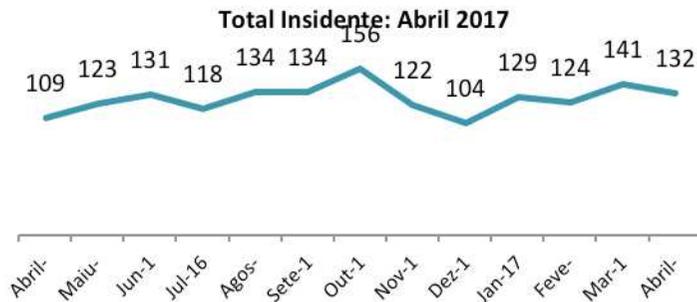
TWO SERIOUS INCIDENTS RELATED TO POLICE INTERVENTION WERE RECORDED IN APRIL 2017, BUT THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS RELATED TO MEMBERS OF THE PNTL DECLINED

EWER monitoring shows that incidents involving members of the PNTL declined since the month of January 2017 when only 3 incidents were recorded, 2 incidents in February and 6 incidents in March which mainly related to security provided during the presidential

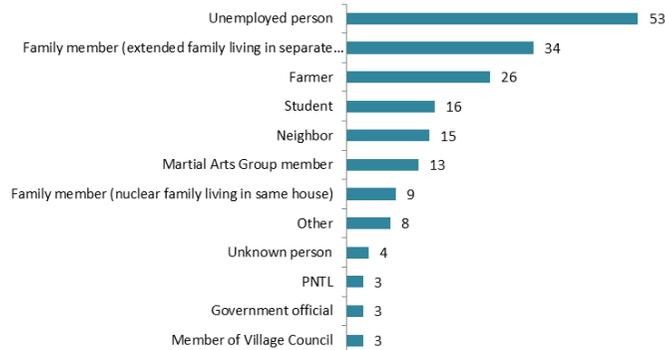
election. However, the incidents lowered again in April 2017, with only 3 incidents involving members of the PNTL.

Incidents involving members of the PNTL are as follows. In Same Hospital, members of PNTL beat with sticks, punched and kicked 4 students from UNPAZ. The students were undertaking practical studies in Same at the time, and one was being taken to the hospital after falling sick. Though the doctors in the hospital tried to intervene, the PNTL members continued. PNTL suspected that the 4 students were those who made noise with their motorbikes nearby the Catholic Church. In Maliana, members of PNTL (BOP) attacked a young man and wounded him gravely for the reason that the young man abused PNTL members for not able to calm down the situation during a football match. At the same time, members of BOP also used tear gas on the supporters of the football match. In Abani, Passabe, members of PNTL (UPF) beat a man until his nose was bloody as he tried to help a drunken PNTL member who fell off from his motorbike. PNTL in the administrative post Passabe intervened in this incident.

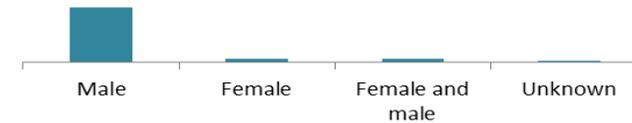
CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INCIDENTS



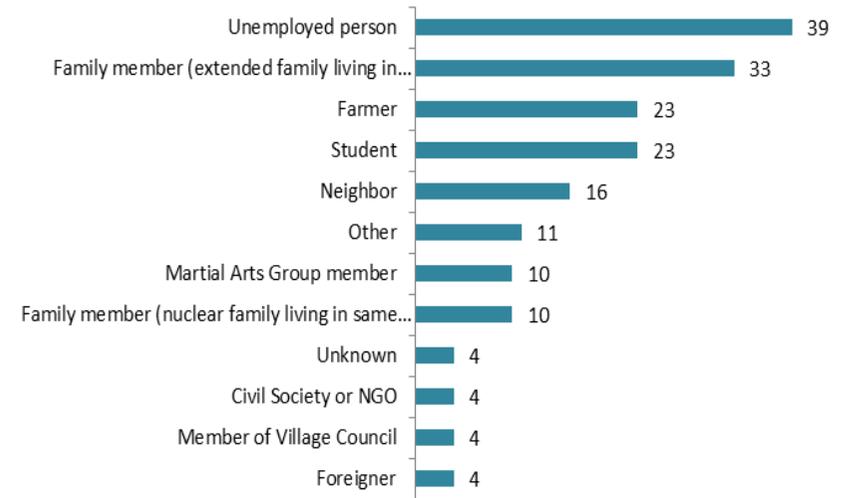
Perpetrators by position or status (3 and over)



