



SITUATION REVIEW – OCTOBER 2016

Issues to watch

- ▶ Highest incident total ever recorded by EWER system in a single month
- ▶ 20 Martial Arts Group-related incidents in October
- ▶ PNTL and F-FDTL personnel perpetrators in 11 incidents

Highest incident total ever recorded by EWER system in a single month

Belun’s Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) system recorded 156 violent incidents in October, the most ever recorded in a single month. The following notable trends were observed:

- **Violent incidents before, during and after the first round of the local elections on 29 October.** 35 incidents of electoral violence were recorded, the details of which can be found in an EWER Alert that was published on 10 November at www.belun.tl/en/publications.
- **Many serious incidents recorded in Likisá.** 15 violent incidents were recorded in Likisa, which is nearly double the average monthly total of 8.6 incidents over the past year. These incidents related to the local elections (5), Martial Arts Group disputes (3), intra-family disputes (2), water access (1), alcohol consumption (1), a land dispute (1), the assault of a police car by youth (1) and a private problem (1). The four most serious incidents included the following:
 - In Dato Village, Likisá Administrative Post, a problem between a woman and man provoked a knife fight between their two families that resulted in one death and one serious injury.
 - In Lauhata Village, Bazartete Administrative Post, young people shot Rama Ambon (slingshot arrows) at each other, resulting in one serious injury.
 - Also in Lauhata Village, a group of intoxicated young people threw rocks and shot a slingshot arrow at a police vehicle.
 - In Vatu-Vou Village, Maubara Administrative Post, a young man who was traveling to Bazartete was violently assaulted and stabbed by a group of young people, resulting in a serious injury.

Total number of violent incidents by municipality in October 2016	
Municipality	Incidents
Aileu	11
Ainaru	7
Baukau	13
Bobonaru	11
Covalima	5
Dili	54
Ermera	3
Lautein	7
Likisá	15
Manatutu	2
Manufahi	11
Oekusi	11
Vikéké	6
Totál	156

- **Water disputes lower in October than past months.** Two water-related incidents were recorded in October, a reduction from 9 such incidents in each of August and September.

20 Martial Arts Group-related incidents in October

The EWER system recorded 20 incidents in October that could be linked to members of Martial Arts Groups (MAGs), which is over three times the average of only 6 such incidents per month over the past year. These incidents occurred in Dili (15), Likisá (3), Covalima (1) and Ermera (1).

In Dili, six incidents were recorded in Comoro Village: in Mate La Hotu Aldeia suspected MAG members fought each other and burned a motorbike; in Delta neighborhood, MAG members assaulted a young man; in São Jose Ai-meti Laran Hamlet, three incidents resulted in a police officer being stabbed in the hand; in Golgota Hamlet a fight resulted in serious knife and machete injuries. Two incidents were recorded in Fatu-hada Village: in Zero-Cinco Hamlet, rival MAG members sparred and taunted each other; in Lurumata Hamlet, a fight resulted in knife injuries. Four incidents were recorded in Zero-Trez Hamlet in Mascarinhás Village, in which MAG members threw rocks at each other during the night, damaging homes. One incident was recorded in Bairru-Pite Village, in which rival MAG members sparred. One incident was recorded in Tahu-laran Hamlet in Caicoli Village, in which MAG members threw rocks at a party. One incident was recorded in Makili Village, Atauro, in which a MAG member interrupted a party by revving his motorbike loudly. He then showed MAG symbols and threatened F-FDTL soldiers who were attending the party. In the morning, the F-FDTL members captured the MAG member, brought him to the F-FDTL Post and beat him.

In Likisá, two incidents were recorded in Bazartete and one in Maubara, resulting in three serious injuries from rocks and slingshot arrows. In Covalima, one incident was recorded in Tilomar, in which police officers assaulted 13 young people that were suspected to have returned from a MAG ceremony in Indonesia. In Ermera, one incident was recorded in Hatolia in which MAG members fought at a party.

