



Representatives of PIND and UNFAO FISH4ACP Project at the PIND office after discussing possible collaborations

Monitoring & Evaluation Report

**Quarter Four:
October - December 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, Edo, 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 coastal communities, nurturing employment, fostering stability, and enabling development*. Learn more about PINDfoundation.org.

Contents

Abbreviations and acronyms		4
Background		7
Introduction: 2022 Q4 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	15
3.1	Market Development	15
3.1.1	Key Achievements: Aquaculture	17
3.1.2	Key Achievements: Cassava	17
3.1.3	Key Achievements: Cocoa	19
3.1.4	Key Achievements: Palm Oil	21
3.1.5	Key Achievements: Poultry	23
3.1.6	MSME Development and Linkages	24
3.2	Skills Development for Youth Employment	25
3.3	Access to Energy	28
3.4	Feed The Future: Nigeria Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity	30
3.5	Sombreiro Kapital	33
4.	Peace Building Program	32
5.	General Enabling Program	38
5.1	Capacity Building	38
5.2	Advocacy	40
5.3	Communications	41
5.4	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion	42
6	Challenges and Lessons Learned	44
7.	Program Management	46
8.	Looking Ahead	46
Annexes		48

Abbreviations and acronyms

AEAS	Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity
AGSMEIS	Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Scheme
BMP	Best Management Practices
BMO	Business Management Organizations
BoT	Board of Trustees
BSPs	Business Service Providers
CAPABLE	Capacity Building for Local Empowerment
CB	Capacity Building
CBN	Central Bank of Nigeria
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CDCs	Community Development Committees
CNL	Chevron Nigeria Limited
CPPs	Crop Protection Products
CRIN	Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria
CSEs	Cassava Seed Entrepreneurs
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
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
MAH	Mechanical Adjustable Harvester
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIPs	Most Impactful Practices
MNDA	Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs
MK	Malaysian Knife
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
NANMO	Partnership between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Qatar Fund for Development that funds projects at the intersection of climate adaptation, agricultural transformation, and poverty alleviation.
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 Department, 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
Q4	Quarter 4
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
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
YOY	Year on Year

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 identifying multi stakeholder partners, and then act as a catalyst for establishing 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, and 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 Q4 M&E Report

This fourth quarter (October – December 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 levels of collaborations.

Donor/Project Partners: These include the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), UK’s Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), and German Development Agency (GIZ), Ford Foundation - 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 October – December 2022 (Quarter 4, and cumulative for 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, 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 regarding program’s objectives this quarter. The following are highlights of its achievements:

Market Systems Development:

With PIND’s market development projects continuing to demonstrate progress towards widespread economic growth and poverty reduction in the region, 14,722 farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs were reached with information and services on agriculture and business best practices and efficient technologies in the crop and non-crop sectors. Cumulatively, 70,325 farmers/MSMEs (40% women) were reached in 2022, leading to increased productivity, income and jobs in the Niger Delta

PIND incentivized MSMEs and participating farmers to invest ₦1.55 billion to implement good agricultural practices, technological innovations, purchase inputs and undertake other capital expenditures in Q4. A total of ₦12.37 billion has been leveraged in 2022 (₦8.89 billion: equity and ₦4.03 billion: debt). A net income of over ₦20 billion was recorded (28% income change year-on-year (YOY), compared to 2021 season. Also, 11,093 full time equivalent jobs were created by these farmers/MSMEs in 2022.

Access to Energy:

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. This has led to more households and businesses accessing electricity. In Q4 2022, PIND partnered with ETIN Power limited and Darway Coast limited, towards the deployment of community energy solutions across three coastal communities in the Niger Delta to leverage a total of N242,403.08 million in investment, towards the engineering, procurement and construction of mini grids across 3 communities. These include a 110kWp solar mini grid at Ajakurama community, Ovia south west LGA, Edo State by ETIN Power limited; a 100kWp solar mini grid at Toru Ebeni community, Sagbama LGA, Bayelsa State by Darway Coast limited; and a 16kWp solar energy cabin powered mini grid at Adagbarassa community, Warri North LGA, Delta State. As a result, 708 households (4,506 persons) and 258 new businesses were connected to electricity in these three coastal communities. Cumulatively, 882 businesses and 1,896 households have been given access to electricity goods and services in 2022. Also, ₦153.094 million was recorded as financial benefits accruing to businesses and households accessing clean energy, facilitated by PIND in Q4, bringing the cumulative for 2022 to ₦595.969 million.

Support to GMoU communities:

In the GMoU communities, PIND continued to build the capacity of fisherfolks and fish processors in the target communities to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. This quarter, PIND facilitated technical training for 118 fisherfolks and processors in Ilaje LGA, Ondo state. Participants were exposed to safety measures in their fishing activities, the appropriate use and maintenance of their fishing gears, and other sustainable fishing practices such as the protection of breeding sites for sustainable fishing activities.

Youth Employment Pathways:

PIND continued to scale-up the YEP model into other states. 1,824 youths (45% female, 1% PWD) graduated from the Youth Employment Pathways program in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Delta and Rivers States in 2022, following training to build technical skills (with embedded soft skills training for workplace preparedness) in agriculture, ICT, building construction and services. 590 of them have already accessed employment and income earning opportunities, while 602 of them are currently undergoing internships and apprenticeships.

Peace Building:

PIND produced 15 conflict reports (including 14 weekly conflict briefs), a quarterly conflict tracker (Q4 2022), published its perception of safety and security report, and two case studies on data-driven and community-initiated conflict prevention and peacebuilding interventions, in its drive to continually create situational awareness, update stakeholders and catalyze mitigative responses. Also, in Q4 2022, PIND assisted 275 peace actors to constructively

resolve emerging conflicts in various communities in the Niger Delta. This led to 28 quality actions¹ being taken to mitigate conflict in different locations across the region. Cumulatively, 1,233 peace actors have taken action to mitigate conflict, utilizing 163 quality actions, so far in 2022.

Advocacy:

PIND has achieved some progress on its work to ensure access to arable land in the Niger Delta. The Edo State Government Access to Land Committee was presented to stakeholders for validation at the Government House in Benin, and subsequently submitted to the Governor. The draft policy document would be presented for legislative approval in January 2023. Also, an MoU was signed with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to solidify the partnership between PIND and the Ministry towards the development of a harmonized peacebuilding strategy in the region and this led to the formation of the Technical Working Group (TWG) that will help to oversee the crafting of a peace and security framework for the Niger Delta Region. The TWG was formed and inaugurated on the 30th of November 2022, with the first training and stakeholder session taking place on the 1st of December 2022. The outcome of the TWG deliberations would be the development of a harmonized peacebuilding strategy and framework for the region.

Business Development:

In line with its effort to diversify and expand its funding base, PIND continued engagements with potential partners to explore new opportunities across its program areas. In Q4, PIND received a grant of \$400,000 from the Ford Foundation to implement “The Bridges Project” in five Niger Delta states. PIND commenced preliminary implementation activities targeted at building the capacity of communities and relevant stakeholders for greater efficiency towards the implementation of Petroleum Industry Act (PIA). Also, during the quarter, PIND advanced its collaboration with WorldFish to submit and receive preliminary approval on a Climate-Resilient Aquaculture Systems for Africa (CASA) proposal to the NANMO Partnership, a joint venture between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Qatar Fund for Development, which funds projects geared towards climate adaptation, agricultural transformation, and poverty alleviation. In another development, PIND progressed engagements with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Programme (FOLUR-IP). This is a project aimed at promoting integrated landscape management and sustainable food systems in Nigeria. PIND aims to implement some components in Ondo and Cross River States.

Communications:

By amplifying PIND’s communications this quarter, 11,720,058 people gained new or increased awareness about PIND through its various platforms: newsletters, social media, website, email inquiries, forums and traditional mainstream media. Also, PIND garnered 50 positive media mentions of its work and activities and attracted 72 public endorsements from stakeholders who interacted with its content on the website, newsletters, and social media posts during the review period.

1.2 Challenges, Mitigation and Plans for the Next Quarter

Within the reporting period, farmers participating in the agricultural productivity improvement program continued to witness hikes in the costs of inputs, technologies for harvesting and processing in addition to increased transaction costs. These were mitigated through working with input companies to link Farm Service providers (FSPs) to the farmers, and facilitate access to technologies by supporting FSPs to provide services to input companies’ networks of farmers.

The certainty of changes in government across six (6) states in the region after the forthcoming general elections in mid-February 2023, has increased PIND’s courtesy visits to the existing new appointees and is deepening relationships and engagements with career civil servants who retain their positions much longer and are custodians of the MDAs.

In Q1 2023, areas that PIND’s focus will be to:

- Facilitate the 2023 Nonviolence Election Mitigation Project; jointly integrate Peacebuilding activities with Economic Development (Conflict Sensitivity) and facilitate the development of the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding as well as the Niger Delta Peace and Security Network fora /Prevent Council operationalization in selected states.
- Support existing and new partners to expand and deepen productivity and quality improvements; access to agro-inputs; and strengthen the linkages between smallholder farmers and large processors;
- Accelerate new partnerships towards commencing three (3) PIND-supported mini grid installations in 3 riverine

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).

- communities across Delta, Bayelsa and Edo states;
- Facilitate adoption of the YEP program in states, and consolidate the ongoing YEP activities in states.

1.3 Program Management

In Q4 2022, PIND held a meeting of its project and programs sub-committee to review progress of its programs and projects. 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, as well as to ensure accountability.

PIND conducted a baseline/impact assessment of the access to clean energy in Awoye and Odofado communities in Ondo State, and completed data collection for the internal midline impact assessment of the market development program to validate the assumptions of this strategic phase. It also verified the indirect cassava farmers' level of adoption of the improved system it promoted to determine the systemic changes in the Cassava sector in addition to routine data quality checks of the outputs.

In December 2022, PIND held its annual operating planning retreat to review performance and roll out the 2023 program implementation strategies, operating plans and targets.

Summary of the 2022 results against the targets

The summary below presents a view of PIND'S 2022 results against the targets

Economic Development Program Indicators	2022 Targets	2022 Cumulative Results
Outreach	69,500	70,325
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	5,000	4,218
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	25,000	25,332 ²
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	12,000	12,953
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	15,000	14,085
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	8,000	8,545
<i>MSME development</i>	4,500	5,192
Farmers/MSMEs with increased productivity or sales	46,055	59,741
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	2,000	3,670
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	20,473	25,078
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	8,400	9,087
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	8,165	11,408
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	4,817	6,802
<i>MSME development</i>	2,200	3,697
Net attributable income change [Naira value]	₦16.85 billion	₦20.95 billion
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	₦1.05 billion	₦1.28 billion
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	₦4.80 billion	₦6.01 billion
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	₦2.00 billion	₦2.86 billion
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	₦4.85 billion	₦5.93 billion
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	₦1.65 billion	₦1.89 billion
<i>MSME development</i>	₦2.50 billion	₦2.97 billion
Net attributable income change [% change]	40%	28% ³
New jobs facilitated	11,990	11,709
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	850	1,629
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	1,433	1,658
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	969	1,331
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	2,100	874
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	1,758	1,881
<i>MSME development</i>	4,140	3,721
<i>Access to energy</i>	80	26
<i>Number of youths accessing employment and other income-earning opportunities</i>	660	590 ⁴
Value of investments by economic development actors [Naira value]	₦ 9.35 billion	₦12.37billion Equity (₦8.89billion) Debt financing (₦4.03billion)
<i>Aquaculture value chain</i>	₦1.50 billion	₦3.37 billion
<i>Cassava value chain</i>	₦605 million	₦1.46 billion
<i>Cocoa value chain</i>	₦715 million	₦736.97 million
<i>Palm oil value chain</i>	₦1.35 billion	₦1.37 billion
<i>Poultry value chain</i>	₦1.48 billion	₦1.40 billion
<i>MSME development</i>	₦3.60 billion	₦4.03 billion
<i>Access to Energy</i>	₦1bn million	₦537.13 million
States adoption of PIND's model for youth employment	3	-
Youths with applicable skills for employment	1,400	1,824
Peace Building Program Indicators	2022 Targets	2022 Cumulative Results
Stakeholders applying skills in conflict management	220	165
Stakeholders utilizing PIND's peace data and analysis	2,000	1,628
Peace actors taking action to mitigate conflict	1,297	1,233
Quality actions taken to mitigate conflict	120	163
Population that feels safe in the area they reside	2%	<u>2.97%</u> ⁵

² 14,443 are indirect adopting cassava farmers, while 10,889 are the direct participating farmers

³ YOY Percentage change in income, 2021 as the base year was 28%: 2021, the net additional income was N16,422,065,193 compared to N20,953,367,290 in 2022.

⁴ PIND also facilitated 602 internship and apprenticeship placements

⁵ The total proportion of the population that feel safer in the communities they reside in the Niger Delta, because of PIND's interventions increased from 1.52% prior to 2020 to 4.5% between 2020 and 2021. Thus, an improvement of 2.97%, achieving 148% of the 2% target.

Coastal Community Development Indicators	2022 Targets	2022 Cumulative Results
<i>Access to Energy</i>		
Businesses with access to clean energy	700	882
Households with access to clean energy	500	1,896
People with access to energy technologies	3,700	12,258
Financial benefits accruing to users of energy solutions	₦500 million	₦594.97 million ⁶
<i>GMOU Capacity Building</i>		
Net change in capacity index of RDCs	2.4 (average score)	3.36
Organizations accessing funds/grants	8	9
Total value of funds raised with PIND's support	₦26 million	₦195.1 million ⁷
GMOU organizations providing improved services to beneficiaries/Communities (RDCs and implementing Partners)	6	12
General Enabling Program Indicators		
2022 Targets		
2022 Cumulative Results		
<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 and private sector	₦ 882 million	₦237.3 million ⁸
Total value of investments in energy solutions by public and private sectors	₦300 million	₦537.1 million
Change in policy in relation to multiple taxations on small-scale businesses	Qualitative description of Progress	Internal validation of the reports took place in October 2022, while the external validation will take place via roundtables in Port Harcourt and Asaba in the 1 st quarter of 2023.
Level of responsiveness that facilitates access to land by smallholder farmers	Qualitative description of Progress	PIND engaged with relevant stakeholders in three States to understand the issues resulting in inadequate access and engaged state-specific actors to develop recommendations that could be adopted to address these constraints. So far PIND has facilitated the establishment of arable land review committees in two States – Delta and Edo State.
Change in policies and strategies conducive for building peaceful/ non-violent society.	Evidence of coherence and coordination of interventions	MoU signed between PIND and the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA) in September 2022, to establish a collaboration on a Regional Peacebuilding Framework across the 9 states of Niger Delta. Following this milestone, the Technical Working Group (TWG) for Niger Delta Regional Peace building Strategy (NDRPS) comprising various critical partners, was formed and inaugurated within the quarter. The first training and stakeholder session took place on the 1st of December 2022. The outcome of the TWG deliberations would be the development of a harmonized strategy to be deployed as a peacebuilding framework for the entire region.
<i>Business Development</i>		
Funds raised from other sources for PIND's programs	₦ 922 million	₦ 180 million ⁹
<i>Communications</i>		
Forums to share PIND's work and lessons from implementation	30	32
Public endorsements of PIND's work	25	141
Media reports with PIND mention	220	203
Level of awareness of PIND and its programs:		
Newsletter subscribers	450	437
Website new visitors	50,000	60,264
Social media reach	2.5 million	2.54 million
Mainstream media reach	9.1 million	9.12 million
Email enquiries	500	326

⁶ Increased incomes: ₦568.85 million, Cost savings: ₦26.12 million

⁷ Total value of funds influenced by PIND, from private and public organization at the GMOU communities

⁸ Value of public spending by Government (₦42.2 million) + value of funds raised with PIND's support (₦195.1 million)

⁹ The \$400,000 (180 million) was the amount raised from the Ford Foundation for the Bridges project.

2. Context Analysis

2.1 Socio-economic environment

The macroeconomic outlook in 2022 was dominated with developments that slowed down the productive capacities of farmers and MSMEs and the ability to carry out quality interventions by peacebuilding actors. By March 2022, the inflation rate had climbed to 15.92%, from 15.70% in February and 15.6% in January, affecting the prices of goods and services. In the following quarter, we reiterated the issue of the sustained pressure of inflation on the economy and specifically farmers and MSMEs. By August 2022, Nigeria's inflation rate had risen from 19.64% in July to 20.52% with both the food and core component prices rising to 23.12% and 17.20% from 22.02% and 16.26 % in July 2022 respectively.

By the end of September 2022, the exchange rate between the naira and the US dollar had fallen to N735/\$1 in the parallel markets and N437.03/\$1 at the Investors and Exporters window, compared to N615/\$1 in the parallel market and N425.05/\$1 at the Investors and Exporters window, at the end of June of the same year. These presented daunting challenges to farmers/MSMEs, and peace actors alike. For farmers specifically, the increases in the prices of agro-inputs, and transactional costs contributed to reduced purchasing power of farmers and MSMEs and inadvertently the reduced scale of business activities.

An outbreak of bird flu was reported in Delta State in November 2022 by a poultry service provider (PSP) Chuvaak Agro Ltd., and a Village Level Dealer (VLD) around Udu and Ughelli axis of Delta State, where a total of about 200 birds were lost. PIND immediately created awareness to more stakeholders to enable them to take bio-security measures in their farms which helped in curtailing the spread. Further information sharing to build the resilience of the farmers have been planned for subsequent quarters to enable farmers to take proactive measures against such, since bird flu was known to occur every year.

In Q4, Nigeria experienced heavy rains and flooding that led to several communities in the region being devastated and the resultant loss of lives, communities and people being displaced, houses damaged, and livestock and several hectares of farmlands destroyed. This disrupted economic activities, destroyed livelihoods, and forced many displaced residents into crowded shelters with poor hygiene and sanitation, leading to the outbreak of water-borne diseases in some communities. This has compounded the already inadequate state of critical infrastructure - a menace to farmers/MSMEs' productive capacity. PIND commenced assessing the extent to which service providers, farmers, MSMEs, etc. were affected, and explored coping measures and support for building their resilience in handling these daunting challenges, coupled with unfavorable macroeconomic situation that pervaded mostly in 2022.

In this vein, PIND deepened capacity enhancement for support functions, and provided business information to service providers that would help them link farmers/MSMEs to agro-inputs dealers for bulk purchases, and reduce production costs. Also, PIND prioritized and deepened facilitation of on-farm demonstrations of improved business practices to help farmers/MSMEs maximize the use of the agro-inputs in their farms and businesses to minimize waste.

2.2 Security

Within the reporting period, the security situation in Nigeria remained concerning. In October 2022, within the Emohua Local Government axis of the East-West Road in Rivers State, suspected bandits reportedly abducted nine passengers. Gunmen also reportedly kidnapped a former Permanent Secretary of Akwa Ibom State in Abak Local Government Area of the state. He was reportedly abducted a few meters away from his home while returning from church. Similarly, gunmen suspected to be assassins reportedly invaded the residence of a 55 years old Communication Technology ICT expert at Okuta Elerinla area of Akure, Ondo State and killed him.

In November, gunmen also invaded a palace and abducted the traditional ruler of Oso Ajowa-Akoko, in Akoko north-west LGA of Ondo State. Similarly, in the same State, two security guards were killed and mutilated by gunmen at different locations in Ikare-Akoko, Akoko North-East LGA. Also, in November, farmers in the Akoko-Edo Local Government Area of Edo State reportedly discovered unidentified corpses in Ibillo Lampese along the Abuja Road. PIND is partnering - an MoU signed, with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA) to develop a regional peacebuilding infrastructure that would contribute to addressing conflict and security issues in the Niger Delta region. A technical working group (TWG) has already been inaugurated to help design and develop a Niger Delta Regional Peace building Strategy (NDRPS) for the Niger Delta region.

3. Economic Development Program

The economic development program comprises three projects: Market Systems Development, Access to Energy, and 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.

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 4, 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,

poultry and MSMEs. 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 was to further strengthen the adaptation strategies such as training, field demonstrations, information sharing, etc., 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 Q4 2022, 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 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 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, 14,722 (6,021 females) new farmers and enterprises were reached with information and knowledge on best practices and efficient technologies, representing a 104% performance against the quarter’s target of 14,101. Cumulatively, 70,325 (direct:55,883, indirect:14,442) farmers/MSMEs (40% women) have participated in economic activities so far in 2022, achieving 101% of the annual target of 69,500. The results are summarized below.

