



**2023**  
ANNUAL REPORT



**Advancing Frontiers for Greater Impact**



# RECEPTION



**PINO**  
FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA

**NIGER DELTA  
PEACE  
CHAMPIONS**

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## ABOUT PIND

The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a non-profit organization that promotes peace and equitable economic growth in the Niger Delta region through strategic partnerships and collaborations. Our United States counterpart, the Niger Delta Partnerships Initiative, is based in Washington, DC.

Since 2010, with our partners, we have been contributing to strengthening and stabilizing the region by



Reducing conflict and fostering peace & stability



Reducing poverty



Empowering local civil society organizations



Supporting gender equality and social inclusion for women, youth, and people with disabilities



Influencing governments policies, programs & practices that significantly benefit the poor and marginalized



Facilitating alternative clean energy solutions for remote coastal communities that are off the national grid



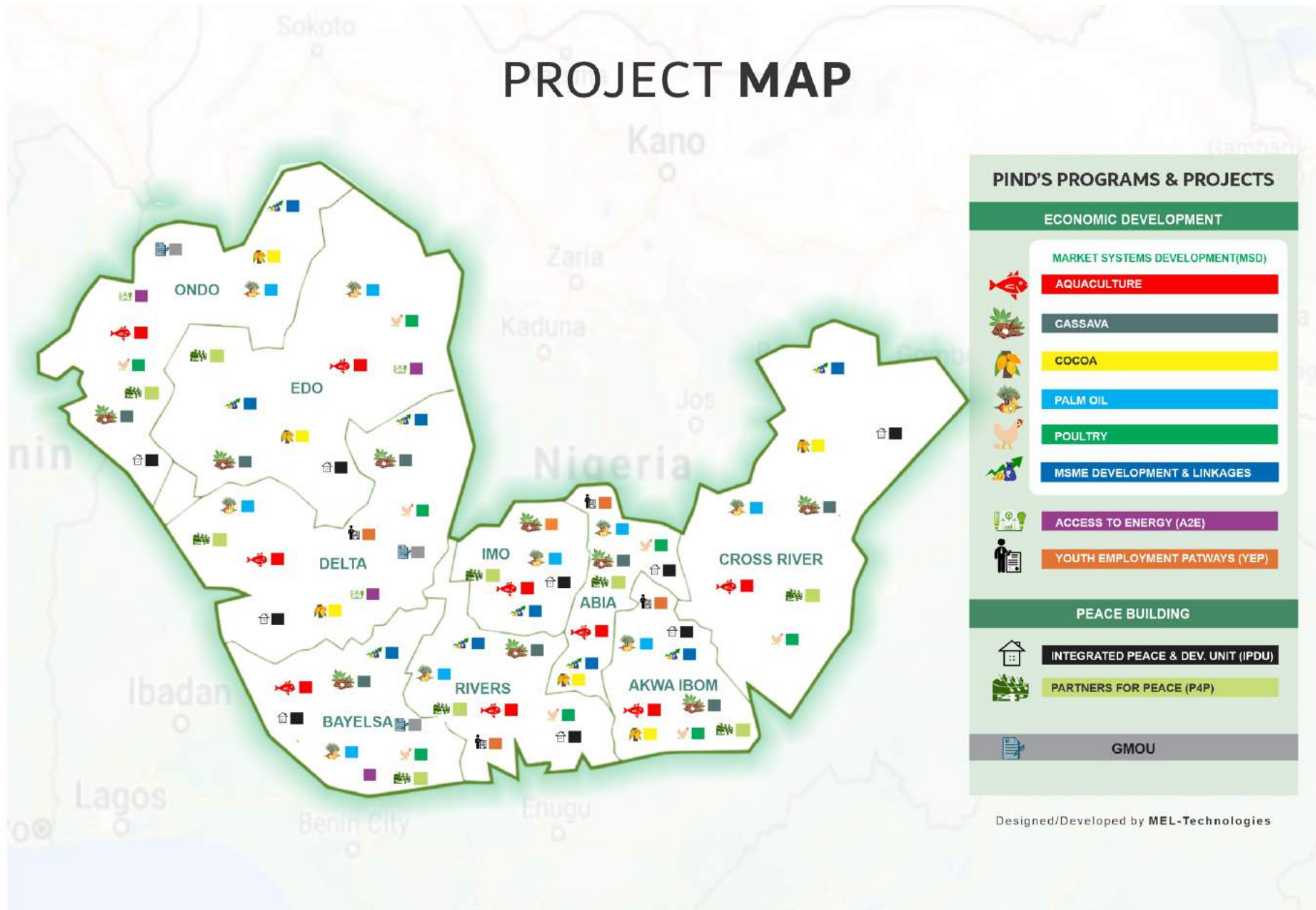
Enabling youth employment

Our vision is to foster a strong legacy of sustainable peace and development among communities in the Niger Delta. Hence, we implement collaborative market-based, community-owned programs to mitigate conflicts and boost economic opportunities for local businesses, ensuring that economic progress occurs in a systemic, inclusive, and sustainable manner.

Our projects span all nine Niger Delta states: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo, and Rivers, focusing on the underserved and hard-to-reach coastal communities of the region.



# OUR PROGRAM FOOTPRINTS





# Chairperson & Executive Director's Annual Message



*Dear Friends and Partners*

2023 saw us exceeding expectations and achieving several milestones as we consolidated our previous work and successes while exploring new opportunities. Despite the removal of fuel subsidy with its attendant increase in the price of goods and services, rising inflation and foreign exchange rate fluctuations which affected purchasing power, and the continued emigration of Nigeria's skilled workforce (the "Japa" syndrome), together with our partners, we continued to find creative, people-centered ways to carry out our mission to facilitate peace and equitable economic growth in the Niger Delta.

We deepened our involvement in implementing the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) community engagement component through the Ford Foundation-funded The Bridges Project. We facilitated awareness creation and capacity-building workshops for stakeholders, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, to enhance their knowledge of the PIA provisions and build capacity to implement the Act effectively. The Bridges Project also inaugurated a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) whose mandate is to help the Host Community Development Trusts operate successfully.

Through strategic collaborations with the government, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders, we reinforced existing peacebuilding structures such as the Prevent Committees, Prevent Councils, Peace Champions, the conflict Early Warning-Early Response (EWER) system, and the Peace Map. To further promote a culture of peace by fostering changed attitudes and behaviors among young Niger Deltans, we

facilitated the establishment of Peace Clubs in secondary schools and universities.

