



Monitoring & Evaluation Report

**Quarter One:
January - March 2022**

About PIND Foundation

The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a Nigerian non-profit organization working to promote peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region by forging multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships at the regional, national and international levels. With the humble admission that no single organization can solve the complex and interconnected development challenges in the Niger Delta, PIND works closely with numerous partners to implement collaborative market-based, community-owned programs to mitigate conflicts and boost economic opportunities for local businesses. This ensures that economic progress occurs in a systemic, inclusive, and sustainable manner.

PIND's projects span all the nine states in the region: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Imo, Ondo and Rivers, with special focus on the underserved and hard to reach coastal communities of the region that are most forgotten in development programming.

Since 2010, PIND and partners have been contributing to strengthening and stabilizing the region by *reducing poverty, powering coastline communities, nurturing employment, fostering stability, and enabling development*. Learn more about PINDfoundation.org.

© PIND Foundation 2022

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without full attribution.

Contents

	Abbreviations and acronyms	4
	Background	7
	Introduction: 2022 Q1 M&E Report	8
	Executive Summary	9
	Summary of progress against 2022 targets	12
2.	Context Analysis	14
2.1	Socio-economic environment	14
2.2	Security	14
3.	Economic Development Program	16
3.1	Market Development	16
3.1.1	Key Achievements: Aquaculture	17
3.1.2	Key Achievements: Cassava	18
3.1.3	Key Achievements: Cocoa	19
3.1.4	Key Achievements: Palm Oil	20
3.1.5	Key Achievements: Poultry	21
3.1.6	MSME Development and Linkages	22
3.2	Skills Development for Youth Employment	22
3.3	Access to Energy	23
3.4	Feed The Future: Nigeria Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity	25
3.5	Sombreiro Kapital	26
4.	Peace Building Program	27
5.	General Enabling Program	31
5.1	Capacity Building	32
5.2	Advocacy	32
5.3	Communications	35
5.4	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	37
6	Challenges and Lessons Learned	38
7.	Program Management	39
8.	Looking Ahead	41
	Annexes	42

Abbreviations and acronyms

ACLED	Armed Conflict Location and Event Data
AEAS	Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity
AGSMEIS	Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Scheme
BASIC II	Building an Economically Sustainable, Integrated Cassava Seed System II Project
BMP	Best Management Practices
BMO	Business Management Organizations
BoT	Board of Trustees
BRACED	Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Edo and Delta
BSPs	Business Service Providers
CAPABLE	Capacity Building for Local Empowerment
CB	Capacity Building
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CCDCs	Coastal Community Development Committees
CDCs	Community Development Committees
CNL	Chevron Nigeria Limited
Covid-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPPs	Crop Protection Products
CRIN	Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria
CSEs	Cassava Seed Entrepreneurs
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CUSO	Canadian University Service Overseas
DFID	UK's Department for International Development
DoC	Day-old Chicks
DPO	Divisional Police Officers
DYEP	Delta Youth Employment Program
EGCDF	Egbema-Gbaramatu Communities Development Foundation
EWER	Early Warning and Early Response
FCDO	Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office
FFB	Fresh Fruit Bunches
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FISON	Fisheries Society of Nigeria
FMARD	Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
FSPs	Farm Service Providers
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GIZ	German Development Agency
GMoU	Global Memorandum of Understanding
GPP	Good Poultry Practices
HCDT	Host Communities Development Trust
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICRW	International Centre for Research on Women
IHT	Improved Harvesting Tools
IITA	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture
IPDU	Integrated Peace and Development Unit
ISOPADEC	Imo State Oil Producing Areas Development Commission

KEFFES	Koluama 1 & 2, Ekeni, Fishtown, Foropa, Ezetu 1&2 and Sangana Communities
LGA	Local Government Area
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIPs	Most Impactful Practices
MNDA	Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise
MSD	Market Systems Development
MSP	The Warri Multi Stakeholder Platform
NAEC	Nigerian Agricultural Enterprise Curriculum
NBS	Nigerian Bureau of Statistics
NCDC	National Center for Disease Control
NDDC	Niger Delta Development Commission
NDPI	Niger Delta Partnerships Initiative
NDLink	Niger Delta Link
NDYEP	Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways
NEEWS	Nigerian Election Early Warning System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIFOR	Nigerian Institute for Oil-Palm Research
NIRSAL	Nigeria Incentive-Based Risk Sharing System for Agricultural Lending
NRCRI	National Root Crops Research Institute
NSRP	Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Program
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
P4P	Partners for Peace
PPCD	Participatory Partnerships for Community Development
PGPA	Policy, Governments and Public Affairs Unit, Chevron
PSPs	Poultry Service Providers
PWC	PricewaterhouseCoopers
PWD	Persons living with disabilities
P&ELOA	Peace and Economic Livelihood Opportunities Assessment
Q1	Quarter 1
Q2	Quarter 2
Q3	Quarter 3
RDC	Regional Development Committee
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEO	Search Engine Optimization
SK	Sombreiro Kapital
SMEDAN	Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency
SMS	Short Message Service
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
SPV	Special Purpose Vehicle
SSPE	Small-scale processing equipment
TV	Television
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education Centers
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UK	United Kingdom
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAWG	Violence Affecting Women and Girls
VLD	Village Level Dealers
VSE	Village Stem Entrepreneur
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index
YTD	Year to Date
ZAL	Zigha Ayibakuro Limited

Background

PIND's goal is to identify, catalyze and leverage opportunities, jobs and incomes for our target beneficiaries. In these roles, we robustly engage in the identification of our multi stakeholder partners, and then act as a catalyst for the establishment of an enabling environment for socio-economic growth in the Niger Delta region. The goal of these partnerships is to reduce poverty, increase welfare benefits and reduce conflict by implementing interventions that result in stability and equitable increase in employment and incomes of beneficiaries in the nine target States of Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo and Rivers. To deliver on this goal, PIND tries to understand the root causes of economic instability, conflict, and fragility concerns to forge community-owned, market-driven, sustainable results.

PIND's activities fall under two distinct but interrelated program areas:

1. An **economic development program** focused on generating opportunities for pro-poor market development and employment generation.
2. A **peace building program** that strengthens conflict resolution mechanisms for enabling integrated peace and economic growth.

Additional initiatives designed to support, enable and communicate the achievements of the two program areas include:

- **Capacity Building** that builds the service delivery and engagement capacity of business membership organizations, civil society organizations and communities.
- **Advocacy** that seeks to influence policies, practices and programs underpinned by in-depth analyses and understanding of systemic constraints to growth in the Niger Delta region.
- A robust **communications** and outreach effort that enhances PIND's reputation through clear and consistent messaging via multiple channels, of its unique selling points, transformative approaches, impacts and learning.

Together with **Monitoring and evaluation** that independently tracks, verifies and measures program results.

STRATEGIC PLAN TARGETS

For the third phase (2020-2024), PIND Foundation aims to achieve the following targets:

Expand program benefits to 150,000 farmers and small-scale enterprises to increase their income by 40%.

Facilitate the creation of 45,000 new jobs of which 50% will be youth and other vulnerable groups.

Deliver economic benefits to 10,000 people in GMoU communities through job creation and income generation interventions and facilitation of clean energy.

Strengthen the effectiveness of 5 regional development committees as grassroots development organizations in the GMoU/coastal communities.

Enable active engagement of 5,000 peace actors in conflict mitigation and reduction and positively affect up to 3 million individuals with peace building interventions.

Influence US\$ 25 million spend by donors, federal and state governments in new projects that reduce conflict and poverty in the Niger Delta; and

Raise US\$ 6.5 million from private sector and donor community for PIND programs.

Introduction: 2022 Q1 M&E Report

This first quarter (January – March 2022) report is intended to serve three purposes which are linked to the needs of key stakeholders:

The Sponsor: That is, Chevron – to keep them abreast of program results, establish the business value of the investment in PIND, showcase the causal link between PIND’s impact and a peaceful and more stable operating environment.

Program Implementers: That is, PIND and the Niger Delta Partnership Initiatives (NDPI) (including the Boards of both organizations, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), and Business Development and Sustainability committees, Partners, and Program Managers) - to keep all parties aware of project achievements and constraints, share lessons learned and seek deeper level of collaborations.

Donor/Project Partners: These include the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UK’s Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), formerly the Department for International Development (DFID) and German Development Agency (GIZ) - to share successes and challenges for learning and for further collaborations.

Executive Summary

This report highlights the achievements of PIND's program interventions in the Niger Delta from January – March 2022 (Quarter 1, 2022), and provides relevant information about program management, lessons learned, and plans for the next quarter. The report demonstrates how PIND is driving change to ensure broad-based economic growth in the Niger Delta.

PIND's activities are designed to promote and sustain a culture of learning and adaptation, to build a process where evidence plays a significant role in determining policy direction and interventions in economic development, peace building, advocacy, and capacity building of both government institutions and civil society in the Niger Delta.

1.1 Achievements

PIND made significant progress in its initiatives this quarter. The following are highlights of its achievements:

- With PIND's market development projects continuing to demonstrate progress towards widespread change, 12,199 farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs (41% of them being women) were reached with information and knowledge on best practices and efficient technologies in the crop and non-crops sectors.
- PIND incentivized MSMEs and participating farmers to invest ₦745.19 million (₦215.21 million – Equity and ₦529.98 million – debt) to implement good agricultural practices, technological innovations, purchase inputs and other capital expenditures.
- PIND continued to play a significant role in driving the market for low-carbon, low-cost solutions that offer high-quality energy access to coastal communities. In Q1, 2022, a PIND-supported partner, A4&T power solutions powered on a 54kWp hybrid solar mini grid in Laoso community in Ondo State. As a result, 4,130 people from 650 households and 230 businesses there accessed electricity.
- The first set of 631 youths (47% female) on the Youth Employment Pathways program in Delta State (DYEP) completed technical and vocational skills training across four intervention sectors of ICT, building construction, agriculture, and services. Nine of these trainees were people with disabilities (PWDs). Of these, 505 (80%) have transitioned to income earning positions or apprenticeships (232 in apprenticeships positions, 161 have started small scale businesses, while 112 have secured direct waged employment).
- To support GMoU communities PIND met with associations of fisherfolk in Koluama 1 and 2 (Bayelsa State), Awoye (Ondo), and Ugborodo (Delta State) to ascertain their training needs. A training was carried out for 23 fisherfolk in Awoye, to expose them to appropriate fishing tools and support them with linkages to equipment suppliers. In addition, practical demonstrations on the benefits of chorkor ovens were done in two communities: Bateren and Opuama in Delta State with 75 fish processors in attendance, resulting in the adoption of 20 ovens in the two communities.
- PIND produced 13 conflict reports including 12 weekly conflict briefs and the 2021 Niger Delta conflict report, to update stakeholders and facilitate targeted interventions to mitigate emerging conflict issues in the region during the period. Also, PIND assisted 51 peace actors to constructively resolve emerging conflicts in various communities in the Niger Delta. This led to 48 quality actions¹ being taken to mitigate conflict in different locations across the region. In response to the conflict reports which indicated that violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes, was a major conflict risk and security issue in the region during the quarter, PIND in collaboration with the Centre for Gender and Development Studies (CGDS) of the University of Port Harcourt, launched an advocacy campaign to end the targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes and other forms of violence against women and girls in the Niger Delta.
- By amplifying PIND's communications this quarter, 3,560,473 people gained new or increased awareness about PIND, through its platforms: newsletters, social media, website, email inquiries,

¹ Actions have to meet at least three of five criteria to be considered as 'Quality actions'. 1. All key stakeholders consulted. 2. Intervention focuses on identified risk. 3. Intervention contributes to risk reduction/ mitigation of group-based violence. 4. Intervention affects a significant number of people positively. 5. Impact of the intervention is long lasting (based on the context and nature of the problem).

forums and traditional mainstream media. Also, PIND garnered 80 positive media mentions of its work and activities and attracted 15 public endorsements from stakeholders who interacted with its content on the website, newsletters, and social media posts during the same period.

- In addition, PIND continued its work to ensure access to arable land in the Niger Delta. In Edo state the arable land review committee worked with the Edo GIS department to map all the free-ranged land for agriculture, engage the communities that border the land, and develop a flow chart for accessing land for agriculture in the State. Also PIND evidenced spend by the Cross River State Government on the Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) facilitated by PIND for the State. Finally PIND continued efforts to position itself as a resource organization for the implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), by engaging with IOCs and NOCs, including Agip Nigeria Ltd, Green Energy, and Asharami Oil, as well as the PIA Commission.

1.2 Challenges, Lessons Learnt and Plans for the Next Quarter

Despite the constraints associated with working in the region, PIND and its partners devised various methods to implement their activities amidst the challenges this quarter. For instance, although insecurity continues to be a major threat, restricting movement of goods and services, including agricultural inputs and personnel, and limiting field monitoring of activities by PIND partners and co-facilitators; market actors continue to combine virtual platforms for engagements/interactions with physical means. Another example is PIND facilitating the expansion of the Sombreiro Kapital funding platform to more farmers to mitigate the rise in the cost of inputs from inflation.

In its peace building program, while PIND's early warning system is advanced and effective, the delayed response to reported incidents by security agencies, discourages Peace Monitors from reporting further incidents. To mitigate this, PIND continued engagements with security agencies, with the aim of improving their response to reported/alleged security threats. Also, it is expected that the inauguration of the Prevent Councils in 2022, will help to address issues (report to and follow up with security agencies) within their purview.

Nevertheless, a key lesson that PIND learnt this quarter is that with the right incentive, market actors such as agro-dealers and service providers will adapt to meet the demand for new services from farmers, such as linking smallholders to business service providers to access loans. With the increasing demand for farmers to expand their production through input financing, service providers have been successful in supporting the farmers to access loans, knowing that they will enjoy more patronage for inputs and services from the farmers. In peace building, PIND has learnt that the use of multiple media sources for publicizing peacebuilding activities, interventions and impacts, as well as the use of maps to visualize and understand the dynamics and trends of conflict are effective for accelerating peacebuilding efforts and actions in the Niger Delta.

In Q2 2022, areas that PIND will focus on include:

- supporting existing and new partners to expand and deepen quality and productivity improvement of agricultural interventions,
- undertaking viability assessments of new coastal communities for adopting the energy cabin model,
- selecting and onboarding new implementing partners for the DYEP, and
- orienting and onboarding 1500 youth participants in the YEP project.

In addition, PIND will maintain the peace and conflict database and website, facilitate a nonviolence Election Mitigation Project, and facilitate the development of the Niger Delta Peace and Security policy framework.

1.3 Program Management

In Q1 2022, PIND held meetings of its project and programs sub-committee, and audit and compliance subcommittees; and provided M&E updates to its Board on program implementation. These meetings are key for PIND's internal governance, to keep the Board abreast of PIND programming and receive feedback/inputs for optimizing program implementation, and to ensure accountability. A key outcome of the Board meeting was the approval of PIND's year 2022 annual plan for its programs and projects, and of the annual targets/milestones for the projects based on the strategic plan for its current phase.

Summary of progress against 2022 targets

The summary below presents a view of progress against PIND's 2022 target as at Q1.

Economic Development Program Indicators	2022 Targets	Cumulative Results as at Q1 2022
Outreach	69,500	12,199
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	5,000	1,715
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	25,000	2,245
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	12,000	2,546
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	15,000	2,184
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	8,000	2,173
<i>MSME development</i>	4,500	1,336
Farmers/MSMEs with increased productivity or sales	46,055	Results will be reported in Q3
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	2,000	
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	20,473	
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	8,400	
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	8,165	
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	4,817	
<i>MSME development</i>	2,200	
Net attributable income change [Naira value]	₦16.85 billion	Results will be reported in Q3
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	₦1.05 billion	
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	₦4.80 billion	
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	₦2.00 billion	
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	₦4.85 billion	
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	₦1.65 billion	
<i>MSME development</i>	₦2.50 billion	
Net attributable income change [% change]	40%	Results will be reported in Q3
New jobs facilitated	11,990	Results will be reported in Q3
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	850	
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	1,433	
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	969	
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	2,100	
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	1,758	
<i>MSME development</i>	4,140	
<i>Access to energy</i>	80	
<i>Skills development for youth employment</i>	660	
Value of investments by economic development actors [Naira value]	₦ 9.35 billion	₦865.19million Equity (₦335.21 million) Debt financing (₦529.98 million)
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	₦1.50 billion	₦16.19 million
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	₦605 million	TBD in Q3
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	₦715 million	₦3.60 million
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	₦1.35 billion	₦195.42 million
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	₦1.48 billion	TBD in Q3
<i>MSME development</i>	₦3.60 billion	₦529.98 million
<i>Access to Energy</i>	₦100 million	₦120 million
States adoption of PIND's model for youth employment	0	-
Youths with applicable skills for employment	1,400	Results will be reported in Q3
Change in market sector	1 case study report	To be updated after the planned impact study
Change in GMOU communities	1 case study report	To be updated after the planned impact study
Peace Building Program Indicators	2022 Targets	Cumulative Results as at Q1 2022
Stakeholders with applicable skills in conflict management	220	28
Stakeholders utilizing PIND's peace data and analysis	2,000	167
Peace actors taking action to mitigate conflict	1,297	51
Quality actions taken to mitigate conflict	120	48
Population that feels safe in the area they reside	2%	Results will be reported in Q2

Coastal Community Development Indicators	2022 Targets	Cumulative Results as at Q1 2022
<i>Access to Energy</i>		
Businesses with access to clean energy	700	230
Households with access to clean energy	500	650
People with access to energy technologies	3,700	4,130
Financial benefits accruing to users of energy solutions	₦500 million	Results will be reported in Q3²
<i>GMoU Capacity Building</i>		
Net change in capacity index of RDCs	2.4 (average score)	To be updated after the planned impact study
Organizations accessing funds/grants	8	2
Total value of funds raised with PIND's support	₦26 million	₦17 million
GMoU organizations providing improved services to beneficiaries/Communities (RDCs and implementing Partners).	6	2
General Enabling Program Indicators	2022 Targets	Cumulative Results as at Q1 2022
<i>Advocacy</i>		
Total value of public spending by Government	₦ 378 million	₦42.2 million
Total value of financial and technical assistance committed by donors	₦ 882 million	Pending
Total value of investments in energy solutions by public and private sectors	₦100 million	₦120 Million
Change in policy in relation to multiple taxations on small-scale businesses	Qualitative description of progress	Completed: First draft of the Multiple Taxation Field Assessment report detailing findings and analysis of the study conducted with over 60 business owners in Abia, Delta, and Rivers States.
Level of responsiveness that facilitates access to land by smallholder farmers	Qualitative description of progress	In Edo State, a 20-person committee has been set up by the governor to propose a sustainable strategy to administer and manage land for agriculture. The State GIS has mapped all the available land for agriculture and has commenced sharing agreements with communities in the State. In Delta State, consultations with MDAs are ongoing to get executive approval to proceed with the inauguration of the committee to articulate strategies to effectively map and allocate land for agriculture. In Ondo State, Executive assent has been secured and a committee has been set up to develop state specific strategies.
Change in policies and strategies conducive for building peaceful/ non-violent society.	Evidence of coherence and coordination of interventions	Follow-up engagements held with MNDA to plan a strategy for delivering the Niger Delta Peace and Security Framework.
<i>Business Development</i>		
Funds raised from other sources for PIND's programs	₦ 922 million	₦0
<i>Communications</i>		
Forums to share PIND's work and lessons from implementation	30	11
Public endorsements of PIND's work	25	15
Media reports with PIND mention	220	80
Level of awareness of PIND and its programs:		
Newsletter subscribers	450	132
Website new visitors	50,000	14,119
Social media reach	2.5 million	418,957
Mainstream media reach	9.1 million	3,086,830
Email enquiries	500	90

² This includes benefits accruing to users connected in the preceding year.

2. Context Analysis

2.1 Socio-economic environment

Several issues hampered economic growth in the first half of 2022.

Academic Staff Union of Nigerian Universities (ASUU) Strike

In February 2022, following a breakdown in negotiations with the Federal Government, the Academic Staff Union of Nigerian Universities (ASUU), the umbrella body of faculty across the country's public universities, embarked on a four-week "comprehensive and total strike", to press for increased funding of universities among other issues. However two months later negotiations with the federal government are at an impasse and students have remained at home, despite losing over six months in 2020 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. ³According to the CableNg, "since the return to democratic rule in 1999, ASUU has embarked on nationwide strike more than 20 times during which students have lost a cumulative period of almost four years of the academic calendar". This has an effect on the employability of fresh graduates of public universities in formal organizations, where age is an important consideration for entry-level jobs.

Inflation

⁴Nigeria's annual inflation rate climbed to 15.92% in March 2022, from 15.70% in February and 15.6% in January. A number of issues increased inflationary pressures on the economy: ⁵The earlier announced removal of petrol subsidy was suspended by the Federal government by 18 months. This, and the fuel scarcity caused by a batch of contaminated petrol which was brought in January, 2022; caused petrol prices to rise by over 100% from the official price range of N162-N165 per liter to about N400 per liter in some filling stations, and an average of N450 per liter at black market outlets. Similarly, prices of diesel, which is used to power most businesses, more than doubled from an average of N288 per liter in January 2022, to over N700 per liter in March 2022, causing widespread anxiety for businesses that rely on the product to power generators that make up for historically unstable power supply. The rise in the price of diesel has been linked to the rise in the price of crude oil in the international market, buoyed by the Russia-Ukraine crisis, and the fall in the value of the naira. Since most businesses, large, medium, small and micro enterprises, use generators because of the perennial power supply problem in the country, some have had to reduce their hours of services to curtail their spend on fuel. For example, some radio stations have reduced the number of hours they operate from 24 hours a day to 16 hours in some cases, while some banks have revised their operating hours of some branches because of increased running costs.