- **Farmers/MSMEs with increased income:** The number of adopting farmers/MSMEs who earned increased income on the MSD project in 2022, was estimated to be 45,835, representing 99.5% of the annual target of 46,055 farmers/MSMEs.
- **Change in the income of farmers:** Consequently, the net attributable income change (NAIC) of these farmers/MSMEs on the project was estimated to be ₦20.95 billion, representing 124% performance of the 2022 target of ₦16.85 billion.
- **Value of investment leveraged:** PIND leveraged additional investments worth ₦12.6 billion¹⁰ (39.98% by women) from participating farmers/MSMEs in the MSD project, for 2022. This performance represents 135% of the 2022 annual target of ₦9.3 billion.
- **Number of jobs facilitated:** The project facilitated the creation of 11,093 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs¹¹, by adopting farmers/MSMEs, representing 98% of the 2022 target of 11,330.

Table 1. MSD progress against Q4 2022 and annual targets and performance year-to-date

Indicators	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)	Female	PWD
	Q4 2022	Q4 2022	Q4 %	2022	2022 Final	2022 (%)	2022 ¹²	2022
Number of farmers/MSMEs reached	14,101	14,840	104%	69,500	70,325	101%	28,022	30
Number of farmers/MSMEs with increased income	*	15,075	-	46,055	45,835	99.5%	17,893	0
Change in the income of farmers direct and indirect	*	₦4.6bn	-	₦16.85bn	₦20.95bn	124%	₦7.96bn	0
Value of investment leveraged	*	₦1.55bn	-	₦9.35bn	₦12.37bn	135%	₦4.94bn	0
Number of jobs facilitated	*	2,321	-	11,330	11,093	97%	4,437	0

* Impact indicators are usually tracked once or twice a year depending on sector dynamics and as a result, they do not have quarterly targets.

¹⁰ ₦4.03 billion - loans by the MSMEs, while ₦9.1 billion - farmers equity.

¹¹ FTE jobs are the combination of full employment plus the equivalent of temporary engagements by farmers/MSMEs.

¹² See Annex 2 for disaggregation of indicators by genders and general quantitative information

3.1.1 Aquaculture – closeout achievements in Q4 2022¹³

The Aquaculture intervention started in 2014 with the development of services market through Aquaculture Service Providers (ASPs), trained to help farmers access improved services for increased productivity of their farms. Lack of access to improved services by farmers was identified as a systemic constraint hindering farmers' productivity in the Niger Delta. Hitherto, the ASPs have become drivers of the new innovations PIND initiated and are well incentivized supporting aquaculture farmers, with so many other service providers crowded-in, and delivering improved services support to the farmers in the ND region. In Q4 2022, several years after the commencement of the initiative – piloted, scaled up, a systemic change was evidenced, with both farmers and service providers adapting the innovations. Aquaculture now delivers equitable economic incentive to all the ecosystem players. It was time PIND graduated from the active involvement in the facilitation of program activities, while ASPs continue to drive the relationships in the sector.

Therefore, the aquaculture projects were graduated in Q4 2022 from the usual productivity field activities undertaken directly by PIND. Most of the farmers' support activities in 2022 were facilitated by the various Aquaculture Service Providers (ASPs) who are the drivers of the productivity services to farmers. Going forward, the aquaculture businesses would be supported under the MSMSEs interventions to improve their businesses.

The ASPs focused on improving the efficiency and productivity of fish farmers and processors, through improved knowledge of best fish farming practices, access to improved processing technology, and access to quality input, market, and finance for farmers - working with input companies, fabricators, and other market actors. The ASPs target was 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.

Aquaculture Key highlight

Sector Transformation:

- More Aquaculture Service Providers (ASPs) growing into Master Service Providers, are crowding-in younger aquaculture service providers, learning and providing support to more farmers in the Niger Delta
- Increased Ecosystem business interactions, leading to increased access to quality inputs for farmers in the Niger Delta Region
- Adoption/Adaptation of Fish processing technologies - Kiln and Chorkor Oven, now available through local fabricators and producers in the region.
- Observed changes in the quality of processed fish in the market and stores, with increased shelf life is transforming the sector in the region.
- Six improved breed of broodstock, providing quality fish seeds - fingerlings and juveniles, boosting farmers' productivity in the Region.
- Services: More Aquaculture Service Providers (ASPs) - now delivering training on improved productivity modules to farmers in the Niger Delta.

In Q4 2022, there were no new farmers recorded as the sector focused on the outcomes, and impact of the adoption of productivity improvement modules by the farmers reported in the first three quarters before the graduation in Q4. The cumulative outreach of aquaculture as at Q4 remains 4,218 (1771 females). The sector has the following results, as part of the 2022 aggregated final results:

- Farmers/MSMEs with increased Income: The 2022 overall farmers/MSMEs with increased income was estimated to be 1,774 representing 89% performance of the annual target of 2,000 farmers/MSMEs.
- Change in the income of farmers: Similarly, the 2022 net attributable income change for aquaculture farmers/MSMEs as of Q4 was estimated to be ₦1.28billion, representing 122% performance of the 2022 target of ₦1.05billion.
- Value of investment leveraged: The net estimated investment by the aquaculture farmers/MSMEs in adopting improved fish-pond practices/technologies in their farms was ₦3.37billion (42% were investments by women), representing 225%¹⁴ performance of the 2022 target of ₦1.5billion.
- Number of jobs facilitated: This is the combination of additional full-time employment and temporary paid man-hours engaged by aquaculture farmers/MSMEs. The estimated net jobs (full-time equivalent) created in 2022 by the adopting farmers/MSMEs was 1,629, representing 192% of the 2022 target of 850.

¹³ Aquaculture sector has graduated, having fulfilled its systemic changes, and is now driven by Aquaculture Service Providers (ASPs). PIND will continue to work with the fish processors under MSMSEs intervention.

¹⁴ The investment leveraged is twice the target due to the sharp rise in prices of inputs (about 45% increase) resulting from inflation. This made farmers spend far more than projected at the beginning of the year.

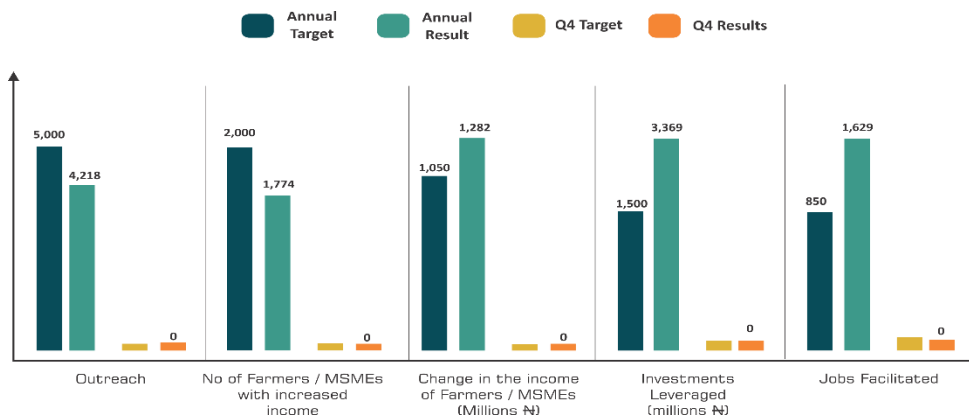


Figure 1. Aquaculture results at the end of 2022¹⁵.

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, and markets for cassava farmers. Under Cassava, the agro-input dealers promote improved practices through on-farm demonstration plots, where farmers are trained to adopt them. Some of the improved practices include better land preparation, right application of fertilizers and herbicides, proper stem handling/recommended spacing for planting and adoption of improved varieties.

As the cassava sector is transforming, PIND strengthens linkages between the major ecosystem players. These are Agro Dealers, Input Companies, and FSPs for improved service delivery to farmers. E.g., in the period under review, PIND leveraged input firms and their distribution network of agro-dealers as channels to provide smallholder farmers access to quality inputs and information on good agricultural practices through training using demonstration plots. This model was further expanded to include the last mile service market actors like farm service providers (FSPs) who have a commercial incentive to use the training and demonstration plots to market their services to farmers.

Another key step taken by PIND was the support given to the Cassava Seeds entrepreneurs (CSEs) in the region to be creative in enhancing farmers' access to improved cassava seeds to increase their yields. Through collaboration with the BASICS 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) over 130 Cassava seed entrepreneurs have been trained and onboarded into the network of CSEs by the training institutes in the previous years. These CSEs continue to provide access to improved cassava stems to farmers in their different locations across the Niger Delta, in addition to stepping down the training they received using their stem multiplication plots to farmers.

In 2022, PIND's target was to reach an additional 25,000 direct and copying farmers, through the continued expansion of demonstration plots across the region to promote the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). 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 Seed Entrepreneurship (CSE) activity. This also included a plan to support the establishment of cassava out-grower and aggregation programs in target locations.

This quarter, PIND continued to expand its activities in productivity improvement, working with new and existing partners across the region, providing support to partners to strengthen relationships and linkages with farmers to ensure access to agricultural information, and quality inputs including stems, fertilizer, and CPPs required for their production. These partners in Q4 conducted training programs and established demonstration plots on good agronomic practices across the region, reaching a total of 5,248¹⁶ farmers (2,980 females - 57% females). The cumulative cassava outreach for 2022 was 25,332 representing 101% of the 2022 target of 25,000 and 47% of women participated in the cassava productivity activities.

¹⁵ The Market Development Program closed the aquaculture sector in Q3 2022, which is why Q4 has no targets and results. However, from Q1-Q3, results of the activities completed under aquaculture already reported against the 2022 annual targets are accounted for in this quarter to complete the report

¹⁶ 2,256 direct farmers (1,275 females) and 2,992 indirect farmers (1,705 females)

Also, in this quarter, results of the indirect farmers have been verified and used to update the final cassava sector performance for 2022. The following represents the summary performance of the cassava sector as updated in Q4 2022 below¹⁷.

- **Farmers/MSMEs with increased Income:** In Q4, the number of cassava farmers with increased income was estimated to be 2,208 for direct participating farmers only and the indirect farmers with increased income was 6,499¹⁸ now reported after their verifications. This brings the total number of farmers who had increased income in Q4 to 8,707, and the cumulative for 2022 to be 17,158 farmers, 84% of 20,473 target for the year.
- **Change in the income of farmers:** This is the additional income by the farmers who adopted improved practices on their farms and earned increased incomes. The Q4 net attributable income change for both direct and indirect adopting farmers as of Q4 was estimated to be ₦2.54billion, and the cumulative net income for 2022 to be ₦6.01billion representing 125% performance of the 2022 target of ₦4.80billion.
- **Value of investment leveraged:** The investment leveraged is the difference in production cost between farmers reached and farmers yet to be reached with training and quality inputs. This quarter, the net estimated investment by cassava farmers in adopting good agronomic practices (GAP) in their farms was ₦896.64million and cumulative for 2022 for both direct and indirect farmers was ₦1.5billion, representing 241% of the 2022 target of ₦605million, (47% were investments by women). The effect of inflation on the cost of production (inputs, labor, and transactions) was responsible for this excess high cost of production by cassava farmers.
- **Number of jobs facilitated:** The estimated net jobs (full-time equivalent) created by both direct and indirect cassava adopting farmers was 1,096¹⁹. The creation of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs in cassava production is largely from the use of manual labor, rather than mechanization, by smallholder farmers for most farming activities such as land preparation, planting, and application of herbicides and fertilizer. Smallholder farmers cultivate small portions of land, in many cases smaller than one hectare, making the use of tractors, and other mechanical equipment uneconomical, except where farmlands are contiguous, and farmers are willing/ able to combine their resources to access mechanization. *See annex1 for more report.*

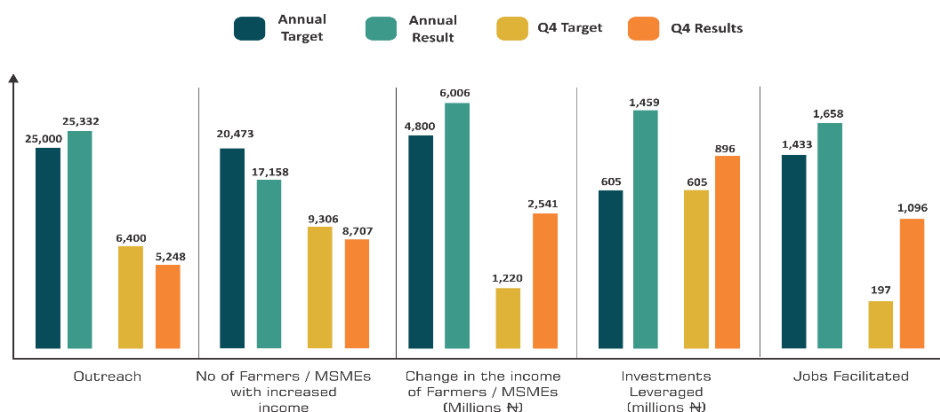


Figure 2. Performance of Cassava interventions in 2022

3.1.3 Key Achievements: Cocoa

PINDs Cocoa value chain interventions focus on improving the productivity and income of farmers through the adoption of good agricultural practices and technologies. To achieve this, the cocoa sector 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.

Increasing farmers' productivity and access to improved cocoa seeds

In Q4 2022, the productivity intervention progressed with farmers' associations engaging farm service providers (FSPs) to work on their farms after receiving training on good agronomic practices (GAP). The FSPs collaborate with input suppliers, equipment dealers, off-takers, and service providers to organize training programs for farmers and set up

¹⁷ The cassava impact results are for both direct and indirect farmers. Indirect farmers have been assessed and compiled in Q4.

¹⁸ The 6,499 copiers were for the whole year 2022.

¹⁹ Jobs from the indirect farmers for the whole year were computed in Q4, the reason for high number of jobs recorded in Q4.

demonstration farms, showing them how improved practices and technologies work for farmers.

Also, within the reporting period, PIND continued to facilitate access to improved seedling for farmers through primary nursery operators. PIND has an MoU with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) with a vision to strengthen the systems for the production, distribution, and marketing of improved seeds through a network of commercial cocoa seed nursery operators. In the previous quarters, a technical training program on seed handling and management for 31 selected nursery operators was conducted and subsequently supported the trained seed nursery operators to establish seed nurseries in Ondo, Edo, Abia, and Cross River states using the quality, high-yielding cocoa seeds from CRIN.

After a PIND-CRIN joint monitoring activity to ascertain the level of compliance with the nursery practices and protocols by the seed nursery operators, which qualifies them for CRIN's certification and license, 17 nursery operators were found to have complied with the standards and were therefore recommended for certification and licensing.

In the current quarter, PIND successfully facilitated the certification and licensing of the first set of seventeen seed entrepreneurs in the cocoa sector. The CRIN license and certification will provide credibility to the operations of the nursery operators and further enhance their relationship with CRIN as part of their distribution network of quality seeds. It is envisioned that a stronger commercial relationship between seed nursery operators and CRIN will improve the production, distribution, and marketing of quality, high-yielding seedlings to cocoa farmers, which will improve the yield, productivity, and income of farmers in the region.

In this quarter also, in recognition of its contribution to the growth of the cocoa sector in Nigeria, PIND was nominated by CRIN to serve on the Cocoa of excellence (CoEX) National Organizing Committee (NOC). The committee is charged with the sole responsibility of coordinating all processes leading to Nigeria's participation in the CoEx award in 2023. This is the first time Nigeria will be participating in this event, which focuses on awarding the best cocoa bean samples with the best quality and flavor characteristics globally.

Improving cocoa quality through an incentive-based model

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 mirrors the cocoa certification program and it is built around the offer of a premium price of 1% to 1.5% premium price on each kilogram of good-quality cocoa beans as an incentive to farmers to produce good-quality cocoa beans. This ensures a win-win business relationship between the farmer and the buyers. The model involves three innovations: the adoption of good agricultural practices; the adoption of modern production and post-harvest technologies; and pesticide residue management to reduce the amount of pesticide residue on cocoa beans.

Since 2020, PIND has partnered with four off-takers (Subjugate Nigeria Ltd, Nivik Investment, Abbico Ltd, and Sunbeth Global) 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 reached over 3,500 farmers in Ondo and Edo states. Specifically, in 2021, PIND in partnership with Nivik Investment, an exporter based in Ondo state supported 1,502 (including 317 females) farmers to implement the pilot quality improvement model.

In Q3 and Q4 2022, PIND assessed the pilot model to document the incentives received in form of a premium price by farmers, and document lessons learned, which will be incorporated into subsequent activities. Findings from the assessment showed that from the 1,502 farmers who participated in the program, 1,260 (including 257 female) farmers adopted the practices, produced and supplied 1,667 metric tons of certified cocoa beans through Nivik to Touton (a global cocoa buyer) at premium prices of N18.50 per kilogram or N18,500 per ton of quality cocoa beans (equivalent to 1.5% of the current market price). This gives a total premium of N30,839,500 as net attributable income for the 1,667 tons of certified beans supplied by 1,260 farmers who participated in the program.

The quality improvement model only tracks the net attributable income through premium prices. The additional income and other output/outcome results are tracked under the productivity intervention and reported accordingly. The outcome of the pilot quality improvement model proves that with the right incentive and support, farmers will adopt improved practices and technologies, and improve the quality of cocoa beans produced for local and international processing factories. In the coming quarters, PIND will be scaling up the model by working with already identified off takers in the region.

Expanding outreach to more farmers through good agricultural practices (GAP)

In Q4 2022, PIND supported export companies, input companies, nursery operators, and Farm Service Providers to organize training programs and demonstration activities to reach 3,173 (826 women – 26%). The cumulative farmers outreach in 2022 was 12,953 (3,328 women 26%), representing 108% of the annual target of 12,000 farmers.

The following represents the summary performance of the cocoa sector as updated in Q4 2022:

- **Farmers/MSMEs with increased Income:** In Q4 2022, the number of cocoa farmers with increased income was estimated to be 2,226, and the cumulative for 2022 results was 9,087 farmers representing 108% of the annual target of 8,400 farmers.
- **Change in the income of farmers:** This is the additional income from the adoption of improved agronomic practices such as pruning, spraying, fertilizer application, etc. relative to the traditional practices. In Q4, the net attributable income change for cocoa benefitting farmers was estimated to be ₦701.79million, and the cumulative income for 2022 was ₦2.87billion which represents 143% of the 2022 target of ₦2billion.
- **Value of investment leveraged:** This is the cost of adopting improved practices and associated technologies (i.e. mechanical pruners, mist blower, and fermentation boxes) to increase productivity. In Q4, the net estimated investment by cocoa farmers in adopting improved practices/technologies on their farms was ₦178.621million²⁰ and the cumulative funds equity spent by the farmers for 2022 was ₦734.87million, representing 103% of the 2022 target of ₦715million (15% were investments by women).
- **Number of jobs facilitated:** As farmers adopt improved practices and technologies and expand production, they engage more labor to undertake various farm management activities such as land clearing, application of agrochemicals, pruning, harvesting, fermentation, drying, etc. In Q4, the estimated net jobs (full-time equivalent) created by the adopting farmers was 325, and the cumulative for 2022 was 1,331 representing 139% of the 2022 target of 969. *See annex 1 for more report*

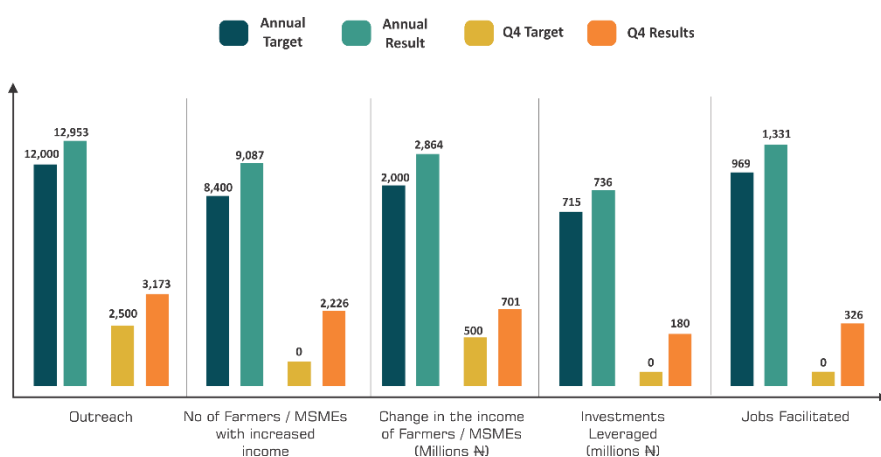


Figure 3. Performance of Cocoa interventions in 2022

3.1.4 Key Achievements: Palm Oil

PIND's interventions in the palm oil sector focused 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 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 the current quarter, PIND continued its promotion of Best management practices (BMP) through the network of its agro-input dealers who also sell their inputs to farmers after demonstrations. Some of the improved practices include circle weeding, pruning, fertilizers application, fumigation, etc., with 10 demonstrations completed by 9 agro-dealers. Another key area focused in Q4 2022, was the capacity building of the primary nursery operators on how to promote their improved seedlings, render after sales services to farmers and on climate-smart nursery management. PIND also monitored the outcomes of the newly installed high capacity oil palm mills and adoption of improved harvesting tools across the region.