We continued to facilitate vocational and soft skills training through our Youth Employment Pathways project, and we held another round of a Business Fund Challenge to support the transition into entrepreneurship for interested youth beneficiaries. Sixty-six successful contestants received grants totaling NGN 42 million to establish their businesses. A significant activity this year was implementing the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-led Health Electrification and Telecommunication Alliance (HETA) project. Using our proven Access to Energy model of providing reliable, affordable solar power to last-mile communities while contributing our financial and technical resources and leveraging a grant of over \$200,000 from the Alliance, we partnered with several private sector players to enable renewable energy access to 12 healthcare facilities across the Niger Delta.

Through our Markets Systems Development project, we continued to support smallholder farmers and enterprises, leveraging N13.79 billion in investments from the public and private sectors to help farmers and small business owners adopt new practices and innovations. Our activities helped create over 14,600 jobs in the agro-allied and renewable energy sectors through commercially incentivized service providers. In exploring new frontiers in 2023, we commenced work towards adopting impact investment as a non-traditional, alternative way of funding our program activities and forged alliances with experts and leaders. We also initiated and completed a brand audit of PIND as we look towards launching a new brand strategy that strongly emphasizes our progress to date and positions us for greater business

## Collaboration

*Through strategic collaborations with the government, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders, we reinforced existing peacebuilding structures*

## Energy Access

*We partnered with several private sector players to enable renewable energy access to 12 healthcare facilities across the Niger Delta.*



## ▶▶ Chairperson & Executive Director's Annual Message

development, especially around impact investments.

2024 is the final year of this third strategic phase, and in anticipation of that, we carried out an impact evaluation of PIND's work from 2016 to demonstrate the value of our work and learn lessons to help us improve. We will build on this evaluation in 2024, as we plan towards the next strategic phase, by conducting a Participatory Strategic Review of our work to help inform our next direction. We will also apply for a new grant from our primary donor, Chevron, for our work over the next five-year strategic phase.

Also in 2024, we expect to launch the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategic Framework in partnership with the Ministry of Niger Delta Development and collaborating with other peacebuilding stakeholders on a European Union-funded project tagged "A Community-Centered Approach to Transforming Criminality and Violence in the Niger Delta." We will continue to expand the HETA project, linking more healthcare facilities, businesses, and households with access to electricity. We will also work to expand our YEP project (which currently runs in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Delta, and Rivers States) into more Niger Delta States, starting with Ondo. 2024 will also see the creation of a special-purpose vehicle to advance our impact investment goals. As this strategic phase ends, we do not plan to relent or relax.

Instead, we will finish well and strong as we continue to advance new frontiers and raise the bar for greater impact in the Niger Delta. This annual report presents our operational and programmatic innovations and solutions in 2023, the results they generated, and how our work supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs) 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, and 16. We thank you for constantly supporting our mission to build partnerships for peace and equitable economic development in the Niger Delta region. Together, we can do even much more.

*Thank you*



**Rick Kennedy**

Chairman, Board of Trustees, PIND.



**Tunji Idowu**

Executive Director/Trustee, PIND.

 **14,600**

*"We facilitated the creation of over 14,600 jobs in the agro-allied and renewable energy sectors through commercially-incentivized service providers"*

 **Finishing strong**

*As this strategic phase ends, we do not plan to relent or relax. Instead, we will finish well and strong as we continue to advance new frontiers and raise the bar for greater impact in the Niger Delta*



# 2023 Results

## Reducing Poverty

**65,443**

Farmers & micro, small and medium enterprises

**46% women**

reached on best practices

**37,084**

farmers & micro, small and medium enterprises

**46% women**

enabled with improved knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) that increased productivity

**N13.79 billion**

*(\$31.1 million)*

in investments by economic development actors

**N21.15 billion**

*(\$47 million)*

in additional income earned by farmers & MSMEs

**14,683**

new full-time jobs

**(39% women)**

created in PIND-supported sectors

## Reducing Conflict, Fostering Peace & Stability

**1,248**

Peace Actors

**36% women**

mitigated local conflicts using gained skills

**215**

new peace actors

**(43% women)**

empowered with peacebuilding and conflict management skills

**108**

quality actions taken by PIND-supported peace actors to mitigate conflict in their communities

**2,449**

people utilized PIND's peace data and analysis products to guide various peacebuilding-related actions

**N168 million**

was raised by local organizations through PIND's capacity-building support for community responsiveness services

## Facilitating Alternative Energy Solutions Coastal Communities

**N1.68 billion**

accrued in savings by community users of PIND-facilitated renewable energy solutions

**N1.11 billion**

in investments (by the public and private sectors) leveraged by PIND in energy solutions

**2,856**

businesses and households gained access to electricity for the first time

**N2.74 billion**

in government spending influenced

**N1.06 billion**

in donor and private sector spending influenced

## Evaluation of PIND's Interventions in the Niger Delta:

*In 2023, PIND carried out an Impact Evaluation of all its activities and interventions in the Niger Delta since 2016. The research carried out by Dalberg, a global consulting firm, is summarized below.*

PIND has been instrumental in driving economic development and peacebuilding programs by catalyzing private sector engagement, empowering coastal communities through renewable energy, enhancing security, fostering collaboration among relevant stakeholders, and stimulating behavioral change within the region. PIND's multifaceted approach has directly impacted over 1 million people and has influenced systemic change in the region.

### Evaluation Context and Programs Reviewed

PIND has operated through two key program pillars: economic development and peacebuilding. Under these pillars, several projects have been implemented, including Market Systems Development (MSD), Access to Energy (A2E), and Youth Employment Pathway (YEP) for economic development and the Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) and Partners for Peace (P4P) Network for peacebuilding.

PIND's key initiatives include serving as a convener for development actors, facilitating investments, fostering collaboration, and leading implementation efforts. Through these innovative approaches, PIND has facilitated the provision of electricity to off-grid coastal communities. These interventions contribute to an enabling environment for business, lifting people out of poverty and obscurity and ultimately making the region more attractive for investments. Additionally, their grassroots-centered peacebuilding network has enhanced security, trust, and cohesion while building the capacity of local entities to address conflicts adequately. Furthermore, PIND has empowered the local private sector, introducing adaptable, replicable models and linkages to drive

economic development in the region. They have also promoted behavioral change by instilling entrepreneurial mindsets among youth and empowering women in value chain segments. PIND's advocacy efforts aim to influence policies that support economic prosperity and peaceful living in the Niger Delta.