Rise in domestic air fares

⁶Domestic air fares rose by over 100% in February 2022; from a typical fare of between N23,300 and N31,000 (for a single economy class ticket), to a minimum fare pegged at N50,000s. The airline operators listed the unavailability and increased cost of aviation fuel (Jet A1), and unavailability of foreign exchange for spare parts and maintenance, as some of the reasons for the fare increase.

Soaring bread prices

Food prices in general have steadily increased since the beginning of the year. The price of a big-sized bread loaf increased to from about N300 in January to an average of N600 in March and is expected to rise further. In March, the Premium Bread-Makers Association of Nigeria noted that the harsh business environment had forced several bakers to shut down operations, and that this would automatically trigger an increase in the price of the commodity.

PIND is working to mitigate the effects of these issues in the Niger Delta through the complementarity of its peace building and economic development programs, by building the resilience of key actors in agriculture and non-agriculture value chains to improve livelihoods and increase the safety space in the region.

2.2 Security

⁷The security situation across the country rapidly deteriorated in the first quarter of the year as government at various levels continue to scramble for a solution. On March 26, 2022, gunmen attacked the Kaduna International Airport in

³ <https://www.thecable.ng/striking-at-the-future-of-the-nigerian-youth>

⁴ <https://tradingeconomics.com/nigeria/inflation-cpi#>

⁵ <https://businessday.ng/business-economy/article/five-themes-that-shaped-nigerias-inflation-in-q1/>

⁶ <https://businessday.ng/business-economy/article/7-economic-highlights-of-first-quarter-2022-q1-22/>

⁷ <https://www.cfr.org/blog/nigerian-democracy-peril-country-descends-lawlessness>

Northwest Nigeria, killing an official of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA). This was followed by a deadly attack by gunmen on a Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) Abuja-Kaduna evening train carrying an estimated 398 passengers, on March 28, 2022. After detonating explosives on the track (and possibly inside the train according to conflicting reports in the local media), the gunmen surrounded the immobilized train and discharged their firearms into the carriages. The incident left at least eight people dead and at least another 41 hospitalized.

⁸Violence in Nigeria is multidimensional and pervasive, ranging from perennial herder-farmer clashes to gang violence, armed robbery, attacks on state infrastructure, especially police stations, airports and power transformers, intercommunal violence, lynching, ritual killings to mob justice.

In the Niger Delta, violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes, was a major conflict risk and security issue during the quarter. According to data from security updates facilitated by PIND (<https://pindfoundation.org/niger-delta-weekly-update-february-06-12-2022>), targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes caused more than 12 fatalities during the period.

Following the emerging trend, the PIND published a special weekly update that highlighted the targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes in the Niger Delta. The weekly update alerted stakeholders to new emerging trends and patterns of targeted killings of women and girls in the region. The publication elicited different preventive responses from stakeholders both in the private and public sectors including government officials, the National Orientation Agency (NOA), and civil society organizations (CSOs). In February 2022, for instance, the Federal Government through the Minister of Information and Culture, indicated plans by the Federal Government to launch a National Campaign against Ritual killings in the country. Also, in March 2022, PIND in collaboration with the Centre for Gender and Development Studies (CGDS) of the University of Port Harcourt, launched an advocacy campaign to end the targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes and other forms of violence against women and girls in the Niger Delta. As part of this collaboration, a one-day stakeholder dialogue and consultation session was organized to address the killing of women and girls. The session brought together stakeholders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors including representatives of the National Orientation Agency, Nigeria Police Force, National Association of Women Journalists, Civil Society Networks and the National Association of Women Lawyers.

⁸ <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2022/04/insecurity-when-will-buharis-marching-orders-end/>

3. Economic Development Program

The economic development program comprises three projects: Market Systems Development, Access to Energy, and the Youth Employment Pathways (YEP). The overarching objective of the program is poverty reduction through increases in the number of men and women experiencing positive changes in income and attaining gainful employment. This is achieved through the facilitation of interventions with sustainable outcomes.

The market systems development project portfolio is made up of five agricultural value chains (aquaculture, cassava, cocoa, palm oil, and poultry) and three cross-cutting interventions (access to finance, access to inputs, and business linkages). The project aims to identify binding constraints in the sectors and seek sustainable solutions that can increase the income of thousands of poor men and women. Note: *Impact indicators for the project are typically tracked once or twice a year, to give sufficient time for the adoption of the new practices which would enable effective monitoring. As a result, no targets were set, and results expected for the quarter under review.

The Access to Energy project focuses on energy efficiency and renewable energy such as the energy cabin and solar refrigeration. While Access to Energy identifies and tests technological solutions, the market development project facilitates activities to develop market systems for uptake and adoption of such technologies.

The Youth Employment Pathways featured the Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways (NDYEP) project between 2018 and 2021 which was funded by the Ford Foundation and implemented in Abia, Akwa Ibom, and Rivers States. It focused on agriculture, construction, finished leather goods and ICT sectors, and was built on PIND's economic development strategy, which emphasizes sustainable interventions that result in full-time employment for youths. Following its successful piloting of being market-led, and demand-driven, the NDYEP model is being scaled up to other states and kicked off in Delta State in January 2021. This edition under the name, Delta Youth Employment Pathways project is funded by the Chevron Corporation. PIND's Economic Development Program contributes to the following global Sustainable Development Goals:



3.1 Market Systems Development

This section highlights key achievements for all initiatives implemented under the Market Systems Development (MSD) project in Quarter 1, 2022.

This project supports farmers and small enterprises in key agricultural sectors in the Niger Delta to improve their productivity, leading to an increase in income and reduction of poverty. The project utilizes the market systems development approach that relies on a sound initial analysis of market systems to pinpoint the underlying causes of market weaknesses, to inform the design and implementation of interventions that address the underlying causes, rather than symptoms, of market failure. To ensure the sustainability of PIND's interventions, the development activities are further anchored on a service providers' model that equips local service providers with the right skills, tools, and connections to sustainably provide viable market solutions that address the root causes of poor performance by farmers and enterprises in the region. This approach is used to support poor farmers in aquaculture, cassava, cocoa, palm oil, and poultry. These sectors represent the most viable agricultural value chains in the Niger Delta.

To focus on growth sectors that are strategically aligned to the commercial interests of service providers and implementing partners, PIND re-engineered its market systems project portfolio in 2019 to focus on two broad categorizations of crop and non-crop agricultural value chain intervention areas. By this, partners are strategically enabled to lead program implementation, in line with their incentives for participating in program interventions.

The Project’s focus for 2022 is to further strengthen the adaptation strategies developed by its network of market actors to increase its reach to 69,500 additional farmers and SMEs, out of which 46,055 are expected to increase their incomes.

In Q2 2021, the Market Systems Development (MSD) Project continued its work with service providers and other key market actors (fabricators, agricultural-input and equipment companies, farmers’ associations, financial institutions, etc.) to improve the performance of farmers to achieve the following objectives:

- expand the training in best agronomic and business practices to more farmers and enterprises.
- introduce new efficient technologies and expand the demonstration and adoption of the existing ones.
- improve farmers’ access to quality seeds and support more enterprises to address market and funding opportunities.
- collaborate with the Peacebuilding team to finalize the design of viable interventions in the Chevron GMoU communities to address opportunities for improved livelihoods; and
- implement interventions to improve access to finance for smallholder farmers through Sombreiro Kapital.

As a result, 12,199 new farmers and enterprises were reached directly with information and knowledge on best practices and efficient technologies, representing a 131% performance against the quarter’s target of 9,300. Also, within the quarter, the net funds leveraged by the farmers/MSMEs under the MSD project was ₦865.19 million, from adopting the improved technologies on their farms⁹

Table 1. MSD progress against 2022 annual targets¹⁰

Indicators	Target	Achieved	Perfor mance (%)	Femal e	PWD	Target	Achieved	Perfor mance	Fema le	PWD
	Q1	Q1	Q1 %	Q1	Q1	2022	YTD	YTD (%)	YTD	YTD
Number of farmers/MSMEs reached	9,300	12,199	131%	4,967	0	69,500	12,199	17.6%	723	0
Number of jobs facilitated	*	*	-			7,110	*	*	*	*
Value of investment leveraged	*	₦745.19 mn	-			₦9.05 8bn	₦745.19 mn	8.2%		
Number of farmers/MSMEs with increased income	*	*	-			46,055	*	*	*	*
Change in the income of farmers (direct and indirect)	*	*	-			₦16.0 5bn	*	*	*	*

3.1.1 Key Achievements: Aquaculture

PIND’s interventions in the aquaculture sector focus on improving the efficiency and productivity of fish farmers and processors, through improved knowledge of best fish farming practices, access to improved processing technology, as well as access to quality input, market, and finance for farmers. The sector’s activities are driven by aquaculture service providers working with input companies, fabricators, and other market actors. In 2022, the plan is to reach an additional 5,000 fish farmers and processors through the promotion of improved technology in coastal communities, adoption of improved practices amongst fish farmers in the region and facilitating access to finance for farmers and processors in the coastal communities of the Niger Delta.

In the quarter under review, PIND deepened its work with the network of aquaculture service providers to further create awareness on the use of quality inputs and to build the capacity of fish farmers and processors, to access funds for

⁹ This exclude the 120 million Naira funds leveraged under access to energy in this quarter. Funds leveraged by farmers’ adoption of other improved modules apart from technologies, will be reported in Q3 2022 after impact assessments.

¹⁰ Details of the quarterly activities, outputs and outcomes for the various MSD sectors are in Annex 1

equipment and input purchase. PIND also continued its support to selected hatchery operators to produce and promote quality fish seeds for farmers, in addition to overseeing and tracking the expansion of the training on good pond management and business practices to more farmers and processors, through service providers and input companies in the region.

In the quarter under review, PIND reached 1,715 new famers/processors. It worked with its network of aquaculture service providers, to further create awareness on the use of quality inputs and to build the capacity of fish farmers/processors, particularly in the GMOU communities, and access funds for equipment and input purchase. PIND also continued to provide support to selected hatchery operators to produce and promote quality fish seeds for farmers, in addition to overseeing and tracking the expansion of trainings on good pond management and business practices to more farmers and processors, through service providers and input companies in the region.

As market actors see the benefits derived from various economic activities in the sector, they invest more to maximize such opportunities. This enables them to expand their business and increase their income, and in Q1 2022, farmers and processors invested N16,190,000 on 20 chorkor oven and five smoking kilns of different sizes (N2,190,000).

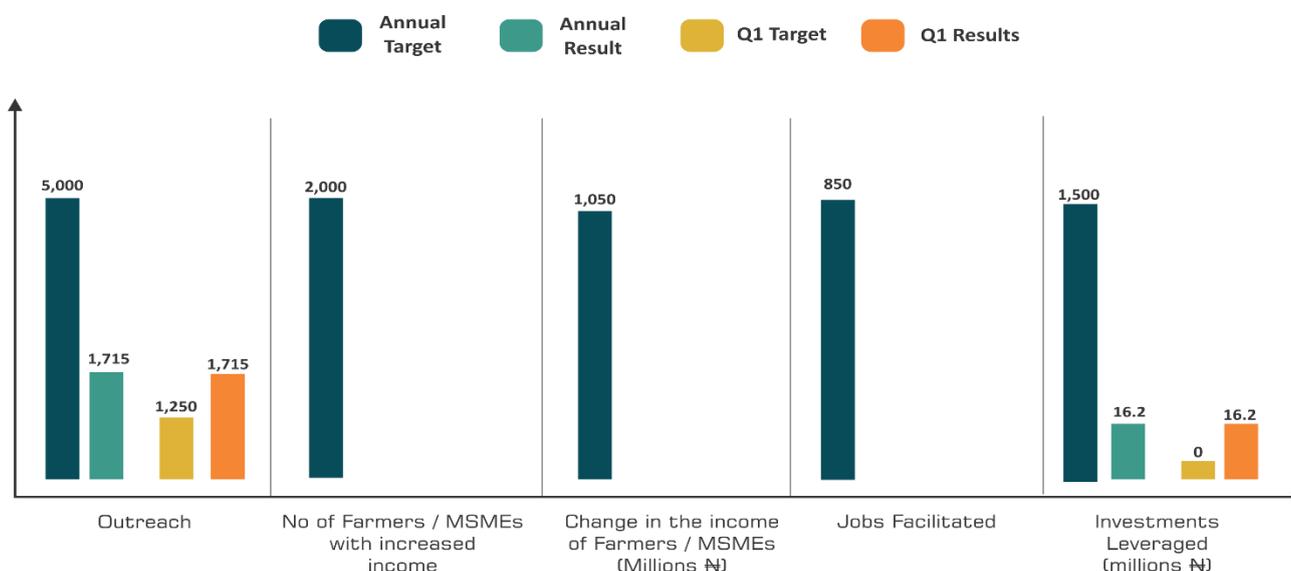


Figure 1. Performance status of aquaculture interventions in Q1,2022

3.1.2 Key Achievements: Cassava

The Cassava value chain interventions are designed to improve the productivity and incomes of actors in the cassava sector. This is achieved through incentivizing partners to invest in activities that will improve access to information and quality inputs as well as markets for cassava farmers. Since 2015, PIND has continued to identify and partner with key value chain actors - agro-input companies/agro-dealers, who promote the sale and adoption of their products through demonstrations and training across cassava farming clusters in the region. These partners continue to report increased sales, due to the collaborations, and farmers who participate in the program also report increased yields and income from their farms.

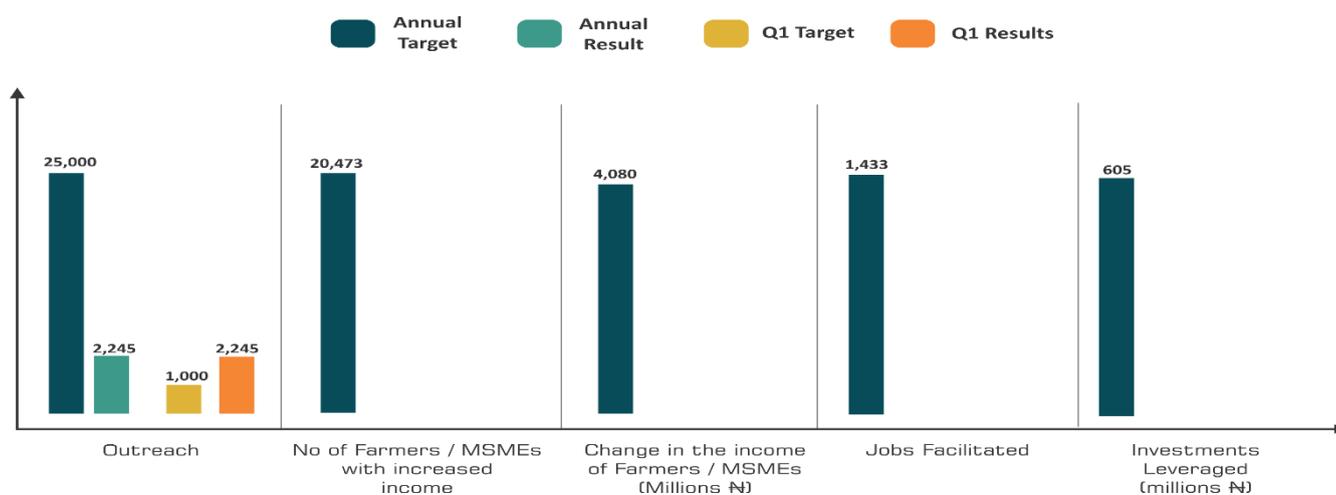
In 2022, PIND plans to reach an additional 21,780 direct and copying farmers¹¹. This will be achieved through the continued expansion of its work across the region by establishing demonstration plots to promote the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in more communities in the Niger Delta. PIND would also increasingly leverage platforms to train and increase farmers’ access to agro-inputs including stems, fertilizers, and other crop protective products CCPs, while expanding its collaboration with BASICS II to increase farmers' access to improved cassava stem varieties that are high yielding and disease resistant through the Cassava Stem Entrepreneurship activity. PIND will also continue to support the establishment of cassava out-grower and aggregation programs in target locations.

In Q1, 2022, PIND commenced engagement with potential and existing partners to define the scope and targets for

¹¹ 12,100 direct and 9,680 indirect farmers

collaboration ahead of the cassava planting season which kicks off effectively in Q2. PIND took advantage of the peculiar planting season in Bayelsa and parts of Delta state which commenced in late October 2021 and continued into Q1, 2022 to continue the scale-up productivity improvement activities working with agro-input firms, agro-dealers, and Farm services providers. PIND also reviewed proposed collaborative plans with BASICS II on strategic activities to strengthen a commercial Cassava seed system in the Region. PIND also progressed its collaboration with Sombreiro Kapital and Sterling Bank, on the Cassava out-grower program on 33ha of land in Imo State with Dufill Prima food as off-taker, while also facilitating a meeting between SAEL Global CBN and Sterling Bank on the proposed out-grower scheme in Edo state on 1,000 ha of farmland.

Through the above outreach activities by partners 2, 245 farmers (1,407 female,) were reached with training, demos, and key agricultural inputs. Farmers who participated in these training are also expected to participate in follow on trainings and practical demonstrations as they start cultivating their farms in April. Investments and other impact results will be reported in Q3 2022.



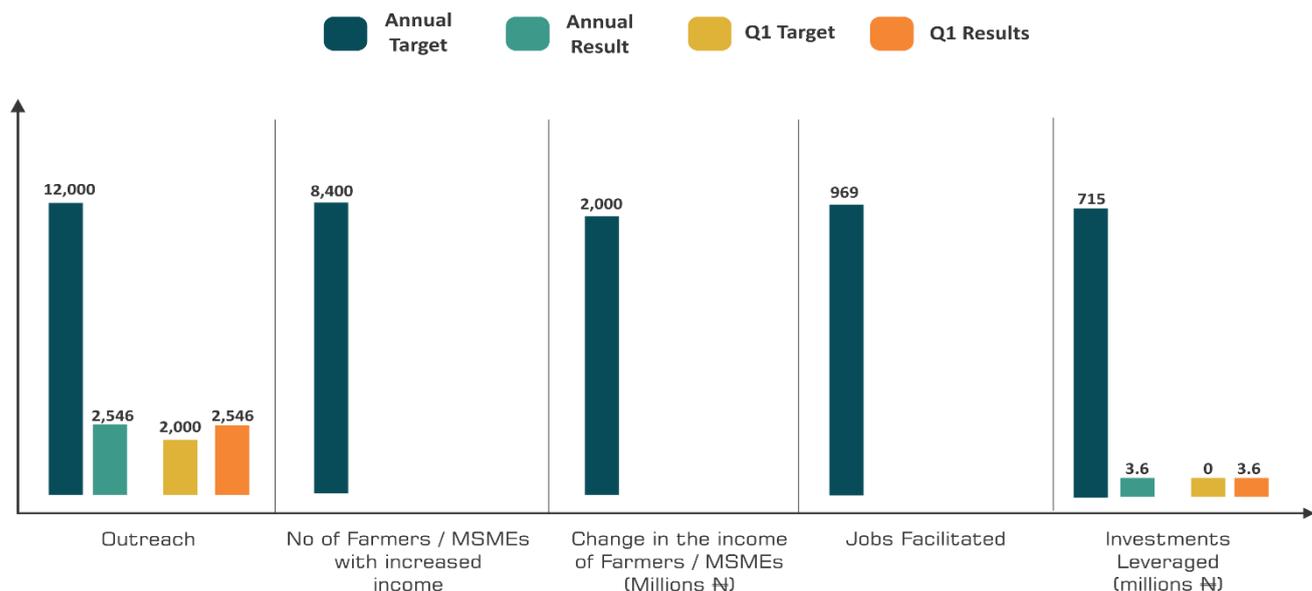
3.1.3 Key Achievements: Cocoa

PINDs Cocoa value chain intervention activities focus on improving the productivity and income of farmers through the adoption of good agricultural practices and technologies. To achieve this, the cocoa project works with a network of support market actors (agro-input companies, agro-input dealers, agro equipment dealers, and Farm Service Providers – FSPs) to improve access to agricultural information, agro-inputs, and efficient technologies to farmers in the cocoa sector. Since 2019, the sector has been strategically focusing on three intervention areas, viz: Productivity improvement, access to quality seedlings, and quality enhancement in five cocoa-producing states of Abia, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Edo, and Ondo.

In 2022, PIND plans to support market actors to reach an additional 12,000 farmers with information on good practices, quality agro-inputs, and efficient technologies in the cocoa producing states.

In Q1, 2022, PIND supported export companies, cooperative groups, and Farm Service Providers to organize training programs and demonstration activities to reach new farmers. Seven Farm Service Providers (FSPs) and one off-taker expanded GAP activities to more farmers in Abia, Delta, Edo, and Ondo States reaching 2,546 (678 females) farmers.