²⁰ The leveraged funds were from the equity investment by the adopting farmers from purchase of the agro inputs, farm labour for the services of the FSPs.

Supporting business growth of seed actors for increased sales of quality Palm oil seeds

In 2022, the focus was on facilitating the business growth of seed actors in the Niger Delta region. PIND facilitated activities such as linking nursery operators and farmers to financial institutions for equipment, technology, and input (seed) financing. Also, engaging seed producers and nursery operators with business models to strengthen their relationships and business growth. It also strengthened the coordination and collaboration among the nursery operators. This led to the purchase of 405,429 seedlings by 818 farmers; surpassing the annual target of 500 farmers purchasing 255,000 seedlings.

During quarter 4, PIND supported nursery operators to carry out more promotional activities to increase awareness and demand for improved seeds amongst oil palm farmers in the Niger Delta. Also, capacity strengthening of some Palm oil nursery operators (PNOs) on climate-smart nursery management, after-sales services, and nursery record keeping. At least 1,000 farmers were reached directly with this information. It is expected that the farmers will be aware of where and when improved seeds will be available for planting next year.

Reaching new farmers through BMP demonstrations and on-farm support by FSPs

In 2022, PIND planned to expand outreach to 15,000 more farmers, leveraging the adaptation strategies deployed in the previous year. PIND also planned to deepen the adoption of best practices by linking farmers and market actors to financial institutions to access inputs and equipment; continue its work with seed-producing companies to expand the distribution of quality seeds to more farmers in the region. Earlier, 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 in the previous year.

In the review period, PIND activities focused on working with intervention partners to expand intervention activities. PIND leveraged its relationships with oil palm Business Membership Organizations to onboard new farm service providers and lead farmers, to reach 2,362 farmers with information on BMP in the region, 15 new processors adopted improved processing technology and 300 new farmers adopted improved harvesting. The total number of farmers and processors reached in Q4 was 2,667 (574 women). The cumulative outreach in 2022, was 14,085 (27% women) new farmers and processors, representing 93.9% of the 2022 target of 15,000 farmers.

The following represents the summary performance of the Palm oil sector in Q4, and the overall for 2022 farming season:

- Farmers/MSMEs with increased Income: In Q4, 1,575 farmers/MSMES were estimated to have increased their incomes as a result of the interventions promoted by PIND in the sector. The cumulative number of farmers with increased income for 2022 was 9,289 representing 114% of the 2022 target of 8,165 farmers/processors.
- Change in the income of farmers: In Q4 2022, the net attributable income change for adopting farmers/MSMEs was ₦791.34, and the cumulative estimated additional income for 2022 was ₦5.93billion, representing 122% of the 2022 target of ₦4.85billion. *See annex 1 for the breakdown.*
- Value of investment leveraged: In Q4 2022, the net investment leveraged by the sector from farmers adopting improved practices and technology, was estimated to be ₦235.66million. The cumulative investment leveraged was ₦1.37billion representing 119% of the 2022 target of ₦1.35billion. *See annex 1 for the breakdown.*
- Number of jobs facilitated: As farmers adopt BMP and harvesting technologies, patronize the improved processing/harvesting technology they engage temporary labor. In Q4 2022, the estimated net jobs (full-time equivalent) created by the adopting farmers was 72. The cumulative FTE jobs created for 2022 was 874 representing 42% of the 2022 target of 2,100. The low FTE jobs recorded is attributable to a reduction in labor due to the adoption of higher capacity mills with higher automation. Also, there seems to be a reduction in the number of field support workers engaged by the harvesters using mechanical adjustable harvesters (MAH) and Malaysian Knives (MK) as owners of farms are deploying more family unpaid labor in their harvesting of fresh fruit bunches (ffbs).

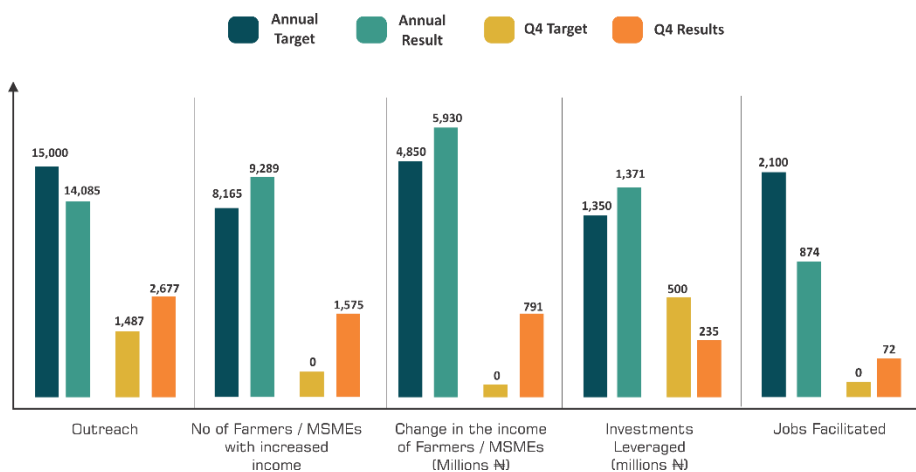


Figure 4. Performance of Palm Oil interventions in 2022

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 and help their growth expansion plans through the adoption of good poultry practices and linkages to quality inputs such as day-old chicks (DoCs), vaccines and feed, markets and finance. 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 incentives to make more money by providing their services and products commercially to farmers.

Expanding outreach to more poultry farmers through the promotion of good poultry practices (GPP)

In this quarter PIND deepened support to farmers through training of new poultry farmers on GAP by its poultry service providers (PSPs), who also promoted improved feeds, quality feeders and drinkers, vaccines etc., to improve productivity of farmers as well as reduce mortality rate of their birds. We also facilitated support to backyard farms through exposures to vaccines and quality information to reduce mortality rate of their birds. PIND's target for 2022 was to reach an additional 8,000 poultry farmers with information on good poultry practices (GPP) and facilitate access to quality inputs, markets and finance for expansion. In the review period, PIND focused on scaling workshop and training activities for farmers, providing small grants, advisory support, and facilitating linkages to market actors in the sector.

In Q4 2022, a total of 12 training events were carried out by 8 service providers (6 PSPs & 2 VLDs) reaching 2,560 (1129 female) farmers with training in good productivity modules for poultry farmers. These trainings happened in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Imo, Ondo, and Rivers States respectively. Some of the farmers were supported with technical and business skills training, linkages to inputs (feed & vaccines), market, and finance. The overall number of farmers reached through training in 2022 was 8,545 across the Niger Delta, representing 106% of the annual target of 8,000 farmers.

An outbreak of bird flu was reported in Delta State around November/December 2022, by a poultry service provider (PSP) Chuvaak Agro Ltd., and a Village Level Dealer (VLD) around Udu and Ughelli axis of Delta State, where a total of about 200 birds were lost. PIND, immediately created awareness to wider stakeholders to take biosecurity measures in their farms which had helped in curtailing the spread. Further information sharing to build the resilience of the farmers have been planned for subsequent quarters to enable farmers to take proactive approach against such, since bird flu was known to occur every year.

Overall, the poultry sector demonstrated remarkable resilience despite the flooding that affected farmers and the bird flu outbreak that occurred immediately after the flood in some parts of the region, particularly in Delta, Bayelsa, and Rivers States. Service providers and village-level dealers continued to reinforce the use of biosecurity measures to help curtail the spread of the disease within the region, helping to reduce the impact of the disaster on farmers.

The following represents the summary performance of the poultry sector in Q4 2022

- Farmers/MSMEs with increased Income: The number of poultry farmers whose income increased was 1,924, representing 96% of the annual target of 2,000 farmers, with the cumulative number for the entire year being 5,310, representing 110% of the annual target of 4,817 farmers.

- **Change in the income of farmers:**²¹ This is the additional income benefited by farmers trained by PSPs, and who adopted improved poultry practices, leading to a reduction in mortality rate, increased weight of birds, and resultant premium market prices. In Q4, 2022, the net attributable income change of poultry farmers was estimated to be ₦281.8million, and the 2022 cumulative net attributable income being ₦1.89billion, a 115% performance against the 2022 target of ₦1.65billion.²²
- **Value of investment leveraged:** This refers to the additional costs incurred by 5,310 farmers in adopting good poultry practices, such as improved feeds, biosecurity, modern feeders, vaccines, etc. to increase productivity. Within the quarter, the investment leveraged was estimated to be ₦239.45million, and the entire 2022 cumulative funds was ₦1.4billion, representing 95% of the annual target of ₦1.48billion.
- **Number of jobs facilitated:** As farmers adopt improved practices, and technology, and expand production, they engage more labor to undertake various farm management activities such as water provision, janitorial services (cleaning cages, etc.). In Q4 2022, the estimated net jobs (full-time equivalent) created by the adopting farmers was 208, and the cumulative jobs created was 1,881 representing 107% of the 2022 target of 1,758.

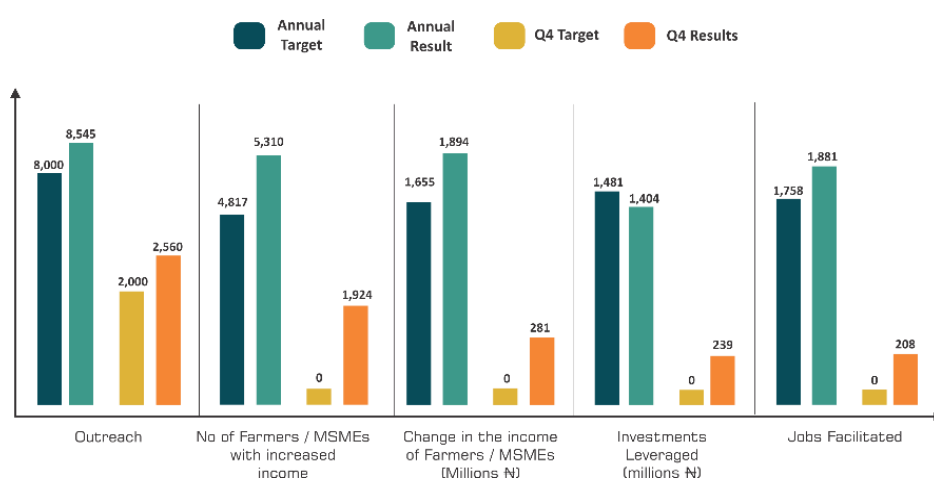


Figure 5. Performance of Poultry interventions in 2022

Facilitating linkages to market for poultry farmers

As poultry farmers continue to adopt good poultry practices, improving their productivity and expanding their poultry farming, the need for steady and reliable markets to sell their products continues to increase. In the quarter under review, PIND supported two poultry service providers (Ondo & Akwa Ibom) in partnership with 2 large buyers (fresh chicken hub & bounty foods) to organize market linkages workshops for poultry farmers in Ondo and Akwa Ibom states. 60 poultry farmers were linked to the large buyers. In the next quarter, PIND would monitor and track transactions emanating from the linkages.

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.

²¹The possible number of business cycles for poultry farmers are four/year. But due to the high cost of inputs and other macroeconomic factors, and exacerbated by the flooding that occurred in 2022, most farmers could not go beyond one stocking cycle.

²² This includes additional income from the back-yard farmers, who were supported by the VLDs with vaccine and ancillary services, leading to reduction in the mortality rate of their birds.

In 2022, PIND worked 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 Q4, 10 BSPs trained and supported 1,064 MSMEs (512 women-owned) with services including: business management, business plan development, loan application, and linkages to finance through the CBN Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprise Investment Scheme (AGSMEIS) and other MSME-friendly loan schemes. Cumulatively, 5,192 MSMEs have been reached so far in 2022, achieving 115% of the target of 4,500 for 2022. At an adoption ratio of 74%, the estimated impact results are summarized as follows:

- **MSMEs with increased Income:** In Q4 2022, 642 Micro and small enterprises recorded increased income in their businesses. The cumulative number of the businesses that experienced increased income in 2022 was 3,217 MSMEs (2,805 micros, and 412 smalls) with improved performance in 2022, achieving 146% of the target of 2,200 for 2022.
- **Change in the income of MSMEs:** In Q4 2022, the additional income of the 642 businesses was ₦280.48 million, and the cumulative income recorded by 3,217 businesses in 2022 was ₦2.9 billion. The net additional sales recorded by 74% of the micro and small businesses (those with new transactions), was ₦12.38 billion. Of this, ₦2.9 billion was net additional income (net profit of 23.4%), achieving 116% of the target of ₦2.5 billion for 2022.
- **Value of investment leveraged (Loans- debt financing):** Within the quarter, loans were not recorded due to incomplete verification. However, earlier in the year, a total of ₦1.75 billion was accessed by 682 businesses, under the CBN AGSMEIS scheme. Cumulatively, BSPs have facilitated loans worth ₦4.03 billion for the acquisition of new equipment and technology, expansion into new business lines, and to improve working capital, so far in 2022; and achieved 103% of the annual target of ₦3.5 billion.
- **Number of jobs facilitated:** As enterprises expand by accessing new markets and funding opportunities, they engage more staff to support their increased business operations. In Q4 2022, 1,064 recorded 619 FTE jobs. Cumulatively, an estimated 3,721 jobs were created by the 3,217 MSMEs reported to have experienced a significant increase in income in 2022. The 3,721 jobs facilitated is 89% performance against the target of 4,140 jobs for the year.

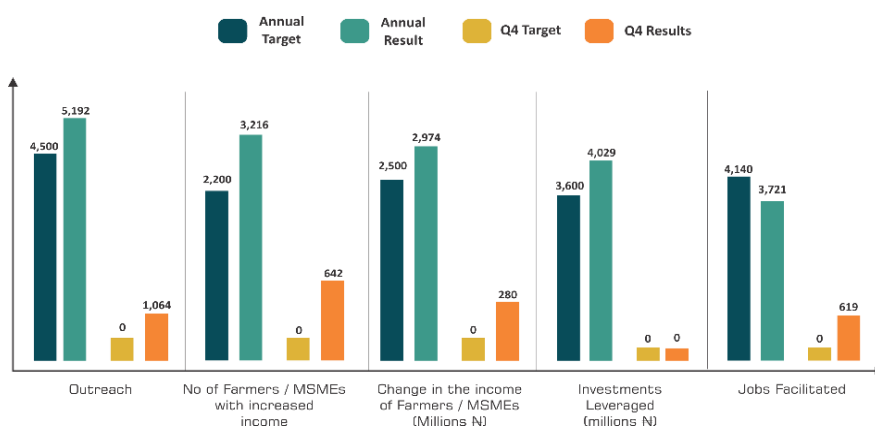


Figure 6. Performance of MSME interventions in 2022

3.2 Skills Development for Youth Employment

The aims of the Youth Employment Program (YEP) are to map the ecosystem of skills development, analyze opportunities for employment creation and develop models of youth job readiness or workforce development that provide disadvantaged young men and women in the Niger Delta opportunities to secure sustainable jobs and enterprises. PIND’s approach involves innovative and quality technical occupational training which prepares selected youth with market-relevant skills and supports their transitioning into work or entrepreneurship.

In 2018, with funding from the Ford Foundation, PIND started the implementation of the Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways (NDYEP) Project in 3 states Abia, Akwa Ibom and Rivers. The pilot project provided market-driven vocational skills training for 4,355 youths in economic growth sectors such as Agriculture, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Building Construction with most of them linked to employment opportunities.

With the completion of the Ford Foundation funded pilot phase, the NDYEP scaled up in the pilot states and in Delta state

with funding from Chevron Corporation. The scale up project is being conducted replicating the NDYEP model providing technical skills training and linkage to jobs or enterprise development in the same sectors with the inclusion of Finished Leather and Services sectors. 19 implementing partners and private TVET institutions are currently providing technical vocational skills training with the mainstreaming of soft skills to over 2,000 youths.

In 2022, 2,183 youths were enrolled in the YEP program across the 4 states with implementation in the same sectors; Agriculture, ICT/Renewable Energy, Building Construction and Services (including finished leather). Nineteen (19) implementing partners manage 25 projects as always with the mainstreaming of soft skills and conflict sensitivity. As at Q4; 13 of 25 projects were completed with 1,824 (Males:1,001; Females: 823 *PWD: 20*) youths graduating. Most of the youths have started making early transitions to Internship/Apprenticeship placements: 602 (Males: 332; Females: 270), and also income-earning opportunities (jobs and self-started enterprises) are 590 (Males: 312; Females: 278).

Table 2. YEP progress against 2022 annual targets and performance for the year

YEP Indicators	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)	Female	PWD
	Q4 2022 Targets	Q4 2022	Q4 %	2022	2022 Final Results	2022 (%)	2022 ²³	2022
Number of youths with applicable skills (Completed)	*	*	*	2,031**	1,824***	90%	823 (45.1%)	20
Number of youths accessing employment and other income-earning opportunities	*	*	*	933**	590***	63.2%	278 (47.1%)	0
Number of job-to-job internship, apprenticeship placements	*	*	*	587**	834***	142%	379 (45.4%)	0
States adoption of PIND's model for youth employment	*	*	*	3	0	0%	NA	NA
The employment ecosystem players: 19 implementing partners are innovating and becoming creative in their capacity building strategies; effort to work with respective states governments in the region is gaining traction with the plan for inclusion and adoption of YEP model by Ondo and Bayelsa States.								

* Quarterly targets were not applicable, project tracked annually. ** The 2022 target will become 2,031 (1400 plus 631), 933 (660 plus 273) and 587 (232 plus 355). *** included results from Q1 as cumulative for 2022 results.

Performance update of Abia, Akwa Ibom, Rivers States YEP and Delta YEP

Technical and Soft Skills Training: The training programs are structured to be 70% practical and field-based to enhance participants' occupational skills capacity. The soft skills training mainstreamed alongside technical skills aimed at facilitating behavioral change among youth participants' as well as prepare them for the ideal work/business environment. 80% attendance is mandatory for successful completion and to be qualified for recommendation to partner organizations for an apprenticeship, job linkage, and certification examinations in some cases.

In Abia, Akwa Ibom and Rivers states, 11 projects completed technical and soft skills training late in September and October while 3 projects from Delta state were completed in December. This brings the total number of youths that have successfully completed vocational training to 1,193. The first batch of training was conducted for about 6 months by implementing partners who signed grants in March 2022. The cumulative number of those who have completed their training in 2022 were 1,824, including 631 Delta YEP, who had completed training in Q1 2022, representing 90% of the 2022 annual target of 2,031²⁴. The sectors include Aquaculture, Construction, ICT / Renewable Energy, and Services (including Finished Leather).

The second batch are ongoing for partners who signed grants in July 2022. These include 2 partners (1 each for Abia and Rivers state) and 12 others in Delta States. The 2nd batch of trainings are expected to finish by February 2023

Post-Training Job Linkage

One of the objectives of the YEP was to enable youths to gain access to employment opportunities or be self-employed after the training. As at Q4 2022, out of the 1,824 persons who completed training, 1,193²⁵ persons have been engaged

²³ See Annex 2 for disaggregation of indicators by genders and general quantitative information

²⁴ 1400 plus 631 YEP who completed in Q1 and were not factored in the 2022 initial target.

²⁵ 919 plus 244 places in Q1 2022, gives 1193

under the post training part of the program. Of this number, a cumulative of 590²⁶ (Males:312, Females: 287) are already earning income through waged employment or starting their own enterprises, while 603 persons (Males: 332; Females: 270) have been placed on various internship/apprenticeship positions.

More people from the ICT sector (141 persons) recorded a high number of linkages to jobs and business start-ups, followed by the Services sector (86 persons). These categories were more inclined to pursue entrepreneurship start-ups. Majority of internships/apprenticeships placements were in the Aquaculture sector, recording the highest number of persons (430). Only 117 persons were placed under the building construction. Continuous efforts are being made to support the transition of the remaining youths as well as those on internships or apprenticeships to transit into waged employment or entrepreneurships. The table below provides details of their engagements:

Labour Market Assessment (LMA):

In view of YEP project's expansion to other Niger Delta states, PIND commenced a LMA for Ondo State. This is important to understand the economic dynamics, demand and supply of labor as it relates to youth employment opportunities in Ondo State. The study will uncover the policy environment and skill development ecosystem in Ondo State (including the CNL Host Communities). As such, field data collection was carried out between the months of November and December 2022. This data collection involved desktop study, Key Informant Interviews and Focused Group Discussions with key private and government sector stakeholders within Ondo State agencies and ministries.

Table 3. Table showing job engagement as at Q4 2022

Sectors	Waged Employment		Enterprise establishment		Internship/Apprenticeship	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Agriculture	19	5	23	32	217	213
Construction	0	0	10	1	90	27
ICT/Renewable Energy	44	19	50	28	21	15
Services	0	0	34	52	4	15
Total	63	24	117	113	332	270

Learning Forum with Implementing Partners:

One learning forum with implementing partners was conducted in Q4. All Nineteen (19) Implementing Partners shared their work progress, insights and lessons. The forum covered projects' presentations, which laid out progress challenges and key Lessons; plans for expansion and business sustainability. The sessions were interactive and gave participants an opportunity to gain deeper understanding, especially how to address peculiar challenges. The project teams also presented a broad outlook into project implementation for 2023. Furthermore, partners were taken through an overview of data protection and compliance required by law; given that each project deals with basic data from the trainees. Project descriptions covered trainees' selection process, orientation and onboarding and also implementation of technical and soft skills training.