The effectiveness of PIND's programs is evident in their reach and impact. Its economic interventions have benefited over a million people, while peacebuilding efforts have engaged over 11,000 peace agents in grassroots networks.

### Findings

PIND's interventions have addressed critical challenges in the region, particularly unemployment, limited access to energy (electricity), and conflict. These interventions have had a transformative impact, notably facilitating 86,713 new jobs and mitigating 1,469 conflicts within the region.

PIND has achieved sustainability at system, institutional, and beneficiary levels. At the system level, PIND has influenced the adoption of Market Systems Development (MSD) approaches and established peace networks. At the institutional level, capacity-building initiatives and innovations have been introduced. Beneficiary-level sustainability varies across programs, with A2E and MSD programs exhibiting higher sustainability due to economic multiplier effects.

## Challenges

*Despite these successes, challenges still need to be addressed, including limited post-training support for beneficiaries, mismatched demand and supply of energy products, and coordination issues with law enforcement. However, PIND's interventions remain relevant due to extensive research and understanding of community needs.*

## Recommendations

- *Strengthen linkages between economic and peacebuilding pillars.*
- *Adopt a cluster approach for A2E.*
- *Revise financial support offerings.*
- *Expand support services like Sombreiro Kapital (SK) and developing blended finance mechanisms can enhance program effectiveness and reach.*
- *Enhance communication channels, primarily through social media.*
- *Explore blended finance instruments to reach more beneficiaries.*

## Conclusion

*Overall, PIND's comprehensive approach to economic development and peacebuilding has made significant strides in addressing the complex challenges facing the Niger Delta, laying the foundation for sustainable growth and prosperity in the region. By implementing the recommended strategies, PIND can further amplify its impact and ensure sustainable progress in the region.*



## PEACEBUILDING

*Reducing Conflict, Fostering Peace and Stability*

PIND's Peacebuilding program focuses on establishing sustainable peace in the Niger Delta through strategic partnerships and collaborations with government, security agents, and non-governmental organizations, local and international, that share similar goals and interests. By working with and supporting indigenous peace actors, we aim to create an enabling environment for economic development to thrive. We use early warning systems, research, and data analysis to respond proactively to potential conflicts.

PIND carries out its conflict prevention, conflict management, and peacebuilding interventions through two interrelated projects: the Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) and the Partners for Peace (P4P) Network. The IPDU conducts research and training, implementing pilot projects to address conflicts effectively and develop early warning and response systems. P4P is a network of over 11,000 peace actors who carry out conflict resolution interventions in their communities and provide crucial intel to the PIND Peace Maps and Early Warning-Early Response (EWER) System. The Network has chapters in all nine states and 119 LGAs of the Niger Delta.

This year, like in others, we continued to enhance the capacities of the peace actors in conflict mitigation through training and workshops. Through strategic collaborations with the government, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders, we reinforced existing structures such as the Prevent Committees, Prevent Councils, Peace Champions, the conflict Early Warning-Early Response (EWER) system, and the Peace Map. We continued to support the Warri Multi Stakeholders Platform (MSP). In partnership with the MSP,

PIND facilitated a capacity-building session for members of the Association of Coastal and Waterways Communities (ACWC) of Nigeria, Delta State chapter on peacebuilding and conflict mitigation.

We furthered our collaboration with the Ministry of Niger Delta Development on the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy, which led to the formulation of a strategy document to address and resolve conflict issues within the region.

A significant intervention in 2023 was the Election Violence Prevention & Mitigation (e-VIP) Project executed towards Nigeria's general elections, which influenced the signing of a peace pact by five governorship candidates in Akwa Ibom State and mitigating incidents across Rivers and Delta States. We also established Peace Clubs in secondary schools and universities across the region to foster changed attitudes and behaviors and promote peace through education.

Our Peacebuilding Program aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 for peace, justice, and strong institutions.

**2,499**

stakeholders utilized PIND's peacebuilding data and analysis

**1,284**

peace actors took 108 quality actions to resolve conflicts in their communities

**215**

new peace actors empowered with conflict management and peacebuilding skills





## With P4P's guidance, we can surmount any obstacle

*Witnessing the youth-driven communal clashes in the Swali and Ovom communities, I recognized the threat posed to societal harmony. Joining PIND's Partner for Peace (P4P) Network in 2013, I sought solutions for the region's challenges. Equipped by P4P, I intervened during a cult clash, cautioning against violence and promoting mutual respect. In January 2023, amid a boundary dispute, I facilitated dialogue between factions, leading to reconciliation. P4P's training enhanced my peacebuilding skills, ensuring our community's stability. With P4P's guidance, I'm confident we can surmount any obstacle, contributing to our nation's peace and progress.*



### Chief Kikile Nesini

*Frm. Prevent Team Chairman, Partners For Peace, Bayelsa State*

## PIND's peace programs have touched lives, leading to peace and progress

*Conflict arose between WE Construction Company and Ayadehe Community's youth amid recurring youth uprisings over royalties. Dissent led to road blockades, prompting swift site evacuation to prioritize safety. Determined to address the issue, we disciplined perpetrators and urged construction resumption. I formed a mediation committee and convened both parties at my palace on February 21, 2023. Through heartfelt appeals, we facilitated dialogue, resolving the conflict and enabling construction to resume. PIND's training sessions on conflict mitigation shaped me into a capable peace actor, for which I'm grateful. PIND's efforts in sensitizing communities and fostering peace in the Niger Delta have made a significant impact, contributing to our nation's pursuit of peace and progress. Their programs have touched lives directly and indirectly, leaving an indelible mark*



### Chief Francis Williams

*Traditional Ruler / Village Head, Ikot Akpabio-Ayadehe Clan, Itu L.G.A, Akwa Ibom State*

## Bridging divides through peacebuilding endeavors

*In 2022, I joined Partners for Peace (P4P), backed by PIND, to promote peace in the Niger Delta. It highlighted peace's importance in fostering a prosperous economy. Equipped with conflict resolution skills from PIND's program, I resolved a dispute in Ose LGA, Ondo State. A farmer accused herders of encroaching, but investigation revealed it was a neighboring farmer. I mediated the conflict by using PIND's training and a community leader's support. I confidently established harmony between the farmer and herder, showcasing the effectiveness of peacebuilding initiatives.*



### Nafiu Kazeem

*Conflict Mediator, Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta, Ondo State*

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Reducing Poverty

### Market Systems Development

In 2023, 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 farmers' access to quality seeds, introduce new efficient technologies while expanding the demonstration and adoption of existing ones, and support more enterprises to address market and funding opportunities.