Also, a total of N3.6 million was invested to enhance productivity of farmers- N1.8 million Naira equity investment by Cocoa farmers to purchase four pieces of the mechanical pruner and another N1.8 million for the purchase of four pieces of the mechanical pruners (two pieces each), by Farm Conservation Services (a partner FSP) and Cooperative Farmers Association (a partner cocoa beans aggregator).



3.1.4 Key Achievements: Palm Oil

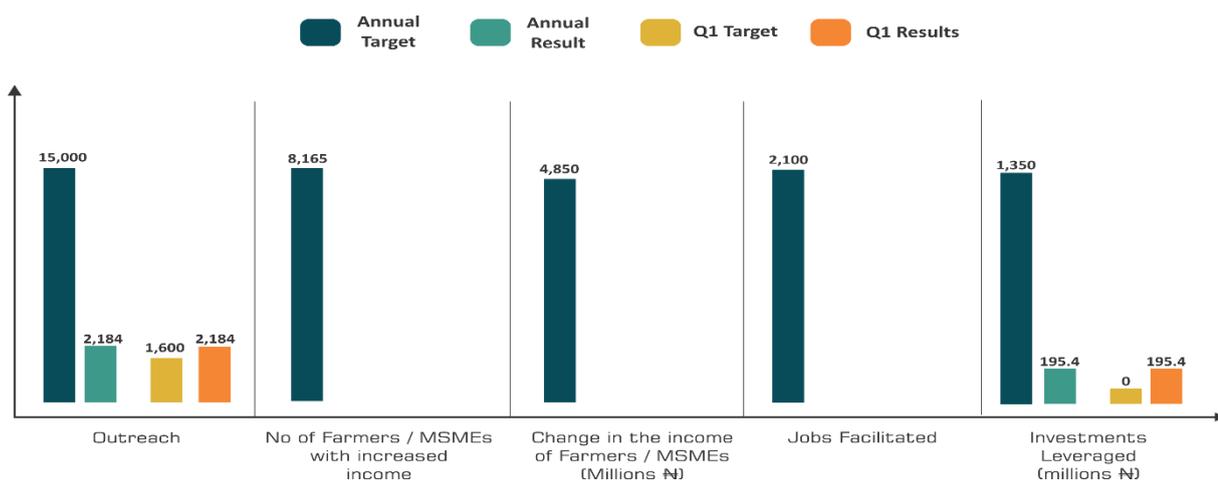
PIND’s interventions in the palm oil sector focus on stimulating best management practices (BMPs) among farmers and improving access to palm oil seedlings. These interventions aim to increase the productivity and income of farmers and small processors in the region. The interventions utilize the market systems development approach and are driven by agro-dealers, fabricators, input companies, and palm seed nursery operators and producers who have the incentives to provide a range of services and products that improve the productivity of farmers and processors. Previous interventions included stimulating the use of harvesting technologies and improved processing equipment.

In 2022, PIND plans to expand outreach to an additional 15,000 farmers, leveraging the adaptation strategies deployed in the previous year. Additionally, PIND plans to deepen the adoption of best practices by linking farmers and market actors to financial institutions to access inputs and equipment. It also plans to continue its work with seed-producing companies to expand the distribution of quality seeds to more farmers in the region. Last year, PIND on-boarded one new seed producer and promoted the business finders’ model which led to 304 palm oil farmers purchasing and planting 274,825 seedlings in the region. PIND plans to onboard another seed producer and support it to increase its network of nursery operators to enable it to reach more farmers.

In Q1, 2022, PIND facilitated meetings between oil palm business membership organizations and business service providers to enable access to affordable loans. Another area of focus was on monitoring the activities of nursery operators, equipment sellers and fabricators, to track the adoption of improved seeds, processing, and harvesting technologies in the Niger Delta, whilst supporting agro-dealers, FSPs, and lead farmers to reach farmers across the region.

In addition, six FSPs and three lead farmers expanded outreach activities to 1,481 farmers (479 female) across Delta, Ondo, Abia, and Akwa Ibom states and 703 farmers purchased improved seeds, making the total farmers reached 2,184, against the target of 1,600 for the period.

As a result of the activities above, N195,418,800 was leveraged by these actors on the purchase of 220 Improved harvesting tools (N3.3 million), purchase of seven small scale processing machines for oil palm processing (N8.65 million), purchase of 229,336,000 seedlings by 703 farmers and the purchase of improved oil palm seeds by farmers (N183.46 million).



3.1.5 Key Achievements: Poultry

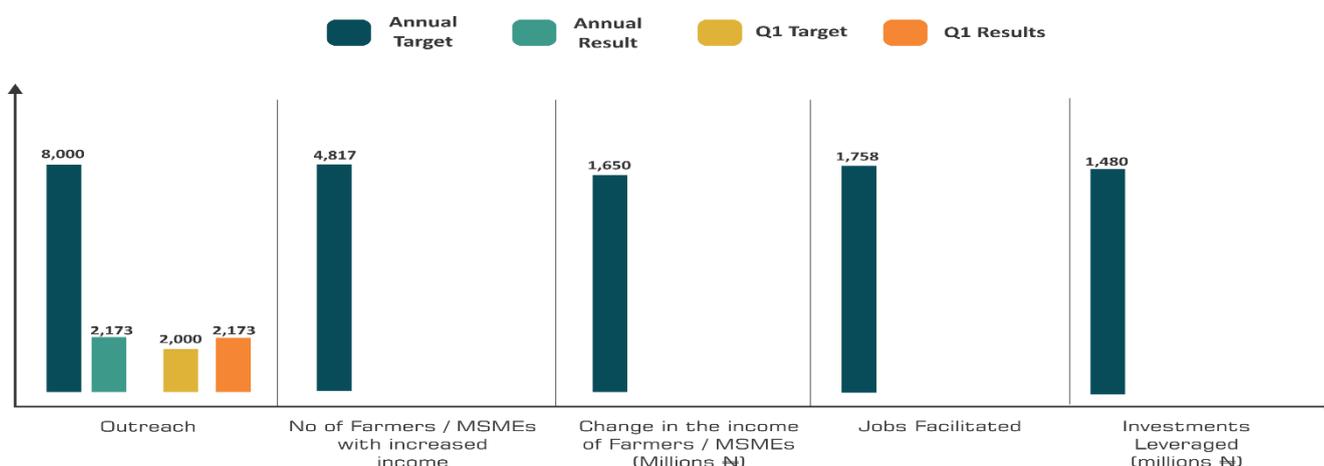
The poultry value chain interventions are designed to improve the productivity and income of poultry farmers in the Niger Delta through the adoption of good poultry practices and linkages to quality inputs such day-old chicks (DoCs), vaccines and feed, as well as markets and finance to help farmers in their growth expansion plans. The sector’s activities are driven by Poultry Service Providers (PSPs) and Village Level Dealers (VLDs) working with input companies, chicken processors, and other market actors, who see the incentive to make more money by providing their services and products commercially to farmers, to improve their productivity.

PIND’s target for 2022 is to reach an additional 8,000 poultry farmers with information on good poultry practices (GPP) and to facilitate access to quality inputs, markets and finance for expansion.

This quarter, PIND worked with a network of PSPs and VLDs to reach farmers with knowledge on good poultry practices, linkages to market, finance, and to create awareness of the importance of biosecurity, particularly in Delta state where some farmers experienced losses due to the outbreak of avian influenza last year.

In addition, PIND continued to mentor and track the activities of service providers and identify more input companies to partner with to drive access to quality vaccine and DoC interventions. Also, in the quarter, PIND identified and engaged three large buyers of poultry products in Rivers, Bayelsa, and Ondo states to provide alternative markets for farmers.

Consequently, the sector recorded a total outreach of 2,173 (838 female), exceeding the 2,000 target for the quarter.



3.1.6 MSME Development and Linkages

The MSME Development and Linkages project aims to stimulate a market that creates a dynamic and diversified set of strong local enterprises that can meet the demand created by large buyers operating within the Niger Delta. This then

strengthens the local economic environment capable of driving economic growth and job creation. The project also strengthens platforms that enable micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to access quality business support services, market, and funding opportunities that enable enterprises to grow and be more competitive in both local and global markets.

The project activities are driven by business services providers (BSPs) whose capacities have been strengthened by PIND to enhance the growth of local enterprises. These BSPs work in partnership with financial institutions, large corporate buyers, chambers of commerce, and other public and private stakeholders important to the development of the MSME sector; to organize business linkages and investment forums, as well as to access new market and funding opportunities necessary for MSME development.

In 2022, PIND plans to work with the business service providers (BSPs) to expand the business performance of 4,500 MSMEs in the region, by improving their technical and business management skills and facilitating linkages to funding and market opportunities necessary for MSME growth and competitiveness. In Q1, 2022, PIND supported BSPs to provide business development services- entrepreneurship development training, management systems upgrade, formalization of business operations, and access to finance through the CBN Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Scheme (AGSMEIS) loan program.

Also, seven BSPs trained and supported a total of 1,336 MSMEs (including 681 women-owned) with business management, business plan development, loan application, and linkages to finance through the CBN AGSMEIS. Consequently, N529.977 million was invested by the MSMEs as debt financing in their businesses as follows: Bayelsa (N174,880,632), and Rivers (N355,096,408).

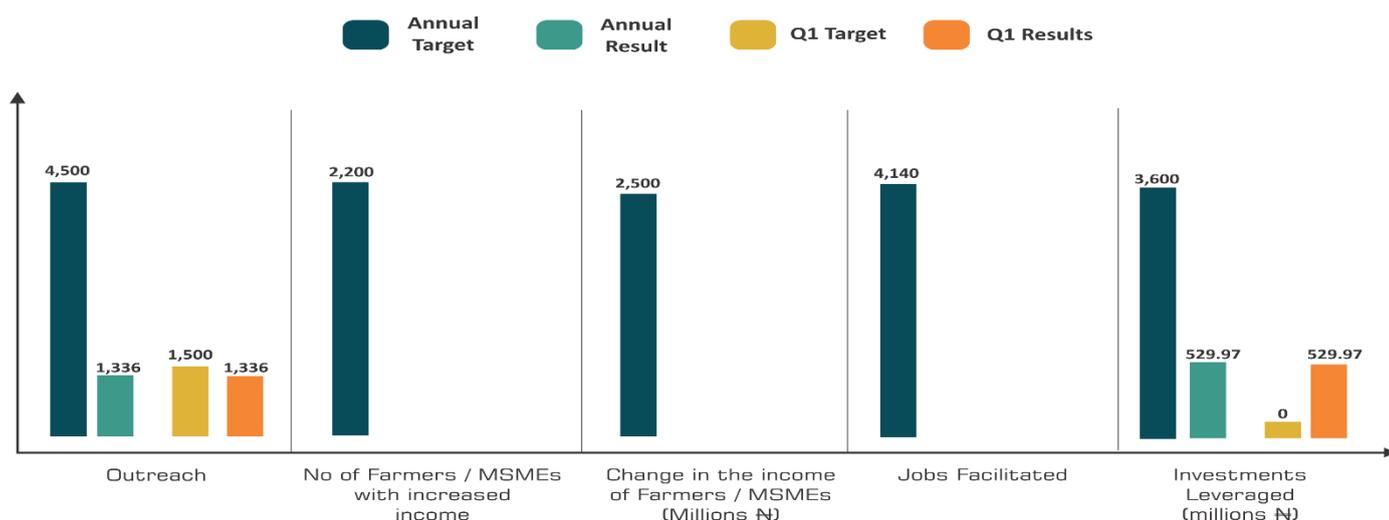


Figure SEQ Figure * ARABIC 6. Performance status of MSME development in Q1,2022

3.2 Skills Development for Youth Employment

Youth Employment Pathways Project in Delta State (DYEP) – Program Design

The Youth Employment Pathways Project in Delta State (DYEP) was borne out of the successes recorded from the implementation of the Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways (NDYEP) project. The program adopts the NDYEP model and core project principles to meet the Delta State current labour demand.

The Delta State Youth Employment Program (DYEP) commenced the implementation of technical vocational and soft skills training with nine implementing partner organizations. In the first year, four economic growth sectors- ICT, building construction, agriculture and services and 17 technical vocational skill areas were covered. Soft skills was mainstreamed in the curriculum, including a module on conflict sensitivity and peace building. The project was implemented in two cities (Asaba & Warri) in Delta State.

Trainings which had commenced in November 2021 were completed by Q1, 2022 (March 2022), across the 11 privately-owned Technical, Vocational and Education Training (TVET) centers in the two cities. Participants were trained in 17 occupational skill areas and 631 youths, aged 16 to 30 years, successfully completed the technical skills training. 37% of

those who completed the training came from Asaba, while 63% came from Warri. 73 of the youths who were trained in Warri came from coastal GMOU communities. 47% of successful participants were female, while nine were PWDs.

With the support of the implementing partners 112 of the youths who completed the training got direct waged employment, while 161 youths started small-scale enterprises of their own (48 of these people have started small scale farms), making a total of 273 youths with income earning opportunities. Furthermore, 232 youths have been placed in apprenticeship and internship positions, which will enhance their chances of accessing waged employment in the future. This implies that of the 631 youths who completed the training, 505 of them (80%) have transitioned to income earning positions or apprenticeships. The remaining 126 youths will also be supported to transition to income earning roles. Of those that have been linked to waged employment, 81 are in ICT, 21 in solar installation, seven in construction and three in services (such as fashion design etc).

3.3 Access to Energy

The coastline rural communities in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria suffer poor rural electrification, with many of the communities not having access to regular electricity supply to power basic economic assets and household needs, leading to reduced economic activities. Expectations for connection to the National grid anytime soon are unlikely due to high-cost implications and the difficult terrains. Since 2018, PIND has been addressing this gap through alternative and affordable off-grid solutions, capable of targeting not only basic energy needs (i.e., lighting and cooking energy), but also productive use of energy at both household and rural enterprise levels (such as use in barber shops and beauty salons).

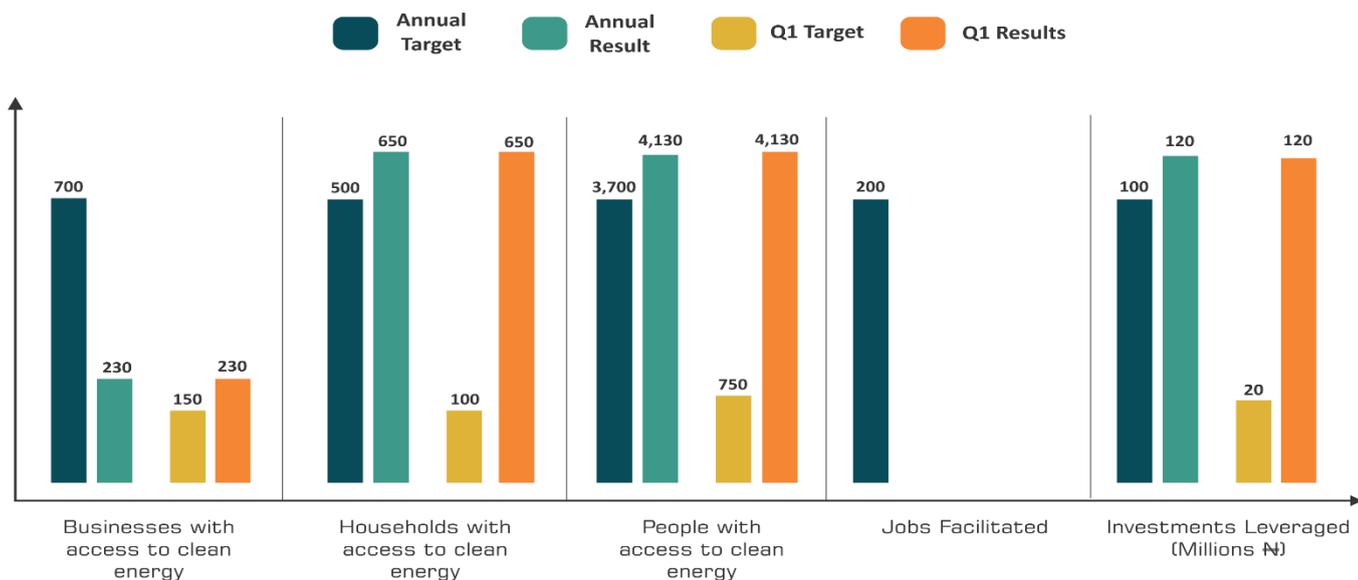


Figure 7. Performance status of A2E in Q1, 2022

Outreach

PIND’s Access to energy program had an outreach of 4,268 in Q1 2022. This includes 4,130 persons across 230 businesses and 650 households now enjoying access to clean energy (electricity) and another 136 persons reached through knowledge sharing, demonstrations, community engagement, as well as two new village-level energy cabin operators who have received training on the technical and business aspects of the community solar power plant.

PIND’s pioneer power developer partner secures catalytic capital to scale up mini grid to Ondo farming community

PIND’s Access to Energy program continues to provide technical program support to A4&T in their drive to scale up electricity through the energy cabins to underserved communities in Ondo State as a going concern and in Q1 2022, A4&T powered on a 54kWp hybrid solar mini-grid in Laoso community in Ondo State.

A4&T’s capability to secure commercial capital to fund the building of a 54kWp hybrid solar mini-grid in Laoso community signifies a major milestone for the solar mini-grid development in the region, since the projects were previously unattractive to the commercial banks. In total, this singular project leveraged N120 Million in private sector investments.

The mini grid provided connections to 230 MSMEs and 650 households in the community. Laoso is an agricultural community with Cocoa as the main commodity, and the business connections will be utilized among productive-energy users. This project involved 24 Technicians and 10 local temp workers working full time for 8 weeks, thereby creating an employment window for seasonal and temp workers while also contributing to the local economic prosperity.

In total, the mini grid provided electricity access to an estimated 4,130 persons across the 650 households and 230 businesses owners. This project will also be benefiting from the World Bank's Result-Based-Financing for mini-grids in rural communities and thereby contribute up to 60% of the CAPEX towards de-risking A4&T's investments, which will enable the company to expand its energy portfolio across Ondo state.

Attracting investments to the Niger Delta coastal communities

PIND's facilitating role in the renewable energy market received a boost in Q1 2022, and a total of 136 key stakeholders in both the supply and demand side of energy goods and services were engaged through information and demonstrations on community energy projects. Meetings were held with different energy stakeholders as part of the activities to stimulate interests and attract investments into the Niger Delta off-grid electricity market. A total of 7 such meetings were held with partners with business interests in Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Ondo, and Rivers States. PIND met with mini-grid developers such as Darway Coast Limited and Ashdam Solar limited; traditional solar rooftop installers such as ProSolar Limited, EnergyPro Limited, Irradiance Limited; and community-led social enterprises such as the advocacy center. PIND also met with Ekovolt – a data solutions company that is partnering with the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) to explore data connectivity in last mile communities.

Other efforts to attract new investors and develop partnerships that can scale up solar mini-grids across the Niger Delta, include a model-sharing workshop targeted at members of the Renewable Energy Service Providers of Nigeria (RESPON) and Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria (REAN) – two key stakeholders in the supply side of mini-grids and equipment in the country. 12 members (11M, 1F) attended the event which presented the learnings from PIND's Energy Cabin pilots and scale-up over the last 36 months. The activity explored opportunities for collaboration on mini-grids, community solar refrigeration solutions, Solar-Home-Systems, and other innovative access-to-energy interventions, across coastal communities in Delta, Ondo, and Bayelsa states.

Supporting the development of partnerships to drive viable community energy business models for the GMOUs

With PIND's support, two GMOU communities in Gbaramatu kingdom (Opuede and Kurutie) were assessed for mini-grid commercial viability by private sector power developers who are interested in adopting and deploying the PIND energy cabin business models in these communities. As a result, the leadership of Kurutie community have commenced discussions with one of the power developers with a view to signing a partnership agreement.

Similarly, in Koluama 2, a GMOU community in Bayelsa state, PIND facilitated a meeting between the leadership of KOTEF fishing cooperative and Vectis business options limited – towards sensitizing the community on the communal philosophy of a refrigeration hub. Koluama 2 is a predominantly fishing community in Bayelsa state lying along the coastline of the Atlantic. The community has been identified and assessed as a viable location for solar refrigeration using PIND's electricity-as-a-service model, therefore the community engagement was complemented with a technology field day that involved participation from 24 members (17M, 7F) of the KOTEF fishing cooperative. This activity forms part of the preliminary stages toward setting up a commercial solar refrigeration hub in the community.

Closing the Energy Access and Gender gap through inclusive programming

PIND recognizes that women are typically underrepresented across the community and household energy beneficiary's spectrum, therefore in Q1 2022, PIND's various demonstrations, workshops, and community engagement activities were undertaken to ensure access for and participation by all. This was achieved in two key instances where about 44% women participation was recorded (Kpokugbene and Kurutie) and another encouraging 29% women participation in Koluama 2 community. The same best practice was cascaded to PIND's partners and private sector power developers through continuous project handholding, and they have been able to advocate an increase in the productive use of electricity for female-headed businesses and female household members within their various communities. Mainstreaming women participation through such programming fundamentals helps to amplify the voices of women in PIND interventions.