Perpetrators by gender



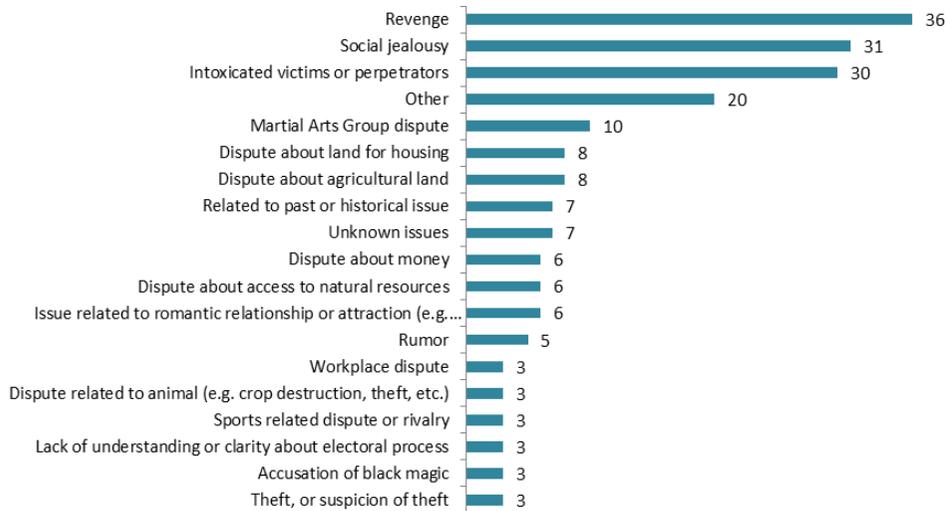
Victims by position or status (4 and over)



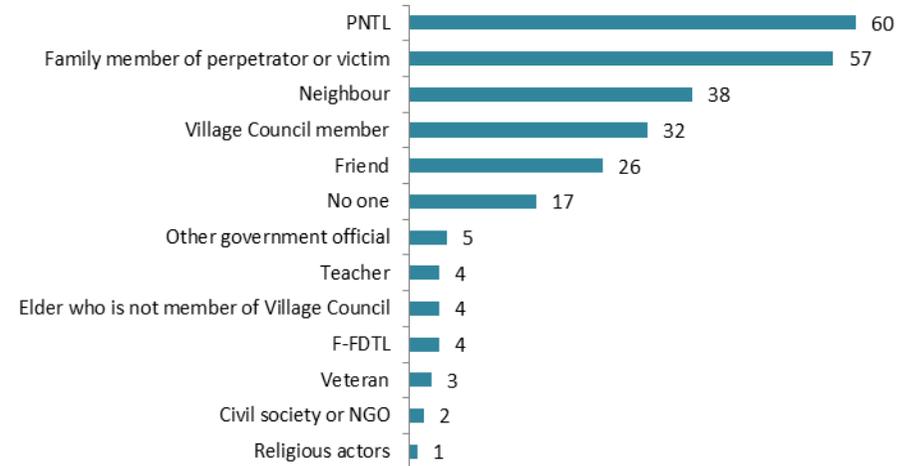
Victims by gender



Incident factors (3 and over)



Incident responder



Incident impact



CONFLICT PREVENTION AND CONFLICT RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Activities implemented by Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) Team

- ▶ To prevent electoral violence incidents during the Presidential Election and to increase electoral participation, Belun, via its Community Conflict Prevention and Response Network (CCPRN) in the Administrative Post Hatolia, Municipal Ermera, on the 25th of April 2017, facilitated Civic Education and Voter Education. This took place in the Hatolia Parish Hall for community leaders, political party representatives, youth and students. In this event, CCPRN coordinated closely with National Election Commission (NEC) at the national and municipal level. The principal speaker from NEC delivered information regarding electoral registration, election law and electoral crime. This event was also attended by Vice President of NEC, Dr. Duarte Tilman; Parish Priest, Hatolia; Administrator, Administrative Post of Hatolia; Police Commander of Ermera; and Belun. This activity was implemented through the generous funding from the people of America through its Aid Development Agency (USAID). With this activity, Belun's EWER system will be able to reduce tension during the campaign and election period, and after the election.
- ▶ To reduce conflict during the election, there is a need to increase community knowledge and awareness about the election, but Belun recognizes that this is not enough. There are factors of conflict that occurred during the Presidential Election, and EWER recorded that tensions happened because of election regulations such as voting stations not being enough, voting timeframe being too short, and election law being