To expand and strengthen the capacity of its business service providers (BSPs) to support MSMEs in the Niger Delta, in collaboration with the Enterprise Development Center (EDC) of the Pan Atlantic University, PIND put the BSPs through

certification training. Out of over 300 Service Providers reached through direct training and crowding-in, over 137 provided support services to farmers/MSMEs in the cassava, cocoa, palm oil, and poultry sectors. PIND's BSP model also experienced a paradigm shift; for the first time, farmers/MSMEs paid for this training and support.

**NGN13.79 billion**

amount invested by public and private sector market actors

**37,084**

number of farmers who increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of

**NGN 21.15 billion**

**14,643**

new jobs created

**65,443**

number of farmers reached with information on best practices, improved technology and quality inputs



## Cassava

In previous assessments of the cassava sector, PIND learned that a lack of farmers' access to improved seeds were impeding the sector's growth in the Niger Delta. To help improve the situation, we devised a strategy to support cassava stem entrepreneurs (CSEs) with inputs for cultivating at least one hectare of land using improved stems and facilitate the certification of their multiplication plot by the National Seed Council (NASC).

Partnering with Umudike Seeds (a private company established by the National Root Crop Research Institute (NRCRI), we implemented the strategy in Delta, Abia, and Akwa Ibom states. The intervention involved training CSEs, who then stepped down the knowledge gained on good agricultural practices to improve productivity.

PIND also focused on linking farmers to large cassava processors. In the first quarter of 2023, we facilitated a partnership between Dufil Prima Foods and Ukwuoma Ndi Igbo Multipurpose Cooperative Society, a farmers group in Abia State. We also supported the farmer group in accessing a loan facility through

**N 4.51 billion**

amount invested by market actors in the value chain

**28,560**

number of farmers reached with information on best practices, improved technologies and quality inputs

**3,200**

new jobs created

**15,145**

farmers increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of

**N 6.56 billion**



**I was empowered to train over 1,000 farmers ~Emmanuel Ekpo**

*Farm Service Provider/ Agro Dealer  
Akwa Ibom*

*Before connecting with PIND, I worked as a farm manager, witnessing farmers' challenges firsthand. A lack of access to quality inputs like fertilizers and improved stems hindered productivity and limited yield for the farmers. In 2023, I received training facilitated by PIND on optimal fertilizer usage, improved stems and planting methods, effective use of a knapsack sprayer, and other good agricultural practices.*

*I was empowered to train over 1,000 farmers across Akwa Ibom State. After every session, they are always happy, expressing great surprise and joy at their new knowledge. They have adopted the improved practices and inputs from the training and apply them to their farms. They now know the correct application of fertilizers and herbicides and the proper planting of cassava stems, which has increased yield.*

*I hope that through PIND's support, farmers continue to have access to quality inputs, and I can extend the reach of my training to more farmers in hard-to-reach areas*



## Cocoa

The Nigerian cocoa industry faces challenges producing high-quality cocoa beans due to poor farming practices during production and post-harvest stages. PIND implemented an incentive-based intervention in collaboration with Subjugate Nigeria Limited and Nivik Investment Limited to encourage farmers to adopt better practices. This model, initiated in 2020, mirrors cocoa certification programs and offers a premium price incentive of 1% to 1.5% per kilogram for farmers producing high-quality cocoa beans.

This year, PIND partnered with off-takers such as Subjugate Nigeria Ltd, Nivik Investment, Abbico Ltd, and Sunbeth Global, who joined the Rainforest Alliance Certification program, to support farmers in adopting improved practices

for quality cocoa production. Agro traders supported by PIND's partner, CADI, underwent a pre-audit to meet the Rainforest Alliance Standard (RAS). Another PIND partner, John Vent Limited, implemented the RAS certification program in Ondo and Cross River States. CADI also conducted an Agriculture Internal Management System (Ag. IMS) Training program for cocoa sustainability personnel from four export

**9,060**

number of farmers reached with information on best practices, improved technologies and quality inputs.

**1,669**

new jobs created

**N1.26 billion**

amount invested by market actors in the value chain

**5,125**

number of farmers who increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of 2.23 billion

## Palm Oil

To mitigate the effect of aging oil palm trees and sustain the availability of fresh fruit bunches in the region, in 2023, PIND prioritized partnerships in the palm oil sector targeted at scaling up the activities of improved seed producers.

Working with two seed companies, Alisee, and Ghana Sumatra, we organized workshops geared at scaling up the activities of the seed companies in the Niger Delta and improving the collaboration and coordination amongst the seed producers and nursery operators.

Through such outreaches, we also promoted cutting down old oil palm trees and adopting improved seedlings to replace them. By the third quarter of 2023, a total of 94,500 sprouted nuts were purchased by 50 nursery operators across several states, including Akwa Ibom, Abia, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo, and Rivers.

In the fourth quarter in particular, about NGN 11.8 million was invested in the purchase of 20,000 sprouted nuts by nursery operators in Ondo state: 10,000 seedlings were supplied by Allissee Seeds and 10,000 seeds by PalmElit. These accomplishments reflect PIND's commitment to enhancing the availability of improved seeds and fostering sustainable seed systems within the palm oil industry.