3.4 Feed the Future Nigeria Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity (AEAS)

The Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) Activity is jointly-funded by USAID and PIND over a five-year period (May 25, 2020 – May 24, 2025). Like PIND, the Activity utilizes a facilitative approach to market development by partnering with micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and key market actors within the aquaculture, cowpea, maize, rice, and soybean value chains to pilot proven technologies, scale up successful ones, and promote the adoption of improved production practices. It also aims to improve service delivery that will rapidly, effectively, and sustainably provide access to agro-inputs and disseminate extension messaging to at least two million smallholder farmers in Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi, and Niger states.

The Extension Activity uses Lean¹² production principles and tools to develop a deep understanding of the existing production systems to identify the most promising opportunities (also known as most impactful practices- MIPs) and the most important constraints to improve efficiency and increase return on investment for farmers. The Extension Activity leverages MSMEs as change agents around the identified on-farm opportunities. These MSMEs are strategically placed intermediaries for upstream and downstream movement of inputs and commodities through the market system; and their businesses depend on and can grow with the enhanced competitiveness and profitability of smallholder producers: their core customers.

PIND and AEAS interventions in the Niger Delta

PIND’s collaboration with the AEAS project focuses on interventions in Aquaculture, Maize and Rice in Delta and Cross River States. Between January and March 2022, The Extension Activity intensified business development support to MSMEs to enable them to commercialize the MIPs effectively by disseminating extension messaging to SHFs to increase their productivity and income, and at the same time creating demand for their products and services. The extension messages highlighted how to apply the MIPs as well as the benefits of adopting the MIPs and their complementary practices. Extension messaging campaigns were conducted in Cross River state on the use of improved seeds in five communities in four LGAs: Bekwarra, Obanliku, Ogoja, and Yala ; while campaigns were conducted in three communities in three LGAs in Delta state – use of improved seeds (in Aniocha North and Oshimili-North) and use of juveniles (in Isoko North). A total of 180 MSMEs are partnering with Extension Activity and receiving services to promote private sector extension in Cross River and Delta states. Of the 180 MSMEs, 46 MSMEs commercialized the MIPs and provided extensions services to 2,328 SHFs this quarter.

Partner MSMEs in Cross River and Delta states invested N16.1 million to address the issue of availability of products and services to SHFs. They invested in pond expansion, sinking of new boreholes, leasing of tractors and purchase of equipment including pumps, water storage tanks, threshers and destoners. To satisfy an expanded client base, seven firms in Cross River state reported 31 additional jobs created (24 thresher operators and 7 hatchery workers) with 52% of the jobholders being women or youth.

In Cross River state, the Extension Activity facilitated the training of 15 juvenile producers (hatcheries) on improved production practices including better water management at the Institute of Oceanography, University of Calabar. The Extension Activity also identified and linked members of the juvenile cohorts in Cross River and Delta states to a source of high-quality brood stock.

Also to improve smallholder access to savings, credit and digital financial solutions, Angala FinTech, a partner of the Extension Activity, trained 20 MSMEs and other community based financial service providers (CBFSPs) in Cross River state on its PayRail Agency Banking and Extension Service Solutions. The solutions enable the generation of credit score for SHFs and addresses the issues of farmer’s proximity to input and produce markets. It expected that that through PayRail, Angala FinTech will provide working capital credit financing to SHFs for the acquisition of inputs and services.

Table 2. Breakdown of MSME’s enlisted and providing services

State	Cross River			Delta			Aggregate		
	Total	Female-owned	Youth-owned	Total	Female-owned	Youth-owned	Total	Female-owned	Youth-owned
MSMEs in cohorts	52	8	7	128	25	7	180	33	14
MSMEs deploying MIPs	16	1	1	30	6	2	46	7	3

¹² Lean is a process-driven analytical and management set of principles and tools the Activity will use to develop a deep understanding of the existing production systems to identify the most promising opportunities and the most important constraints to improve efficiency and increase return on investment for farmers. Lean principles emerged from the Toyota Production System, known for efficiency and high net margins within its industry, and have been applied in agriculture as well as other sectors and industries in the recent decades.

Table 3. Number of farmers accessing MIPs/Intervention

MIP/Intervention	Cross River			Delta		
	Total	Female	Youth	Total	Female	Youth
Use of Juveniles				207	69	34
Use of improved seeds (Maize)				135	18	9
Use of improved seeds (Rice)	202	53	47			
Extension messaging	1,576	659	95	208	36	21

3.5 Sombreiro Kapital Ltd/Gte

Over the years, poor or no access to finance has consistently affected the productivity of businesses in the Niger Delta. This is due to systemic constraints (existing laws, infrastructural deficit, and knowledge gap), which influence the demand and supply of financial services. In response to these constraints, Sombreiro Kapital was incorporated to facilitate lending to businesses through the issuance of credit guarantees to partner commercial banks to de-risk lending and unlock the flow of funds to intended beneficiaries.

In 2022, the institution's target, through risk-sharing with partner commercial banks, is to facilitate loans worth N300,000,000 to 1,000 businesses in the aquaculture, poultry, cocoa, oil palm, and cassava value chains across Delta, Edo, Bayelsa, Imo, and Ondo States.

In the first quarter of 2022, the institution facilitated loans worth N30,172,800 to 195 business owners, including 15 fish processors in the GMOU communities, and 180 smallholder cocoa farmers in Ondo State. It is anticipated that the income of businesses supported would increase due to the relatively low-interest rate of 9% per annum which is being charged by Sterling bank Plc for the loans.

Table 4. Sombreiro Kapital progress against 2022 annual targets

Indicators	2022 target	Target for the Period	Result for Q1			Cumulative to date (2022)		
			Results for Q1	No of Females	No of PWDs	YTD	No of Females	No. of PWDs
Number of farmers supported to receive loans by SK	1000	250	195	90	0	195	90	0
Volume of loans facilitated (Naira)	N300,000,000	N75,000,000	N30,172,800	N13,586,400	0	N30,172,800	N13,586,400	0
Default rate on loans facilitated (%)	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
New investment leveraged into SK	N40,000,000	N20,000,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of farmers receiving loans from commercial banks post SK support	Too early to measure	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Women farmers receiving loans from commercial Banks	400	100	90	90	0	90	90	0

4. Peace Building Program

The strategic thrust of the peace building program is to achieve regional and lasting peace in the Niger Delta. To achieve this, PIND is creating sustainable peace partnerships, encouraging collaboration and cooperation amongst peace actors, providing support for economic development, and strengthening indigenous structures for peace, while also creating and building interfaces with larger state-level or regional peace efforts; thereby creating an enabling environment for sustainable broad-based economic development.

The peace building program consists of two interrelated and interdependent projects: The Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) and Partners for Peace (P4P) Network. The IPDU focuses on undertaking research and providing training to local and international stakeholders to implement innovative pilot projects that show promise of making a difference on the ground. Responding quickly in a targeted manner to rapidly changing dynamics, IPDU promotes collaboration and synergy amongst existing local, regional, and national efforts of actors in both public and private sectors to develop/deploy early warning and response mechanisms to address conflict, with a focus on gender and youth.

The P4P Network is PIND's strategy towards establishing social infrastructure and capital across all nine States of the Niger Delta. In the last five years, PIND has established a network of self-identified agents of peace that have deployed the power of grassroots networking towards building peace in the region. Using conflict analyses and early warning as key instruments, P4P identifies, and supports existing initiatives, and creates new ones to address the conflict risk factors. The P4P Network currently has chapters and subchapters in all the 9 States and 119 LGAs of the Niger Delta.

In the current strategic phase, the Peace Network will focus on establishing and strengthening grassroots conflict resolution initiatives that promote a more enabling, integrated, and peaceable environment conducive for economic growth and development in the region.

PIND's Peace Building Program contributes to this global Sustainable Development Goal:



This section highlights key achievements of the Peace Building program in Q1, 2022.

4.1 Peace Building

PIND continued interventions in conflict prevention, conflict management and peacebuilding in the region this quarter. PIND's role in and its support for grassroots-led conflict resolution initiatives are examples of both the scope and the limits of long-term peacebuilding projects. Recognizing the need for an integrated and comprehensive approach to tackling the complex causes and drivers of conflict in the region, PIND adopted a plan of action that aimed to keep the level of violence as low as possible, particularly in key communities of interest, while also building the social infrastructure and social capital of peace actors across the region for long term sustainable peace.

This ushered in a paradigm shift reflecting a different way of working on problems of militancy, election violence, gang/cult violence, communal violence, and the cross-cutting issue of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG)¹³. PIND aims to achieve this objective through the active engagement of 5,000 peace actors in conflict mitigation and reduction.

In Q1, the peacebuilding program continued targeted peace building and conflict mitigation interventions to lessen the levels of conflict risk and lethal violence in the Niger Delta. As part of these targeted interventions, the Program trained

¹³ PIND Impact Assessment: promoting peace in the Niger Delta 2012- 2018.

30 conflict monitors in selected upland communities in Abia, Akwa Ibom and Rivers states on how to identify and report incidents of conflict risk and violence to the integrated Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) platform to aid proactive responses. Consequently, the program generated and disseminated 6 conflict alerts to 26 members of the RDC Peacebuilding Committee in Delta and Ondo states, for situational awareness and preventive response. Conflict alerts were also disseminated to the P4P Prevent committees for proactive interventions to mitigate drivers of conflict and instability in Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa and Delta State. PIND also produced 13 conflict reports including 12 weekly conflict briefs and the 2021 annual Niger Delta conflict report to update stakeholders and facilitate targeted interventions to mitigate emerging conflict issues in the region. Violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes, was a major conflict risk and security issue during the quarter. According to data from the [Niger Delta weekly update for February 2022](#), targeted killing of women and girls for ritualistic purposes caused more than 12 fatalities during the period.

Data on conflict drivers and fatalities for various locations and periods are gathered from different sources including PIND’s IPDU, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), Fund for Peace’s UNLock, Transition Monitoring Group’s

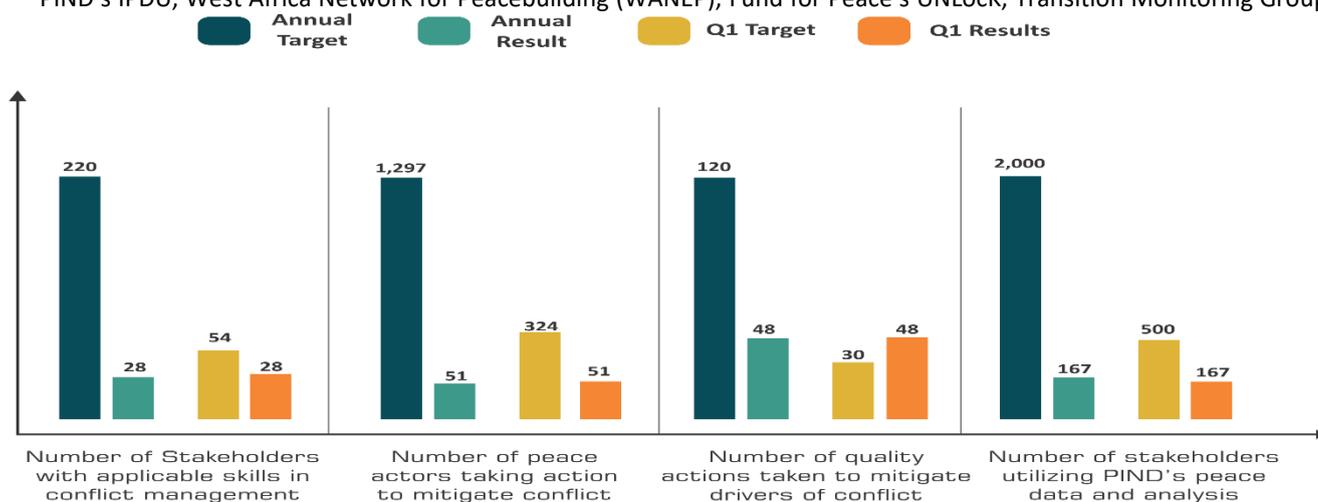


Figure 8. Performance status of Peace Building program in 2021

(TMG) Quick Count of the Nigerian Election Early Warning System (NEEWS2015), Nigeria Stability and Reconciliation Program (NSRP), Council of Foreign Relations, Nigeria Watch, Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED), and Community Initiative for Enhanced Peace and Development (CIEPD); and these data are integrated on the Peace Map. Data from the map is regularly aggregated in the form of weekly, quarterly, and annual conflict trackers which are used by the P4P Chapters, Prevent Committees, and others in their conflict assessment and mitigation planning workshops. An analysis of the utilization of PIND’s data products revealed that 167 stakeholders utilized PIND’s peacebuilding data and analysis in Q1 2022.

Stimulating peace actors to tackle conflict and promote peace.

PIND’s peace efforts are geared towards preventing violence as a means of resolving conflicts, reducing fragility as a breeding ground for violence, and creating opportunities for long-term development. As conflicts are a natural part of social processes of change for sustainable development, PIND is relentlessly promoting a culture of peace by providing relevant data for early response and facilitating collaborative efforts for implementing conflict management and peace building interventions. Through its Integrated Peace Development Unit (IPDU) and the Partners for Peace (P4P) network, PIND has continued to facilitate training and workshops to enhance capacities of peace actors to constructively mitigate conflict.

In Q1 of 2022, 28 stakeholders whose capacities had been strengthened through PIND/P4P facilitated training¹⁴ sessions and workshops, applied the skills they had acquired to promote peace and tackle conflict in their communities. Most of the peace actors reportedly applied their skills by providing further training to others; engaging in conflict mitigation efforts within and outside their communities; reporting conflict issues to the PIND/SMS platform; engaging in peacebuilding awareness campaigns against electoral violence and analyzing conflict trends and patterns. Some examples of the way these peace actors have applied skills gained to promote peace and tackle conflict in Q1, are given in table 5.

¹⁴ Training areas: capacity to provide further training to others; engage in conflict mitigation efforts in their communities; write proposals to receive funding for their organizations; enable them to become better leaders in their communities; report conflict issues to the PIND/SMS platform; engage in peacebuilding awareness campaigns against electoral violence; empowerment to make a difference as regards conflict issues in the community; and ability to analyze conflict trends and patterns.

Table 5. Summary of selected peace actors applying skills acquired by location and action taken

Peace actor/Location	Skills Applied	Outcome of action taken
Ebi Bayelsa State	Gender-based Violence Case Management	Mrs. Ebi is a gender desk officer in the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) Yenagoa, Bayelsa State who was trained in conflict assessment in 2017, and has since been attending to gender-based violence issues in the Corps. In March 2022, she attended to an alleged rape case of a 14-year old girl by a 64-year-old man in Yenagoa and reported the case to the Gender Unit of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and the police for further investigation and court action since NSCDC does not detain alleged criminals for more than 24 hours. The family of the victim is now considering adopting an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism as they feel the litigation process would take too long and might deprive the victim of justice.
Rose Rivers State	Gang Violence	Rose, a teacher, attended the Conflict Assessment training in Rivers State in 2017 and has since been sensitizing students of Government Community School in Opuoko community of Khana LGA, about the effects of cult activities in the community. When schools resumed in January 2022, she set up a Peace Club in her school, training students on drama, violence and conflict (including how to manage various conflicts).
Orok Cross River	Gender-based Violence Prevention	Orok works for Peace Point Development Foundation. She was trained in gender and peace building in 2018 and she subsequently set up community and schools environmental clubs as platforms to sensitize the public on environmental conflict issues and how to prevent, mitigate and resolve them. In March 2022, she facilitated training sessions for the Network of Women on Peace Building on gender, mediation and peace building in Calabar with 45 NGOs and government representatives in attendance.
Roselyne Rivers State	Conflict Management	Roselyn attended Rivers State conflict assessment training in 2017 and has been using the skills she gained to resolve conflicts in the community she resides. In Feb 2022, she held a meeting with the management of Rukpokwu Community Secondary school and the leadership of Onelga Security Peace and Advisory Committee (OSPAC), a State approved vigilante group in Obio-Akpo LGA, to address the violent activities of some notorious students in the Community school, suspected to be members of cult groups in the school. After the meeting, they resolved to monitor the notorious students with the decision of disciplinary punishment against defaulting students to serve as a deterrent for other students.

Also, 51 peace actors (P4P members) constructively resolved emerging conflicts in various communities in the Niger Delta, utilizing 48 'quality actions'¹⁵ within the reporting period. Some of such interventions towards creating a long-term peaceful environment, are presented in the table below.

Table 6. Summary of selected interventions carried out by peace actors in Q1 2022 by location, type and results

Peace actor/Location	Type of conflict issue	Outcome of interventions
Godsent Imo State	Intra-communal clashes	Godsent the Imo State P4P Coordinator led an intervention that helped to address a traditional leadership tussle and intra-communal clashes that had ravaged the Obibiezena communities for over 5 years, as there was no community constitution to guide the process of electing the community governing structures such as the Eze and the Eze's Cabinet of the community or President General (PG) and its Executive Committee, which are the highest decision-making organs in the Obibiezena community. In January 2022, the Imo State P4P held stakeholders' meetings to promote peace and organized training sessions on community development, EWER and conflict negotiation and mediation. Relative calm has returned to the community. HRH Eze Dr. (Sir) Peter U. Onyewuchi, the traditional ruler, the President General (PG) of Obibiezena Development Union (ODU) and many other community executives publicly announced that the P4P was instrumental to peace that reigned between the Traditional Institution and the Town Union. The restoration of peace also contributed to the establishment of the Obibiezena Women Multi-purpose Cooperative Society with the initial start-up membership of 120 women. To ensure lasting peace, the Town Union and the Eze-in-Council jointly constituted a Constitution Review Committee (CRC) which submitted its recommendations for revisions to the constitution, to the Obibiezena Development Union (ODU) in February 2022.
Cynthia Edo State	Boundary Disputes	In 2021, Cynthia, the Chairperson of Edo State Prevent Team, anchored an intervention that helped to resolve the boundary disputes between Sabongida-Ora and Uhonmora in Owan West LGA, in Edo State. The conflict had caused destruction of lives and property and restriction of movement between disputing communities. P4P intervened and facilitated meetings between the communities and by the end of the intervention, resolution was reached, and a communique drafted in March 2022 with the involvement of the Edo State government. P4P is following-up to ensure the communique is issued and signed by all parties involved. There is relative peace in the communities now and the commissioner for public utility and safety said "the P4P's work is impressive we did not know that such an organisation existed".

¹⁵ Actions have to meet at least three of five criteria to be considered as 'Quality actions'. 1. All key stakeholders consulted. 2. Intervention focuses on identified risk. 3. Intervention contributes to risk reduction/ mitigation of group-based violence. 4 Intervention affects a significant number of people positively. 5 Impact of the intervention is long lasting (based on the context and nature of the problem).

<p>Stanley Bayelsa State</p>	<p>Cultism/Violence against women and girls (VAWG)</p>	<p>Stanley, the P4P State Coordinator in Bayelsa State, mobilized youth, women leaders and traditional rulers, and jointly intervened to reduce the rising cultism and VAWG in Yenegoa and neighboring communities. In January 2022, courtesy visits were paid to relevant stakeholders and commitment elicited from the community leaders. Participating communities resolved to formulate local laws to address drug abuse and cultism to reduce the level of drug peddling and usage in their communities. Residents reported that cult activities in these communities in Yenegoa have reduced significantly since then. The relationship between the military and other security agencies has improved. Community based peace actors have also been established to report conflict issues in their localities and contribute to maintaining peace and security in their various communities.</p>
---	--	---

Mainstreaming Conflict Sensitivity in Projects

In March 2022, 374 youth (192 female) of PIND’s Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) program in Delta State were trained in peacebuilding in Warri and Asaba, Delta State. The training focused on volunteerism, conflict management and PIND’s SMS-based early warning reporting system. The training also aimed to highlight the nexus between peacebuilding and economic development, recognize cause of conflict, acquire basic skills to respond to mitigate conflict and highlight the negative impacts of conflict on relationships and businesses. A pre-training and post-training assessment showed that 84% of the participants now have increased interest in participating in peacebuilding processes in their communities while 65% are convinced they will leverage the skills gained at the training to intervene in conflict issues in their businesses and communities.

4.2 Warri Multi-stakeholder Platform

The Warri Multi stakeholders Platform (MSP) in collaboration with youths from Ijaw and Itsekiri communities around Makaraba, Abiteye and Utonana Chevron’s Nigeria Limited (CNL) oilfields, organized a retreat where participants were trained on volunteerism, leadership, understanding conflicts and peacebuilding. It was a strategy to curb the intermittent inter-ethnic communal tension and promote peaceful coexistence between communities. Participants who attended the training came from Omadino, Kokodiagbene, Deghele, Okoyitoru, Bateren, Benikrukru, Oporoza and Makaraba communities. The Delta State Police Commissioner, represented by the Assistant Commissioner of Police, was also in attendance. Participants identified the following as major causes of violent conflict in their communities: unemployment and poverty; leadership tussles; boundary disputes between Ijaw and Itsekiri groups in Warri South-West local government area; non-community-driven corporate social responsibility (CSR) of private organizations; harassment by security forces; alleged divisive actions of some multinational companies working in the area, and inadequate representation of women in leadership positions.