PNTL and F-FDTL personnel perpetrators in 11 incidents

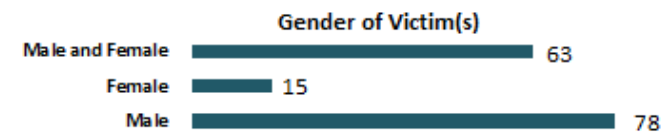
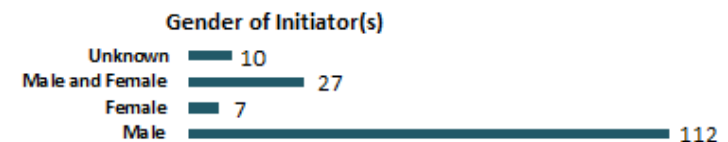
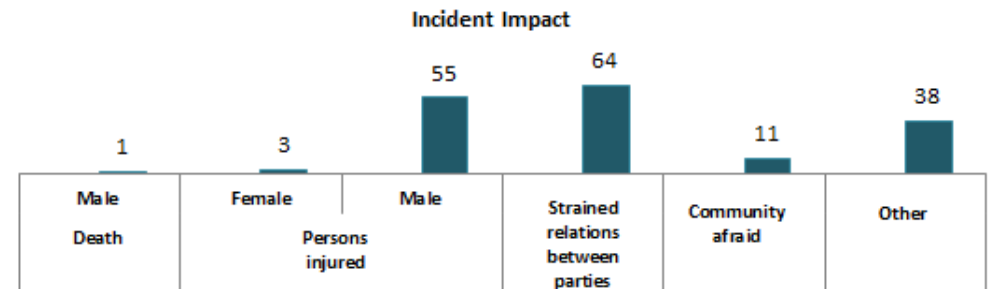
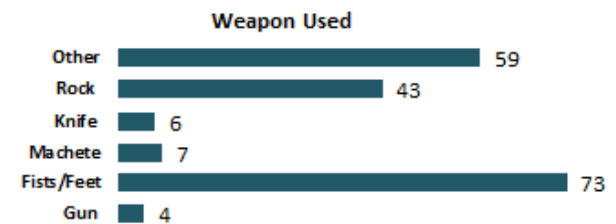
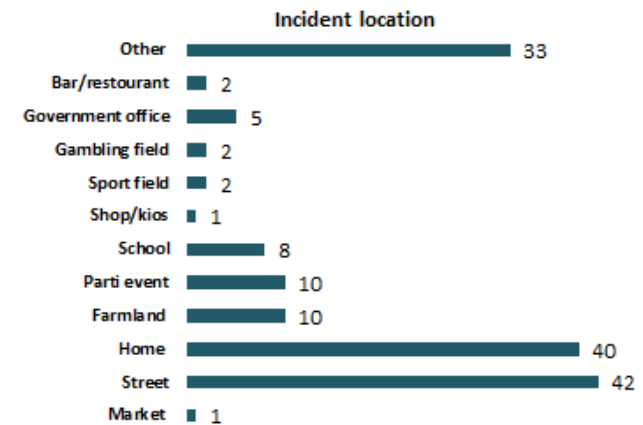
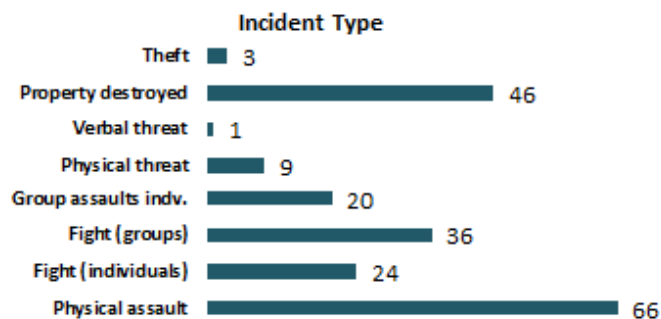
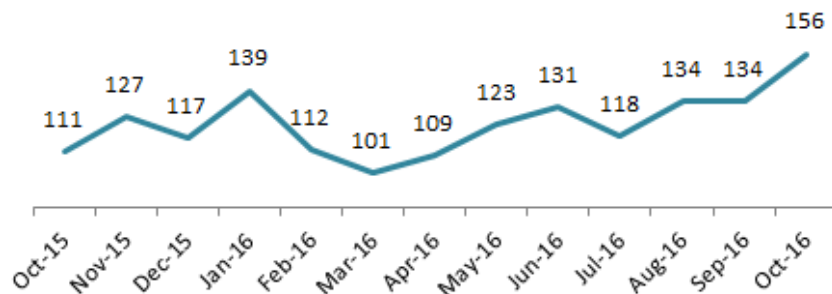
In October, the EWER system recorded 11 violent incidents perpetrated by personnel of the police and military, which is nearly double the average only 6.1 such incidents per month over the past year.

Two serious incidents were recorded in Maliana, Bobonaru Municipality. In one incident a police officer from the PNTL’s Special Operations Unit threatened military personnel and