**12,223**

number of farmers reached with information on best practices, improved technologies and quality inputs

**N2.41 billion**

amount invested by market actors in the value chain

**1,518**

new jobs created

**7,372**

number of farmers increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of **N6.56 billion**



**The knowledge and skills I gained transformed my approach to cocoa farm**

**~Adekunle Samson Ogunretin**

*Farm Service Provider, Edo State.*

*After graduating, I had to turn to cocoa farming because no job opportunities were available. However, my initial attempts at farming were not encouraging as I struggled to achieve good yields.*

*I learned about PIND in 2021 at a function, and since then, I've received training on best management practices for cocoa farming. The knowledge and skills I gained have entirely transformed my approach to cocoa farming, and implementing the new techniques I learned led to a remarkable improvement in my cocoa yield.*

*Moving forward, I am determined to increase my productivity by taking advantage of loans facilitated through PIND. I also plan to employ more people to assist on my farm.*



**The impact was profound.**

**~Bernadette Ekanem**

*Caring Family Itiam Etoi Nigeria Limited/ Farm Service Provider*

*When I retired from my civil service as a college principal, I delved into palm oil farming and processing. In 2016, I received a capacity-building training facilitated by PIND that revolutionized my approach to oil palm farming and significantly increased my productivity and yield. Afterward, PIND engaged me as a farm service provider to train other oil palm farmers.*

*Back then, the farmers still used outdated harvesting and processing techniques, which affected their yield and the quality of oil they produced. With passion and dedication, I imparted essential knowledge and skills in seedling selection, nursery management, transplanting, modern practices and technologies in the oil palm sector, and other best management practices.*

*The impact was profound. As farmers embraced improved seedlings and modern techniques, their yields skyrocketed. By processing the fruits immediately after harvesting, the palm oil quality improved significantly, leading to a notable increase in sales and income for the farmers. As they witnessed the tangible benefits of embracing these modern techniques, the farmers were happy and motivated to dive deeper into oil palm production.*



## Poultry

As poultry farmers strive to adopt and implement good poultry practices to enhance productivity and expand their businesses, the demand for reliable and stable markets to sell their products becomes crucial. This year, PIND continued its collaboration with key partners to establish linkages with large buyers and create stable market opportunities for the farmers.

We worked with major processors, such as Kingdom Obuza Ventures, Creative Empire, Calachina Processing Factory, and ThriveAgric, to market linkage workshops that benefited farmers in Bayelsa, Cross River, Edo, Delta, Ondo, Delta, Rivers, and Ondo States. This initiative opened avenues for expanded sales and increased revenue.

Thrive Agric collaborated with poultry service providers, such as Chukess Farms & Agro Consult, Habeeb Agritech Global, Nosa-sa Global Services, and Crown AgroVet Konsult to onboard farmers on its market platform. In Delta State,

Chukess Farms and Agro Consult, in partnership with Thrive Agric and Genesis Fast Food, organized a market linkages workshop where 45 poultry farmers were linked to large buyers through the workshop. In Bayelsa, Kingdom Obuza Ventures organized a market linkage workshop attended by 100 poultry farmers and two large buyers (Elohim Professional Farms and Chicken Palace).

Finally, in alignment with our commitment to facilitating financial access for smallholder farmers, in collaboration with Ibiptam Enterprise, we assisted 68 poultry farmers with their loan applications to NIRSAL Microfinance Bank.

**8,444 farmers**

number of famers reached with information on best practices, improved technologies and quality inputs

**N2.41 billion**

amount invested by market actors in the value chain

**5,192**

number of farmers that increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of **N3.49billion**

**1,518**

new jobs created



**PIND has allowed me to develop myself and train others**

**~Kester Chukwuka**

*Chukess Farm Enterprise Delta State.*

*Since 2010, I have been a subsistence farmer. I'm also a trained farm extension worker. I started receiving PIND-facilitated training for service providers in 2023, which has helped me develop as a trainer of other farmers.*

*Before PIND, I worked only with farmers in my local government area. Now, I train farmers in seven local government areas on poultry production, access to finance, and linkages to finance. Thanks to the training, six farmers have managed to access loans to boost their farms.*

*The feedback has been positive. The farmers are happy with the new knowledge and always return for more. Moving forward, and with PIND's support, my goal is to collaborate with more agro companies, organizations, and even civil societies to expand my reach and get poultry farmers easy access to quality inputs.*

## Access to Finance

### SOMBREIRO KAPITAL (SK)

PIND established Sombreiro Kapital (SK) to provide access to finance for businesses in the Niger Delta, addressing systemic constraints such as the knowledge gap, infrastructural deficits, and existing laws. SK addresses the persistent challenge of limited access to finance for businesses in the Niger Delta by providing credit guarantees to partner banks, thereby mitigating risks and facilitating lending.

In 2023, SK focused on fostering loans in aquaculture, poultry, cocoa, oil palm, and cassava value chains across Delta, Edo,

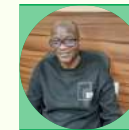
Bayelsa, Imo, and Ondo states. Efforts include enhancing relationships with partner banks, conducting financial audits, and exploring collaborations with NIRSAL Microfinance Bank and NIRSAL Plc. To ensure sustainability, SK emphasized formalizing self-help groups, building capacity for risk management, and channeling funding through major players and off-takers.

**322**

total number of persons supported by SK to receive loans from partner banks

**N67 million**

total amount in loans facilitated



**"I found the breathing room to repay my loans judiciously**

**~Festus Ebozele**

*Edo State*

*My journey as an oil palm farmer took a turn for the better when I crossed paths with PIND through NEXZER. This encounter marked the beginning of a transformative partnership. Sombreiro Kapital (SK) was my guiding light. With the loans it facilitated for me, my farm survived financial challenges, and I emerged stronger than ever. The funds I accessed through SK empowered me to offer additional services such as farm maintenance, further enhancing my support to local farmers. With a structured quarterly repayment, I found the breathing room to meet the loan term period judiciously.*



## Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Linkages and Development

The MSME Linkages and Development project aims to stimulate a market that creates a dynamic and diversified set of established local enterprises that can meet the demand created by large buyers operating within the Niger Delta. The goal is to strengthen the local economic environment for economic growth and job creation. The MSME project also supports platforms that promote access to quality business support services, market, and funding opportunities which will help enterprises grow and be more competitive in local and global markets.

The project activities are driven by business services providers (BSPs) trained by PIND to support local enterprises. These BSPs work in partnership with financial institutions, large corporate buyers, chambers of commerce, and other public and private stakeholders to organize business linkages and investment forums and create access to new markets and funding opportunities for the MSMEs.

As part of our mission to support MSMEs in accessing finance for business expansion, PIND facilitated partnerships with BSPs to offer advisory services and financial linkages to

numerous MSMEs. These businesses received business skill training and were connected to loans under the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Agri-Business/Small and Medium Enterprises Investment Scheme. The support, initiated in 2022, resulted in 521 MSMEs (266 female-owned) accessing loans worth N704.9 million by the first quarter of 2023.