At the end of the retreat participants resolved to do the following: develop new narratives to counter negative stories of the relationship between the Ijaw and Itsekiri, establish a platform for cooperative development for Ijaw and Itsekiri, create an enabling environment for peaceful coexistence between the Ijaw and Itsekiri, foster cooperation between Ijaw and Itsekiri to conduct Joint investigation Visits (JIV) and address the oil spills; resolve any outstanding conflicts between Ijaw and Itsekiri and ensure the return of IDPs caused by past violent conflicts between the two ethnic groups. Finally they also agreed to stepdown share the knowledge they had acquired from the retreat with various communities within their kingdoms. MSP members in attendance noted that the retreat helped to challenge mindsets and will undoubtedly contribute to creating an enabling environment for JIV to address the alleged oil spill that occurred within the Abiteye and Utonana CNL oilfields eleven months ago.

5. General Enabling Program

PIND's interventions fall under two distinct but interrelated program areas: (1) an Economic Development program focused on generating opportunities for pro-poor market development and employment generation; and (2) a Peace Building program that strengthens conflict resolution mechanisms for enabling integrated peace and economic growth.

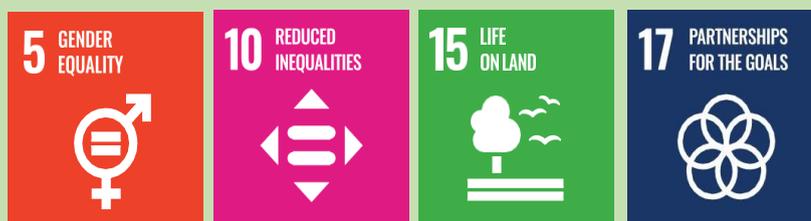
Additional initiatives designed to support, enable, measure, and communicate the results and achievements of the 2 core pillars of Economic Development and Peace Building include:

Capacity building that will build the service delivery and engagement capacity of business membership organizations, civil society organizations and communities.

Advocacy that seeks to influence policies, practices and programs underpinned by in-depth analyses and understanding of systemic constraints to growth in the Niger Delta region.

A robust communications and outreach effort that enhances PIND's reputation through clear and consistent messaging via multiple channels, of its unique selling points, transformative approaches, impacts, and learning.

PIND's General Enabling Program contributes to the following Sustainable Development Goals:



This section shows key achievements in Quarter 4 of 2021 for all initiatives implemented under the General Enabling Program.

5.1 Capacity Building

As one of PIND's key enablers, the Capacity Building program is designed and positioned to strengthen the institutional and technical capacity of government, civil society (including business associations and service providers) for effective socio-economic engagement, inclusive governance for growth, and peaceful co-existence in the Niger Delta", and directly contributes to both PIND's long-term objective and overall goal.

The Program was designed to focus on two major areas, the first being to strengthen the capacity of local development organizations in the Niger Delta to adopt the market systems approach through the Capacity Building for Local Empowerment (CAPABLE) Making markets work for the poor (M4P) training program. M4P is an overarching approach to development that provides agencies and governments with the direction required to achieve large-scale sustainable change by focusing on underlying constraints that prevent the poor from participating effectively in markets. As part of its continued support to CAPABLE organizations this year, PIND is providing direct mentorship to 10 selected organizations to implement projects using the market systems approach. This support will also involve handholding on proposal writing and fund mobilization to diversify their funding base following the virtual training to organizations last year.

The second area of focus for the project is to strengthen the institutions that support the Chevron Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMOU) process, to carry out developmental projects that improve the livelihood of people living in the communities.

Between 2020 and 2021, PIND carried out a series of activities aimed at strengthening the institutions that support the Chevron GMOU and RDCs, including supporting the implementation of the recommendations from the 2018 Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) conducted on the RDCs. These include coaching, mentoring and trainings

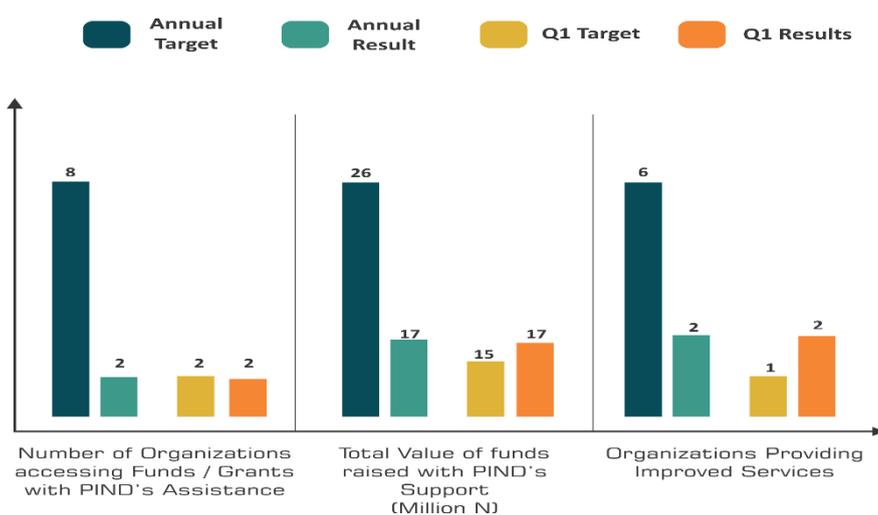
conducted for various committees of the RDCs including those in Video production and photography, Sustainable Project Management, and on gender equality and social inclusion.

In the first half of 2022, PIND will continue to coach and mentor the various committees of the RDC in the aforementioned skill areas in line with the OCA recommendations. It will also conduct an evaluation of the RDCs on their progress in adopting and implementing the OCA recommendations and increasing their organization capacity Index. It will exit this support upon the kick-off in the latter half of the year ,of the Petroleum Industry Act’s Host Community Development Trusts that will replace the RDCs. PIND will also continue to support the PGPA teams in the implementation of GMoU interventions. In addition, PIND will also continue to strengthen the Capacities of CAPABLE M4P organizations on proposal writing and resource mobilization alongside continued mentorship in the implementation of Market systems interventions in the region.

In Q1 2022, PIND continued to provide mentorship and support to the Media and Communications team of the Egbema Gbaramatu Communities Development Foundation (EGCDF) and Itsekiri Regional Development Council (IRDC) in the development of their media advocacy video for showcasing the activities of the RDCs in their communities. PIND also commenced the development of TOR for the engagement of a consultant to evaluate the RDCs on their OCA implementation and organizational progress. In addition, PIND trained 17 people from eight organizations (PIND’s co-facilitators) on the development and management of Intervention Guides and the DCED Standard for results measurement

As part of its secretariat support to the GMoU this quarter, PIND’s capacity building team also facilitated the development of a joint implementation work plan for the PGPA and PIND collaboration teams and hosted the first Collaboration meeting for 2022 which was held on 29th March 2022.

In addition, this quarter PIND commenced the engagement of consultants to provide additional training and mentorship to selected CAPABLE organizations on proposal writing and resource mobilization, to further enhance the capacity of these organizations to attract increased funding to implement sustainable projects in the region, and to building the capacity of identified Business Membership Organizations (BMO)s within PIND's MSD Sectors. Two of the previously trained CAPABLE organisations accessed funds and grants in Q1, 2022. Living Hope Foundation received a grant of N15 million from the Global fund to sensitize 150 pregnant women, youth, and children on malaria/Tuberculosis prevention and treatment in selected Local Government Areas in Delta and Cross River State. Similarly, Macjim Foundation received funding of over N2 million from CORDAID to research climate change impact across key sectors in the Niger Delta. In total, N17 Million naira was recorded as funds raised this quarter against a target of N5Million for the period.



5.2 Advocacy

PIND’s Advocacy focus continued to be on three key work areas: to influence spending and funding from government, donors, and the private sector organizations on new projects in the Niger Delta; address issues of inadequate access to arable land for smallholder farmers, and constraints on small businesses brought about by multi-taxation and illegal levies; and to support institutionalizing strategies in peacebuilding efforts that will promote conflict prevention across the Niger Delta.

In addition, the Advocacy project continues to drive PIND’s efforts to position itself as a resource organization for the implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), by supporting Settlor (International and National Oil Companies) to manage the processes that birth and administer their Host Communities Development Trusts as prescribed by the PIA.

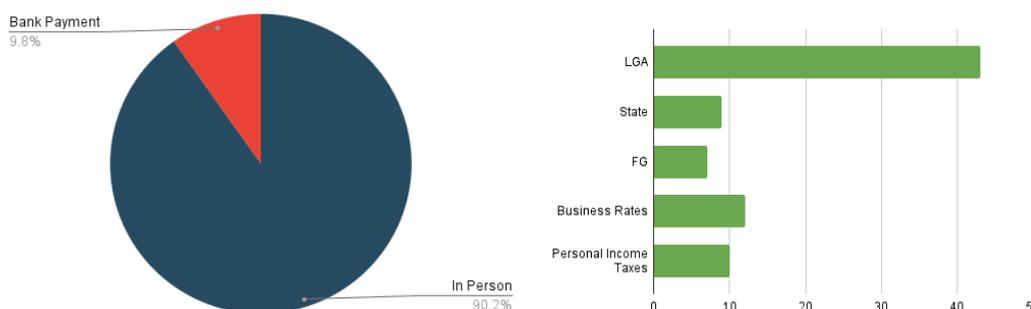
The extent of responsiveness in addressing discriminatory practices concerning equitable access to land by smallholder farmers.

To expand benefits to 150,000 farmers, the Advocacy unit is working with stakeholders to address the binding constraints of inadequate access to land by smallholder farmers. In Q1 2022, the Advocacy team visited Delta, Edo, and Ondo States to track the progress of the work of arable land review committees in the states. The arable land review committee in Edo State was inaugurated in Q1 and has had engagements with critical stakeholders in the State. The committee has so far influenced the Edo GIS department to map out all the free-ranged land for agriculture, engage the communities that border the land, and developed a flow chart for accessing land for agriculture in the State. The committee has also influenced communities in Edo South and North senatorial districts to agree to develop a layout plan for the individual communities. This recommendation is currently being piloted in two communities in Edo South senatorial districts in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Forestry, and the Edo GIS.

In Delta state, the Delta State Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources and PIND have identified potential members of the review committee but await the governor’s review and approval. This is being delayed due to political activities in the run-up to the 2023 election.

The extent of change in policy concerning multiple taxations on small-scale businesses.

One of the major constraints to MSME Development in the Niger Delta is the issue of multiple taxation and illegal levying. PIND carried out extensive analysis in major towns across three States – Abia, Delta, and the Rivers States to understand the underlying practices, and policies driving this. Of the 62 business sector respondents, over 40% noted that they have been made to pay more LGA taxes than any other form of taxes for their businesses.



Moreover, 90.2% of respondents also noted that these taxes are collected in person compared to 9.8% who pay their taxes via bank transfer. This implies that a lot of the tax revenue ends up in the pockets of individuals and groups without any evidence that traces these payments to the businesses. PIND also developed a matrix which tracks the various kinds of taxes and levies (about 120 in all), paid by small businesses across the three focus States. It is expected that this would form the evidence that would be used to engage key stakeholders in addressing the menace of multiple taxations and illegal levies. The report is due for internal and external validation in Q2 2022 and would be followed by stakeholder engagement sessions, and the establishment of a technical committee to propose policy recommendations on this issue.

Long-Term Planning

PIND engaged with State governments and other key stakeholders in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Delta, Edo, and Ondo States to determine the status of the implementation of programs, projects, and policies which PIND has supported over the years.

One of the PINDs criteria for reporting actual government spend on development activities in the Niger Delta is the tracking of actual and verifiable government expenditure on development activities influenced by PIND or in collaboration with other partners. At the start of the COVID-19 Pandemic, government spend on development activities in the region became largely muted, and available funds were diverted to the health



Edo State Land Review Committee

sector. At the time, there was also the issue of budget deficits arising from the drop in global oil prices resulting in reduced support from the centre.

By mid-2021, there was already visible spend by the private sector organisations, and/or in collaboration with the government, and by Q4 of 2021, as economic activities loosened up, government budgets reflected allocation for capital expenditure, and this meant that some of the PINDs advocated spend through its support of the long-term plans in the States began to yield dividends. The sum of 42,210,000 naira reported in Q1 2022 relates to the cost of establishment of a Rice Processing Factory in Ogoja Local Government Area and a Cocoa Processing Factory in Ikom Local Government Area both in Cross River State, Nigeria.

Cross River Growth and Development Strategy (GDS):

The Cross River State Planning Commission provided PIND with soft copies of State annual budgets from 2019 to 2022 to help in tracking budgetary provisions linked to the GDS in the past 5 years. The Commission also highlighted budget lines in the 2022 State budget that connect to the GDS including spend on a feasibility study, design, and construction of cocoa processing plant in Ikom and spend on the design and construction of rice processing plant in Ogoja.

Abia State Long-Term Development Plan (ABSLTDP):

PIND held a work session with key MDAs in the State, including the Ministries of Education, Health, Agriculture, Transport, and Special projects, to review items of their respective budgets that connect to the ABSLTDP. Following the formal launch of the plan in 2021, this was the first time the State is attempting to draw its annual budget from the plan, thus the session also provided PIND an opportunity to guide the MDAs on the process and discuss the rationale for key budget lines. Abia State Government produced a simple template¹⁶ for tracking how the budget lines connect the long-term development plan, and this can be adopted for other States to facilitate seamless reporting.

Edo State Long-Term Development Plan:

Following the launch of the Edo State long term development plan at the Alaghadaro Economic Summit in 2021, the state government has merged the plan with the Edo State physical development plan". This is a document that articulates projects and program designs culled from the 30 years development plan. The governor stated that "the 30-year development plan is a very comprehensive and all-encompassing plan, which not only looks at the socio-economic development plans over the next 30 years but also deals with the physical development plans".

Delta State:

As part of tracking implementation of policies and projects facilitated by PIND, the Delta State Ministry of Agriculture reported some government projects in the oil palm and cassava sectors drawn from the State's agriculture policy facilitated by PIND. PIND also proposed the development of a long-term development plan to the Delta State economic team this quarter. Delta State currently runs a medium-term development framework which is reviewed every five years.

Ondo State:

PIND was nominated to be part of the Ondo State Cocoa Council which was formed based on PIND's recommendation at the 2019 cocoa stakeholders' roundtable. One of the core activities of the council is the production of a 10-year Cocoa Development Plan (CDP) for Ondo State that will encapsulate the policy and economic aspirations of the Executive Governor of Ondo State, objectives and deliverables of the State Cocoa Bond, the term of reference (ToRs) of the Cocoa Council and will meet the core principles of sustainable cocoa production, sustainable cocoa industry and sustainable cocoa consumption; all within a strategic management framework. See Annex 2 for a summary of the core activities of the cocoa council.

Quality and comprehensive policies and strategies that promote a peaceful non-violent society.

PIND advanced engagements with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA) on the Peace and Security framework intervention. PIND worked with the Ministry to develop a memo detailing the process for establishing the framework which was transmitted to the National Council on Niger Delta Affairs chaired by the Vice President. PIND and the MNDA have also agreed on the establishment of a Technical Working Group (TWG) which will include security experts, development organizations and government officials, to commence work on the design of the framework, which will be presented his Excellency, President Muhammadu Buhari in Q4, 2022, following his directive to the MNDA for the establishment of the framework. PIND has coordinated three meetings with the MNDA towards the development of the peace and security framework and shall continue to work closely with the Peace Building unit to finalize the design of the framework.

Advocacy Campaign against Killing of Women and Girls

PIND's Advocacy supported the Peace Building team for its one-day stakeholder dialogue and consultation session to address the killing of women and girls in the Niger Delta. The session was held as part of PIND's work with the Center for

¹⁶ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1K1CVfkmD86DyBW70iGaxpn5JNfEV>

Conflict and Development Studies, the University of Port Harcourt and the advocacy campaign on this issue is being led by the Ph.D. students with support and technical guidance from PIND’s Advocacy and Peace Building units. As a follow-up to the dialogue session, key strategies identified by stakeholders have been noted for action, and a policy brief and petition on [change.org](https://www.change.org) shall be produced to bring further awareness to the issue.

NDLink

In Q1 2022, NDLink edged closer to another major website milestone: 16,000,000 visits in 8 years. This means, that since it was founded by PIND NDLink has received an average of about 2 million visitors per year consistently. PIND also worked to finetune the strategy for the Next Phase of NDLink by developing a plan for recruiting organizations into the NDLink Partners Circle set for launch in Q2 2022.

Petroleum Industry Act (PIA)

This quarter, PIND built on the Q4,2021 workshop on PIA to engage with IOCs and NOCs including Agip Nigerian Ltd, Green Energy, and Asharami Oil, as well as the Commission.

5.3 Communications

PIND’s communication activities aim to increase the visibility of the Foundation by getting people to know about PIND, talk about PIND, and engage with PIND, to strengthen its reputation and attract target stakeholders to support PIND’s cause, partner with PIND, fund PIND’s programs and replicate PIND’s proven models.

Increasing awareness of PIND among stakeholder groups through digital and mainstream media

In the first quarter of the year, the Twitter ban in Nigeria was lifted. This allowed PIND to return to the social platform where most civic, advocacy, and stakeholder dialogue occurs. The Unit repurposed and shared several relevant content in a campaign-style to bring the Twitter audience up to date. During the period, discourse about the upcoming Nigeria 2023 general elections, insecurity, and migration of skilled workforce from Nigeria in search of greener pastures also dominated the media space. To key into the discourse, remain relevant, and attract audience attention to PIND, the Unit focused on using relatable human stories to share critical messages of economic opportunities, peacebuilding, and enabling environment facilitated by the Foundation.

Through its digital and traditional media channels, these tactics enabled PIND to reach a total of 3,560,473 old and new audiences with its brand messages in the quarter.

1. Social Media

During the first quarter of the year, PIND shared 328 original content conveying PIND’s key messages across social media platforms like: LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The social media posts reached 418,957 individuals who became newly or more aware of PIND’s programs/projects, models, and results. 4,822 of the people reached engaged by liking, commenting, sharing, or link clicking. Thus, PIND’s followership increased by 463 in Q1 2022, indicating increased visibility and interest in PIND and its work, among stakeholders.

2. Newsletter

PIND produced and disseminated four newsletters to recipients in target stakeholder groups during the quarter in review, reaching 2,112 people. 132 new subscribers were also added to PIND’s mailing list during the quarter.

3. PIND Website

In Q1, PIND improved the website layout, content catalog, and aesthetics to improve access to information about PIND, and keep stakeholders updated with PIND news and information in real-time. PIND also ensured that visits to the website were maximized through social media and newsletter referrals, through targeted social media campaigns to increase traffic to the website and the access to the resources hosted within it. PIND’s website performance for Q1, 2022 is presented in Table 7. Most of the new and repeat visitors to the website were from high donor countries like the USA, Canada, Germany, France, the Netherlands and China, as well as African countries like South Africa, besides Nigeria.

Table 7. PIND’s website performance summary in Q1 2022.

14,119 new visitors learned about PIND for the first time
38,455 repeat visitors returned to the website to learn more about PIND
23 new content about PIND and partners shared
44,570 views of posted content and the About PIND page that increased awareness of PIND
2,122 downloads of PIND’s knowledge products to learn more, making PIND a thought-leader
43.6% of visitors searched directly to access the website, showing good search engine optimization (SEO) for the website

4. Email Enquiries

PIND received a total of 90 email inquiries this quarter. Most of these inquiries sought information on partnerships or collaborations, invitations for PIND to share knowledge at forums, academic and social research, case study on PIND, and access to PIND-promoted technologies and services among others. A notable inquiry this quarter was from the International Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA Nigeria), which led to an engagement to explore potential collaboration between the two organizations to tackle gender issues in the Niger Delta. These inquiries indicate increased visibility and better positioning of PIND as a thought leader and go-to organization on socio-economic development issues in the Niger Delta.

5. Mainstream Media

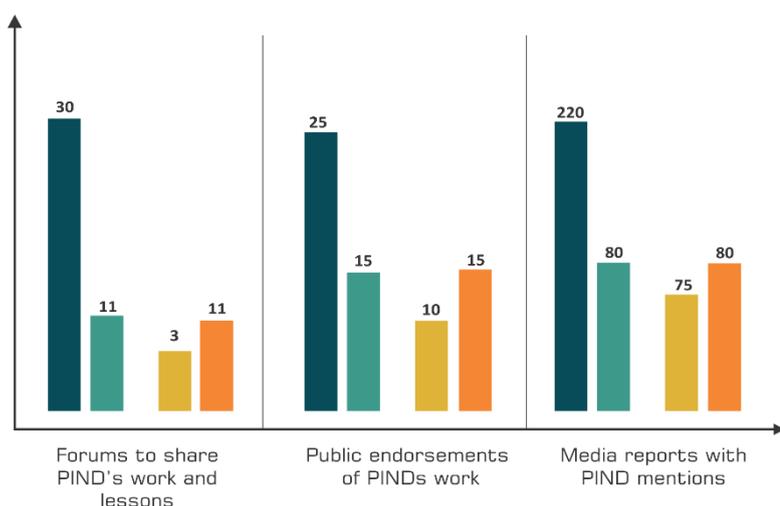
This quarter, PIND messages targeted its stakeholder groups through the radio, TV, print, and online newspapers. This helped the Foundation attain 80 positive mainstream media mentions across print, radio, and TV, out of which 62 were earned media mentions (third-party media mentions of PIND). The exposures reached an average of 3,086,830 people who became more or newly aware of PIND, its programs, models, and results.