Government Engagement for Adoption

In continuation of pursuit for adoption of the NDYEP model and framework, concerted efforts by the project team, a consultant, and some key implementing partners led to meetings with Rivers State officials. In one of the instances, a meeting with the Rivers State Ministry of Youth Development provided a platform for presentation of the project to the Ministry and also to discuss and seek possible areas of collaboration for the year 2023. As a fallout of the meeting, the Ministry requested support from the team to develop a memo to promote skills development for youth which will be presented to the Rivers State Executive Council.

Immediate outcomes of the YEP

Within the reporting period, an initial monitoring of the 590 engaged through early jobs and start-up businesses and employment, has shown clear intermediate outcomes of the training program. Another 602 persons have proceeded to apprenticeships positions to sharpen their skills further, which would transit into gainful employment. In some cases, some of the young entrepreneurs have won contracts that have given them some income as they make these early transitions. Few ones are explained below:

- In Aquaculture, one Prosper Peter Ifeanyi (*Eneka, Rivers State*) has applied the lesson learned from the training to correct all the wrong practices in his uncle's and other farms around his neighborhood; Akandu Ijeoma

²⁶ 317 reported in Q4 2022, while 273 was reported in Q1

(Rumuigbo, Rivers State), started fish farm behind her backyard, stocked 100pcs of fingerlings already; Ntamzor Nice (Tai, Rivers State), has been able to start up his own fish farm. He has stocked about 3,500 fingerlings with intention to raise them to smoker size; and several others who are engaged.

- Under Construction, the cabinetry section team (Uyo, Akwa Ibom State), have produced office & home furniture as tasks and also joined Instructors to sites for several installation jobs even as far as Abuja; Plumbing & Tiling Teams (Uyo, Akwa Ibom State), have carried out different kinds of installations and have done a lot of practicals within Uyo and communities near Abak, Akwa Ibom; Successful participants (Abak, Akwa Ibom State) have formed themselves into Project Groups. Each group gets a job and they deliver the job to members of the group and share the wages from it.
- Under Services (including Finished Leather Works), some students from the Footwear Academy like Anaekwe Tochukwu, Alozie Chimdinma, Ofobuike Maureen, Esoghe Gift etc., (Aba, Abia State) have started receiving customer orders and working on their personal brands; Oghenetega Akuewhanbor (AMY 6015) (Warri, Delta State), already sews for clients from her house and has earned income of up to N50,000 during the project period; Oteri Precious (Warri, Delta State), has earned income of about N20,000 in a month, and many others.
- Under the ICT/Renewable Energy, 11 students from Nerdzfactory (ICT) (Asaba, Delta State) have kick started their businesses. A company called Tech4Team was started by four students; and Uche Ezinne – (IG hub -Aba, Abia State), got a remote job as a product designer in a tech hub even before the completion of her training.

3.3 Access to Energy

The coastal 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 used in barber shops and beauty salons).

In Q4 2022, PIND deepened its efforts in providing affordable off-grid solutions by accelerating new partnerships towards commencing 3 PIND supported mini grid installations in 3 riverine communities across Delta, Bayelsa and Edo states. These are a 110kWp solar mini grid at Ajakurama community, Ovia south west LGA, Edo State by ETIN Power limited; the deployment of a 100kWp solar mini grid at Toru Ebeni community, Sagbama LGA, Bayelsa State by Darway Coast Limited and the deployment of a 16kWp solar energy cabin powered mini grid at Adagbarassa community, Warri North LGA, Delta State. These power projects would bring a combined connection of 966 connections comprising 258 businesses and 708 households. Figure 7 provides the summary A2E performance in Q4 and 2022 in general.

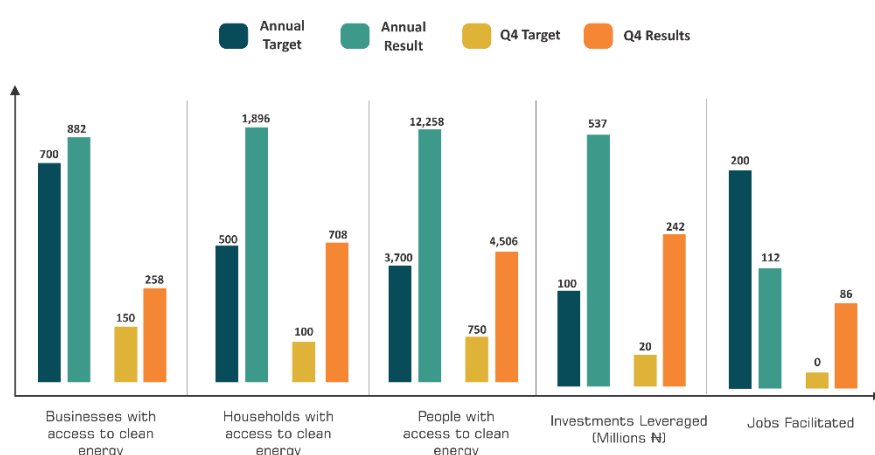


Figure 7. Performance of A2E in Q4, 2022

Driving Community energy access through market-based incentives

Many coastal communities are classified as fragmented and early stage markets for renewable energy portfolio investments and are therefore only likely to attract new inexperienced developers. The perceived high risks around demand aggregation, currency and political-economy usually drive up the cost of capital with a knock-on effect on tariffs and subsidies. To attract projects and investors to the region, PIND designed its A2E grant contribution to incentivise new

partner power developers looking to make some commercial entry into the coastal community power service markets by de-risking their investments. In Q4 2022 specifically, partnerships with such new operators leveraged a total of ₦242.4million in investment towards the engineering, procurement and construction of mini grids across 3 communities. These collaborations supported ND-focused renewable energy power developers towards the deployment of community energy solutions across 3 coastal communities in the Niger Delta.

Outreach

Within the reporting period, PIND's Access to energy program had an outreach of 4,506 persons. These outreach groups essentially comprise of business owners and household members connecting to electricity at Adagbarassa, Ajakurama and Toru Ebeni coastal communities within the Niger Delta. The cumulative number of people having access to clean energy in 2022 summed up to 12,258 (123%) as against the target of 10,000.

Also, within the quarter, 966 (258 businesses and 708 households) had access to clean energy from across three communities, mentioned in the previous paragraph. This brings the cumulative for 2022 to 2,778 (882 businesses and 1,896 households accessing clean energy – representing 210% of the 2022 target. In Q4 2022, ₦153,094,375.05 accrued as financial benefits to rural businesses, households and fisherfolks through cost savings and additional income derived through access to mini grids and communal solar refrigeration services. The cumulative financial benefits businesses and households for 2022 summed up to ₦594,696,283.87 (119%) against the 2022 target of ₦500 million. 407.57 tons equivalent of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions avoided through the use of renewable energy technologies across PIND supported community energy projects. Also, in Q4, Access to energy leveraged ₦242.4million through private sector investment into the construction of mini grids across three coastal communities, bringing the cumulative funds leveraged in 2022 to ₦537,132,080.

Assessing the socio-economic benefits of an improved access to electricity

There is continuous recognition of the broader socio-economic development that electricity access brings to coastal communities, particularly through decentralized renewable energy technologies such as solar refrigeration, Solar home system and mini grids that typically focus on relatively low-income customer groups. A desk assessment of all PIND energy access interventions in Q4 2022 suggests that ₦109,858,950 accrued as financial benefits to rural businesses, households and fisherfolks through cost savings and additional income derived through access to mini grids and communal solar refrigeration services.

In addition to increasing incomes and other financial benefits, solar mini grids are also making a difference in the local communities by creating local jobs. While it is not explicitly a job rich sector, A2E interventions has a propensity to create a number of temporary/seasonal jobs during the project deployment phase. A related desk assessment completed in Q4 2022, suggests that in addition to temporary jobs, 18 FTE jobs were created through the scale up of PIND's A2E activities around various coastal communities. These comprises 8 service assistant jobs through partner mini grid companies' operating at Ajakurama, Adagbarassa, Toru Ebeni and Iyasan communities; 2 hub assistant jobs at Koluama 2 community, Bayelsa State and 5 SHS installer jobs at Tsekelewu community in Delta state. These are local jobs that benefited the participating communities.

Advancing SDG's goals around Climate action and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

PIND's A2E program is designed to have a profound impact on people's lives—reducing poverty, increasing quality of life, and boosting productivity. At the same time, the scale up of solar electricity grids has a substantial and positive impact on the climate by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. PIND's interventions through renewable energy power developers have thus enabled the advancement/realization of SDG 7 (Access to clean energy) as well as a range of other crosscutting SDGs – particularly those related to climate action, gender equality, poverty reduction, healthcare and education.

Access to solar refrigerators in Sangana and Fishtown in Delta State is contributing to a reduction in the loss of fresh fishes as MSMEs and fisher folks preserve their daily excess quantities of fish they are unable to sell there. Instead of spending money to smoke the excess and selling at a loss, they would pay little for the use of the solar refrigerator, preserve their fishes and still sell at a good price. This enhances their business productivity and increases their income. Another example of increased business productivity as a result of access to solar energy was evidenced in Awoye and Odofado, Ondo State where businesses such as Saloon, Restaurants/Eateries/Bars, have reduce their costs of energy consumption by simply connecting to the solar mini grid, as opposed to the use of their generators, save costs of running businesses, thereby increasing their gross margin/income.

In 2022, 11 PIND-supported solar energy mini grids and refrigeration hubs with a combined installed capacity of 217kWp generation were estimated to have generated 729,120 kWh of electricity year-round. Solar mini-grids emit approximately

90% less CO2 emissions than grid-connected power and diesel mini-grid alternatives and in combination, these 11 plants delivered emission reductions of 407.57 Tons of CO2 equivalent for the year. This annual saving on emissions helps to advance PIND's contribution towards SDG 2030 goals. This emissions displacement accounts for the corresponding amount of CO2 that would have been generated from grid electricity or other alternatives in order to achieve the same amount of developmental impact for those communities.

On a similar token, female-led businesses are a rarity in Nigeria's renewable energy space, and PIND is committed to inspiring women to become mini grid owners. In Q4 2022, PIND supported ETIN Power Ltd - a female-led power company towards the deployment of a mini grid in a riverine community in Edo state. This collaboration is an advancement of PIND's efforts to have female power business owners represented within the spectrum of new power developers that have been midwifed by PIND. Women are considered bankable investors and usually have a higher credit repayment rate; however, they may have reduced access to obtaining credit facilities in the traditional way. PIND's partnership with ETIN Power provided grant support towards establishing their business case, and this further paved the way for the company to access an innovative equipment lease facility required to finance their project in Edo State. In addition, ETIN power also benefited from PIND's technical assistance facility which includes business mentoring, advisory services, and community engagement support. The company's work in the Niger Delta is inspired by the female founder's belief in the power of energy to transform lives and create profitability for women-owned rural businesses following the well-known Solar Mama business model²⁷. This is consistent with PIND's A2E programming around gender and social inclusion which aims for equal access and participation, and the support for ETIN Power as a majority women-managed project is a particular milestone within PIND's efforts towards advancing the SDG's

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 Lean²⁸ 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

The AEAS project focuses on interventions in Aquaculture, Maize and Rice in Delta and Cross River States. Between October and December 2022, (Q1FY23)²⁹ represents the first quarter of the second phase (networking and expansion phase) of the Extension Activity and it captures the performance of the Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services Activity in reference to the networking and expansion stage of its program implementation. In line with the phased implementation approach, emphasis was on consolidation of past achievements, networking of MSMEs, strengthening of partnerships, expansion of buy-in and scaling of adoption in Cross River and Delta States. Accordingly, the capacity of MSMEs was further enhanced through a comprehensive training (eight business skill areas including group dynamics, bio-fertilizer use and complementary fish feeding, marketing & networking skills, seed production and soil testing). This

²⁷ The "Solar Mamas" program was started by Indian social activist and energy innovator "Bunker Roy" to teach poor, uneducated women how to assemble and maintain solar panels for electricity in their environment. The "Solar Mama" model encourages local women entrepreneurs to work in partnership with the local community to draw on a mix of resources including government and international funding agencies, private foundations, and corporate and individual sponsors to enable the appropriate investment for cost-effective and self-sustaining solutions for delivering solar power in poor, rural communities. It has women at the centre of its activities.

²⁸ 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.

²⁹ Quarter 1 farmers 2023

strategic training was planned to prepare the MSMEs to meet farmers' demand for the MIPs and extension services especially during the upcoming cropping season. The capacity building has been quite impactful judging from the current solar home system (SHF) success story emerging from Cross River and Delta States. Also 35 MSMEs within the 20 cohorts were commercializing the MIPs (Use of Juveniles, Extension messaging through Demand Stimulation, ICT video extension dissemination) in Q1 of FY23 (see Table 1). And across the two states, the 35 MSMEs commercialized the Activity's MIPs and disseminated extension and advisory services to 1,548 smallholder farmers in this quarter (Table 2).

Table 4: Number of MSMEs in Cross River (Q1FY23);

State	Cross River			Delta			Aggregate		
	Total	Female - owned	Youth - Owned	Total	Female - owned	Youth - owned	Total	Female - Owned	Youth - owned
Partner MSMEs	54	7	2	98	17	1	152	24	3
MSMEs deploying MIPs	23	3	2	12	-	1	35	3	3

To continue the adoption and expansion campaign of MIPs, the Extension Activity identified three additional MIPs including System of Rice Intensification (SRI), Black Soldier Fly (BSF) and Agricultural Insurance. The MIPs were identified on the basis of productivity, return on investment (ROI), accessibility, potential for adoption and scale, environmental impact, climate smart features, and their potential for women/youth inclusiveness. Table 2 shows the business value of the MIPs over the conventional practices.

Table 5. Business value of the MIPs over conventional practices (Q1FY23)

MIP	Value chain	Business value over conventional practices
1	System of Rice Intensification	Rice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helps to achieve optimum plant population, minimizes input use and ensures efficient uptake of soil nutrients, Saves cost on-farm inputs Creates aerobic soil conditions that reduce the production of methane and other GHGs Increases productivity by 35% and profit margin by 25%-65%.
2	Black Soldier Fly (BSF)	Aquaculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduces feeding cost by 30%-35% from the traditional 70% Create employment for the youth and women
3	Agricultural insurance	Aquaculture Maize, rice, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indemnifies losses against flood, drought and pests and diseases from extreme weather Secures farmers investment against excessive climate change effect

Table 6. Number of farmers accessing MIPs/Intervention

MIP/Intervention	Cross River			Delta		
	Total	Female	Youth	Total	Female	Youth
Use of Juveniles	-	-	-	215	41	27
Extension messaging through Demand Stimulation	801	388	131	-	-	-
ICT video extension dissemination	532	233	3	-	-	-

In the quarter under review, the AEAS continued to champion partnership and collaboration in use of sustainable strategy to drive implementation. In this context, it initiated partnership with CECT-IL to mitigate the menace of Fall ArmyWorm (FAW) that is ravaging maize fields in the region. The partnership which presently comprises Extension Activity, CELT-IL and MSMEs is expected to enable 2,857 farmers to mitigate FAW in their maize fields in FY23 cropping season across Delta and Cross River State.

Also, the ongoing collaboration with Honda to drive agricultural solutions and potentially link MSMEs to this business solution and increase the Extension Activity's numbers received momentum with a demo session held in Nwang and Ukpe communities, Ogoja on the 13th of October 2022 and in Okuku, Yala LGA, on the 14th of October 2022. A total of 122 participants attended the demonstration in 3 locations, which comprised 110 males and 12 females. Two equipment were demonstrated, the power tiller and the motorized Knapsack sprayer, both equipment proved efficient and the

participants were excited about the technology.

In line with the phase-2 expansion and networking by leveraging ICT for efficient extension and scaling up to more farmers in Cross River and Delta State, the Activity collaborated with the Cross River State Agricultural Development Program (CRADP) video extension team to build the capacity of other ADPs in video extension. Much emphasis was on women MSMEs who showed interest in the use of WhatsApp application to disseminate extension messaging. And to boost easy access to finance, the Activity sensitized partner MSMEs on digital financing and proven informal financial institutions to enhance credit access to rural farmers during the upcoming cropping season.

Table 7. Output indicators for Cross River and Delta states (Q1FY23)

Performance Indicator	Cross River	Delta	Aggregate (Cross River and Delta)	Overall portfolio
Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs (EG 3-2) <i>smallholder farmers</i>	1,333	215	1,548	8,996
Number of private sector firms providing new or improved extension and advisory services as a result of USG assistance (output; custom)	3	13	16	47
Number of microenterprises supported by USG assistance (EG. 5-3) (output; custom)	26	71	97	245
EG.3.1-14: Value of new USG commitments and private sector investment leveraged by the USG to support food security and nutrition	\$44,880.88	\$2739.94	\$47,620.82	\$323,252.07

Outcome Level Results

The FY22 annual survey was conducted in November/December 2022 to establish the status of the seven outcome indicators and one output indicator (EG.3-2) that the Extension Activity was yet to report at the end of FY22. The EG.3-2 indicator data was collected through the annual survey using the USAID approved “market shed” or “catchment area” approach to estimate the number of individuals participating in United States Government food security programs (EG 3-2). Table 8 below shows the value of the outcome indicators applicable to the two states and how it compares to the overall Extension Activity outcome results.

Performance Indicator	Cross River	Delta	Aggregate (Cross River and Delta)	Overall portfolio
Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs (EG 3-2)	79,880	50,576	130,456	502,775
Value of annual sales of farms and firms receiving USG assistance (EG.3.2-26)	\$312,771,589	\$409,469,187	\$722,240,776	\$1,195,145,341
Number of firms (excluding farms) or CSOs engaged in agriculture and food security related manufacturing and services that have increased profits or become financially self-sufficient with USG assistance (EG.3.2-21)	26	36	62	215
Yield of targeted agricultural commodities among program participants with USG assistance (EG.3-10,-11,-12)	Aquaculture	94.79MT/Ha	523.22 MT/Ha	293.26 MT/Ha
	Rice	1.31MT	NA	2.36 MT
	Maize	0.62MT	NA	3.29 MT
Number of individuals in the agriculture system who have applied improved management practices or technologies with USG assistance (EG.3.2-24)	45,482	41878	87360	422,024
Number of hectares under improved management practices or technologies with USG assistance (EG.3.2-25)	159458	768	160226	632,296.08
Percentage of individuals reached with household nutrition-related messaging through USG nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions that apply nutrition-sensitive practices (<i>outcome; custom</i>)	22%	NA		33%

The FY22 Annual outcome survey used a participant-based survey (PaBS) and catchment area approach in the collection

of data. The PaBSs survey was used to obtain the averages needed to estimate the outcome indicators values. The approach is typically used in the context of Activity monitoring to ensure that Activity implementation is rolling out as expected and that Activity interventions are on track for achieving their intended outcomes and targets in the participant population. Conversely, the use of 'catchment areas' in this survey presupposes that the Activity lead market actors, which are the MSMEs in this case, for many obvious reasons, do not have a complete/detailed list of their direct and indirect (from 'copying' effects) farmers they are reaching. It is also consistent with results measurement in market systems programs which encourage capturing wider changes in the market system. To estimate the status of the actual number of individuals who have participated in the Extension Activity, the survey team (ST) considered the ward or Local Government Areas targeted or served by these MSMEs as the actual population of the study. The Extension Activity FY22 annual survey was conducted in 64 Local Government Areas (LGAs) across Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi, and Niger states, where the Activity interventions are being delivered, however, analysis of the data obtained are not representative at the state level to the overall result obtained for each indicator being reported.

The FY22 annual survey results showed an improvement in all the eight indicators that were assessed. Some of the significant strides recorded in the period under review included surpassing the projected number of individuals participating in the United State Government (USG) food security programs through the Extension Activity from 350,000 to 502,775 representing a 30 percent over-achievement. The Activity recorded an increase in the mean yields for aquaculture, maize, and rice, in the Cross River and Delta states relative to the baseline figures of 2020 and FY21 annual survey results. Yield figures for these commodities exceeded the expected targets for FY22. The yield increases were due to the tailored training of farmers and the fact that the Activity largely supported an innovative approach to agricultural extension services, where the micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) provided private extension services to farmers, introducing them to good agricultural practices.

3.5 Sombreiro Kapital Ltd/Gte

Over the years, poor or no access to finance has 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 (SK) 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.

