

# Analysis & Advocacy Program

This program works to influence development policy and practice and create an enabling environment for growth through data-based analysis and understanding of systemic constraints to growth in the Niger Delta region. Accurate socio-economic information and better-informed stakeholders are vital to this.



Photo: Ese Emerhi, Project Director, Kiisi, Trust Fund; Seun Akinsanya, Lagos State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budgeting; Dr Francis Ntamu, Chief Economic Advisor, Vice Chairman, Cross River State Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning; Dr. Mohammed Aliu Momoh, Development and Financial Consultant with the Nigeria Economic Summit Group (NESG) at the NDDF Roundtable panel discussion in Port Harcourt, Rivers State

## Strong Convening Power

To serve as a convener and facilitator for development, neutrality is critical. Having all partners participate in the co-development of ideas, solutions and responsibilities is vital. And creating capability through knowledge transfer between partners fosters collective action and impact. Guided by these foundational principles, PIND has, over the years, built reputation as a neutral entity and this has enabled us to convene platforms for stakeholder dialogues and conversations on important issues that would engender positive actions to boost economic growth and reduce under-development and poverty as the significant drivers of conflict in the Niger Delta.

In 2018, working with select partners, we successfully convened and co-hosted seven advocacy events and meetings aimed at influencing stakeholders, building synergies/networks and strengthening capacity to initiate and drive policies and programs that will foster rapid development in the region. This includes the review of the Delta State agriculture policy development, Warri Economic Summit, Niger Delta Donor and Partners Coordination meetings, side event at the 24th Nigeria Economic Summit, Niger Delta Development Forum (NDDF) Roundtables, and the national and regional Peace and Security Network (PSN) meetings. Over 1,000 persons from government, civil society, private sector and others attended.



Tunji Idowu - Deputy Executive Director, PIND Foundation giving closing remarks at the NDDF 2018, Benin City, Edo State

objectives to create opportunities for dialogue among development actors to support new, innovative approaches for promoting economic development, building institutional capacity and promoting peace within the Niger Delta.

We have learnt that identifying the target audiences is one of the most important parts of convening stakeholders on developing an effective advocacy strategy. The 2017 edition of NDDF, "The Future in Our Hands: A State-Led Framework for

Our convening also leveraged the power of the internet for advocacy. NDLink, our information and communications platform utilizes the internet to connect stakeholders in the region. In 2018, NDLink convened 19 development-oriented discussion forums on the platform that had 148 contributors and reached over 8,927 people on Twitter.

Planning & Development in the Niger Delta" began targeting Niger Delta State governments to raise their awareness on the importance and approaches to long term planning in addressing the myriad of socio-economic challenges facing the region.

**NDDF 2018: Building Capacity & Vision for States Long-term Development Planning**

Since inception in 2012, the Niger Delta Development Forum (NDDF) has taken steps to achieve its main

To stimulate more profound commitment and ownership to this agenda by the state governments, NDDF 2018 themed, "Delivering Results: Executing a State-Led Plan" was held as Roundtable events in Benin, Edo State and Port Harcourt, Rivers State. At the Roundtables, neighbouring States competed with one another for the



PIND's Side Event at the Nigerian Economic Summit 24 themed "Poverty to Prosperity: Making Governance and Institutions Work", Abuja with the Special Adviser to the President on Niger Delta Affairs and Coordinator, Presidential Amnesty Program speaking on the importance of human capacity development in the region.

first time for a chance to get in-kind support from development partners to develop their long-term plan.

191 key stakeholders comprising top State government officials, private sector institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), development experts and partners and individuals interested in the region participated in the Forum.

The organizations that played vital roles in ensuring the success of the Forum include European Union - Niger Delta Support Program 4, Water Aid Nigeria, BudgIT, Nigeria Economic Summit Group; Department for International Development (DFID) funded Market Development Project (MADE II) Development Alternative Inc. (DAI) and the Lagos State Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget.

### **NDDF 2018 State Governments Capacity Building Approach**

Our NDDF is not just a Forum. It is a platform for human capital development of target stakeholders. For 2017 and 2018, governments were central.

**Skills/Knowledge** – At the 2017 NDDF, thematic subject matter experts shared importance, approaches, methodologies and thematic focuses for developing long-term plans with State government representatives and guided them to start formulating roadmaps towards this

**Tools/technical assistance:** Ahead of the 2018 Forum, PIND and partners shared templates and resources for developing long term plans and worked with seven states – Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo — to use the template to develop and harmonise frameworks and vision for their long-term planning strategy.

**Platforms:** The 2018 NDDF roundtables served as peer-to-peer learning and lesson sharing between government and other stakeholders. Case studies of the

Lagos State model of development planning, followed by a regional example using the Cross Rivers State 30-year Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) developed with support from PIND in collaboration with other partners were discussed. It was then capped off by highlighting the underlying role of the private sector to initiate, implement, and drive long-term plans successfully. States practiced 'learning by doing' as they pitched their draft long term frameworks to their peers for feedback.

**Resources:** In 2019, PIND and partners plan to provide long term development experts as coaches for on the job support to the winning states to develop and launch their long term plans.



## FACT BOX

### 2010 - 2018: Influencing Development Practice and Policy

- Over 3,367 stakeholders have participated at PIND's convened events.
- 10 strategic collaborations have been formed through these stakeholder engagements to pursue better development policies and practices
- Value of new investments to the region from PIND's stakeholder engagements stands at NGN312,203,840 (\$892,011)
- Cumulatively, 75 policies, papers and plans towards delivering enabling environment have been produced from our Analysis and Advocacy activities