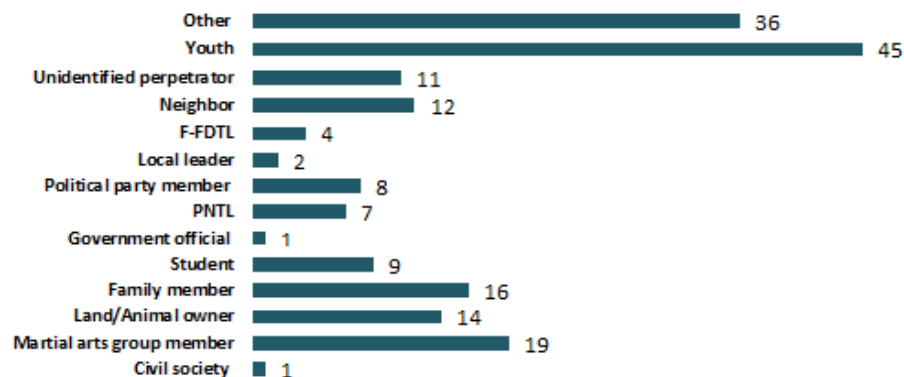
PNTL Border Police with his gun after he tried to overtake their car with his motorbike, but fell in the process. In the other incident, members of the Border Police shot above each other's heads when one officer refused to give another officer ammunition so that he could go hunting. Two serious incidents between police and military personnel occurred in Lautein, in which a police officer confiscated the motorbike of a soldier who was driving it loudly, which led to an argument and the soldier returning the next day with a gun to shoot threateningly at the Lospalos Administrative Post PNTL Squadron Commander. Two incidents were recorded in Covalima in Tilomar Administrative Post, in which Police officers beat 13 suspected MAG members (as described above). On the same day in the same place, but in an unrelated incident, police and military personnel assaulted a journalist who was photographing their capture of three intoxicated youth who were disrupting the local elections. Two incidents in Dili (referred to above) involved military personnel beating a young person. In one incident in Aileu, a Village Police Officer kicked a man in the chest after the man arrived late at a meeting. Two incidents were recorded in Oekusi – one in Oesilo in which a member of Border Police destroyed the door of a family that he suspected was hiding illegal fuel, and one in Pante Makassar in which transit police assaulted a F-FDTL soldier because he was not wearing a helmet.

INCIDENT CHARACTERISTICS

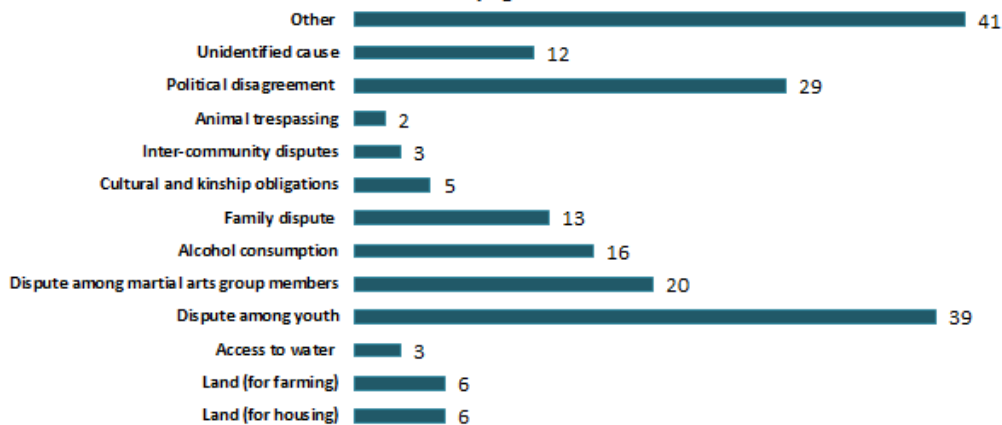
Monthly incident totals: October 2015-October 2016



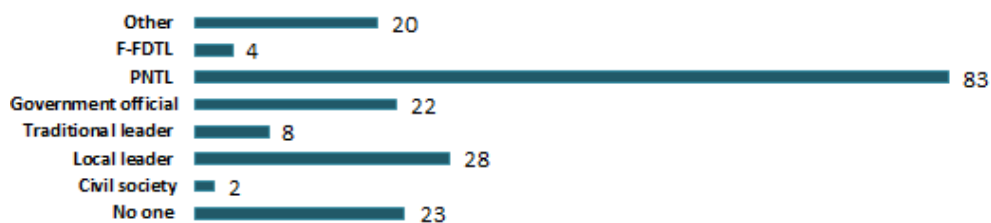
Who Initiated the Incident?



Underlying Cause of Incident



Who Responded to the incident?



By the Community Policing Support Program (CPSP) team:

- ▶ The team supported and facilitated Community Policing Councils meetings to evaluate the security situation and identify priority issues in 4 Covalima villages, 4 Dili villages, 3 Likisá villages, 7 Manufahi villages and 6 Vikéké villages.
- ▶ The team supported and facilitated a public awareness session about preventing violence against women and children in Tibar, Likisá, and a Community Dialogue to resolve an irrigation dispute between two villages in Vikéké.

By the Early Warning, Early Response (EWER) team:

- ▶ On 18 October, the team held a Roundtable Discussion with government and non-governmental stakeholders to gather comments and further recommendations about the team’s latest publication, entitled ‘Successes and Challenges in the Implementation of Belun’s Past Policy Brief Recommendations’.
- ▶ On 21 October, the EWER Program Manager and the PNTL Deputy Commander for Dili District participated in a radio talkshow about security issues in Dili on Radio Komunitade Lorico Lian.

By the Land Mediation and Dispute Resolution (LMDR) team:

- ▶ On 4 October the team mediated a land dispute in Tirilolo, Baukau and on 22 October the team mediated two land disputes in Maliana. One dispute was successfully resolved while the other two will continue with further mediation sessions.

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 October 2016. Descriptions of all incidents recorded by the EWER system can be found at: www.belun.crowdmap.com. 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.

For more information or to report an incident, please contact:

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