Loan Recovery and Default rate on loans facilitated (%)

As of Q4,2021, the default rate on loans guaranteed by the institution was 11%, this led to the suspension of facilitation of additional loans, thus prioritizing recovery of non-performing loans guaranteed. Due to intensified monitoring activities between Q1 and Q3 of 2022 and the restructuring of non-performing loans guaranteed by SK by Sterling Bank Plc, the default rate on guaranteed loans was reduced from 11% to 7% in Q4 2022.

Number of farmers supported to receive loans by Sombreiro Kapital (SK) and Volume of loans facilitated

In 2021, a total of 742 farmers/MSMEs benefitted from the SK loan facility to a tune of N226,960,596. In spite of the strict monitoring and loan recovery efforts by the SK, the default rate as at 2021 was 11% which was considered too high when compared with the industry standard default rate. The original plan for 2022 was to facilitate loans worth N300, 000,000 to 1,000 businesses in the selected value chains of aquaculture, poultry, cocoa, oil palm and cassava across the focal states of Delta, Edo, Bayelsa, Imo and Ondo – (N75million for 250 farmers/MSMEs per quarter).

Within the reporting period, no loan was disbursed to farmers principally due to the increased loan recovery activities; and the suspension of single-digit financing of smallholder farmers over the age of 35 by SK's sole lending vehicle (Sterling Bank Plc). However, 195 farmers/MSMEs (90 women) were supported to receive loans of N30,172,800 by SK in Q1 2022 as the overall cumulative disbursement for 2022. This brings the strategic number of those who were supported to receive loan to 937 farmers/MSMEs as against 2,800 strategic targets; and a total loan of N257,133,396 as against the strategic target of 1.8 billion

Number of farmers receiving loans from commercial banks post SK support

At the moment, loan disbursement from other commercial bank has not yet happened, but in Q4 2022, SK has formalized its partnership with Unity Bank Plc., thus expanding the number of commercial Banks that are willing to lend to smallholder farmers due to clear commercial incentives.

Table 9. Sombreiro Kapital progress against 2022 annual targets

Indicators	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)	Target	Achieved	Performance (%)
	Q4 2022	Q4 2022	Q4 %	2022	2022 Total	2022 (%)
Number of farmers supported to receive loans by SK	250	0	0%	1000	195	20%
Volume of loans facilitated (Naira)	₦75 million	0	0%	₦300 million	₦30.1m	10%
Default rate on loans facilitated (%)	5	0	0%	5	7%	NA
New investment leveraged into SK	₦20 million	0	0%	₦40 million	0	0%
Number of farmers receiving loans from commercial banks post SK support	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Women farmers receiving loans from commercial Banks	100	0	0%	400	90	22.5%

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. It does this while 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 the 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 women and youth.

The P4P Network is PIND's strategy towards establishing social infrastructure and capital in the Niger Delta. In the last five years, this PIND-established network of self-identified agents of peace has 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 conflict risk factors. The P4P Network currently has chapters and subchapters in all the nine 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 the key achievements of the Peace Building program in Q4,2022.

4.1 Peace Building

In Q4, PIND continued to undertake interventions in conflict prevention, conflict management and peacebuilding in the Niger Delta region as part of the plan of action aimed at keeping 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. PIND’s peace building strategy recognizes the need for an integrated and comprehensive approach to tackling the complex causes and drivers of conflict; adopting innovative approaches to work on problems of militancy, election violence, gang/cult violence, communal violence, and the cross-cutting issue of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). In this strategic phase (2020 – 2024), PIND aims to achieve this objective through the active engagement of 5,000 peace actors in conflict mitigation and reduction.

There were no significant changes in the level of conflict risk and violence in the region in Q4, 2022. The regional peace and conflict landscape were relatively unstable in Q4 compared to Q3 as the reported incidents caused more fatalities in Q4 compared to Q3, in spite of a decrease in conflict risk and violence from 3.9% from 203 to 195 in Q4 2022. According to data uploaded on the P4P Peace Map, conflict fatalities increased by 38.5% from 244 in Q3 to 338 in Q4. According to data, criminal violence (including kidnapping for ransom) which is a major driver of conflict risk and insecurity in the region, decreased by 43% from 142 incidents in Q3 to 128 incidents in Q4 of 2022, based on reported incidents. Communal conflicts including boundary disputes and herder-farmer clashes decreased by 45% from 20 incidents in Q3 to 11 incidents in Q4 of 2022. There was also a 26.6% decrease in mob violence from 15 incidents in Q3 to 11 incidents in Q4. While the causality with the P4P effort was yet to be established, the reduction in these these major drivers of insecurity in the region, could be partly attributed to the intensive advocacy and campaign against cult violence carried out by the P4P network, especially in Rivers, Bayelsa and Ondo State.

In Q4, Nigeria experienced heavy rains and flooding that led to several communities in the region being devastated and the resultant loss of lives, communities and people being displaced, houses damaged, livestock and several hectares of farmlands destroyed. This disrupted economic activities, destroyed livelihoods, and forced many displaced residents into crowded shelters with poor hygiene and sanitation, leading to the outbreak of water-borne diseases in some communities. This has compounded the already inadequate state of critical infrastructure - a menace to farmers/MSMEs’ productive capacity.

There was a 23% increase in the number of conflict early warning incidents reports on the IPDU SMS early warning/early response (EWER) platform as 435 incidents were reported in Q4, compared to 357 incidents in Q3. As such, PIND utilized conflict early warning, research and data analysis products to facilitate proactive responses by peace actors to prevailing and emerging conflict risk factors and drivers of instability in the Niger Delta. PIND produced 15 data-driven research and analytical products, including 14 weekly conflict briefs, a quarterly conflict tracker. Eight (8) crucial conflict alerts were disseminated to 39 peace actors including the P4P Prevent committees for conflict update, situational awareness and for preventive response.

In general, an analysis of the utilization of PIND’s data products revealed that 544 stakeholders utilized PIND’s peacebuilding data and analysis during the review period, and 1,628 cumulatively so far in 2022, achieving 81% of the 2022 target.

Table 10. Stakeholders reporting utilization of PIND’s data products

We used the Peace Map and weekly conflict updates for advocacy, planning and security awareness. Our activity plans are guided by the weekly updates especially in the localities where we carry out interventions. - Ready to Lead Africa, Abia State	As a young organization, we use updates from the Peace Map, Quarterly conflict trackers, Weekly conflict updates, Annual conflict report for planning and creating security awareness. - Ebase Sam Foundation (ESF), Cross River
The Policy briefs, Peace Map, Quarterly conflict trackers, Weekly conflict updates, Annual conflict report have supported us with the appropriate statistics for proper briefing and analysis of the security challenges faced in affected locations. - IDC Limited, Adamawa	We use the Peace Maps, Quarterly conflict trackers, Weekly conflict updates, Annual conflict report. These products have helped us to develop a database of security issues in Ondo and to analyze conflict trends to determine areas of intervention focus. - Knowledge and Care Providers, Ondo State

PIND expanded its strategic response to current conflict trends and patterns which require a more concentrated operational-level support that is sensitive to the rapidly changing dynamics on the ground with 3 key activities: inauguration of the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy (NDRPS) Technical Working Group (TWG); Herders/Farmers mitigation interventions; and the inauguration of the Prevent Council. See Annex two for more details.

Prevent Council Inauguration

The IPDU inaugurated three Prevent Councils in three States (Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Delta) to address the incessant communal and land boundaries disputes that had impacted negatively on the socio-political and economic livelihood of

residents in several communities in those states. It is based on the understanding of the critical and proactive roles traditional rulers could play in promoting and sustaining social cohesion, peace and order as well as peaceful coexistence in societies especially at grassroots level.

The Prevent Council as constituted is made up of prominent traditional rulers from communities and LGAs identified as hotspots of communal land and boundary disputes. Membership includes the chairman of the Council of Chiefs in each of the three target states as a neutral third party. Other members of the Prevent Council comprise of three religious leaders, a recognized woman leader, two representatives of the relevant security agencies (Police and NSCDC), a retired senior security officer, the chairman of the State Youth Council, a representative of the State Boundary Commission, and the chairman of the Prevent Committee of P4P that serve as the secretariat.

The broad objective of establishing the Prevent Councils is to engage traditional institutions as positive influencers and conflict mediators in their respective states and communities, and respond to identified potential precursors of violence and instability in collaboration with other stakeholders at the state, local and community levels. The Specific objectives are to:

- i. leverage social capital and link grassroots community peacebuilding efforts with government security forces through strategic engagement;
- ii. provide strategic advice on what action to take and with whom to engage to prevent the escalation of violence at the community, local, and state levels;
- iii. comprehend what the residents of the targeted communities consider as security, peace and safety and
- iv. serve as a traditional institution think-tank where Peace Actors consult for advice and guidance to aid appropriate conflict sensitive interventions based on their institutional knowledge of land boundaries and communal conflict issues.

Inauguration of Technical Working Group (TWG)

Following the signing of memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA) and Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND in Q3, the TWG was inaugurated on November 30, 2022 to help design and develop a Niger Delta Regional Peace building Strategy (NDRPS) for the Niger Delta region. The overall purpose of the NDRPS TWG as specified are as follows:

- i. Lend its experience and expertise in peacebuilding processes in the Niger Delta to the design and development of the strategy document.
- ii. Apply its expertise in developing similar technical documents in the past in line with standards and guidelines.
- iii. Provide technical advice based on new developments, technologies, emerging concepts, and trends in peace and conflicts, especially in the Niger Delta.
- iv. Leverage its networks to identify, mobilize and engage key stakeholders in the peacebuilding architecture of the Niger Delta, Nigeria and globally
- v. Support the implementation of agreed activities as assigned by the TWG for the design, implementation, and development of the strategic document.
Provide suggestions, inputs, and recommendations relevant for designing and developing a regional peacebuilding strategic document.

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. Since conflicts are a natural part of the social processes of change for sustainable development, PIND relentlessly promotes 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 facilitates training and workshops to enhance capacities of peace actors to constructively mitigate conflict.

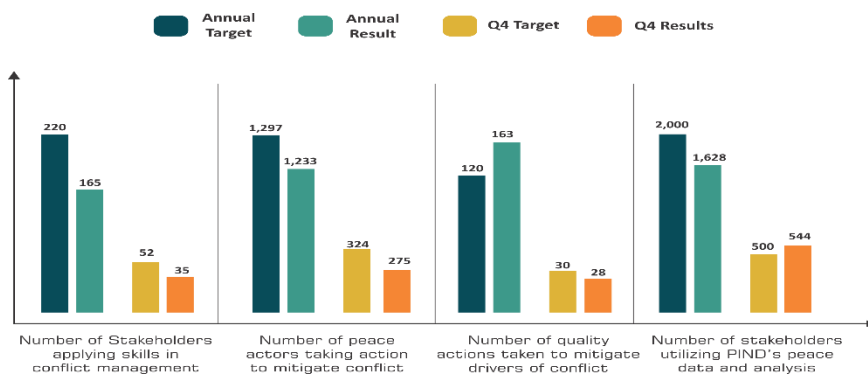


Figure 8. Performance of Peace Building program in 2022

In the period under review, 35 stakeholders whose capacities had been strengthened through PIND/P4P facilitated training sessions and workshops, applied the skills they had acquired to promote peace and tackle conflict in their communities. An example of the way previously-trained peace actors applied skills gained to promote peace and tackle conflict in Q4, is Oval Engr. Robert Etu, the clan head of Ebom community which had fought a war with Ebijakara community, Abi LGA of Akwa Ibom, and sacked it (Ebijakara community). He narrated that “PIND has done so well for organizing this workshop as this has brought peace to both our communities. Under my watch as the Clan Head of Ebom, through the Bahomono Council of Chiefs, I have asked the Ebijakara community to come back home and settle at Esoi, and farm to sustain their livelihood and build there. We are ready for peace and because of this project we will expedite action and encourage our brothers to return home and start developing where the entire Bahomono have decided that they should reside.” Cumulatively, 165 stakeholders have applied their skills in conflict management in 2022, achieving 75% of the 2022 target.

Also, 275 peace actors (P4P members) constructively resolved emerging conflicts in various communities in the Niger Delta, utilizing 28 ‘quality actions’ to resolve these conflicts within the reporting period. Some of such interventions towards creating a long-term peaceful environment are presented in the table below. Cumulatively, 1,233 peace actors have taken action to mitigate conflict, utilizing 163 quality actions, in 2022, achieving 95% and 136% of the 2022 target respectively.

Table 11. Summary of selected interventions carried out by peace actors in Q4 2022 by location, type and results

Peace actor/Location	Type of conflict issue	Outcome of interventions
Bassey Akwa Ibom	Communal violence	In March 2022, Bassey mobilized some youths and community chiefs to settle a huge conflict that took lives and destroyed properties in Mkpanak town, Ibeno LGA. The violent conflict arose between the Yoruba community and the community youths, as it was alleged that a Yoruba boy residing in the community entered a compound late in the night and molested the landlord. He was caught, interrogated and beaten up by youths in the compound. An alleged cult member, the boy mobilized his gang members and attacked youths in the compound. It escalated to inter-ethnic conflict with destruction of lives and property affecting several communities including Mkpanak, Inua Eyet Ikot and Iwuokpom. Bassey’s home was used as a refuge for some displaced Yorubas. He is currently working with key stakeholders to consolidate on the relative peace established.
Rotimi Edo State	Communal violence	Rotimi , a P4P member, mediated in a boundary dispute between Bekuma and Epe communities in the first half of 2022. The issue would have escalated to communal crisis, when Rotimi reported to the traditional palace and with the help of other community stakeholders, a fact-finding visit to Edo State Ministry of Lands was carried out to identify the actual land boundary between the two communities. The report was taken back to both community leaders to observe the land boundary and the issue was resolved peacefully at leadership level. However, some aggrieved community members of Bekuma are still not totally in compliance with the Edo State boundary resolution and community leaders’ position. Rotimi is still working with Bekuma and Epe communities for a final win- win outcome.

5. General Enabling Program

PIND's two distinct but interrelated programs, Economic Development and Peace Building, are supported by initiatives which enable, measure, and communicate the results and achievements of the pillar programs and they 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.

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



This section shows key achievements in Quarter 4 of 2022 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, and business associations/service providers; "for effective socio-economic engagement, inclusive governance for growth, and peaceful co-existence in the Niger Delta". It 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) project. 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 selected organizations to implement projects using the market systems approach, and handholding on proposal writing and fund mobilization to diversify their funding base.

The second area of focus for the project is to strengthen the institutions that support the Chevron Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMOU) community engagement process and enable them 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 Regional Development Committees (RDCs), including supporting the implementation of the recommendations from the 2018 Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) conducted on the RDCs. These include coaching, mentoring and training conducted for various committees of the RDCs including those in Video production and photography, Sustainable Project Management, and on gender equality and

social inclusion.

This year, PIND supported the various committees of the RDCs in skill development in line with the OCA recommendations and increased their capacity index. PIND is supporting Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) in its transition from the GMOU process to the Petroleum Industry Act’s Chapter 3 provision, the Host Community Development Trust (HCDDT) structure, and will provide CNL and its Trusts the needed capacity building services when established.

Net change in capacity index of RDCs:

In Q4 2022, PIND completed the organizational capacity evaluation of the five RDCs, which began in the last quarter, and the findings have been shared with PIND, PPCD, CNL, and the RDCs for comments and feedback. The evaluation findings indicated that all the RDCs made commendable improvements in their capacity index when compared to 2018. The net change in their capacity index was 1.16, from the difference of 3.36 (obtained in 2022) and (2.2 the baseline as at 2018), representing 48% improvement against the 2022 target of 2.4.

The OCA rating index is graded on four levels: Nascent (1 - 1.9), Emerging (2 - 2.9), Growing (3 – 3.5) and Mature (3.6 – 4). Findings from the assessment show that the RDCs made quite a commendable effort to improve on their internal systems and processes. From an average overall rating of 2.2 (which is Emerging), the RDCs’ average overall score moved to 3.36, i.e. Growing.

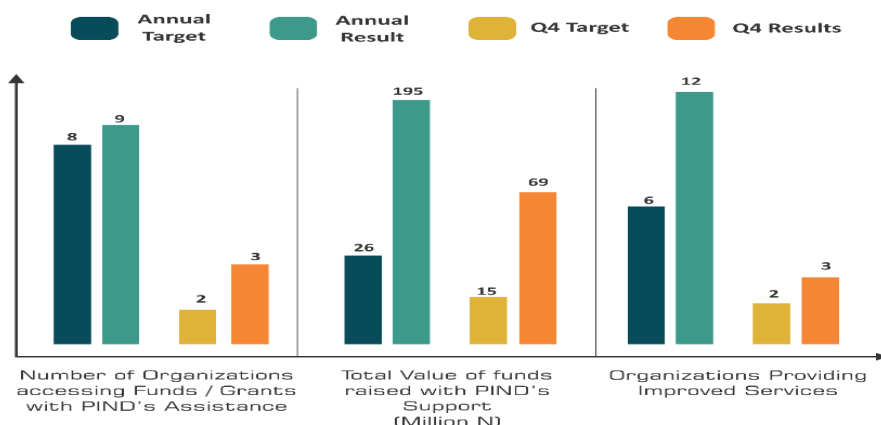


Figure 9. Performance of Capacity Building program in 2022

Number of organizations accessing funds/grants with PIND’s support:

Within the reporting quarter, three organizations accessed funds with PIND’s assistance, bringing the cumulative for 2022 to nine (9), representing 113% against the 2022 target of eight (8); The organizations are CARA Development Foundation and MacJim Foundation that are based in Imo and Bayelsa States respectively, and Genius Hub, which is conducting various skills acquisition trainings for youth in Edo State with funding from GIZ and other donors. CARA is one of the co-facilitators working with PIND to drive market system changes in the cassava sector and it received N63.9M from the USAID SCALE project in Nigeria to carry out from November 2022 – October 2023, advocacy efforts in three states: Imo, Abia and Ebonyi to increase the states’ budgetary allocations for agriculture to 5%. MacJim Foundation is also a co-facilitator for PIND working in the Palm Oil sector with vast experience in addressing environmental degradation in the region. It is one of the three winners of the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP) Youth Innovation Challenge 2022 (<https://thegeep.org/youth-innovation-challenge-2022-winners>) that each received USD1000 (N443,399) to address pressing environmental issues affecting the marine ecosystems through environmental education.

Organizations providing improved services

Three GMOU organizations provided improved services to their beneficiaries/communities (RDCs and implementing Partners) in Q4, and the cumulative for 2022 was 12. MacJim Foundation joined the ranks of CARA, Kolping and Genius Hub to provide services within the quarter. As aforementioned, MacJim received international funding in this quarter to implement an environmental project in the region. It also conducted a flood impact assessment to ascertain the level of damage and support required to ameliorate the impact of the 2022 flooding crisis on victims in Bayelsa State and other parts of the region. Kolping continued capacity development and skills acquisition projects while Genius Hub is also intensively conducting various skills acquisition training for youth in Edo State. CARA facilitated training in Q3 and in this quarter commenced the implementation of its USAID SCALE project-funded Budgetary Allocation advocacy project campaign.

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 the review period, PIND's Advocacy efforts sustained their focus on strategic support to Economic Development and Peace Building within the region. The work of the Edo State Government's Access to Land Committee was presented to stakeholders for validation at the Government House in Benin, and subsequently submitted to the State Governor. An MoU was signed with the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to solidify the partnership between PIND and the Ministry towards the development of a peacebuilding strategy in the region and this led to the formation of the Technical Working Group (TWG) that will help to oversee the crafting of a peacebuilding framework for the Niger Delta Region.

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

As part of efforts to increase access to arable land for smallholder farmers, PIND engaged with relevant stakeholders in three states to understand the issues resulting in inadequate access and engaged state-specific actors to develop recommendations that could be adopted to address these constraints. So far, PIND has established arable land review committees in two states – Delta and Edo. The committee in Delta State is mostly constituted of government officials. This is because the land tenure system is family-based and coordination can only be managed by the government as there is no unifying traditional institution with authority to manage land-related matters in the State. In Edo State, the committee comprises a more diverse range of actors including government officials, traditional rulers, heads of commodity associations, civil society representatives, and private sector agro investors. (see Annex One for more on access to land).

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

In Q3, PIND had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federal Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (MNDA). The MoU signing, held during the National Council on Niger Delta (NCND) meeting in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State on Thursday, September 15, 2022, solidifies PIND's partnership with the MNDA to develop a regional peacebuilding infrastructure that would contribute to efforts to address conflict and security issues in Niger Delta. Part of the understanding is the establishment of a Technical Working Group (TWG) that will develop the mechanism for the proposed peacebuilding infrastructure. This TWG, made up of PIND and others (NGOs, representatives of the MNDA and Niger Delta state governments, law enforcement, etc.), was formed and inaugurated on the 30th of November 2022. Its first training and stakeholder session took place on the 1st of December 2022. The outcome of the TWG deliberations would be the development of a technical report that will articulate and collate feedback from stakeholders and secondary data on peace and security dynamics in the region. The document will focus on highlighting key emerging conflict issues in the region; discuss the importance of early warning and early response systems for conflict prevention and management; address the importance of incorporating peacebuilding and conflict resolution approaches into the legislation as a regional peacebuilding strategy.