approved in a very short time without sufficient time for good election preparation. With this reason, on the 20 April 2017, at the UN Office of Human Rights in Timor-Leste, the EWER Manager together with member of government, national and international NGO representatives, and representatives from other institutions shared discussions on the human rights situation in Timor-Leste. One of the important topics discussed was the Presidential Election that took place recently, on the 20 of March 2017. NEC and STAE were the principal speakers at that meeting. Belun got the opportunity to present its electoral violence monitoring result and distribute its monitoring report about electoral violence monitoring during and after the Presidential Election. At the end of the meeting, NEC requested organizations that conducted monitoring to present their reports so that NEC can take them to the National Parliament. Some recommendations from EWER had already been responded to by NEC in their plan to run civic education in 65 Administrative Posts. NEC also announced their plan to increase voting stations in the upcoming Parliamentary Election in 2017.

Activity Implemented by the Community Policing Support Program (CPSP) team:

- ▶ Conflict prevention is one of the roles of the PNTL in providing security. Therefore, on the 20 April 2017, a Municipality Security Council Meeting (SCM) in Dili was held in the PNTL Commander Hall, in Caicoli. Belun presented data and important issues from its EWER system so that PNTL could integrate them into its program, particularly to ensure a peaceful parliamentary election. Some points discussed are as follows:
 - Updates on Community Policing Council (KPK) support to PNTL to ensure security during the presidential election;
 - Martial Arts issues continue to be important issues for KPK to identify MAG movements, and it is important to report MAG activity at the village level;
 - KPK will help control newcomers that use tourist visas but do not report their work activities within villages to immigration police;
 - KPK will cooperate with PNTL to prevent conflict
 - An agreement was signed for handover of KPK activities in 10 villages from Belun to PNTL to continue providing support, while Belun starts working on new villages in the Municipality of Dili
 - Belun and PNTL symbolically delivered a certificate to village representatives of Balibar and Duyun for completing KPK activities

This event was attended by PNTL Commander of the Municipality of Dili, 2nd Commander of PNTL of the Municipality of Dili, Squadron commanders, OPS, Belun, Municipal Authority Representatives, Post Administrators, Village Chief, KPK member, Representative of SEM, Fokupers, DNTP and other line ministries representatives;

- ▶ To identify issues and problems related to women, and also strengthening capacity of women in the security domain, Belun organized additional meetings for female members of the KPK in the Dili Municipality in the PNTL office, Caicoli, Dili;

- ▶ KPK of Umaberloic, Alas, Manufahi organized a seminar on problems related to driving, alcohol, drugs and pornography. As these issues frequently involve young people, the seminar referred mostly to youth;
- ▶ The role and task of the Village Official Police (OPS) was confusing for the community as well as to the OPS themselves. To clarify the OPS role, PNTL in Likisa Municipality organized a one day seminar to discuss the role of OPS and KPK in conflict prevention at the community level. This seminar was attended by members of OPS and members of KPK.

Activity by the Access to Justice Clinic Team

- ▶ Land issues are one of the most important issues because land laws are often not perceived by the community as being clear enough. To reduce incidents of violence related to land issues, Belun organized socialization and sensitization about alternative dispute resolution (ARD) for the community of Administrative Posts Uatolari, Lospalos and Manatutu;
- ▶ Six cases of land disputes registered for mediation in the Municipality of Covalima. 2 of them already reached agreement, but 4 of them are not yet resolved. There are also 2 cases in the Municipality of Baukau, but these cases are also not yet settled.

ABOUT THIS SITUATION REVIEW

This situation review reports on violent incidents and trends in Timor-Leste that were identified by Belun's Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) monitoring system in 43 of Timor-Leste's 65 Administrative Posts in March 2017. Complete data and incidents descriptions can be found at: www.atres.belun.tl. Belun strives to share up-to-date and verified information. Considering that situations change rapidly, we appreciate receiving information to clarify or update our EWER monitoring data.

Marilia Oliveira da Costa, Program Manager: bylah.belun@gmail.com

Laurensius Lein, Conflict Prevention and Policy Specialist: laurensius.belun@gmail.com