We also advanced efforts to strengthen relationships with stakeholders, collaborating with CAD Digital Farm Limited to facilitate engagements and market linkages between MSMEs and major buyers such as SPAR, Market Square, Ponitex Markets Limited (Buy Plus), and the newly established Hyper-City Market in Port Harcourt. In Ondo State, we engaged with the Nigeria Export Promotion Council (NEPC) to build the capacity of MSMEs and facilitate the sales and exportation of quality-assured produce/products.

7,156

number of SMEs reached with information on best business management practices

3,374

new jobs created

N3.19 billion

amount invested by market actors

4,249

number of SMEs that increased their productivity, earning estimated income change of N3.35billion



**PIND has inspired us to do big things in MSME development."**

**Victory Ighelobo**

Life Edge Consulting, Delta State.

*Before PIND, I was in business development, training small business owners. During one of those training sessions, I met a PIND consultant who told me about the Foundation and invited me to a workshop at PIND's Warri office. After that, I fell in love with what PIND does and have worked with them ever since.*

*PIND has inspired us to do big things in MSME development and supported us in doing a better job of providing access to markets, finance, and capacity building. From 2022 to 2023, we trained and offered services to 450 people and businesses. We helped facilitate loans worth N30 million to some companies we work with.*

*We have also deepened our understanding of the challenges facing MSME development in this region, which has helped us make more informed decisions. In 2022, PIND supported us in organizing a business linkages forum, where stakeholders came together to map a way forward for MSME development in the Niger Delta.*

*Looking to the future, I would like to leverage technology and virtual platforms to reach more people and help reduce the logistics costs for physical engagements. Technology will also enable us to monitor businesses better and provide customized support.*



## FEED THE FUTURE

### *The Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) Activity*

The Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) Activity, jointly funded by USAID and PIND from May 25, 2020, to May 24, 2025, adopts a facilitative market development approach in collaboration with MSMEs and critical market actors within the aquaculture, cowpea, maize, rice, and soybean value chains. Operating in Benue, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Kebbi, and Niger states, AEAS aims to reach at least two million smallholder farmers, providing access to agro-inputs and disseminating extension messaging. Utilizing Lean7 production principles, AEAS identifies the Most Impactful Practices (MIPs) to improve efficiency and enhance returns on investment for farmers.

This year, the Extension Activity utilized multi-stakeholder platforms to streamline efforts and promote the adoption of MIPs. State-level Communities of Practice (CoP) were established in Cross River and Delta states in collaboration with government bodies, development partners, MSMEs, lead farmers, research institutes, and universities. These CoPs serve as forums for knowledge sharing and learning in agricultural solutions.

Furthermore, the Activity facilitated a partnership between the Cross-River State Agricultural Development Program (CRADP) and Brains & Hammers, securing 5,000 hectares of

land for agricultural development. Additionally, technical support was provided for the implementation framework of Project Grow, a Cross River State government initiative to de-risk lending for agricultural businesses, focusing on maize, aquaculture, and rice value chains. A digital portal will be developed to offer extension services to smallholder farmers and agribusinesses, with the government allocating 150 million Naira for project implementation and soliciting technical support from the AEAS.

The Extension Activity also focused on utilizing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for extension services, integrating digital apps and video extension into MSMEs' business models. Ten partner MSMEs incorporated apps like RiceApp, Field Areas Measure, and Plantix to inform farmers about improved seeds, weather, and disease solutions. Collaboration with the CRADP and the Delta State Agricultural Development Program facilitated the dissemination of extension videos to smallholder farmers, reaching 2,497 farmers.

Due to the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine hindering fertilizer availability, farmers faced significant challenges impacting productivity in 2023. In response, the Extension Activity introduced alternatives to inorganic fertilizers. Two thousand seven hundred twenty-nine farmers participated in demonstrations of organic fertilizer use in the recent season. Initial feedback from farmers in Cross River State highlighted positive effects on crop growth during greenfield assessments.

## Agric Development

*AEAS facilitated a partnership between CRADP and Brain & Hammers, securing 5,000 hectares of land for agricultural development.*

## Enhancing ROI

*AEAS identifies the Most Impactful Practices (MIPs) to improve efficiency and enhance returns on investment for farmers*

## Enabling Youth Employment

### Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

PIND's Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) project aims to map the skills development ecosystem, analyze employment opportunities, and develop models for youth job readiness in the Niger Delta. Our approach involves innovative technical training for disadvantaged youth in sectors like Agriculture, ICT, Services, and Building Construction.

In 2018, PIND initiated the Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways (NDYEP) Project, funded by the Ford Foundation, providing vocational skills training to youths in Abia, Akwa Ibom, and Rivers. With funding from Chevron, NDYEP (now renamed YEP) scaled up in these states and Delta, covering sectors like finished leather and Services.

This year, which is the project's third year of implementation, 18 implementing partners and private TVET institutions effectively managed 19 projects, prioritizing the integration of soft skills and conflict sensitivity. These projects spanned sectors including Agriculture (4), Building construction (3), ICT (5), and Services (6). The training programs, lasting approximately six months, emphasized a practical and field-based approach, with 70% of the curriculum dedicated to enhancing participants' occupational skills.

Soft skills training ran parallel to technical skills development, aiming to instigate behavioral change and prepare participants for the workforce or entrepreneurship. Successful completion, including recommendations for apprenticeships and job linkages, required a minimum attendance of 80%. By the year's end, 1,428 youths (807 males, 621 females, and 26 persons with disabilities) graduated from the projects.

To support the transition into entrepreneurship of interested youth beneficiaries of the various training, we launched a Start-up Business Challenge Fund, receiving 174 applications. Following an intense assessment, PIND disbursed N42 million to 66 successful candidates.

We continued plans to scale the project to more Niger Delta States. A labor market assessment study addressing unemployment carried out in Ondo State in 2022 concluded with a validation workshop this year.

Following the screening of applications, four grant agreements were formalized and signed with successful implementing partners in the fourth quarter of the year, marking the initiation of the YEP project in Ondo State.

The project will train and provide job linkage to at least 360 unemployed or underemployed youths in the State. Also in the same period, PIND signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Akwa Ibom State's Ibom Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Centre (Ibom-LED) to facilitate the adoption of the YEP model in the State's youth development initiatives.

2,157

total number of youths that gained applicable skills for employment

1,876

youth gained employment and accessed other income-earning opportunities

668

total number of youths that secured apprenticeships/internships



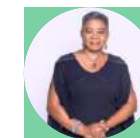
### Opportunities unfolded soon after my YEP training

~Obunezi Loveday Tochi

Nezitech Integrated Services Limited - Solar Installation and Maintenance services, Rivers State.