Influencing Public Spending.

To influence public spending in the Niger Delta region, PIND presented a memo to the Cross-River State budget office on September 28, 2022, to advise the state on key development priorities to cater for in the proposed 2023 budget. Some of the recommendations include, Harmonization of the activities of the budget office and the State Planning Commission (SPC) to ensure that State fiscal actions are aligned with the Cross River State Growth and Development Strategy (GDS); Building the capacity of State Planning Commission (SPC) staff to effectively rally MDAs to align with the GDS and track budget spending; and Developing and maintaining a Regional Peace and Security Framework that will guarantee peaceful coexistence among communities in the State and with neighboring communities outside the State and across its boundaries, to mention a few. PIND continues to engage State governments in the Niger Delta to influence public spending on development projects that benefit the people of the region.

Petroleum Industry Act: The BRIDGES Project

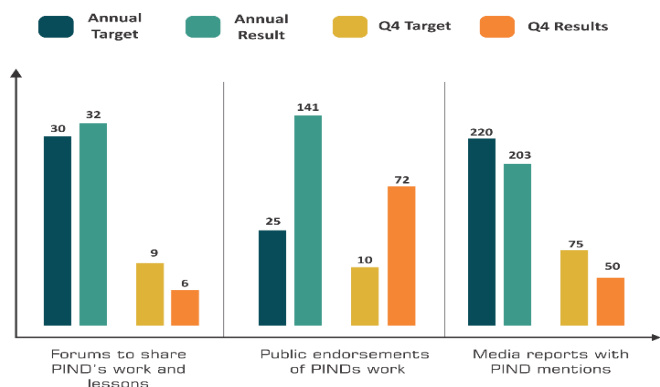
Through advocacies, PIND secured grant funding from the Ford Foundation in Q4 2022. With this, Ford Foundation and PIND are exploring realistic models of community development in which different actors – communities, NGOs, oil and

gas companies, and government (particularly the upstream regulator, and state governments), work in concert towards a successful implementation of the PIA. This is to ensure their active involvement and to represent their interest in the implementation process. This effort now referred to as “The Bridges Project” is being implemented in five Niger Delta states Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ondo and Rivers, and comprises a Multi-Stakeholder Platform (MSP) that will coordinate proceedings, awareness creation and knowledge sessions on the PIA requirements for community stakeholders, and building the capacities of CSOs and NGOs to help in the implementation processes.

5.3 Communications

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

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



In the final quarter of the year, discussions in the digital media industry continued to be dominated by the upcoming Nigeria 2023 general elections, insecurity, and mass emigration of Nigeria's skilled workforce. To stay relevant and engage our audience, Communications/Knowledge Management continued using relatable human and data stories to promote PIND's activities and highlight its partnerships. We expanded our media coverage by covering events like the inaugurations of the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy (NDRPS) Technical Working Group, the Prevent Councils and the Certification of Cocoa Nursery Operators.

One of our main highlights was partnerships with media platforms: Devex and the Diamond Award for Media Excellence (DAME). PIND attended the 77th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York, the United States, where we participated in a side event organized by Devex, a media platform for the global development community. The Executive Director, Tunji Idowu, was interviewed in a fireside chat on facilitating sustainable development in the Niger delta. Also, PIND attended the 31st DAME Award Ceremony in Lagos and sponsored an award category for 3 journalists who distinguished themselves in reporting key events and activities that foster development in the Niger Delta. The goal is to influence how stories in the Niger Delta are captured in both mainstream and traditional media. A reporter from PUNCH Newspapers received the first prize award.

These partnerships boosted visits to the website, social media pages, and newsletter subscriptions. We also shared information about PIND's projects and approaches via these platforms. Via these channels, PIND’s brand messages reached a total of 3,827,806 target stakeholders, in Q4, 2022. This brings the cumulative stakeholders reached in 2022 to 11,720,058.

1. Social Media

PIND shared 239 posts (conveying its key messages) across social media platforms: LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. The social media posts reached 473,354 individuals and 26,032 of the people engaged by liking, commenting, sharing, or link clicking. Thus, PIND’s followership increased by 445 in Q4 2022, with 2,561 new followers so far in 2022, demonstrating increased visibility and interest among stakeholders in PIND’s work. PIND’s social media reach so far in 2022 is 2,543,354, surpassing the annual target of 2.5million people.

2. Newsletter

PIND produced and disseminated two newsletters to recipients in target stakeholder groups during the quarter in review, reaching 2,270 people. 29 new subscribers were also added to its mailing list during the quarter, resulting in a total of 437 new newsletter subscribers so far in 2022, achieving 97% of the 450 targets for the year.

3. PIND Website

In Q4, PIND provided target stakeholders with information about its brand, program, and projects through the organization’s website. This attracted 11,620 individuals (45% female and 55% male) to PIND’s website for the first time, exposing them to PIND’s work, results, and models. 33% of website visitors were youth between the ages of 25-34. Cumulatively 60,264 individuals have visited PIND’s website this year, exceeding the annual target of 50,000.

Table 13. PIND’s website performance summary in Q4 2022.

11,620 visitors learned about PIND for the first time
39,395 repeat visitors to the website to learn more about PIND
26 new content shared about PIND and partners
23,975 views of posted content and the About PIND page that increased awareness of PIND
7,492 downloads of PIND’s knowledge products to learn more

4. Email Enquiries

PIND received a total of 58 email enquiries this quarter. Most of these enquiries sought information on access to PIND-promoted agricultural technologies, collaboration with PIND, media enquiry, academic research on PIND, and others (such as for either economic development or peacebuilding matters). These enquiries indicate increased visibility and better positioning of PIND as a thought leader and go-to organization on issues of socio-economic development in the Niger Delta. Cumulatively PIND has 326 email enquiries, achieving 65% of the 500 targets for 2022.

5. Mainstream Media

In Q4, 2022, PIND messages targeted at its stakeholder groups through the radio, TV, print, and online newspapers helped it to attain 50 positive mainstream media mentions across these channels, out of which five were earned media mentions (third-party media mentions of PIND). PIND has achieved 203 positive media mentions so far in 2022, achieving 88% of its 230 target for 2022. The exposures reached an average of 3,345,677 people who became more or newly aware of PIND, its programs, models, and results. A total of 9.11 million people has become more or newly aware of PIND via mainstream media channels so far in 2022, achieving the target of 9.1 million for the year.

An example of an earned media mention was reports of PIND's collaboration with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria on the licensing and certification of cocoa nursery seed operators. Another was on PIND's sponsorship of the PIND Prize for Niger Delta Reporting on the Diamond Awards for Media Excellence (DAME) platform.

6. Public Endorsements

PIND received 72 public endorsements from program participants, and the general public through various public media platforms. Cumulatively, PIND has received 141 public endorsements over the course of the year, surpassing its target of 25 for 2022.

5.4 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

PIND’s commitment to gender and social inclusion underpins efforts that 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 youth, poor women and persons with disabilities. 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.

Organizational Gender mainstreaming summary

PIND targets 40% women in the overall outreach to increase their incomes, thereby positioning women’s economic empowerment at the core of its economic development activities, as well as playing key roles in peace building in the region. The following present a summary of the mainstreaming outlook for both economic development and peace building programs:

Figure 10. Performance of Communications in Q4, 2022

- **Market Development Program:** In Q4 of 2022, 6,021 females participated in various economic development interventions in the Niger Delta which had improved their knowledge and practices across all the sectors. This brings the cumulative number of women participation in 2022 to 26,440 out of the 70,325 farmers/MSMEs reached under MDP.
- **Youths Employment Program:** under the Youth Employment Program, a total of 1,824 youths completed their training in 2022. This comprised 823 females and 20 PWDs. From the number that completed training, the total number of youths on internship/apprenticeship placements is 602 (270 females and 6 PWDs). As well, the total number of youths accessing employment and other income-earning opportunities (jobs and enterprises) is 590, including 278 females and 8 PWDs.
- **Peace Building:** Similarly, a total of 183 women 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. Bringing the total annual outreach to 63,013 persons including 23,612 women, 7,370 youths and 93 PWDS. See Annex 3 for GESI related interventions on Access to Energy and Peacebuilding.

2022 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence

Every year, PIND joins the international community from November 25 to December 10 to campaign against gender-based violence (GBV). The 16-Days of Activism campaign is a strategy used to draw attention to and call for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls by individuals and organizations around the world. We support actions addressing GBV by providing small grants to and collaborating with Niger Delta organizations and civil societies to take actions against GBV in commemoration of the 16-Days of Activism.

In 2022, PIND worked with the subtheme “United efforts towards ending femicide in the Niger Delta”. Internally, we conducted activities such as sharing GESI (learning) moments and advocacies through our social media platforms. While externally, we provided small grants to the tune of N800,000 each to four organizations in four states in the region, namely Clean Technology Incubation and Acceleration Foundation (Akwa-Ibom); South-South Professional Women Association (Delta); Women Empowerment, Education and Peace Building Initiative and Girls to Women Research and Development Centre (Ondo). Through activities of our grantees, a total of 1,418 persons (991 female, 427 men, and 58 PWDS) were engaged. They were reached and sensitized with messages on prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls. See Annex 3 for the activities carried out by the grantees.

5.5 Business Development

The year 2022 was an eventful year for PIND in its Business Development and Sustainability (BDS) efforts geared towards achieving the strategic object of raising US\$1,300,000 and increasing partnerships involving leveraging funds in 2022. The introduction of the PIA brings about significant changes to the relationship between host communities and key players in the oil and gas industry. PIND thus designed a strategy to ensure that it plays a key role in the implementation of the PIA, and this has led to the attraction of a 2-year, \$400,000 funding from Ford Foundation to support the implementation of the PIA in 5 Niger Delta states. This project commenced in Q4 and is ongoing.

Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) Bridges Project

PIND finalized strategies and implementation plans for the Bridges project with the Ford Foundation during the quarter and commenced preliminary implementation activities. The Bridges Project is a Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) Host Community Development Trust (HCDT) project aimed at building the capacity of selected communities involved in the PIA HCDT process. The goal is to explore realistic models of community development in which different actors - companies, communities, NGOs, government, and others - can come together to build sustainable community development models. During the quarter the first tranche of \$200,000 was released for implementation. So far, a project manager has been engaged and active stakeholders mapping and profiling was carried out successfully.

WorldFish Nanmo Proposal

During the quarter, PIND collaborated with WorldFish to submit the Climate-Resilient Aquaculture Systems for Africa (CASA) proposal to the NANMO Partnership, which is a joint venture between the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Qatar Fund for Development. It funds projects at the intersection of climate adaptation, agricultural transformation, and poverty alleviation. We received preliminary approval for the Niger Delta portion of this project which is aquaculture sector-focused and worth \$1,300,000.

FAO FOLUR Proposal

As part of efforts to partner with funding organizations, PIND progressed engagements with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Programme (FOLUR-IP). This is a project aimed at promoting integrated landscape management and sustainable food systems in Nigeria. \$153,000 has been earmarked for PIND to implement aspects of this project in Ondo and Cross River State in the Niger Delta.

This project stems from Nigeria’s commitment to addressing forest loss, land degradation, and the transformation of food systems. As stipulated in the National REDD+ strategy, the country aims to achieve by 2030 sustainable management of her forests and ecosystems and a 20 percent reduction in emissions. The forest and land use change-

related GHG mitigation commitments contained in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) foresee huge investments in sustainable forest and land management and landscape restoration over the 2020-2030 period.

It is against this backdrop that FAO sought out PIND to collaborate to transform the Niger Delta cocoa and oil palm production systems and landscapes towards sustainability and resilience, delivering multiple environmental and social benefits. The objective will be achieved through the implementation of the following components in Cross River and Ondo: Component 1: Development of integrated landscape management (ILM) systems; Component 2: Promoting sustainable and inclusive cocoa and palm oil value chains; Component 3: Conservation and restoration of degraded forest ecosystems.

Internal collaboration to coordinate Business Development and Sustainability Processes and Outcomes

- During the year, PIND inaugurated and coordinated the BDS subcommittee and Board committee to further strengthen, and share updates on the progress of the BDS efforts and obtain input and feedback on the same, track the progress and commitments, and share insights and network on focal areas.

6. Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges

Market Development Program: Increases in Production costs continue to pose serious threats to the adoption of agricultural innovations. For example, high inflation and exchange rate changes have led to rising costs and are hampering the adoption of productivity improvement and quality enhancement technology. Most of these technologies, like mechanical pruners, mist blowers, and bush cutters have recorded over 60% increase in cost from ₦250,000 in 2019/2020 to over ₦450,000 in 2022. This is beyond the reach of many farmers and service providers. To mitigate this, the sector is leveraging support from exporters and input companies who will purchase these technologies and give them to FSPs to provide support services to their network of farmers.

1. Farmers are exposed to cheaper, adulterated fertilizers and other inputs, which are cheaper, necessitating increased need for information dissemination and emphasis on access to quality input.
2. Increased transaction costs are hampering the mobilization of farmers/MSMEs for training as old and new agro-dealers and lead farmers onboarded to provide support to farmers/MSMEs through training are barely undertaking such. These have also prevented the CSEs from meeting the demands for cassava stems in Bayelsa state as the impact of the flooding that destroyed most of the Cassava farms has led to additional costs, especially related to transportation. Very little could be done to alleviate the high cost of stems during the quarter.
3. The severity of the flooding and its impact on the livelihood of farmers, especially in Bayelsa and parts of Delta state, made it difficult to mobilize farmers in the affected areas for training and demos as was usually the case for the late i.e. Quarter 4 planting season.
4. In the poultry sector, for example, Smallholder farmers are reducing their stocking density and retaining only the number of birds they can afford to grow within the period.

Sombriero Kapital (SK):

Size of the guarantee capital is insufficient to facilitate loans to qualified smallholder farmers based on the volume of applications received, and the existing financial laws are impeding loan recovery from defaulting farmer groups via the global standing instruction. The current 7% loan recovery default is detrimental to the sustenance of the SK, now being repositioned to facilitate loans to farmers only in clusters, and ensuring that farmers guarantee themselves using the cash collateral deposited with the lending Bank as security. A key lesson was the need to introduce a 20% cash collateral to be contributed by benefitting farmers.

Youth Employment Pathways Program:

- Identification and selection of YEP participants requires proper scrutiny because most YEP applicants are highly expectant of starter-packs, i.e. donation of work tools and funds/seed capital, and probably so inquisitive to be selected for that purpose rather than the need for skill acquisition. Series of requests for hand-outs and other forms of welfare as part of the training package, pose some distractions. In some cases, participants were deselected following strong expectation of material benefit.
- Poor response from relevant government agencies towards collaboration, engagement and adoption of the training model slows adoption of YEP in States. Most government departments' collaborations do not go beyond selection of youth trainees. More intensive engagement envisaged for next year.

- Poor national economy and high inflation rate exacerbated costs of training materials, consumables and certification exams, like NABTEB registration and other projects running costs. Significant cut-down in numbers of purchases just enough to engage trainees effectively in the skills training process.
- The increasing rate of IPOB Sit-at-home order in the East affected the training schedule in Abia State. To manage this, partners reduced the number of training days and re-structured their training timetable to ensure that all topics were covered. This obviously meant an extension of the duration of vocational training.

Advocacy:

Given that many Advocacy efforts border-on policy initiatives, there is a growing concern about the lack of political will to support these initiatives due to the campaigns towards the 2023 elections. In States where elections would take place, new commissioners have been appointed, and with these new appointments come further delays in collaborations as the functionaries settle down, and grow the political will and clout to push project activities forward. PIND has paid courtesy visits to the new commissioners to establish relationships, orient them, and share specific areas of collaboration. The PIND Team also continues to deepen relationships and engagement efforts with career civil servants who retain their positions much longer and are custodians of the MDAs.

5. Peace Building Program:

There is a dearth of women in the newly-inaugurated Prevent Councils in Cross River, Akwa Ibom and Delta States. This was because the Prevent Council is conceptually designed to be mainly made up of traditional rulers, and based on the existing traditional institutional structures, majority of these leaders are men. This will be mitigated by making sure more women are included in subsequent Prevent Council interventions that will occur at the community level.

The Flood disaster that ravaged over 100 communities in the Niger Delta region slowed down or caused postponement of some of the Peacebuilding planned activities. For instance, the completion date of Herders/Farmers crisis intervention for the 4 consultants earlier scheduled for December 2022, were extended to first quarter of 2023.

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion: PWD organizations could not access the available 16 Days of Activism grant like other organizations due to their inability to provide necessary documents such as TCC, which prevented their PWD participation in this year's activities. We are however working with them to get all necessary documents available for future collaborations.

Lessons Learned

1. Peace Building:

Proper planning of the PB program activity delivery which happened simultaneously in Q4 2022 saved travel costs, thereby enhancing value for money e.g., the Prevent Council inauguration was implemented simultaneously in 3 states and in the same week; the Niger Delta Peace and Security Network meetings were held in the same states; and the herders/ farmers conflict mitigation intervention also took place simultaneously by four different consultants.

2. Market Development Program More BSPs are crowding-in to provide support services to enterprises to take advantage of the non-Interest loan products from funding organizations, and the federal government; and increased price of cocoa beans in the local market fueled by the Naira devaluation. This is providing incentives for cocoa farmers to improve their practices and adopt innovations for higher yields.

3. Youth Employment Program:

- More time should be spent on the selection process because this critical step determines the success of the program and participants' completion.
- Participants feel more involved when working in groups. It was noticed that students assimilate better when they work in pairs or in groups. The grouping method helps students become more participatory. Participating in group games and plenary sessions also boosts the confidence of students and improves their communication and interpersonal relationship with each other. In addition, reshuffling of participants' groups helps to increase interpersonal interactions among participants.
- Involvement of past trainees (who are successful) during the orientation exercise and as training instructors boosted interest in the new participants. Students were very inspired by the success stories of the previous cohort and saw the possibility of what they could get out of the program.

7. Program Management

Measuring change, learning, and generating knowledge

In the quarter in review, PIND verified indirect farmers to determine the level of their adoption of improved productivity modules copied from the direct participating farmers, as a proof of wider systemic changes in the cassava sector. PIND also concluded data collection for midline impact assessment, which was launched to verify results that were estimated in 2020 and 2021, and are being analyzed currently.

Within the quarter, PIND held the second programs and projects, audit and compliance sub-committee meetings. The key deliberations of these sub-committees were reported to the Boards through the board M & E committee. PIND also conducted its annual retreat for 2022 planning, and performance review, and commenced plans for its 2023 activities, with the lessons learned being shared to enhance the 2023 operating planning and executions.

Organizational effectiveness, health, safety, and security

PIND continued to invest resources to promote the wellbeing and safeguard the safety of its workforce. This quarter, it completed awareness training on fire emergency and evacuation across all locations, and undertook its quarterly fumigation and COVID 19 disinfection across PIND office locations. It continued to provide COVID-19 travel kits to staff for all approved field trips.

Similarly, PIND undertook scheduled servicing and routine maintenance checks on all vehicles, including appropriate repairs and replacements. Also, 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, whilst circulating six security reports within the quarter, to increase safety awareness in the Niger Delta. Consequently, no vehicle incidents or travel-related accidents were recorded during the quarter.

Project support services

PIND's procurement and contract administration services ensured that procedures, processes, protocols, and systems were utilized in line with PIND's policies and procedures. PSS provided procurement and contract administration services during the quarter ensuring that PIND procedures, processes and the use of protocols and systems were adequately utilized as per PIND policies and procedures. A good mix of PIND contracting instruments were used during the reporting period. A total of 111 contracts/grants were awarded in the total amount of ₦721.78 million. There were more use of Grant Agreement and service order as contracting instruments compared to the others

Table 9. Contracts awarded during the reporting period in their types, total amount and by type of recipient

Instruments	Number processed (Q3)	Total Amount committed till date (2022) (₦)	Total Value Committed by Gender (Q3)							
			Individuals				Organizations			
			M	Value Committed (₦)	F	Value Committed (₦)	Female Headed/Owned	Value Committed (₦)	Male Headed/Owned	Value Committed (₦)
Professional Services Contract	9	94.08 Million	1	3.5 Million	-	-	4	71.09 Million	4	19.49 Million
Services Order	45	180.34 Million	17	56.54 Million	3	19.92 Million	7	21.17 Million	18	86.82 Million
Purchase Order	10	36.12 Million	-	-	-	-	2	1.34	8	34.78 Million
Master Services Contract	1	5.52 Million	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5.52 Million
Grants	42	281.55 Million	1	1.3 Million	-	-	13	60.68 Million	28	219.6 Million
MOU	6	120.05 Million	-	-	-	-	1	9.2 Million	5	110.85 Million
Total	111	721.78 Million	19	61.34 Million	3	19.92 Million	27	163.48 Million	64	477.04 Million

8. Looking Ahead

Priority actions for next quarter

In Q1 2023, the **market development project** will undertake the following activities:

- **Cassava:** Take the CSE scale-up activities forward in partnership with Umudike Seeds with the selection, engagement, and training of the participating CSEs. We will also continue to support agro-dealers, CSEs, and service providers to provide access to inputs and information on good agricultural practices to farmers, and monitor farming activities on the Ukwuoma out-grower scheme. The re-engagement of agro input firms on the adoption and scale-up of the commercial extension service model will equally begin in the new quarter.
- **Cocoa:** Support existing and new partners to expand and deepen productivity improvement, quality improvement, and access to high-yielding seeds interventions in the cocoa-producing states of the Niger Delta.