6. Public Endorsement of PIND

PIND received 15 public endorsements appreciating, acknowledging, or commending the Foundation for its work in the region. These endorsements are public statements by PIND’s key stakeholders: government, partners, the media, project participants, and the general public. One such example was on twitter as shown below:

“This was the beginning of all my successes. I learned so many things that made me and added to me. I am forever grateful to @PINDFoundation”. Twitter user, 7 February 2022.

PIND also hosted and participated in 11 forums where it shared relevant and useful lessons and evidence of its work to 638 critical stakeholder groups to stimulate possible replication of the models and position PIND for new partnership opportunities. Details of the forum are given in Annex 2.



5.4 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

PIND’s commitment to gender and social inclusion underpins efforts the organization is making to achieve greater gender equality as a key pathway towards sustainable poverty reduction and shared security and prosperity in the Niger Delta. At the center of PIND’s 2020–2024 strategic plan is the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of poor women and girls, persons with disabilities and most vulnerable population. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

mainstreaming as a cross cutting theme, is embedded within PIND’s programs and projects to ensure that its activities are inclusive, reflect equitable participation and access to benefits.

Steering women’s economic empowerment

PIND has a target of enabling at least 60,000 women (40% of the overall target) to increase their incomes, thereby positioning women’s economic empowerment at the core of its economic development implementation activities.

In Q1 2022, 7,594 males and 5,272 females (41% of the total beneficiaries) benefitted from the various economic development interventions in the Niger Delta, with an aim to increase their incomes and improve their livelihoods. Also nine people with disabilities are currently enrolled in the Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) in Delta State.

Similarly, 549 males and 405 females (42% of the peace actors) participated in various peacebuilding interventions including: conflict mitigation, forums on peace and stability, skills enhancements, and mentorships, for the advancement of sustainable peace in the region. Youths comprised 39% of people reached. PIND will intensify efforts to ensure the inclusion of persons living with disabilities (PWD) in interventions in the next quarter.

PIND Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Strategy Update

In 2019, PIND conducted a Participatory Stakeholders Review (PSR) that sought feedback from a wide array of its stakeholders and the general public on its performance and their inputs on future direction. The PSR recommended addition of Social Inclusion to PIND’s Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Strategy in line with global best practice in bringing other vulnerable segments of the population to a common fold for improved attention to their issues and contributions to sustainable development. In Q1 2022, the team continued activities to update the policy including the review of the policy and presentation of the revised policy to PIND staff.

2022 International Women’s Day Celebration

On March 8, 2022, PIND joined the global community to mark the International Women's Day (IWD) event, with the subtheme “Sustainable Livelihoods: When Women Lead” in line with the United Nations Women (UNW) theme: “Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow”. PIND theme was coined to celebrate the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the responsibility on climate change adaptation and mitigation, and response, and to support those who are affected and most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change with reference in the Niger Delta region, to build a more sustainable future for all.

PIND celebrated the 2022 IWD in two strands based on its program areas: economic development and peacebuilding. The former identified women in the Niger Delta region who engage in direct and indirect economic development activities for the sustainability of their families and the society, and empowered their adoption of environmentally friendly technologies, energy and access to portable water to mitigate the negative impact of climate change and boost their businesses for economic growth and a sustainable tomorrow. The latter attempted to offset the gap in women’s participation in leadership and decision-making in their communities through increasing their leadership and peacebuilding skills, as well as in improving their resource management abilities. To achieve this, PIND conducted activities in the rural and urban areas and reached a total of 69 women in 11 remote and underserved communities within the Chevron GMoU communities in Bayelsa, Delta and Ondo States respectively. Key achievements were:

- Provision of improved smoking technology (smoking kiln and bio-digester) and technical training on best practices to Alero Fish Farm’ located in Egokodo Itsekiri, Delta State.
- Training of 24 women on leadership, conflict management and business development
- Installation of a seven solar home systems (SHSs) in five communities (Tebu, Ajamita and Benikrukru communities – Delta State, three SHSs were installed in Awoye community in Ondo State and one SHS was installed in Sangana in Bayelsa State) to provide electricity that will support businesses of women that are underserved and are most vulnerable for improved livelihood and increased income. See Annex 3 for a summary of the event in urban and rural areas.

6. Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges

1. Insecurity continues to be a major threat in the region and heightening up in the run-up to the 2023 general elections. This is further compounded by the activities and agitation of IPOB in the southeast and their frequent sit-at-home orders, and opposition to political activities and elections. These have far-reaching implications for agri-business activities across the sectors, with some partners minimizing their inter-state movement. Insecurity has been. To mitigate this, PIND is leveraging virtual platforms and the use of cooperative leaders/lead farmers to undertake monitoring activities.
2. Rising inflation is also contributing to increases in the costs of input, farming equipment, and logistics, thus affecting the adoption of improved practices and equipment by farmers. To mitigate the impact of inflation on farmers, PIND is facilitating the expansion of the Sombreiro Kapital funding platform, to facilitate lending from partner commercial banks at single-digit interest rates, to more farmers.
3. The PIND access to quality seed intervention in Cocoa is hinged on collaboration with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), which is the only cocoa seed producer in the country. However, technical/operational issues at the Institute are limiting the effectiveness of the intervention. To continue in the current manner to improve support and monitoring of the nurseries, PIND will need to cover a greater part of the logistics cost for the CRIN team to move around. As this is not sustainable, PIND is making efforts to identify new and willing investors in cocoa seed gardens.
4. On the access to energy project, Solar mini-grid technologies are heavily reliant on imports. Consequently, the volatility of the exchange rate continues to affect the ability of interventions to be realized from a pro-poor programming perspective, where developers try to balance the dual bottom lines of profit and social impact.
5. While PIND's early warning system is advanced and effective, the absence of an effective early response mechanism, especially from security agencies leads to Peace Monitors getting discouraged when there is no response to the incidents that they have reported. The Prevent team recalibration training and planned inauguration of Prevent Councils in 2022, will help to address issues within their purview, in a timely fashion. In addition, engagements with security institutions have commenced to heighten their response to reported incidents.
6. Concerning GESI, the reluctance of people who do not have obvious disabilities to identify themselves creates a challenge for collecting data on the number of PWDs for the different activities. To mitigate this, PIND is working to sensitize project participants on the need to identify their disabilities as it will aid inclusive planning for interventions.
7. Given that majority of PIND's Advocacy support relates to policy initiatives, there is a growing concern that the lack of political will to support these initiatives due to the upcoming elections, may slow down work in this regard. In States where elections are scheduled for 2023, some commissioners have resigned their positions in pursuit of other political interests. To mitigate, PIND has deepened relationships and engagement efforts with career civil servants, who retain their positions for much longer and are custodians of the MDAs.
8. High forex rates have hampered PIND's use of paid promotions via social media for increased/wider reach. Social media campaigns, as with all PIND's costs, are budgeted for in NGN whereas social media promotions are paid in USD. To mitigate this, PIND has increased its frequency of content generation and dissemination, to organically increase the number of people reached.

Lessons Learnt

1. With the right incentives, market actors such as agro-dealers and farm service providers will adapt to meet the demand for new services from farmers, such as linking smallholders to business service providers to access loans. With the increasing demand for farmers to expand their production through input financing, service providers have been successful in supporting the farmers to access loans, knowing that they will enjoy more patronage for inputs and services from the farmers.
2. Loan monitoring of farmers operating within a cluster is more efficient and cost-effective and should be encouraged
3. There is a tendency to record higher loan default rates under the input-financing scheme involving transactions directly with an input dealer, without the involvement of a financial institution
4. Training youths to be peace actors and conflict monitors for reporting to the EWER system proved to be an effective strategy for prompt reporting of incidents, thus making the early warning SMS system more robust.
5. Also, the use of multiple media sources for publicizing Peacebuilding activities, interventions and impacts, as well as the use of maps to visualize and understand the dynamics and trends of conflicts have shown to be effective in accelerating peacebuilding efforts and actions in the Niger Delta. Finally, the reliance on data and research to plan and direct peacebuilding capacity building and interventions have shown to be effective in making the peacebuilding activities more impactful.

7. Program Management

Governance and Accountability

Separate meetings of PIND's project and programs sub-committee and its audit and compliance subcommittee were held on March 4th, 2022. Key agreements reached at these meetings, along with M&E updates on program implementation were provided to the PIND and NDPI boards. These meetings are key for PIND's internal governance, to keep the boards abreast of PIND programming and receive feedback/inputs for optimizing program implementation, as well as to ensure PIND's accountability to its board. A key outcome of the board meeting was the approval of PINDs year 2022 annual plan for its programs and projects, and approval of the annual targets/ milestones for the projects based on the strategic plan for phase 3.

Organizational Sustainability

In line with its effort to diversify and expand its income, in Q1,2022, PIND submitted a proposal to Asharami Energy to facilitate the development of a Sustainable Community Engagement Plan for 12 communities within its area of operations in Abia State (Imo River) and Rivers State (Ogoni), in partnership with New Nigeria Foundation (NNF). The development of the Sustainable Community Engagement Plan is in line with the requirements for the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) and will involve a needs assessment, collection of socio-economic baseline data, and identification and mapping of stakeholders.

Organizational effectiveness, health, safety, and security

PIND continued to invest resources to promote wellbeing and safeguard employees' lives. This quarter, PIND deployed a remote work option on its electronic integrated platform for improved staff welfare. PIND also undertook its quarterly fumigation and COVID 19 disinfection across PIND office locations and facilitated COVID 19 tests and vaccinations across its three office locations. Furthermore, PIND provided hand sanitizers and disinfectant wipes and sprays, as well as face masks at its offices and for staff, during field trips.

Furthermore, PIND carried out routine inspection of facilities and ensured that all third-party vendors carried out appropriate repairs and services on generators, air conditioners, etc., accordingly. Similarly PIND undertook scheduled servicing and routine maintenance checks on all vehicles, including appropriate repairs. Also, PIND conducted three security training sessions for LGA vigilante groups in Warri and emergency management training for PIND staff across PIND office locations. In addition, PIND continued to undertake risk assessments of planned activities and trips, and based on informed analysis and security advice, provided travel advice and security tips for approved trips, liaising with the emergency response teams at various locations in readiness for any eventualities. Consequently, no vehicle incidents or travel- related accidents were recorded during the quarter.

8. Looking Ahead

Priority actions for next quarter

In Q2 2022, the **market development project** will undertake the following activities:

- Undertake trainings for artisanal fisher folks in coastal communities, continue to support the promotion and adoption of improved processing technology, and facilitate access to finance, market, and input for farmers.
- Support new and existing partners to scale-up productivity improvement activities; expand the access to finance initiatives to reach more farmers in the Cassava sector working with SK, Sterling Bank and Dufil
- Support existing and new partners to expand and deepen the productivity improvement, quality improvement, and access to high-yielding seeds interventions in the cocoa-producing states of the Niger Delta.
- Onboard and commence activities with 1 new palm oil seed producer and carry out a workshop to improve business growth in the seed industry.
- Support BSPs to provide business development services to MSMEs and organize linkages/investment forums in collaboration with chambers of commerce, institutional buyers, government, and other stakeholders. Continue the expansion of MSME support activities in the Chevron GMOU Communities
- Develop a harmonized manual for poultry service providers, support promotional activities in collaboration with input companies, and monitor market actors' activities.
- Onboard more financial partners to expand funding to more farmers in the Niger Delta.

The **access to energy project** will carry out additional assessment of two communities in Delta state and One in Edo state as part of the mini-grid plans scale up plans, installation of the solar refrigeration project at Koluama 2, provide technical assistance to proposed mini-grid at Kurutie community, and carry out impact assessment on Awoye and Odofado RDC cabins.

The **Youth Employment Pathways Project** will select and onboard new implementing partners for YEP in Delta State and for the NDYEP scale-up in Abia, Akwa Ibom and Rivers States, who will work alongside successful old partners in various sectors to provide technical vocation training to youth participants. Also YEP will orientate and onboard 1500 youth participant. Successful applicants will be enlisted on YEP projects across four states (Abia, Akwa Ibom, Delta and Rivers States).

The **peacebuilding program** will validate the findings of the peace and safety perception study to ascertain the proportion of that population that feel safe in the areas they reside, supervise the production of two Case Studies on P4P interventions, facilitate the 2023 Nonviolence Election Mitigation Project jointly integrate Peacebuilding activities with Economic Development (Conflict Sensitivity), maintain the peace and conflict database and website, facilitate small grant interventions on Herders/ Farmers conflicts, facilitate the development of the Niger Delta Peace and Security Framework, in collaboration with the Advocacy project, and produce briefs and trackers.

The **advocacy project** will conduct internal and external validations of the findings of the multiple taxation study, finalize committee activities on access to land in Edo State and commence committee activities in both Delta and Ondo State, facilitate the formation and commence activities of the TWG for the Peace and Security Framework in collaboration with MNDA, formalize partnership with MNDA for the Peace and Security Framework, track and report stakeholders' engagement, continue to support PIND Business Development and fundraising initiatives, support PIND's YEP participation in the YP Port-Harcourt program and embark on the NDLINK Partners Circle recruitment drive.

Under **GESI**, the team will secure PINDs Directors endorsement of the GESI policy, build the capacity of staff to adopt the policy; and conduct coaching and mentoring for RDCs and CCDCs for effective GESI mainstreaming in all their programs and projects.

Finally, to ensure continued effectiveness at demonstrating and communicating its impact while generating knowledge to improve its work, in Q2 PIND will: produce/publish its 2021 annual report, participate in at least five regional, national and international forums and other interactive channels to share experience, lessons, models, and evidence of its work, attend five high-level strategic advocacy and marketing events/activities targeted at donors, governments, investors, market actors/peace actors, and media, provide media training to staff and members of the P4P network.

ANNEX 1

Economic Development	
Sector	Details of Key Achievements
Aquaculture	<p>Outreach-People Trained</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Akwa Ibom, Arkshore Consult conducted four training to reach 234 participants on improved pond management practices and business skill training using the NAEC curriculum to build their capacity to access finance. In Edo State another training was also carried out by the Master service provider to reach 36 fish farmers (15 females) in Edo State. ○ In Delta State, a total of 668 (Female 399) were reached. Marich Agro-Allied, a service provider with the support of PIND, provided three capacity-building training programs to 184 fish farmers on pond management practices. Chuvaak agro, a service provider supported by PIND in the Aquaculture sector carried out training for fish farmers on best farming practices and business skill training. This training was carried out in collaboration with partners for development to reach 484 farmers across three LGAs. ○ In Bayelsa State, Kingdom Obuza Ventures, an Aquaculture service provider, in collaboration with ZAL, Stakeholders Democratic Network (SDN), and MacJim Foundation, carried out a four-month training program for 190 farmers (102 females) on best fish management practices in the state. ○ In Cross River State, one male farmer was reached. ○ In Ondo State, a total of 574 (222 females) were reached. The Arkshore Consult, a master service provider trained 122 participants on fish farming practices. Also, 100 participants were reached with training on pond management to mark the International Women’s Day while 352 farmers were reached through the adoption of improved fish seeds. These farmers were reached by two hatchery operators: Shadi farms, Greater Glory, and PD consult, a service provider. ○ Durandel, a service provider in Edo state, promoted the use of probiotics as an innovative practice to 38 farmers in Delta, Edo, and Bayelsa states to improve feed conversion ratio and the health of the fish as well as a cost reduction measure in their farming operations. ○ In addition, two demonstrations to promote the adoption of improved smoking technology (smoking kiln and chorkor oven) and two financial literacy training sessions were carried out to reach a total of 332 processors and processors in Delta, and Ondo states, making the total outreach for the quarter 1,715. ○ In Rivers State, three farmers were reached. <p>Facilitating Linkage to Finance for fish farmers and processors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As part of its strategy to deepen its activities in the riverine communities through financial inclusion and access to finance, PIND in collaboration with Sombreiro Kapital expanded its access to finance activities to the GMOU communities in Delta and Ondo States. Following the successful loan repayment of processors who were supported with access to finance in the previous year, another N3m worth of loan was disbursed to 15 fish processors this quarter. The funds were given to improve the processors’ working capital and for technology upgrades. <p>Similarly, PIND supported 19 fish farmers from Delta state with linkage to Sterling bank to access loans worth N28,276,500 under the CBN agro-financing scheme. PIND also carried out financial literacy training for 185 fish processors and fisherfolks in Ondo and Delta states to improve their business skills, record keeping, and capacity building for linkages to finance.</p> <p>Increasing uptake of Fish Processing technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The chorkor oven and smoking kiln technologies were introduced by PIND as part of the effort to improve the efficiency of fish processors in the Niger Delta region. To sustainably promote the adoption of these technologies, PIND built the capacity of masons and fabricators to enable them to produce and market these technologies commercially. PIND also worked with them and other service providers to carry out demonstrations to stimulate the adoption of the technologies, particularly in the Chevron GMOU and riverine communities ○ This quarter, PIND continued to provide support to the Service Providers, Masons, and fabricators whose capacities have been built to drive the uptake of chorkor ovens and smoking kiln technologies to improve the efficiency of fish processors in the Niger Delta region. In the GMOU communities, PPGwarry global resources, a master mason, promoted the chorkor oven through practical demonstration in two communities: Bateren and Opuama in Delta state to reach 75 fish processors. This, in addition to the demos carried out in the previous quarter, resulted in the adoption of 20 ovens from the two communities. ○ Similarly, the sector supported two fabricators and service providers to promote and train fish processors and promote the adoption of the smoking kiln to mark the international women’s day (IWD) in Delta and Ondo states. This and other promotional activities resulted in the adoption of 5 smoking kilns in Delta, Ondo, Imo, and Rivers states. <p>Expanding interventions to reach more community members in the GMOU communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In the previous year, PIND designed an intervention to increase the productivity of fisherfolks in the target communities through the adoption of improved practices and technologies. In the previous quarter, PIND identified stakeholders and potential partners and also onboarded and carried out capacity-building training for new service providers to drive the pilot interventions.

	<p>This quarter, PIND signed an MoU with the Nigeria Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR) as a technical partner to drive the pilot intervention. PIND also identified and engaged with groups and associations of fisher folks in Kolouama 1 and 2 (Bayelsa state), Awoye (Ondo), and Ugborodo (Delta state). An initial set of training was carried out to reach 23 fisherfolks in Awoye to expose them to appropriate fishing tools and support them with linkages to equipment suppliers</p> <p>In the coming quarters, PIND will organize capacity-building training programs and linkage activities to reach more artisanal fisher folks in the target communities.</p> <p>Improving Access to Quality Fish Seeds for Niger Delta Fish farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The use of quality fish seeds/fingerlings is one of the major contributors to good yield and improved productivity. PIND’s intervention to improve farmers’ access to quality fish seeds supported selected hatchery operators to develop broodstock banks alongside capacity building on good hatchery management practices. This resulted in the production of over two million fish seeds adopted by farmers. Field assessment carried out last year on adopting farmers showed that the seeds contributed to a marginal increase of 4% in farmers’ yield (from 0.96kg to 1kg). In addition, and a 4% reduction in the mortality rate (from 11% to 7%) of fish stocked under the same management condition. <p>This quarter, PIND continued to work with the selected hatchery operators to promote quality fish seeds to farmers in the region. 300,500 fish seeds were produced from the broodstock by four of the selected hatchery operators resulting in sales of N10.5 million at an average sale of N35 per seed. 197 farmers purchased these improved fish seeds</p> <p>PIND’s partnership with the USAID Feed the future Ag-Extension activity in Delta and Cross River State is also complementing the promotion and use of quality fish seeds by farmers in the states. 8 cohorts comprising of over 82 hatchery operators were formed and trained on hatchery management and business development. These hatcheries are beginning to adopt and promote the adoption of quality fish seeds to farmers. This quarter, one of the hatchery cohorts was supported with a promotional workshop to promote the adoption of fish seeds to reach 40 farmers.</p>
<p>Cassava</p>	<p>Direct cassava farmers outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farmers require timely access to inputs and information about Good agricultural practices to improve their productivity and income. Ensuring that farmers continue to enjoy access to this information directly through training and demonstration as well as the availability of quality agro-inputs, particularly during the planting season ensures that farmers can immediately adopt and implement those practices on their farms. <p>Cassava farmers in most of the Niger Delta states in this period of the year eagerly await the onset of the Cassava planting season which comes with the onset of the rainy season. However, in places like Bayelsa state and some parts of Delta state, the planting season commenced in Q4 last year and continued into the first quarter of the year. Farmers in these areas start planting early and target to harvest their crops before the onset of flooding between August –and September.</p> <p>With a focus on establishing relationships and linkages that will ensure access to quality inputs including stems, fertilizer, and Crop Protective products (CPP)s ahead of planting which commences around late March and early April when the rainy season commences in earnest.</p> <p>PIND utilized the period to intensify engagement with major agro-input companies for collaboration to scale up productivity improvement activities across the region. Similarly, Agro dealers and FSPs who were active across the region in 2021 were also re-engaged to explore continued collaboration during the 2022 planting season.</p> <p>In Bayelsa state, one of PINDs female partner service providers, BARI Endurance utilized the planting season to organize training and establishment of four demonstration plots to showcase improved agronomic practices to farmers in Ogbia and Yenegoa LGA of the state. Through these activities 819(640 female) farmers received training. These farmers also received access to Crop Protective Products (CCP) in affordable quantities through the bulk breaking services provided by Bari delivered alongside training on their usage as well as other improved farming practices.</p> <p>Similarly, in Delta State, Ben Wisdom Efe together with 3 other FSPs organized training on GAP for 139 (51 females) farmers in Ika South LGA. They also worked with the community to identify a suitable location for the establishment of demonstration plots as soon as the rains commence. These activities were supported by two agro-input companies, CHC Organic and Farm for Africa Limited. These companies supplied their products (fertilizer, herbicides, and sprayers) to Ben Wisdom on a credit sale arrangement. In Edo state, Paul</p>

Iguebo, an agro dealer working with 5 FSPs in Etsako West LGA, organized training reaching 300(123 female) farmers. These activities were also supported by Indorama, a fertilizer company. Similarly, PIND grantee agro-dealers in Abia, Imo, and Akwa Ibom states, organized training on GAP reaching 144(78 female farmers, 198 (156 Females), and 98 farmers (54 females) respectively.