*Fresh out of university with a chemistry degree and unemployed, I sought guidance. A friend's WhatsApp status led me to apply for the Youth Employment Pathway (YEP) project. Selected for technical and soft skills training, I underwent solar photovoltaic installation training at Asteven Energy Institute from September 2022 to February 2023, marking a pivotal moment.*

*Venturing into solar installation, I secured my first contract in May, installing 15 solar systems by December 2023 with a colleague and apprentice. Each successful project boosted my income and confidence. Now, I aim to formalize my business by registering my own company, specializing in solar and expanding into CCTV installation and other technical fields. While challenges lie ahead, I am determined to capitalize on opportunities and thrive.*



### PIND's YEP program has been transformative

~Chigozirim Uche

Center Coordinator, Kiara Deluke Academy, Abia State

*I have been collaborating with PIND for over five years, focusing on training youth in Abia state. Our journey with PIND initially began with a proposal centered around ICT. Although that proposal wasn't accepted due to facility requirements, we adapted and submitted a construction-trade proposal in 2018, which was successful. We began training within the YEP program in 2023 in various sectors like agriculture, construction, fashion, and design. We are also planning to introduce training in the automobile trade. Our offices are strategically located across different local government areas of the state. The YEP program provided by PIND has been transformative. It has enabled us to train the youth and follow up with them to ensure they are applying their learned skills effectively. Unlike some training workshops initiated without proper knowledge and guidance, we provide our trainees with comprehensive training and support. Many of our graduates have started businesses or secured employment, demonstrating the program's success.*





## Facilitating Alternative Clean Energy Solutions

### ACCESS TO ENERGY (A2E)

PIND's Access to Energy (A2E) project helps provide affordable energy for remote coastal communities off the national electricity grid. It also addresses the problems of poor livelihoods and youth unemployment in the Niger Delta.

We created an A2E model that facilitates connections between communities and power developers that install and maintain solar energy solutions specific to the communities' needs (energy cabins, mini-grids, and solar refrigeration hubs). PIND de-risks entries into these communities for the commercial power developers, enabling them to invest in the energy solutions.

Our model solves three problems: lack of access, youth employment, and improved livelihoods. Apart from facilitating the installation of these grids, we also ensure that there are opportunities for young people within the community to be employed either as installers or in maintenance. Thus, our A2E interventions address UN SDGs 7, 8, and 11: access to affordable energy, decent work, and climate action.

Partnerships are at the core of interventions, and in 2023, we worked to stimulate interest and attract more investments into the Niger Delta off-grid electricity market. In collaboration with the Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria (REAN), we organized a roadshow across the region which promoted clean energy sources, highlighted business opportunities within the renewable energy space, and included capacity-building sessions for SMEs to equip them with information on facilitating business growth.

Also, this year, PIND commenced a healthcare electrification partnership project for the United States Agency for International Development-led Health Electrification and Telecommunication Alliance (HETA). The project implementation, which hinged on PIND's proven A2E model, focused on powering healthcare facilities and complimentary business connections across 12 communities in the Niger Delta.

PIND was appointed as implementer for the HETA project in Nigeria, with the Niger Delta being the entry point. Through this partnership, PIND, contributing its own financial and technical resources, leveraged a grant of \$219,389 and partnered with several private sector players to extend electricity to the targeted primary healthcare centers (PHCs), which include the following among others: Ogbinbiri PHC, Delta State; Koluama 2 Health Center, Bayelsa State; Fishtown Health post, Bayelsa State; and Odofado Health center, Ondo State. We expect to further scale up the project in 2024 and beyond with additional communities powered.

**2,856**

the number of businesses and households that gained access to electricity

**N1.68 billion**

amount accrued in financial benefits by the businesses and households

**N1.11 billion**

total amount invested by market actors in the sector

**98**

new jobs created



**PIND's support amplifies credibility and fuels progress in the energy sector**

**~Prof. Yinka Omorogbe**  
ETIN Power Limited, Edo State

*Before collaborating with PIND, I was deeply entrenched in energy law, leveraging my expertise as a proficient lawyer from Edo State while serving as the CEO of ETIN Power Limited. My journey into energy research and exploring PIND's initiatives laid the groundwork for my passion-driven pursuit to enhance energy access, particularly in Ajakurama.*

*In 2022, fate aligned me with PIND, marking a transformative juncture in my trajectory. Since our convergence, PIND's unwavering support has fortified my initiatives' credibility and provided invaluable financial backing and technical expertise. In recent endeavors, I've successfully extended our initiatives to three communities in the southern region, with direct support from PIND for the Ajakurama project.*

*Looking ahead, I envision forging a lasting partnership with PIND, with the collective aim of broadening our impact beyond the confines of the Niger Delta. I aspire to scale our operations, extending our reach to communities.*



**We're empowering Ondo Communities with solar energy thanks to PIND**

**~Osaze Ize Iyamu**  
Solaviva Limited, Ondo State

*Before YEP, I was unemployed and had financial difficulties because I lacked specific market-relevant skills to earn money.*

*I learned about PIND and YEP from previous participants who started their businesses. I saw how they had transformed their lives through the soft and technical skills they acquired.*

*I immediately jumped at the opportunity and went through the program in 2023. I learned the basics of videography. At the end of the training, we had a team project, which allowed me to work with different like-minded people in the industry. The training was successful and enlightening.*

## Supporting Gender Equality and Social Inclusion for Women, Youth, and People with Disabilities

At the center of PIND's 2020–2024 strategic plan is the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of poor women and girls, persons with disabilities, and the most vulnerable populations. PIND works to ensure that the people of Nigeria's Niger Delta region have access to decent jobs, economic opportunities, and educational advancement, irrespective of ability, age, gender, or location. Our support and empowerment of youth, women, and persons with disabilities (PWDs) address the SDGs 4, 5, 8, and 10.

In 2023, PIND positioned women's economic empowerment at the core of its economic development activities. By the end of the year, about 26,500 women (farmers and MSMEs) had benefited from our various economic development interventions. Under the YEP project, 823 of 1,824 youths who completed their training were females and 20 PWDs. Of the 602 who secured internship/apprenticeship positions right after, 270 were females, and 6 PWDs. Five hundred and ninety youths secured immediate employment or started their own business, including 278 females and 8 PWDs.