- **MSMEs:** Support the certification of Business Development Service Providers (BDSPs) to provide business development services to MSMEs and organize linkages/investment forums in collaboration with chambers of commerce, institutional buyers, government, and other stakeholders. It will continue the expansion of support to MSME, fisherfolks and processors in the Chevron host communities
- **Palm Oil:** Strengthen the linkages between smallholder farmers and large processors in the palm oil sector. Also, expand the business growth of Seed actors in the Niger Delta region. Another priority activity includes strengthening and supporting palm oil market actors to adopt best practices across the Niger Delta region.
- **Poultry:** Provide support to PSP & VLDs support to reach 2750 poultry farmers, organize promotional and sensitization activities, and organize Training of Trainers to onboard new PSPs.

The **access to energy project** will accelerate new partnerships towards commencing 3 PIND supported mini grid installations in 3 riverine communities across Delta, Bayelsa and Edo states

The **Youth Employment Pathways Project** will do the following:

- Labor Market Assessment for Ondo State: This exercise is ongoing and will be completed in February 2023. There is an upcoming FGD with key stakeholders from CNL Host Communities to conclude the field activity in January.
- Government engagement for the adoption of NDYEP model and framework: A follow up with Rivers State Ministry of Youth Development on the ongoing engagement towards committing resources for skills training for youth employment. Technical Vocational & Soft Skills Training: In Abia State, an Implementing Partner (Innovation Growth Hub) will continue to follow up with the state government to ensure they fulfil promises made in the Q3 2022, which are the donation of library space at Umuahia and some support funding in early 2023 for technical skills training in the state.
- Technical Vocational & Soft Skills Training - Facilitate the completion of the remaining grants for technical/soft skills training in Abia, Rivers and Delta states
- Call for Applications: Publish Terms of Reference (TOR) to enable competent organizations submit proposals for technical vocational and soft skills training in 2023. Qualified applicants will be offered grants for training and post training support to youths in the program states.

For Q1 2023, the **peacebuilding program** will supervise the production of 2 Case Studies on P4P intervention in selected states; Facilitate the 2023 Nonviolence Election Mitigation Project.; Jointly integrate Peacebuilding activities with Economic Development (Conflict Sensitivity); Continue quarterly maintenance of database and website; Facilitate Small grant interventions on Herders/ Farmers Conflicts; Facilitate the development of the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy (NDRPS) in collaboration with Advocacy; Facilitate P4P/ MSP; Produce briefs and trackers; Facilitate the Niger Delta Peace and Security Network fora and Facilitate Prevent Council operationalization in selected states.

The **advocacy project** will conduct an internal validation of Multiple Taxation reports with the Economic Development team in Warri; Organize Dissemination forums in Port Harcourt and Asaba to share findings and recommendations of Multiple Taxation field assessments; Formal engagements with the MNDA and Technical Working Group (TWG) towards the finalization of the action plan on regional peacebuilding in the Niger Delta; Track and report stakeholders' engagement; Continue to support PIND Business Development and fundraising initiatives; Continue with the implementation of the PIA Bridges Project; as well as support the NDLink sustainability drive, and engage with Settlers and other stakeholders to pitch and implement PIND PIA offerings.

Under **GESI**, we will focus on supporting programs to mainstream gender in all interventions; commence activities for the 2023 International Women's Day Celebration and host Q1, 2023 GESI Committee meeting.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

Economic Development	
Sector	Details of Key Achievements
Aquaculture	The aquaculture sector has been graduated and will be driven by the Co-facilitators and Service Providers. They will continue to provide GAP training to farmers and linking them to other support services.
Cassava	<p>Direct cassava farmers outreach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2,256 direct farmers (1,275 females) and 2,992 indirect farmers (1,705 females) ○ Ben Wisdom, a PIND grantee with support from 12 FSPs/Lead farmers conducted outreaches in Igbogili, Ekuku, Oko, Omumu 1, Ihuizomor, Ute Ogbo, Owuwu Oza, Alezaha, Isibue Akumazi, Idumuoza and Oroma all in Ika South LGA of Delta State. These outreach activities reached a total of 300 cassava farmers (162 Females; 30 Youths) and were supported by CHC Organic, Farm for Africa Limited, and SARO agro-input firms with discounts and credit facilities on agro-inputs and provision of sprayers for demonstration activities. ○ In Edo, the outreach in Edo was anchored by Gentle Apuede who was supported by one lead farmer to reach 30 farmers (13 Females; 7 Youths) in Udaba, Etsako Central LGA in partnership with Jubaili. ○ In Ondo, state, Bobade Adebayo, a grantee agro dealer and Koladoye, a non-grantee FSP mobilized 12 FSPs and four Lead farmers respectively to conduct outreaches across Olumabime, Ugbonran and Oloto in Okiitipupa LGA, Sifau and Oja-Bale in Odigbo LGA, Inikoragha, Ojuola, and Oboro in Ese-Odo, Onipanu, Akinboni, Lakunro, Urono, Omonira, Olutake, and Idogun all in Irele LGA. The outreach impacted a total of 1367 cassava farmers (704 Females; 224 Youths) while the agro-dealers leveraged their linkage to Indorama and Crop Doctor to carry out demonstrations. ○ Rivers: Erasmus Chukunda, a grantee farm service provider conducted GAP training with the support of two Lead Farmers for 213 cassava farmers (147 Females; 46 Youths) in two farming communities of Omagwa and Igwuruta in Ikwerre LGA. They collaborated with CHC Organic agro-input company to conduct the training and demonstrations. ○ Imo: Two agro dealers - Alaoma Chukwu (grantee) and Nicholas (non-grantee) conducted seven outreaches across five communities namely, Akpotu Egbelu, Lorji, Mbutu Nwaorie and Amaisii-Ndigbo in Aboh LGA and Umuohiagu in Ngor Okpala LGA in partnership with CHC Organic, Golden Fertilizer and Harvest field input companies reaching 285 farmers (209 Females; 28 Youths). ○ Akwa Ibom: Victor Tom (grantee agro dealer) partnered with two FSPs and reached 61 farmers (40 Females; 17 Youths) across two communities - Ito in Ika LGA and Afahaobong in Abak LGA. <p>Improving farmer access to quality cassava stems through CSEs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PIND continues to sustain its support for the spread of improved cassava seed varieties in the region to improve the smallholder farmer's access to stems that will increase their yield even with the same farm size. Through collaboration with the BASICS 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) over 130 Cassava seed entrepreneurs have been trained and onboarded into the network of CSEs by the training institutes in the previous years. These CSEs continue to provide access to improved cassava stems to farmers in their different locations across the region, in addition to stepping down the training they received using their stem multiplication plots to farmers. <p>A scale-up strategy was developed in Quarter 3 to support 50 CSEs, with a capacity to multiply improved commercial seeds on a minimum of one hectare and become certified by the National Seed Council (NASC). A target of 25 CSEs was set for 2023 and PIND initiated a partnership with Umudike Seeds (a private sector company established by the National Root Crop Research Institute, (NRCRI), to spearhead the multiplication of improved stems commercially) to implement this strategy on a sustainable basis.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In this quarter, PIND and Umudike Seeds identified 35 potential participants who have indicated interest to participate in the intervention. Those identified will be screened further and their farms inspected before the selection of the final 25 participants that PIND will support on a cost-share basis. Some of the criteria identified for selection include access to at least one hectare of land that can be exclusively dedicated to stem multiplication; commercial farming experience and capacity to meet their own financial obligation for the first year that PIND will support and continue to invest in subsequent years. ○ Also, during the quarter 30 CSEs who were previously trained and onboarded and are actively multiplying stems, sold 2,020 bundles of stems in addition to the 4,062 sold in Quarter 3. This brings the total number of bundles of stems sold to 6,082 for 2022. There was a reported high demand for stems in the states that were severely impacted by the flooding early in the quarter, namely Bayelsa, Delta, and Rivers States and this drove up the price of stems from N1,500 for a bundle of 60 sticks to as much as N2000 for a bundle of 30 sticks and this was largely unaffordable for many farmers. Also, preliminary findings from the Flood impact assessment that PIND conducted during the quarter show that most of the farmers did not insure their farms and some were not aware of insurance cover provided by the Nigerian Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) to indemnify farmers against natural hazards. Going forward, PIND will support service providers to create greater awareness of this provision as they conduct outreach activities and provide services to farmers. <p>Facilitating access to Finance and Markets through Cassava out-grower scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The out-grower scheme is one of the models that can be deployed to eliminate the constraints of access to inputs, services, and markets for smallholder farmers, and over the years PIND has explored various avenues to intervene in the cassava sector using this model. In 2022, PIND identified and engaged with Dufil Prima Foods on the establishment of an out-grower scheme to supply cassava roots to its starch processing plant. PIND took responsibility for designing the scheme, identifying the farmer group, and linking them to Sombrero Kapital for financing to establish the out-grower scheme. The farmer group - Ukwuoma Ndi Igbo

	<p>Multipurpose Cooperative signed an agreement with Dufil to cultivate 33 hectares of land with TME 419 Cassava variety that Dufil will offtake at an agreed price.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As of the end of Quarter 4, the scheme had 20 hectares of growing cassava farms as against the 33 hectares intended because of various challenges, including the rising cost of labour, delay in planting due to planter breakdown, cattle destruction of about two hectares of cultivated land, that adversely impacted farming activities. Nonetheless, the 20 hectares are still expected to produce sufficient yield to enable the farmers to pay off the loan and still be profitable. Harvesting activities are expected to commence by the second quarter of 2023. ○ Similarly, following a series of engagements in the previous quarter, PIND planned to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Cassadel Cassava Starch Company Limited in Quarter 4 to formalize the agreement to support the company to design and establish an out-grower scheme for the supply of fresh cassava roots to the company’s proposed starch processing plant in Delta state. However, this was not achieved due to a lull in response PIND will continue to follow up with the company and continuously explore other opportunities available in the market that will be suited to different from Cassadel identified farmer groups in the region
Cocoa	<p>Outreach</p> <p>During this quarter, 3,173 farmers were reached as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Ondo state, four farm service providers (Raphael Adebayo, Jacob Omowunmi, Anthony Akinmade, and Bobade Adebayo) reached 2,271 (including 595 females) farmers with training and demonstration activities on GAP. ○ In Cross River state, a farm service provider, Solomon Agbor collaborated with an input company, Crop Doctor Nigeria to reach 120 (including 38 females) farmers with training and demonstration activities on GAP ○ In Akwa Ibom state, a farm service provider, Victor Tom collaborated with an input company, Indorama Fertilizers to organize training programs and demonstration activities on GAP for 38 (including 5 females) farmers. Also, Sustainable Smallholder Farmers Service, a farm service provider reached 85 (including 25 females) farmers with training and demonstration activities on GAP. ○ In Edo state, one farm service provider, Ehimika Emmanuel reached 448 (including 82 females) farmers with training, demonstrations, and nursery services ○ In Delta state, a farm service provider, Ben Wisdom Efe reached 211 (including 82 females) farmers with training and demonstration activities on GAP. <p>Strengthening relationships among actors to improve access to quality seeds for cocoa farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The access to quality (high-yielding) seeds intervention was designed by PIND to engender increased access to improved seedlings by cocoa farmers in the region through improved relationships between entrepreneurial nursery operators and seed producers. In 2021, PIND signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) with a vision to strengthen the systems for the production, distribution, and marketing of improved seeds through a network of commercial cocoa seed nursery operators. <p>In the previous quarters, PIND and CRIN partnered to organize a technical training program on seed handling and management for 31 selected nursery operators and subsequently supported the trained seed nursery operators to establish seed nurseries in Ondo, Edo, Abia, and Cross River states using the quality, high-yielding cocoa seeds from CRIN. PIND also facilitated a PIND-CRIN joint monitoring activity to ascertain the level of compliance with the nursery practices and protocols by the seed nursery operators, which qualifies them for CRIN’s certification and license. The monitoring activity revealed that seventeen nursery operators have complied with the standards and are therefore recommended for certification and licensing.</p> <p>In the current quarter, PIND successfully facilitated the certification and licensing of the first set of seventeen seed entrepreneurs in the cocoa sector. The CRIN license and certification will provide credibility to the operations of the nursery operators and further enhance their relationship with CRIN as part of their distribution network of quality seeds. It is envisioned that a stronger commercial relationship between seed nursery operators and CRIN will improve the production, distribution, and marketing of quality, high-yielding seedlings to cocoa farmers, which will improve the yield, productivity, and income of farmers in the region.</p> <p>In this quarter also, in recognition of its contribution to the growth of the cocoa sector in Nigeria, PIND was nominated by CRIN to serve on the Cocoa of excellence (CoEX) National Organizing Committee (NOC). The committee is charged with the sole responsibility of coordinating all processes leading to Nigeria’s participation in the CoEx award in 2023. This is the first time Nigeria will be participating in this event, which focuses on awarding the best cocoa bean samples with the best quality and flavor characteristics globally.</p>
Palm Oil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Farmers/MSMEs Outreach: Within the quarter, 9 Farm Services Providers (FSPs) carried out 10 BMP demonstrations reaching 710 farmers (232 female) in Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Delta, Ondo, and Rivers states. The activities bring the total outreach recorded for the BMP initiative this quarter to 2,362 (574 female). Also, 300 farmers adopted the use of improved harvesting technologies and 15 processors adopted the use of improved processing technology. This brings the Q4 outreach for Palm oil to 2,677 against a target of 1, 601 for the period. This, together with the outreach result recorded from Q1 to Q3, brings the year-to-date performance to 14, 085 which is 94% of the annual target of 15,000. ○ Adoption of improved seedlings: PIND facilitated activities such as linking nursery operators and farmers to financial institutions for equipment, technology, and input (seed) financing. Also, engaging seed producers and nursery operators with business models to strengthen their relationships and business growth. It also strengthened the coordination and collaboration among the nursery operators. This led to the purchase of 405,429 seedlings by 818 farmers; surpassing the annual target of 500 farmers purchasing 255, 000 seedlings. During quarter 4, PIND supported nursery operators to carry out more promotional activities to increase awareness and demand for improved seeds amongst oil palm farmers in the Niger Delta, Also, capacity strengthening

	<p>of some Palm oil nursery operators (PNOs) on climate-smart nursery management, after-sales services, and nursery record keeping. At least 1,000 farmers were reached directly with this information. It is expected that the farmers will be aware of where and when improved seeds will be available for planting next year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>Income of farmers:</u> In 2022, ₦5.93 billion additional incomes were recorded as follows: ₦1,923,101,950.00 was the estimated additional income from the increased yield from BMP adopted by 8,527 farmers; while ₦3,417,433,850.61 was the estimated additional income from the additional fresh fruit bunches harvested from 3,300 farmers who adopted improved harvesting tools; and ₦589,664,829.99 additional income was obtained by 450 processors who had higher extraction rate (more volume of palm oil) from adoption of 30 improved processing equipment. This income was 122% of the 2022 target of ₦4,850,000,000. ○ <u>Funds Leverage:</u> In 2022, total of ₦1,371,789,772.28 was leveraged by farmers/processors, being a combination of ₦797,856,272.28 leveraged equity investment by 8,527 farmers who adopted BMP in their farms; ₦136,590,000.00 invested on 37 improved processing equipment; ₦22,800,000.00 on improved harvesting tools, and ₦414,543,500.00 invested on 405,429 seedlings by 818 farmers in the Niger Delta region in 2022 season. These are funds invested in adopting BMP, IHTs, IPTs and improved seeds by farmers. The investment leveraged of ₦1,371,789,772, in 2022, was 101% of the 2022 target of ₦1,350,000.
<p>Poultry</p>	<p>Outreach 2560 (including 1129 females) new farmers reached as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Abia, Timark Consult, (A poultry Service Provider), trained 56 (22 Females) on good poultry practices. He also facilitated linkages to inputs for some of the farmers. In the same vein, Chinedu Uduanusi trained 32 (17 Females) on good poultry practices and facilitated linkages to market for some of them. ○ In Akwa Ibom, Arkshore Konsult, a Poultry Service Provider, reached 47 (12 Females) farmers with quality vaccines. In the same vein, Christian Kasim, a village-level dealer, reached 57 (10 Females) with quality vaccines. ○ In Bayelsa, Kingdom Obusa Ventures, a master service provider, reached 150 farmers (119 Females) with training on good poultry practices and quality inputs (DoCs & Vaccines). ○ In Delta state, Obohor Agric Development Enterprises (A poultry service provider), trained 64 (15 Females) on good poultry practices. ○ In Imo state, Chinedu Uduanusi, a poultry service provider, trained 130 (46 Females) farmers on good poultry practices and supported them with linkages to inputs and markets. In the same vein, Sanpec Info Tech a village-level dealer reached 1826 (777 Females) farmers with quality inputs (Day old chicks, feed, and vaccines) ○ In Ondo state, the Arkshore Konsult Limited (A master service provider) trained 57 (29 females) farmers on good poultry practices. In the same vein, Topgof Global Services, a poultry service provider, reached 47 (22 females) with training and linkage to market. ○ In Rivers state, Chinedu Uduanusi (A poultry service provider) trained 49 (49 Female) farmers on good poultry practices. In the same vein, Kingdom Obusa Ventures, (A poultry service provider), trained 48 (11 Females) farmers on good poultry practices. <p>Facilitating linkages to market for poultry farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ As poultry farmers continue to adopt good poultry practices, improving their productivity and expanding their poultry farming, the need for steady and reliable markets to sell their products continues to increase. In the quarter under review, PIND supported two poultry service providers (Ondo & Akwa Ibom) in partnership with 2 large buyers (fresh chicken hub & bounty foods) to organize market linkages workshops for poultry farmers in Ondo and Akwa Ibom states. 60 poultry farmers were linked to the large buyers. In the next quarter,
<p>MSMEs</p>	<p>Outreach 1,064 (including 512 women owned) new MSMEs reached as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Rivers State, 458 enterprises (248 females) were trained on entrepreneurship and business management. They were also supported with business plan development and linkage to finance worth N543,898,699 under the AGSMEIS loan scheme. These MSMEs were reached by: CAD Consulting Limited, Wider Perspective Limited, Ibiputem Enterprise, Bensot Agency, and Ideas Infusion. Wider Perspectives Limited, a BDSP in Rivers organized two forums: a Post-Harvest Loss Prevention Forum in collaboration with Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI) and the AKWA IBOM SME ROUNDTABLE (AKSMERT) which focused on SME development and readiness to access local and global market opportunities reaching 262 participants. ○ In Bayelsa state, 93 enterprises (24 females) were trained, mentored, linked to inputs, and supported with business development upgrades. These MSMEs were reached by Wider Perspective Limited. ○ In Cross River State, 22 enterprises (7 females) were trained in entrepreneurship and business management. These MSMEs were reached by Oxide Concept Integrated Solutions, a business development service provider based in the state. ○ In Delta state, 11 enterprises (10 females) were trained by Life edge Consulting. These MSMEs were also supported to access micro-loans under the trade booster micro scheme. ○ In Imo state, Remok consulting, a BDSP, conducted an Agropreneur and mentorship forum for MSMEs which provided them a roadmap to be competent in accessing market/finance, while also creating an opportunity for MSMEs to interface with major stakeholders, key players, and government agencies in the MSME sector. The event recorded attendance of two hundred and seventy (270) participants (129 females). In addition to other mentorship support and training, a total of 362 enterprises (167 female) were reached in the state. <p>Support to fisher folks and fish processors in the CNL host communities. PIND continued to build the capacity of fisherfolks and fish processors in the target communities to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. This quarter, PIND facilitated technical training for 118 fisherfolks and processors in Ilaje, Ondo state. Participants were exposed to safety measures in their fishing activities, appropriate use and maintenance of their fishing gears, and other sustainable fishing practices such as the protection of breeding sites for sustainable fishing activities.</p>