Through the above outreach activities by partners 2,245(1,407 females,) farmers were reached with training, demos, and key agricultural inputs. Farmers who participated in these training are also expected to participate in follow on training and practical demonstrations as they start cultivating their farms in April.

Strengthening Cassava Seed System in the Niger Delta

- PIND is partnering with the BASICS II project, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) as well as the National Root Crop Research Institute (NRCRI), a tripartite collaboration to implement interventions to increase access to improved Cassava stem varieties that are high yielding and disease resistant in the Niger Delta, through the Cassava Seed Entrepreneurship (CSE) program, formerly called Village Seed entrepreneurship (VSE) program. The program aims to establish a viable commercial seed system in the region.

Through this partnership, and with Kolping Society as PINDS co-facilitator,143 CSEs were trained and onboarded into the National Network of Seed entrepreneurs. These CSEs have continued to support Cassava farmers with access to improved Cassava stem varieties.

Last quarter, PIND and BASICS 11 convened the second national Cassava Summit with the theme of catalyzing and scaling up private sector-led Cassava seed system to create National awareness and interest in the ongoing effort to build a sustainable cassava seed system in Nigeria. The workshop was organized in collaboration with The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development(FMARD) and was attended by over 120 key sector stakeholders including the CBN, National Agricultural Seed Council (NASC), The African Development Bank (AfDB), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), Nigeria Agri Business Group, (NABG), the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFUND), Nigeria Investment Promotion Commission (NIPC), the Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC) and the national Cassava Growers Association (NCGA) among other important stakeholders a the conference.

- The Summit discussed the state of the cassava sector with particular emphasis on how to catalyze and scale private sector-led cassava seed development, reflected on the progress made in the last five years, and made the following key resolutions and conclusions as regards the cassava seed system amongst others:
 - The Summit recognized the gap in seed demand and supply and appreciated the progress made by the Building an Economically Sustainable Integrated Cassava Seeds System, Phase 2 (BASICS-II) and its partners including PIND for efficient development and delivery of the cassava seed system through the BASICS model and called on the public and private sector actors to adopt the model.
 - The Summit reviewed with great concern the approach where donor projects and government were offering cassava seeds to farmers free of charge and in an unsustainable manner. Such interventions distort the seed markets and frustrate the already made gains in creating a sustainable seed ecosystem that guarantees job and wealth creation.
 - The Summit acknowledged the efforts made by the Nigeria Agricultural Seeds Council, NASC in the sanitization of the seeds system and encouraged NASC to rev up the de-centralization of certification and increase regulation to ensure the constant supply of seeds.
 - To achieve the full genetic potential of cassava seeds, the Summit recommended the use of the Six Steps to Cassava Weed Management and Best Planting Practices and the use of other good agricultural practices.
 - It was agreed that the government should provide an enabling environment and offer incentives to catalyze private sector investments both for new entrants and existing actors in the seed sector.
 - To attract youth into the agricultural space, the Summit recommended mechanization and the use of digital tools such as AKILIMO, Cassava Seed Tracker, and IITA Herbicides Calculator.
 - The summit identified the need to ramp up investments in Research and Development and extension services, to ensure the adequate dissemination of research outcomes.
 - It was agreed that a database of actors in the cassava value chain is highly important to promote market linkages and address the periodic glut in the market.
 - The Summit appreciated the work done by IITA, PIND, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and BASICS-II in organizing the summit and being at the forefront of cassava development.
 - Following the successful Cassava summit last quarter, PIND plans to deepen its work in developing a viable cassava seed system building on the key recommendations from the Summit. Specifically, PIND will be working to identify and support partners willing to expand their current scope and scale of investment in promoting access to seeds, PIND will also intensify its engagement with NASC on

	<p>certification of CSEs leveraging the third-party certification system as well as joint monitoring of CSE activities in the region.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This quarter, PIND and BASICS II reviewed their collaborative plans for 2022 and agreed on a strategy to deepen the activities of CSEs in the region. PIND also commenced engagement with CSEs ahead of the coming planting season to ensure the availability of improved stems for farmers in the region <p>Facilitating access to Finance and Markets through Cassava out-grower scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o PIND has been engaging with potential partners including leading cassava processors and investors in the industrial cassava market to attract much-needed investments into the Cassava sector in the Niger Delta through the establishment of cassava out-grower/aggregation schemes. <p>Last year, PIND signed MOU with two partners, SAEL Global a Cassava farming and production firm in a bid to establish a Cassava out-grower program in Edo State targeting 400 farmers and Shinebridge Global West Africa to participate in the African Job for Food Program (AFJB) in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Agriculture targeting 6000 farmers. Although these partners continue to express a deep commitment to the commencement of the proposed schemes, delays in addressing bottlenecks around the funding arrangements for the farmers have continued to stall their commencement.</p> <p>This quarter, PIND facilitated a finance syndication meeting between SAEL Global, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), and Sterling bank to jointly explore how to progress the pending out-grower opportunity in Edo State by leveraging CBN anchor borrowers' funds. CBN and Sterling bank expressed interest in progressing the scheme given its clear feasibility. Following that linkage and engagement meeting, SAEL global and Sterling bank have continued conversations to hasten the submission of the relevant application to the CBN.</p> <p>Also, this quarter PIND progressed implementation of the out-grower scheme in Imo state where PIND is collaborating with Sombreiro Kapital and Sterling bank ltd to facilitate access to finance for the Cassava out-growers. Pre-plant activities continued in earnest this quarter with the ploughing of the 33ha land ahead of the commencement of the rainy season. Through the program, 33 farmers who are members of the Ukwuoma Ndigbo cooperative society in Imo State have been supported to access finance to cultivate 1ha of farm each. Planting of the stems is scheduled for April 2022 with the full commencement of rains.</p>
<p>Cocoa</p>	<p>Outreach</p> <p>The promotion of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) was introduced by PIND in 2019 as a strategy to improve farmers' access to information, quality inputs, and technologies necessary to increase their yield and productivity. The model involves technical training and practical demonstrations of improved practices and technologies which when adopted by farmers, will lead to yield increase and more income.</p> <p>During this quarter, seven Farm Service Providers (FSPs) and one off-taker expanded GAP activities to more farmers in Abia, Delta, Edo, and Ondo States reaching 2,546 (678 females) farmers. The details of the activities are provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o In Ondo state, four farm service providers (Ali Ayegbusi, Mojisola Oluyela, Anthony Akinmade, and Raphael Adebayo) and one off-taker (Sunshine Farms) reached 1,885 (including 497 females) farmers with training, demonstrations activities, and farm services on GAP and quality improvement. o In Abia state, a farm service provider/ nursery operator (Sesan Ayodele) reached 43 (including 6 females) farmers with training and demonstrations activities on GAP o In Edo state, a farm service provider (Ehimika Emmanuel) reached 445 (including 104 females) farmers with training, demonstrations, and farm services on GAP. o In Delta state, a farm service provider (Ben Wisdom Efe) reached 173 (including 71 females) farmers with training and demonstrations activities on GAP. <p>Leveraging More Investments through the Adoption of Efficient Technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o One of the focus areas of the Cocoa value chain interventions is the promotion of efficient productivity improvement and quality enhancement technologies in partnership with equipment companies and promoters. In the last three years, PIND worked with partner agro-technology and equipment dealers like C.Woermann and Texmaco to introduce and promote appropriate productivity improvement technologies like the mechanical pruner, motorized sprayer, and the brush cutter. It also introduced quality enhancement technologies like the aquabuoy, fermentation boxes, and Pelle bongo among farmers and other stakeholders. These technologies were demonstrated in cocoa-producing clusters to increase farmers' and stakeholders' awareness and subsequent adoption. Over N20 million worth of technologies had been purchased by farmers, service providers, and other stakeholders since they were introduced in 2019 <p>This year, PIND plans to leverage investments worth N703m from the cocoa sector. This will be coming majorly from investment by private and public sector actors through the adoption of the models, practices, and technologies promoted by PIND and its partners in the sector.</p>

	<p>In the period under review, PIND continued to record more investment through the promotion and adoption of the improved technologies by service providers. An investment worth N1.8 million was made by Saro Agrosiences to purchase four pieces of the mechanical pruner from C.Woermann. These mechanical pruners are to be utilized by the Farm Service Providers within the Saro network to provide pruning services to Saro’s demonstration farms and other farmers in Ondo state as part of the suite of services under good agricultural practices. It is also expected to positively impact the sales of Saro products. Also, Farm Conservation Services (a partner FSP) and Cooperative Farmers Association (a partner cocoa beans aggregator) invested N1.8 million in the purchase of four pieces of the mechanical pruners (two pieces each) from C.Woermann Nig. Ltd. These pruners are to be used to provide services to farmers in Ondo state. This brings the total investment leveraged for the quarter to N3.6 million.</p> <p>Strengthening relationships among actors to improve access to quality seeds for cocoa farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o In 2021, PIND designed the access to quality (high-yielding) seeds intervention to engender increased access to improved seedlings to cocoa farmers in the region. The intervention aims to strengthen the relationship between entrepreneur nursery operators and seed producers as a strategy to increase the distribution network for seeds in the Niger Delta. This involves collaborating with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) to strengthen the technical and management capacity of entrepreneur nursery operators on seed nursery establishment and management and supporting the nursery operators to access high-yielding seed varieties from CRIN, raise the seeds to seedlings at the nurseries and selling to farmers commercially. <p>Over the last quarters, PIND facilitated technical training on seed handling and management for 31 nursery operators and supported the trained nursery operators to purchase the high-yielding cocoa seed varieties from CRIN. In this quarter, 13 (thirteen) nursery operators established seed nurseries in Ondo, Edo, Abia, and Cross River states. These nurseries are expected to produce over 120,000 seedlings which will be supplied to farmers commercially. In the next quarter, PIND will support and monitor the supply of the seedlings to farmers and the development of these young cocoa trees under good agricultural practices through the support of partner agro-input suppliers and farm service providers.</p> <p>Improving cocoa quality through an incentive-based model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The incentive-based model for quality improvement was designed by PIND in 2020 to stimulate actors (farmers and off-takers) to begin to address the issues associated with poor quality cocoa beans. This model is built around the offer of premium price as an incentive to farmers for producing good quality cocoa beans. The model guarantees a 1% to 1.5% premium on each kilogram of good quality cocoa bean produced by the farmers. This ensures a win-win business relationship between the farmer and off-taker. <p>Since 2020, PIND has partnered with four off-takers (Subjugate Nigeria Ltd, Nivik Investment, Abbico Ltd, and Gbemtan Investment) who signed on to the Rainforest Alliance Certification program, to support farmers to adopt improved production and post-harvest practices that ensure quality cocoa beans production. These activities have so far reached over 1,850 farmers in Ondo and Edo states. In the coming quarter, PIND plans to assess the supported farmers to understand the changes in practices and the incentives received by the farmers in form of a premium price. The assessment will help to identify farmers’ adoption and adaptation to quality standards, what has worked, and areas that need further strengthening. Lessons learned will be incorporated into the subsequent activities.</p>
<p>Palm Oil</p>	<p>Outreach</p> <p>Improving the productivity of palm oil farmers through Best Management Practices (BMP) is one of the key objectives of PIND in the palm oil sector. The intervention is driven by support market actors (Lead farmers, agro-dealers, input firms, and farm service providers) who carry out on-field demonstrations showing farmers techniques that can improve their farm productivity. The model has proven successful amongst the support market actors who have seen an increase in income and sales of their products from the promotion of the BMP to farmers.</p> <p>To sustain and deepen the BMP activities in the sector, PIND engaged the National Palm Produce Association of Nigeria (NPPAN) and the Oil Palm Grower’s Association of Nigeria (OPGAN). These two oil palm business membership organizations work across the Niger Delta with a membership base of over 20, 000 actors across the Niger Delta. Their members include farmers, processors, agro-dealers, and service providers. This quarter, PIND facilitated a meeting between members of NPPAN and the African Community Bridge Foundation Entrepreneurship Development Centre (a BSP) in Ondo state to explore financial opportunities for oil palm farmers. Similar activities were facilitated between members of OPGAN and Green Vine Consulting (BSP) in Akwa Ibom state. The majority of the members showed interest in input finance to improve their productivity and yield. They are expected to participate in business management and financial training a prerequisite, to enable them to apply for loans. More sensitization activities would be carried out across the Niger Delta in the coming quarters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within the quarter, 6 Farm service providers and 3 lead farmers expanded outreach activities to 1,481 (479 female) farmers across Delta, Ondo, Abia, and Akwa Ibom states; 703 farmers purchased improved seeds, bringing the total outreach farmers to 2,184. Also 220 IHTs were sold and 7 processors adopted improved processing technology but farmers adopting these technologies are yet to be reported pending verifications.

	<p>This brings the Q1 outreach for Palm oil to 2,184 against the quarters' target of 1, 600 for the period.</p> <p>Leveraging investment through the adoption of efficient technologies and quality seeds</p> <p>Within the quarter, PIND continued to track the market systems changes brought about by its interventions in the palm oil sector. As a result of the activities on improved harvesting and processing technology and access to improved seeds, the palm oil sector recorded investment leveraged worth NGN 195,418,800. The details of the activities and amount leveraged are provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ N3.30 Million was invested in purchasing 220 improved harvesting technologies in Edo state. The Malaysian Knives were sold by Elder Sam. D Global Resources. The 220 improved harvesting technologies exceed the target of 200 set for the quarter. ○ N8.650 Million was invested in seven improved processing equipment that was bought and installed in Cross River and Akwa Ibom states. ○ 3 small-scale processing equipment were purchased by 3 processors in Cross River State at the rate of N6, 650, 000. The machines were produced by Muhat Engineering and SAMCO Engineering Works. Similarly, 4 small-scale processing equipment were adopted by 4 processors in Akwa Ibom state at the rate of N2, 000, 000. The machines were produced by SAMCO Engineering. As a result, the total number of improved processing technologies sold in Q1 stood at 7, against the Q1 target of eight, while the annual target was set at 30. The drop in purchase pertains to the high cost of processing machines. ○ N183, 468, 800 Naira was invested in the purchase of 229,336 seedlings by 703 farmers in the Niger Delta region. ○ The above activities bring the value of investment leveraged in the palm oil sector during the quarter to N195,418,800. <p>Strengthening the coordination amongst market actors to increase access to improved Seeds for Palm Oil Farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The scoping study carried out in 2011 by PIND identified the lack of access to improved seeds as one of the constraints affecting farmers' productivity in the sector. In 2017, PIND commenced the access to improved seeds intervention to unblock this constraint by training nursery operators and linking them to improved seed producers. Over time, 5 seed producers were engaged and linked to 147 nursery operators who have provided 558, 440 improved seedlings to 921 farmers in the Niger Delta. ○ In 2022, PIND seeks to facilitate the business growth of seed actors in the Niger Delta region. These include linking nursery operators and farmers to financial institutions for equipment, technology, and input (seed) financing. Also, to engage seed producers and nursery operators with business models that would strengthen their relationship and business growth. ○ In quarter one, linkage activities for nursery operators and farmers to business service providers commenced in earnest. The BSPs provided information on financial opportunities and how to access loans. This activity is expected to continue and gain traction in the coming quarter. Also, PIND engaged ALLISSEE Seed Company on the value of the business finders' model which ALLISSEE showed interest in adopting. PIND and ALLISSEE agreed to engage nursery operators in a workshop to discuss the terms of the business finders' model and the promotion of their seeds in the coming quarter. ○ A key component of the intervention this year is to monitor the seed producers and nursery operators on the sales of improved seeds to farmers. Consequently, field monitoring was conducted this quarter to ascertain the total quantity of improved seedlings that were purchased. It was found that 229, 336 seedlings were purchased by 703 oil palm farmers in the 9 states of the region. This result exceeds the target of 255, 000 seedlings by 500 farmers for this quarter.
<p>Poultry</p>	<p>Outreach</p> <p>2,173 (including 838 females) new farmers reached as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Delta state, Chuvaak Agro Services (A master poultry service provider), trained 91 poultry farmers (9 females) on good poultry practices. He also facilitated linkage to inputs for some of the farmers. In the same vein, Uzonitcha Jane, (A poultry service provider), trained and supported 44 poultry farmers (21 female) on good poultry practices and linked them to the market. ○ In Rivers state, Ibiputam Enterprise, trained 543 poultry farmers (195 female) on good poultry practices, business skills using the NAEC curriculum, and how to apply for CBN Agric loans. ○ In Ondo and Akwa Ibom States, the Arkshore Konsult Limited (A master service provider) also trained 951 (348 females) farmers on good poultry practices and business skills using the NAEC curriculum. ○ In Imo and Abia state, Mr. Chinedu Nduanusu (A poultry service provider), trained 239 (115 females) farmers on good poultry practices and supported them with linkages to inputs and markets. ○ In Edo State, Mr. Joseph Osawaru (A poultry service provider), trained 151 (50 females) farmers on good poultry practices and business skills using the NAEC curriculum. ○ In Bayelsa state, Mr. Kingdom Obuza (A poultry service provider), trained 154 (75 females) farmers on good poultry practices and supported them with linkages to quality inputs and markets <p>More poultry farmers access funds through CBN AGMIES and alternative markets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As part of the efforts to address the funding challenges of farmers in the poultry sector, the poultry

	<p>project team leveraged different platforms to improve access to finance for farmers in the region. The team leveraged the CBN AGSMEIS scheme, an initiative introduced to support and complement the federal government’s efforts and policy measures for the promotion of agricultural businesses in Nigeria.</p> <p>During the quarter, 21 poultry farmers got loans worth N15, 750,000 through the CBN AGSMEIS Scheme, the loans were facilitated by Uzonitcha Jane, a poultry service provider in Delta state to improve the working capital of farmers to enable them to increase their bird holding size by 450 birds.</p> <p>In Ondo State, Green Shield Integrated Technology Limited (A master service provider), linked 20 poultry farmers who were reached in previous quarters to Kilishikin Ventures, a chicken processor in Ondo state. In the same vein, Arkshore Konsult, Kingdom Obuza, and Ibiptam enterprises linked 202 farmers to eight large buyers in Ondo, Bayelsa, and Rivers respectively.</p>
MSMEs	<p>Outreach 1,336 (including 681 women owned) new MSMEs reached as outlined below: Business Service Providers (BSPs) provide a variety of services to MSMEs to improve their competitiveness and growth. This variety of services includes but is not limited to business management training, business diagnostics and upgrading, business plan development, marketing strategy development, and linkages to finance and market. During the quarter, 7 BSPs trained and supported a total of 1,336 (including 681 women owned) MSMEs with business management, business plan development, loan application, and linkages to finance through the CBN Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Scheme (AGSMEIS) scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Rivers state, CAD consulting, a Master Business Service Provider, supported 681 (including 309 women owned) MSMEs to access loans worth N335 million from the AGSMEIS fund. These loans were facilitated by CAD to support the expansion plans of these MSMEs in agri-businesses and related service sectors including agricultural production and processing, manufacturing, confectionaries, hospitality, Fast Moving Consumer Goods, and ICT sectors. Also in Rivers, Green Steps Limited, a Business Service Provider trained 225 MSMEs (including 85 women-owned) on business management, and business plan development and supported them with their applications to enable them to access the AGSMEIS fund. ○ In Bayelsa state, Zigha Ayibakuro Limited (ZAL), a Business Service Provider, supported 92 (including 85 women owned) MSMEs to access loans worth N175 million from the AGSMEIS fund. These loans were facilitated by ZAL to support the expansion plans of these MSMEs. Also in Bayelsa, Green Steps Limited, a Business Service Provider trained 70 MSMEs (including 65 women-owned) on business management, and business plan development and supported them with their applications to enable them to access AGSMEIS funds. ○ Imo state, Remoke Consult Limited, a Business Service Provider, trained and supported 261 (including 135 women-owned) MSMEs out of which 27 (including 11 women-own) were supported to access loans worth N81 million from the AGSMEIS fund. These loans were facilitated by ZAL to support the expansion plans of these MSMEs. ○ In Delta state, Lifeedge Consulting Limited, a business service provider trained and supported 202 (including 94 women-own) on business management, and business plan development and supported 32 of them with their loan applications to access (AGSMEIS fund. Green Steps Limited, a Business Service Provider trained 15 MSMEs (including four women-owned) on business management and business plan development and supported them with their applications to enable them to access AGSMEIS fund. Also, In Delta, Michael Ogidi, a community-based BSP trained and supported by PIND, in collaboration with CAD Consulting, organized an investment and linkage forum with 87 (including 66 women-owned) micro-enterprises in attendance. The forum served as a platform to link the MSMEs to opportunities and alternative markets as well as improve and encourage transactions with large buyers and financial institutions. ○ In Edo State, Citron Spring Limited, another Business Service Provider, in collaboration with the Benin Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture (BENCCIMA) organized a Business Linkage Forum with 70 (including 38 women-owned) micro-enterprises in attendance. The forum was to provide a networking platform for MSMEs and large buyers and eventually improve their transactions. <p>The above brings the total number of MSMEs reached in this quarter to 1,336 which is 134% of the 1000 target set for the quarter. Also, the total value of loans facilitated came to a total of N510 million for the quarter. PIND targets to reach 4,500 MSMEs in 2022 with N3.5 billion worth of loans facilitated through the activities of business service providers in the MSME Development and Linkages project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Also, within the quarter, 872.855 million Naira was invested by the MSMEs as debt financing in their businesses as follows: Bayelsa (N174,880,632), and Rivers (N355,096,408).

