

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS - INTERNSHIP TO SUPPORT THE MARKET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT UNIT

BACKGROUND

The Foundation for Partnerships Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND Foundation) is a non-profit foundation that promotes peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region through multistakeholder partnerships. This work is funded with the support of the esteemed partners and collaborators. PIND works in concert with Washington DC-based Niger Delta Partnership Initiative (NDPI) Foundation.

The Foundation also works closely with numerous partners to implement collaborative market-based, community-owned programs to mitigate conflicts and boost economic opportunities for local businesses, ensuring that economic progress occurs in a systemic, inclusive, and sustainable manner, and has projects spanning 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.

PIND strongly believe that no single organization can solve the complex and interconnected development challenges in the Niger Delta. Since 2010, PIND and partners have been contributing to strengthening and stabilizing the region by reducing poverty, powering coastline communities, nurturing youth employment, fostering stability, and enabling development.

The Foundation established an internship program to allow students and young graduates to develop their professional interests and capacity in their chosen career paths in fields related to PIND's programs and operations. The internship provides opportunities to share ideas and have exposure to PIND's programs and projects, with the following key learning goals:

- Learning how theoretical knowledge gained is applied in a practical professional setting
- Providing interns with an enriching professional work environment within PIND that would help career directions/decisions.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The market Systems Development 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 currently being deployed in implementing interventions to support poor farmers in the aquaculture, cassava, cocoa, palm oil, and poultry value chain sectors. The sectors represent the most viable agricultural value chains identified in the Niger Delta following value chain analysis and scoping studies conducted on them. This approach is also being implemented to provide access to business development, market, and finance for MSMEs through the MSME and linkages activity.

To focus on growth sectors that are strategically aligned to the commercial interests of service providers and implementing partners, PIND reengineered its market systems project portfolio in 2019 to focus on two broad categorizations of crops 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.

PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The intern will support the MSD team in program implementation and management. The intern will work closely with the MSD manager and team members to become knowledgeable in the department.

SCOPE OF LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The Market Systems Development (MSD) intern is required to support the MSD manager and designated Market Development Advisors (MDAs) in project implementation and management.

Specifically, the intern would provide assistance to the market development projects manager, and the Value chain sector leads in the following areas:

- Data gathering/Analysis
- Understudy and provide support in reviewing reports and processing payments to co-facilitators and partners
- Schedule and participate in engagement meetings and project monitoring activities and prepare trip/meeting reports
- Support the team in Monitoring and Evaluation and management of intervention guides (IGs) etc.



LOCATION

The Internship opportunity is at PIND's Economic Development Centre in Warri, Delta State but may require travel cross the Niger Delta region.

COSTS

The Intern will be remunerated in accordance with PIND's internship policy.

DURATION

It is expected that this assignment will run for a total of 6 months starting from September 2022 and be renewable for another 6 months.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge, Skills & Qualifications

- A degree in relevant field of study to PIND's programs' like Social Science, Agriculture, Development Studies, Business Administration or Management, with **not more than two years post-graduation or two years post the national youth service (NYSC).**
- Good communication and Organizational skills
- Good knowledge of MS Excel and MS word
- A self-starter with good time management and organizational skills.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Must be computer literate with strong analytical and numerical skills.
- Knowledge of development issues in Nigeria and Niger Delta

Experience

• Entry level.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested candidates should email the following documents to <u>internships@pindfoundation.org</u> with 'MSD Intern' as subject of email, not later than **Tuesday, September 13, 2022.**

Application letter of not more than two pages stating understanding of the assignment and suitability for the role.

• Resume - "Applicants should clearly indicate their state of origin in their Curriculum Vitae"

The position is in Warri and applicants should take this into consideration while sending in their applications.

Only shortlisted candidates would be contacted



Non-Discriminatory Clause:

PIND Foundation provides equal opportunity in employment and engagement for all persons, vendors, and contractors, and prohibits unlawful discrimination and harassment in all aspects of a contractual engagement or employment because of age, sex, gender, marital status, disability, nationality, race, religion or any fact.