	<p>The above brings the total number of MSMEs reached in this quarter to 1,064 which is 106% of the 1,000-target set for the quarter and a cumulative of 5,192 which exceeds the 4,500-target set for the year. Also, the total value of loans facilitated came to a total of N1,754,531,443.26 for the quarter and a cumulative of N3,981,508,483.26 for the year. 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> <p>Improving access to market for MSMEs.</p> <p>PIND, in collaboration with CAD consulting limited provided technical support to and facilitated the launching of DGIT supermarket as one of the stakeholders in the Access to Market linkages ecosystem. Sixty-nine (69) MSMEs were identified and linked to DGIT supermarket with the delivery of different products worth over eighty million naira (N80m). Other support provided to DGIT includes hiring, training of staff, and mentorship. The launching also provided an avenue for linking more MSMEs to the platform, creating awareness of products to be sourced locally from MSMEs and also the required specifications for production and packaging to meet the market opportunity.</p>
<p>YEP</p>	<p>Abia State Governors visit to Innovation Growth Hub (IG Hub) YEP Partner</p> <p>IG Hub is an implementing partner under the ICT sector with a target to train 100 youth participants in Full Stack Web Development; Product Design; Digital Marketing; Data Science; Embedded System; and Basic Entrepreneurship Development Course witnessed a visit by the state governor on a facility tour. The YEP team and the governor interacted with trainees in each class. The governor commended the efforts of PIND Foundation in their support to the skills development of youths in the state and most importantly, in the support given on the development of the state’s long-term plan. He also promised that the state will support the youth skills training program with the donation of the newly built library at Umuahia and some support funding early next year 2023.</p>
<p>Capacity Building</p>	<p>Intensifying Capacity Strengthening Support to the RDCs</p> <p>Chevron established the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) in their five host communities of Egbema Gbaramatu, Keffes, Dodo River, Ilaje, and Itsekiri to coordinate and implement community development projects on behalf of their respective communities as part of its Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMOU) with its host communities. As part of its Capacity Building program, over time, PIND provided a range of support to these RDCs to strengthen their organizational effectiveness and capacity to deliver results. A key component of this support was the conduct of an Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) in 2018 to identify areas of capacity strengthening for each RDC. Over the years, PIND, PPCD, and the RDCs themselves, carried out several capacity development activities to address the identified areas of improvement and in 2022, PIND mentored and handheld the Itsekiri RDC and the Egbema Gbaramatu Communities Development Foundation (EGCDF) to produce two videos and photography of their community interventions as a sequel to the classroom training conducted in 2021 for the five RDCs.</p> <p>In the wake of the passage of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) in 2021, and the transition to the Host Community Development Trust (HCDDT) regime as provided for in the Act, PIND thought it needful to conduct a follow-on OCA to evaluate the progress and performance of each RDC in establishing good organizational systems, practices and processes. This assessment which commenced in Q3 2022 was completed this quarter. The OCA rating index is graded on four levels: Nascent (1 - 1.9), Emerging (2 - 2.9), Growing (3 – 3.5) and Mature (3.6 – 4). findings from the assessment show that the RDCs made quite a commendable effort to improve on their internal systems and processes. From an average overall rating of 2.2 (which is Emerging), the RDCs’ average overall score moved to 3.36, i.e. Growing. The Itsekiri and Ilaje RDCs moved two levels from ‘Nascent’ to ‘Growing’ while Egbema Gbaramatu was able to attain the highest level – ‘Mature’.</p> <p>According to the 2022 OCA report, “the general increase in organizational performance was due to the fact that all the recommendations made [in 2018] were implemented to a very large extent. In particular, all the RDCs have new leadership as well as increased access to the constitution, RDC manuals and other governance documents by the RDC members and executive, increased accountability in terms of conduct of external audit and holding of the annual general meetings and having various policies and guidelines such as: human resource policy and procedures (except Ilaje RDC), gender policy and peace-building guidelines. Some of the RDCs like Egbema-Gbaramatu and Dodo River have been able to diversify their funding sources by having projects supported by other donors while most of them have raised/diversified internally generated income through rents/leases of part of their buildings and charging of bidding fees and/or pre-qualification of contractors through registration”.</p> <p>The report also outlined important learning from the use of the RDCs to drive host community development that should be considered as the new HCDDT structure is being established. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Good organizational systems, policies and procedures should be established from the onset to ensure the organization is equipped to function effectively. ○ The choice of staffing and the level of investment in their capacity building should co-relate to ensure that the organization is well-manned to deliver the right results. ○ Capacity building efforts should be balanced between tenured positions and permanent positions to reduce attrition of skills and knowledge when the tenured positions elapse. ○ Permanent staff should provide secretarial support to the committees to guard against institutional memory loss when new executives are appointed. <p>The Report was shared with PPCD and the RDCs for their comments and will be shared with the PGPA in the first quarter of 2023 as they prepare to set-up the HCDDTs. In the coming quarter PIND will also continue its engagement with CNL PGPA team to establish areas of collaboration to provide Capacity Building support towards the effective set up and take off of the new HCDDTs.</p> <p>Increasing Support to CAPABLE organizations to attract funding</p> <p>Over the years, PINDs CAPABLE M4P program has succeeded in reaching a good number of M4P professionals, market actors and members of the NGO community in the region with information on market systems development thereby creating greater awareness</p>

and appreciation of the approach in the region, In addition, PIND is invested in developing the capacity of select number of NGOs (referred to as CAPABLE Organizations) operating in the region to adopt the facilitation approach rather than direct delivery in implementing their development activities. To encourage the uptake of the approach, in 2021 we went further to enhance their capacity to mobilize funds for projects that they can implement using the M4P approach. In quarter 3, PIND retrained these CAPABLE Organizations on resource mobilization with an added layer of mentoring to enhance their capacity to use the knowledge garnered from the training.

A key output of the mentoring is the development and submission of high-quality proposals per organization to other funders. Nine CAPABLE Organizations participated in the mentoring and all were supported to develop proposals to different funders both locally and internationally. One of the organizations, MacJim Foundation was successful in its submission to the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP) and is one of three winners that received USD1000 for its proposal titled 'Reducing Debris in Akassa Marine Environment Through Social Behavioral Change'. Others are awaiting responses to their proposals.

The mentoring support spanned a period of eight weeks during which each organization went through at least four individual virtual sessions to practice the knowledge from the training and address other structural and governance issues that affect their resource mobilization efforts e.g. lack of standard tools to periodically harness the internal information they need to respond to Requests for Proposals (RFPs). The feedback from the organizations indicates that they found the engagement very useful. Some of the comments from the participants include:

"The session was extremely useful as the mentors helped us identify our weaknesses on resource mobilization strategy, organizational policy development and proposal development and steps we need to take to turn these weaknesses to opportunities. The mentors are very good listeners and meticulous in providing solutions to issues affecting our organization. Mac-Jim foundation is hoping to learn more and benefit more from them as the mentorship continues". - Mac-Jim Foundation

"On behalf of I and my team, I want to appreciate the initiators of this mentorship. So far we have been able to obtain more policies to the existing ones we had. Strategic Plan Policy was not part of our policies in the organization. It was through our assigned mentors that we got format of the strategic plan policy. I am now filling it up. This is a breakthrough for us". - BEFCAD

"The session has also spurred us to have an annual budget that will guide our operations with or without donor funding and we are currently working on this... We have also taken action to maintain our website visibility The recommendation of the mentors to incorporate catchy stories and videos of our work into the website upgrade has also been taken into cognizance. – CLICE

Increasing Support to Business Membership Organizations

PIND continues to pay attention to strengthening the capacity of Business Member Organisations (BMOs) and trade groups that operate in the region within our focal agricultural value chain sectors. As key channels through which smallholder farmers can more easily access quality services and input, it is important that they can play their role effectively, and to achieve this, in the course of Quarter 3 PIND identified five BMOs to potentially support with organisational strengthening. These are two coastal community BMOs - Opuama Business Builders Multipurpose Cooperative (MSME) Ugborodo Fisheries and Foodstuffs Suppliers Association (Aquaculture) and the Delta State Chapter of the National Palm Produce Association of Nigeria, the Women Agro Link Cooperative in Akwa Ibom State and AA Multipurpose Cooperative Society Limited in Cross River State.

Members of their leadership were trained on business development, group dynamics and leadership, and financial management in Q3 and an OCA was conducted at their various locations to identify the possible areas of organizational improvement which will be the basis for further capacity strengthening support from PIND. This will ensure that any intervention is rightly targeted and appropriate to their needs.

In Q4, the analysis of the OCA was completed and the findings show that all but one of the BMOs (Opuama Business Builders Multipurpose cooperative) is at the Emerging phase meaning that they in the process of developing some organizational capacities with partially functioning structures for governance, management practices, human resources and service delivery. The Opuama BMO is still at the Nascent phase with rudimentary or non-existent structures. The findings of the OCA were shared with the BMOs during the process so they can commence improvement activities internally.

Organizations accessing funds and grants:

In this last quarter, two organisations supported by PIND with capacity building successfully accessed a total of N69.3M from international donors through competitive bids. This is against the Q3 target of N3M and it brings the total value of funds accessed in 2022 to N195.1M surpassing the annual target of N26M. The organisations are CARA Development Foundation and MacJim Foundation that are based in Imo and Bayelsa States respectively. CARA is one of the co-facilitators working with PIND to drive market system changes in the cassava sector and it received N63.9M from the USAID SCALE project in Nigeria to carry out advocacy in three states – Imo, Abia and Ebonyi - to increase the state budgetary allocation for agriculture to 5%. The project is to be completed in 12 months from November 2022 – October 2023. MacJim Foundation is also a co-facilitator working in the Palm Oil sector with vast experience in addressing environmental degradation in the region. It is one of the three winners of the Global Environmental Education Partnership (GEEP) Youth Innovation Challenge 2022 (<https://thegeep.org/youth-innovation-challenge-2022-winners>) that each received USD1000 (N443,399) to address pressing environmental issues affecting the marine ecosystems through environmental education.

ANNEX 2

Peace Building

Activity	Details of Key Achievements
Establishment of Peace Clubs in Secondary Schools	Within the period, the P4P escalated the peace club creation and strengthening projects in each of the states. A total of 4,190 students and teachers' capacities were enhanced in 25 different peace clubs in the region. The broad objective for the establishment of peace clubs in schools as conceptualized by P4P is need based, rooted on importance of peace education principle of "catching them young". It centers on changing attitudes and behavior by teaching skills that equip youths with the ability to use non-violent approaches when dealing with conflict. The P4P witnessed expanded buy-in by schools and government official on the establishment of peace clubs. P4P Coordinators who led the interventions in their respective states observed that increased buy-in is due to increased impact of peace clubs in various schools that have assisted in reducing violence in schools among students especially those associated with cultism.
Establishment and Strengthening of Subchapters	In order to increase grassroots interventions and greater impacts of P4P interventions, the subchapter strengthening and creation program of Q3 was escalated in all the nine states. A total of 37 subchapters in eight states were strengthened with 895 peace actors' capacities enhanced in various peacebuilding concepts, resource mobilization, monitoring and evaluation, NGO financing and project management. The overall goal is to deepen P4P penetration in numerous communities in the Niger Delta thereby enhancing capacities of citizens on what constitute conflicts, peace, volunteerism, early warning and early reporting (EWER). Based on Peacebuilding's adherence to the PIND's Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) policy, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and other vulnerable groups such as ex-militants were intentionally catered for. Modules delivered includes, Peace and Community Development, Volunteerism, understanding conflicts, Dialogue, Conflict management, and conflict sensitivity, resource mobilization, proposal writing, monitoring and evaluation, budgeting, and citizens participation in elections.
Herders/ Farmers Conflict Mitigation	<p>During the period, the IPDU through its small-scale pilot project consulted four NGOs (Green Concern for Development (GREENCODE); Center for Peace and Environmental Justice (CEPEJ); Melville Women Initiative (MWI); and One Love Community Development and Promotion of Peace Initiative (OLCDPPI) to implement four interventions to reduce the increasing levels of violence caused by the lingering herder-farmer conflicts in various states in the region. According to data, the herder-farmer conflict in the Niger Delta is mainly driven by a variety of interrelated and often overlapping historical tensions and grievances, and a number of demographics, environmental, economic, and political factors. The broad objectives of the project were to identify and understand the dynamics and design appropriate interventions to address the causes and drivers of the herder-farmer conflicts in the Niger Delta, particularly in Edo, Delta, Ondo and Cross River states.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the project include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To research and identify the underlying causes and drivers of the herder-farmer conflict in specific communities in the target States. To utilize evidence-based information generated from research to design and implement conflict mitigation and peacebuilding interventions to proactively address the deeper drivers of the conflict in target communities and LGAs. To identify systems, structures, and leverage institutions in the target communities and LGAs to engender sustainable peacebuilding, social cohesion and economic cooperation. To strengthen existing community-based structures and create new platforms to support dialogue between herders and farmers in the target States.

ANNEX 3

Enabling Programs

Program Area	Details of Key Achievements
Advocacy	<p>Access to Arable Land Intervention</p> <p><u>Delta State</u></p> <p>In Q3, PIND through the Advocacy unit organized two advocacy engagements and one Arable land Committee Meeting. These meetings were held in collaboration with the State's Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources (MANR), The Office of the Chief Economic Advisor, and The Office of the Chief Job and Wealth Creation Officer of the State. One key outcome of these meetings is the proposed partnership with the Delta State Commercial Oil Palm Plantation Growers Cooperative Society (DELCO COOP). The DELCO COOP is the platform through which Delta State is participating in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Oil Palm Development Initiative. It is an N120 billion project with N25 billion counterpart funding from the State to boost oil production in the country. There are currently 41 companies, and 1,941 smallholder oil palm farmers involved in the initiatives.</p> <p>So far, the management of DELCO COOP has engaged 28 communities. The Association adopted a partnership for land usage approach involving the donation of land by the communities, cultivation of the land, and investors to give 22% of the net profit to</p>

the communities. So far, the Association has collaborated with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Land, Ministry of Environment, and Ministry of Justice to develop some formal agreements for the project. All ministries involved have developed a Land Order to enable the legal use of the land for a period of 20 to 30 years lease agreement for the cultivation of oil palm. This model has been adopted by the Delta State Arable Land Review Committee. Activities of this committee are being funded and coordinated by PIND. In Q4, as a result of increased engagements with the State's arable land committee, Delta State has made available over 10,000 hectares of arable for external investors for the cultivation of high-quality cassava stems, and additional 10,000 hectares for oil palm production.

Edo State

The Edo State government, in collaboration with PIND, organized the Edo State Access to Arable Land Workshop in Q3, at the New Festival Hall, Government House, Benin, Edo State. The event served as a forum for key stakeholders in the agriculture sector to deliberate on how farmers in the State can gain access to arable land. This forum provided the platform for the official validation of the committee's draft report. In Q4, and collaboration with PIND, the report was translated into a draft policy document to be presented for legislative approval in January 2023. As a result of these developments, the government has undertaken several activities to encourage food production and agricultural sustainability in the State." Some of the activities include; Providing the needed support to agro-investors in the State: 65,000 hectares to eight oil palm investors in the State, investing in crop production, entering partnerships for livestock production, and constructing an agriculture hub.

COP 17 Youth Leadership Workshop

On November 1, 2022, the COP 27 Youth Leadership Workshop was organized by the Network of Youths for Sustainable Initiative (NG Youth SDGs) through support received from the Advocacy unit of PIND. The Nigeria Youth SDGs Initiative is a youth-led and youth-serving CSO, advocating for meaningful engagement of young Nigerians in the localizing of sustainable development goals. The workshop offered the participants a platform to lend their voices to global development, especially goal 13- Climate Action.



Participants during the COP 27 Youth Leadership Workshop through support received from PIND

The workshop was imperative following the recent nationwide flooding that garnered both local and international concerns and also as a prelude to the global climate gathering held in Egypt in November 2022. The gathering was aimed at intimating youths about global climate change and served as a call to action through a knowledge-based approach for best practices in the management of the ecosystem. Presentations were made by two climate change activists and participants were exposed to the impact of global warming and the consequences for future generations. It also spurred some of the participants to develop action plans in a bid to mitigate the consequences. Some pathways to mitigating the plague were planting trees for carbon sequestration, recycling materials and simple environmental management techniques.

The workshop was attended by forty-three (43) participants, 23 females and 20 males and also had representatives from the Rivers State Ministry of Environment (Climate Change Desk Officer) who addressed the participants and expressed the willingness of the state to support youth-led environmental protection/ management initiatives.

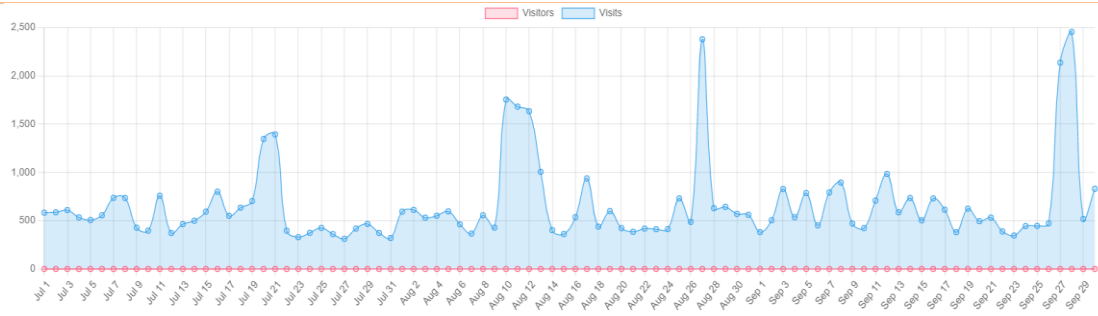
The event witnessed robust discussions from the youth, with the establishment of a WhatsApp forum for the continuous sharing of information and developments around climate and environmental management.

NDLink

PIND through the Advocacy unit continued to position NDLink for sustainability by pitching the platform's offerings to development partners and organizations.

By Q4 2022, NDLink had achieved 16,293,887 total visits to the platform from visitors all over the world predominantly from Nigeria, the US, and the UK. The platform has also continued to project the positive stories from the Niger Delta which help to counter the 'negative-only' narrative popular about the region online which in many ways causes divestment as opposed to encouraging investment in the Niger Delta.

Over the same period, NDLink has now achieved the target for several downloads by over 300% with 6,906 downloads recorded as against the annual target of 2,200. The level of awareness of development activities in the Niger Delta has also continued to steadily rise; 6,267 visits have been recorded to the organization page surpassing the target of 6,000, and 176 comments have been made on issues raised by PIND on NDLink as against a target of 200 for the year.



The quarterly trend of visits and visitors to the NDLINK platform gotten from the website Statistics page

GESI

16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence Activities

A. Clean Technology Incubation and Acceleration Foundation (Akwa Ibom)

This organization through PIND support and other state partners and volunteers, conducted series of activities in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State targeting women (35 – 80 years), youth (18 – 35 years), and children (8 – 17 years; both boys and girls) living in Uyo. These activities include two-day capacity building workshop titled “Empowering Women and Vulnerable Groups in Uniting to End Violence Against Women and Girls”; school sensitization program for students titled “Sexual and Gender-based Violence, Abuse and Consent” and a radio talk show focused on creating awareness on the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence and the VAPP law with the objectives of increasing awareness of the public on the prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls; protecting the victims of GBV; bringing about the social and psychological reintegration of survivors and identifying social and community factors driving such violence. The objectives were achieved through the deployment of as a tool for behavioral change and eradication of such perpetrators. Other interventions include motivating victims of violence to attend counseling sessions, and training community women on gender-based violence.

The capacity building workshop had a total of 207 persons including 200 females, the school sensitization activity had 200 children (140 girls) in attendance while the radio program (Comfort FM Uyo) had a social media following of 6,476 on Instagram, 5,000 members on Facebook, 555 on Twitter and transmitted across the 31 LGAs in Akwa Ibom State reaching an estimated population of up to 4 million (Akwa Ibom Online Directory).



Activities in Akwa Ibom State

A. South-South Professional Women Association (Delta)

This organization carried out public awareness creation activities through jingles, walk against family violence broadcast on radio and television media; engaged in 10 school outreaches/awareness; conducted training/capacity building activity program and advocacy visits to PWDs organizations, faith-based organizations, community leaders, union leaders, opinion leaders and Delta State College of Education to sensitize them on GBV and discussed discreet complaint mechanisms that protect identity of victims.

The Association stimulated public conversations by leading radio discussion program under the slogan, “UNITE: Activism to End Violence against Women & Girls.” It rolled out a digital campaign using social media handles on the need to end femicide in the Niger Delta, and galvanized the media, opinion makers, women, girls, men, boys, PWDs, community-based organizations, faith-based organizations etc. on the need to take action. A total of 837 persons were reached including 537 female and 31 PWDs.



C. Women Empowerment, Education and Peace Building Initiative (Imo State) Activities in Delta State



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