Sombreiro Kapital

Loans to Fish Processors and Cocoa Farmers

Over the years, the Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) has trained over 20,000 cocoa farmers and fish processors on improved practices that, if adopted, would increase the productivity and income of trainees; however, some of these trainees require funding to take on these practices. To ensure the adoption of improved practices by these trainees (cocoa farmers and fish processors), the institution collaborated with farm service providers/PIND co-facilitators to identify 195 creditworthy trainees in need of finance to apply for loans worth N30,172,800 from Sterling Bank Plc

Following the completion of the appraisal process by Sterling Bank Plc., loans worth N30,172,800 were disbursed to 195 businesses to facilitate the purchase of inputs needed to maximize productivity. In quarter one, the number of businesses supported with loans per sector is detailed below

- In Ondo state, the institution partnered with conservation alliance (a company that provides technical support to cocoa farmers in the Niger Delta) to select 180 credit-worthy cocoa farmers who received loans worth N27, 172,800 from Sterling Bank Plc
- In Delta state, the institution partnered with Green-shield integrated technology (a company that provides technical support to fish processors in the Niger Delta) to select 15 credit-worthy fish processors who received loans worth N3, 000,000 from Sterling Bank Plc.

	Delta	Ondo	Total
Volume of loans facilitated to fish processors	3,000,000	0	3,000,000
Volume of loans facilitated to Cocoa farmers	0	27,172,800	27,172,800
	Delta	Ondo	Total
Number of loans facilitated to fish processors	15	0	15
Number of loans facilitated to Cocoa farmers	0	180	180

Onboarding additional participating financial partners for improved sustainability

- To promote business continuity, the institution plans to onboard more commercial banks as lending partners to increase the number of financing platforms that are accessible to small farmers and other businesses in the Niger Delta.

In the third and fourth quarters of 2021, the institution had engaged and subsequently disseminated partnership proposals to Guaranty Trust Bank, Fidelity Bank Plc, First City Monument Bank, Wema Bank Plc, LAPO microfinance bank, and United Bank for Africa, to provide additional financing platforms for target beneficiaries to access cost-effective loans. Following a review of the disseminated proposals by the aforementioned banks, the management teams of LAPO microfinance bank and First City Monument Bank indicated their willingness to disburse loans to intended beneficiaries at interest rates of 12% and 15%, respectively per annum.

In line with SK's mandate of facilitating loans to intended businesses at a cost-effective interest rate, the institution sought a reduction in the annual lending rate from 12% to single-digit. Following a review of the institution's recommended pricing and its impact on the bank's income, the management team of LAPO micro-finance bank formally indicated its willingness to disburse loans to intended businesses at a single-digit interest rate of 9% per annum.

Improved loan monitoring for prompt loan repayment

- In 2022, the institution plans to facilitate loans worth N300,000,000 to 1,000 beneficiaries. To achieve this goal, SK must minimize the loss of guarantee funds which are required to facilitate the intended volume of loans in 2022.

To minimize the loss of guarantee funds, SK sought the renewal of the contracts of two important loan monitoring partners (Arkshore consult and Marich agro-allied services) in quarter one to enable them to participate effectively in the loan monitoring process which would improve the quality of loans guaranteed by the institution.

Pending the approval of the contract renewal request, the institution facilitated loan monitoring visits to 70 farmers who received loans in 2021 across the focal states of Delta, Imo, Ondo, and Bayelsa, resulting in a 97 percent loan repayment by farmers and a pledge by defaulters to adhere to the new repayment plan reached with Sterling Bank Plc.

DYEP

Highlight from Project Implementing Partners

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nine (9) organizations that met the basic minimum requirements were selected as implementing partners on the project. The selection considered geographic spread as well as centers to support youth from GMOU and coastal communities. 6 of the 9 organizations are female led. The implementing partners trained a total of 723 youths in 17 occupational skill sets. Of this number; 631 youths successfully completed the program. <p>Vocational Skills Training and Outcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eleven (11) technical vocation centers were used; 4 at Asaba and 7 in Warri. 2 centers; one in each location for integrated livestock vocation training and 2 ICT centers each at Warri and Asaba. 1 center at Warri and Asaba were used for building construction skills. Renewable energy (solar installation & inverter), media production and services (fashion, leatherworks and catering) were at Warri locations only. In all vocational training was conducted in 17 occupational trades at the 11 TVET centers. All the TVET center are privately owned and are willing to adopt and promote NDYEP model and framework in the course of their business execution. Four of the organizations extended their services from the NDYEP pilot phase to Delta State. <p>About 723 youths were enrolled on the program in October 2021. 248 in ICT and media production, 202 in integrated livestock farming, 110 on services, 102 on building construction and 56 on renewable energy. The technical training curriculum are preceded by work safety and tool handling especially for building construction skills. All training are 70% practical and field based to enhance participants occupational skills capacity. 80% attendance is mandatory for successful completion and to be qualified for recommendation to apprenticeship, job linkage and certification examinations where provided. As part of providing behavioral reorientation, soft skill training and mentorship facilitated behavior change and also enhanced effective participation. Participants found work focused learning interesting as they could easily connect with industry needs or entrepreneurship demands. Participants were deeply involved in the practical learning to enhance work desired skills.</p> <p>Participants were trained in 17 occupational skill areas over a 5-month (November 2021 to March 2022) period. 631 youths completed the technical skills training successfully, 37% from Asaba axis while 63% came from Warri. Only 73 youths from coastal GMOU communities (11.5%) completed the training. Soft skills curriculum was mainstreamed including a module on conflict sensitivity and peace building. 47% of successful participants were female and only 9 persons with disability.</p> <p>The implementing partners started sourcing for job placement opportunities and apprenticeship posting early; before the completion of the technical training. Given the state of the local economy only few positions were acquired; 112 for jobs and 232 for apprenticeship and internship placements. 161 youths are already starting some form of small-scale enterprises of their own. Of those that have been linked to work, 76 are in ICT, 7 in construction, 21 in solar installation and 3 in services (fashion design etc.) 48 persons have started small scale farms. Most of these were persons who already had agriculture businesses but lacked basic technical skills needed for success.</p>
--	--

ANNEX 2

Enabling Programs	
Program Area	Details of Key Achievements
Capacity Building	<p>Intensifying Capacity Strengthening Support to RDCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To be able to effectively support the Chevron GMOU communities, PIND conducted an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) on the Regional Development Committees (RDCs) in 2018 to identify gaps and possible entry points for interventions. Thereafter PIND has continued to provide support to the various committees of the RDCs in the implementation of recommended actions from the OCA. <p>This quarter PIND continued providing mentorship and handholding support to the various committees to implement learning from those training programs. On video production and photography, the PIND communications team in collaboration with PPCD continued the implementation of activities including handholding sessions for representatives of the Itsekiri Regional Development Council (IRDC) and the Egbema Gbaramatu Communities Development Foundation (EGCDF) to further strengthen the capacity of the RDC and CCDCs do develop media and advocacy materials that showcase the activities and achievements of the RDCs in their communities. A Series of Key informant interviews including some with key CNL personnel is proposed for Q2,2022.</p> <p>Training for PIND MSD Co-Facilitators on developing Intervention Guides and Quarterly report writing for PINDs Market System Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ During the quarter, the Capacity Building team facilitated training for PIND Market System Development, MSD co-facilitators that currently implement the 6 Market System Development Projects. The training was on developing intervention guides and improving/standardizing quarterly reporting of activities. This was to

	<p>enable the project to meet growing demands to estimate and attribute change efficiently and effectively and allow credible reporting of project achievements. The specific objectives of the training were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand intervention design and project implementation process - Understand the major challenges related to measuring changes in complex environments, especially changes attributable to a program’s activities - Gain hands-on experience using key tools of measurement, such as results chains. - Learn how to develop and write quarterly reports according to PIND’s standard <p>The training was held at the PIND, EDC in Warri, Delta State from March 9 to 11, 2022. Twenty-five participants including 17 individuals (from 8 organizations) and nine PIND staff were in attendance. The 8 organizations comprise Self-Help and Rural Development Association (SHERDA), CARA Development Foundation, Center for Social Awareness, Advocacy and Ethics (CSAAE), Comfort Literacy Intervention & Capacity Enhancement (CLICE) Foundation, GSI Tech, CAD Consulting Limited, KOLPING Society of Nigeria, and Conservation Alliance. The training was facilitated by PIND in-house facilitators in the MSD project and the Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation team. The training was practical and interactive.</p> <p>A major outcome of the training was the commitment of the co-facilitators to provide support in regularly updating the intervention guides and IGs. Also, a mentorship plan was developed including a scheduled one-on-one meeting between the MSD advisors and their co-facilitator on the progress of their Intervention guide over a three to six-month period.</p> <p>Increasing Support to CAPABLE organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Since 2015 when it was launched, PIND has trained several organizations on the CAPABLE M4P, this has led to a change in the behavior of these organizations in terms of how they implement interventions/activities. In 2020 PIND also commenced strengthening the capacities of these organizations to attract funding for project implementation in the region by organizing a training on proposal writing and resource mobilization, Although this training was delivered virtually due to Covid 19 restrictions at the time, many of the participating organizations have been able to write decent proposals and receive funding to implement projects in the region based on skills developed at the training. <p>This quarter PIND commenced the engagement of consultants to provide additional training and Mentorship to selected CAPABLE organizations on proposal writing and resource mobilization to further enhance the capacity of these organizations to continue to attract increased funding to implement sustainable projects in the region and also to provide Capacity Building support to identified Business Membership Organizations (BMO)s within PIND's MSD Sectors.</p> <p>Below are some of the results recorded this quarter as a result of the activities of some of the previously trained CAPABLE organizations:</p> <p>Organizations accessing funds and grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Living Hope Foundation received a grant of N15 Millon from The Global fund to carry out sensitization of 150 pregnant women, youth, and children on malaria/Tuberculosis prevention and treatment in selected Local Government Areas in Delta and Cross River State. Similarly, Macjim Foundation received funding of over N2 million from CORDAID to research climate change impact across key sectors in the Niger Delta. Through this, a total of N17 Million naira was recorded as funds raised this quarter against a target of N5Million for the period. Additionally, 110 participants were supported by Mcjims and Forward Africa. MacJim carried out a training for 60 participants on climate change and environmental protection and management using Agriculture as an alternative livelihood, while Forward Africa trained 50 participants on opportunities in agriculture. This, together with the 17 persons trained by PIND on Intervention Guides, bring the total number of participants trained to 110 against this quarter's target of 50 persons trained.
<p>Communications</p>	<p>External Knowledge Sharing on PIND Models</p> <p>Strategic Communication Committee of the Presidential Amnesty Program (PAP)/January 27, 2022/Warri, Delta State/ February 4, 2022/Uyo, Akwa Ibom State and February 23, 2022/Port Harcourt, Rivers State: PIND showcased its system for Early Warning Early Response (EWER), its peacebuilding model, conflict early warning, and early response systems, and the Foundation's model for peace volunteerism to 228 peace stakeholders (including government representatives) present at the Forums.</p> <p>Stakeholders’ interactive Peacebuilding and Conflict Analysis Sessions with Youth Leaders/January 31 – February 2, 2022/Asaba, Delta State: PIND, through the Warri Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP), shared its knowledge of peacebuilding and conflict analysis with 20 community and youth leaders of Abiteye/Utoanana and surrounding communities in the state.</p> <p>Warri Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) retreat/meeting and capacity training/February 21 - 23, 2022/Asaba, Delta State: PIND participated in the retreat that discussed and proffered solutions to the peacebuilding and</p>

conflict management issues between the Ijaw and Itsekiri ethnic groups to 21 representatives of State governments and peace stakeholders.

Poultry linkage/Awareness Workshop/March 3, 2022/Kwale, Delta State: PIND and its supported business service provider, Chuvaak Agro Services, shared knowledge on the best poultry farming practices and facilitated business to business interactions for 94 participant poultry farmers.

2022 International Women's Day (IWD) Workshop/March 8, 2022/Warri, Delta State: PIND exposed 34 women, including people with disabilities (PWDs) in agriculture, start-ups, leadership roles, and others,) to income generation and leadership capacity building in line with the theme "Sustainable Livelihoods: When Women Lead."

Knowledge Sharing Workshop for Poultry Service Providers/March 18, 2022/Virtual: facilitated by PIND's co-facilitator, CSAAE, 15 poultry service providers in attendance shared knowledge and lessons on improving the sector's performance.

Nigeria Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity Inaugural Community of Practice (CoP) Meeting/March 29, 2022/Abuja/Virtual: The Foundation shared its knowledge on effective coordination for sustainability to 34 attendees of the meeting, including the federal ministry of agriculture and rural development, state ministries of agriculture, national agricultural extension and research liaison services, and agricultural development programs.

Peacebuilding advocacy and stakeholders' engagement to "Stop the Killing of Women and Girls for Ritualistic Purposes in Rivers State/March 29, 2022/Port Harcourt, Rivers State: PIND collaborated with the Centre for Gender Studies (CGS), the University of Port Harcourt, to campaign against the violent killings using data from its peace map. The workshop had 32 attendees from state governments and academia.

Edo Business Linkages Forum/March 24, 2022/Benin, Edo State: PIND and Citron Spring Limited (a PIND-supported Business Service Provider) facilitated the Business to Business (B2B) forum to 60 participants from MSMEs, State governments, and community leaders to improve relations among these players in the state's MSME ecosystem.

Business Investment and Linkage Forum/March 30, 2022/Warri North, Delta State: PIND and its community based BSP, Mike Ogidi, facilitated business linkages between 80 attendees from MSMEs, State governments, and Community Leaders in Polobubo (Tsekelewu) Community of Warri North Local Government Area (LGA).

Niger Delta Peace and Security Network (NDPSN)/April 1 – 5, 2022/Uyo, Akwa Ibom State: PIND shared its Peacebuilding, Conflict Early Warning and early response, and volunteerism systems to 20 peacebuilding stakeholders, inclusive of State Governments.

Advocacy

Abia State Long-Term Development Plan:

"We are grateful to PIND for insuring the future of Abia State through the Long-Term Development plan. This book has become a bible to all of us Abia State..." – Barrister Chris Ezem, Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Abia State Government.

- To plug into the potential Mastercard Foundation project, the Ministry of Agriculture has promised to profile Cassava farmers in the State in preparation for the opportunity.
- On Access to Land in Abia State for agricultural purposes, the Ministry of Agriculture would share a layout of the farm settlement earmarked for cultivation which is currently fallow.
- Abia State Government to legislate on the ABSLTDP, thereby giving it legal backing, in the coming quarter.

Cross River Growth and Development Strategy:

Engagements with the Cross River State Planning Commission (CSPC) and with the civil society partners - Budget Transparency and Accountability Network (BTAN) provided PIND an opportunity to learn more about the progress made on the implementation of the Cross River State Growth and Development Strategy (GDS) and its inclusion in the State annual budgets from 2019 to date. Key outputs of the Advocacy team's visit to Cross River State were:

- The Planning Commission highlighted budget lines in the 2022 State budget that connect to the GDS including N100 million for feasibility study, design, and construction of cocoa processing plant in Ikom, N300 million for design and construction of rice mill processing plant in Ogoja, N200,000 for the promotion of value-added services in the State, to mention a few.
- PIND has been made a member of the Cross River State Growth and Development plan review committee established by the government to provide oversight on the 5-year review process of the GDS. UNESCO has undertaken to fund this review activity, and the Advocacy Manager has been made a member of this review Committee'.
- BTAN has expressed interest to partner with PIND in coordinating civil society efforts especially as it relates to tracking the budget lines that relate to the GDS and supporting activities around other PIND advocacy issues, including access to land, multiple taxation, and peace and security framework.

Ondo State Proposed 10-year Cocoa Development Plan:

PIND was nominated to be part of the Ondo State Cocoa Council which was formed based on PIND’s recommendation at the 2019 cocoa stakeholders’ roundtable organized. At that event, PIND rallied over 100 stakeholders in the cocoa sector across the Niger Delta to deliberate on the issues of certification of cocoa beans and the formation of a council that would oversee the activities in the sector. This was a contributor to the decision to form this committee which was inaugurated by Governor Akeredolu and a follow-up meeting in February. The core activities of the cocoa council are:

- Strengthening the membership of the Cocoa Council with more influential and high net worth partners, especially the multinational global cocoa and chocolate brands (Cadbury, Nestle; Olam; Tulip and Barry Callebaut); development of financial institutions, research institutes, and the development community;
- Establishment and institutionalization of a private sector-led but government enabled “cocoa bond” mechanism that will be deployed to fund activities, interventions, and commercial operations of the cocoa ecosystem in a manner that will usher in an enabling environment for self-regulation, quality assurance, traceability, standards and remunerative pricing, entry and exit conditions, seamless access to inputs, agrochemicals, working capital finance and production credit at the farm gates.
- Production of a 10-year Cocoa Development Plan (CDP) that will encapsulate the policy and economic aspirations of the Executive Governor of Ondo State, objectives and deliverables of the State Cocoa Bond, the term of reference (ToRs) of the Cocoa Council and will meet the core principles of sustainable cocoa production, sustainable cocoa industry, sustainable cocoa consumption all within a strategic management framework.

ANNEX 3

2022 International Women’s Day	
Urban Area	<p>Working with a fish farming cluster “Alero Fish Farm” located in Ekokodo Itsekiri, Delta State, PIND provided support to women fish farmers and processors. To stem the use of fossil fuel such as fuelwood for fish smoking, the cluster was supported with improved smoking technology (smoking kiln and bio-digester) that is powered by biogas, fueled by waste products. One of the women farmers was selected to manage the smoking kiln and provide quality fish smoking service to other fish farmers in the cluster at a fee. A technical training on best practices and usage of the kiln and biodigester was conducted for the farmers on March 7, 2022 with ten women participants in attendance.</p> <p>In addition, a training on leadership, conflict management and business development was organized for the farmer association members with 24 women participants in attendance. The training was held at PIND EDC, Warri on March 8, 2022. The training encompassed sessions on effective leadership, volunteerism, and conflict management. The participants were also exposed to workable business development techniques with practical examples that they could relate to.</p>
Rural Area (Chevron GMo U Communities)	<p>PIND installed a total of seven solar home systems (SHSs) in five communities to provide electricity that will support businesses of women that are underserved and are most vulnerable for improved livelihood and increased income. To ensure greater impact, the systems and some accessories (television and fan) were installed in locations such as community health care centers, community secretariat, business centers, and smoking kitchens for social and commercial purposes. For effective management and sustainability, the beneficiaries will be made to pay a token for the maintenance of the solar home systems.</p> <p>In Delta State, a total of three SHSs were installed in Tebu, Ajamita and Benikrukru communities, while a total of three SHSs were installed in Awoye community in Ondo State and one SHSs was installed in Sangana in Bayelsa State. The installations were done with technical support from PINDs implementing partners A4&T Power Solutions Limited and Diligent International Ventures and aimed at strengthening PIND’s commitment to improving energy access in rural communities, while advocating for a more gender inclusive energy transition.</p> <p>Three female-led teams of engineers carried out the installations in the various locations and they educated the beneficiaries on product knowledge/usage.</p> <p>In Awoye community of Ondo State, a 50w SHS was installed to provide electricity to three women to support their fish processing business, there were 15 participants in attendance during the event. While in Delta State, 50w SHSs were installed in Tebu, Ajamita and Benikrukru communities. At Tebu and Ajamita, the SHSs were installed in the communities’ town halls while at Benikrukru it was installed in the community health care center, to provide electricity for powering bulbs, television, fan, phones, point of sale (POS) machines and so on. Thirty participants attended the events, while other men, women and youths came out to witness the events. Some of the participants testified that they had not had electricity in their community in “ages”. One of them noted that <i>“this light will save me the stress of paying transport fare to another community to charge my phone. I will now have time for other things and my customers will be able to reach me”</i>. And in</p>

Sagana, Bayelsa State, a 50w SHS was installed to support fifteen women owned businesses such as sowing and fish processing.

Finally, to improve access to potable water, PIND distributed a total of twenty bio-sand water filters to twenty households in Tsekelewu, Opuama, Ajamita, Gbokoda, Tebu and Awoye in Delta and Ondo States respectively. The recipients were also trained on how to use the water filters.



LEARN MORE

 www.pindfoundation.org