A total of 63,013 people participated in our peacebuilding interventions, including conflict mitigation, forums on peace and stability, skills enhancements, and mentorships. Twenty-three thousand six hundred twelve were women, 7,370 youths, and 93 PWDs.

### 2023 International Women's Day (IWD) Celebration

Globally, March 8 is commemorated as International Women's Day (IWD), set aside to celebrate women's achievements, advocate for more opportunities, and increase awareness of and work towards eliminating barriers that hinder women. The UN Women theme for 2023 was "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality." It aligned with the international IWD theme "Embrace Equity," which advocates

for a gender-equal world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.

PIND marked the year's IWD on March 22 with a special one-day event at the PIND Economic Development Center (EDC) in Warri, Delta State. In line with our sub-theme "Embrace Equity through Technology and Innovation," activities aimed to educate women, youth, and people with disabilities (PWDs) on adopting innovative mechanisms and improved technology in their businesses for growth and empowerment. The participants included beneficiaries of PIND's projects and programs from Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, and Ondo states.

### 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 preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls by individuals and organizations worldwide.

PIND has been at the forefront of addressing violence against women and girls (VAWG) in the Niger Delta, investing time and resources in collaboration with local organizations. For the 2023 campaign, we continued our efforts under the subtheme 'Invest to Prevent Violence Against Women & Girls in the Niger Delta Region.' We provided small grants to six female-headed organizations that conducted targeted awareness campaigns, skills acquisition, and capacity-building activities. The organizations include the South-South Professional Women Association (SSPWA) in Edo State, the Women Empowerment Education and Peace Building Initiative (WEPBI) in Imo State, and the Development Initiative for Community Impact (DICI) in Delta. Others include the Women and Community Livelihood Foundation (WOCLIF) in Akwa Ibom State and the Betterliving Foundation and Capacity Development (BEFCAD) in Ondo State.



#### I help farmers improve their yields thanks to PIND's training ~Onwuka Eunice

Ihie Onyeboubi Cassava Grower And Processor  
Multipurpose Cooperative Society, Delta State

*Before I received the PIND-facilitated training on best farming techniques and good agricultural practices, I was a cassava farmer and processor with low yields.*

*I learned about PIND in 2020; since then, I have trained farmers in these practices. With PIND's support, I have worked with over 1,400 cassava farmers (90% women) in Delta State. I set up demo plots and distributed inputs such as improved cassava stems to these farmers.*

*The training's impact is profound as these farmers have seen a significant yield boost and have let go of outdated practices that once hindered productivity. Their livelihood has improved as greater yield equals greater income.*

*With further support from PIND, I aim to reach farmers in more communities and also expand on the soft skills aspect of the training, such as record keeping.*



## Empowering Local Civil Society Organizations

Through capacity building, PIND aims to enhance the institutional and technical capacity of government and civil society organizations for effective socio-economic engagement, inclusive governance, and peaceful coexistence in the region. Our capacity-building interventions focus on two major areas: strengthening the capacity of local development organizations in the Niger Delta to adopt the market systems approach and strengthening the institutions that support the Chevron Global Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) process to carry out developmental projects that improve the livelihood of people living in the communities.

Two organizations, CAD Consulting and Genius Hub, supported by PIND with capacity building, accessed N165 million this year. CAD Consulting leveraged an investment fund of N520 million from the Okerewa Community Trust (derived from royalties received from Indorama and other companies) to support the construction and set-up of a smart farm in Okerewa, Eleme, Rivers State. Genius Hub attracted N20 million to support MSMEs.

This year, PIND also focused on supporting Chevron Nigeria Limited's transition from Regional Development Committees (RDCs) to Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) by developing appropriate capacity-building activities to support the various structures of the HCDTs, including the board, advisory, and management committees.

**N168 million**

in funds raised with PIND's support

**3 CSOs**

trained by PIND accessed funds through grants

## The Bridges Project

In 2022, PIND aimed to support the implementation of the community engagement component of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA). In collaboration with the Ford Foundation, it initiated the Bridges Project, with the core objective to facilitate collaboration and active participation in the implementation process among communities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), oil and gas companies, and government entities. The Project targets five Niger Delta states, which are the epicenter of oil production: Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ondo, and Rivers.

In 2023, the Project started with awareness creation and knowledge-deepening workshops to sensitize stakeholders from the Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) in oil-producing communities on their roles, expectations, and responsibilities under the PIA dispensation. This activity was followed by capacity-building workshops for non-governmental and community-based organizations to equip them with the requisite knowledge and tools to deliver effective services related to the requirements of the PIA to settlers and communities.

Finally, the Bridges Project inaugurated a Multi-Stakeholders Platform (MSP) that comprises thirty carefully selected experts and critical stakeholders representing host communities, settlers, civil society, and government to provide good examples of models that can help the HCDTs operate successfully and guide the community structures in executing the required processes that will help lay the foundation for their successful take-off.



**Working with PIND has been a great experience**

**~Mrs Olayide Adesanya**

Director of Programs, New Nigeria Foundation, Lagos

*I have been working with PIND on various projects, and the collaboration over the years has been great. On the Bridges Project, we built the capacities of NGOs and CSOs. It was an opportunity for us at the New Nigeria Foundation (NNF) to see our old partners again and meet new ones.*

*Delivering this training alongside PIND is always a pleasure because it helps our credibility as an organization. When we meet new partners, they are happy to work with us again because of our associations with PIND. We look forward to more collaborations in the future, ensuring that we continue to fine-tune our working relationship, collaboration, and transparency.*

*We also can't wait to see the impact of the training in the various target communities as they learn more about how they can contribute to the smooth implementation of the PIA.*



## Influencing governments policies, programs & practices

Through Advocacy, PIND carries out initiatives to influence the government to put concrete long-term plans in place to see sustainability in its efforts to reduce poverty in the Niger Delta. As part of its mandate to strengthen partnerships with the government, PIND has worked to influence government expenditure, planning, and funding of projects. We make these concerted efforts to address what research has shown to be dire problems. They include unblocking the constraints to access to arable land for smallholder farmers, and identifying and addressing the root causes of illegal levying and multiple taxations, which studies have shown cripple MSMEs. We also work with relevant government agencies to enrich dialogues promoting peace in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria.

## Access to Land for Smallholder Farmers

PIND's ongoing efforts to influence state governments for a sustainable policy framework on agricultural land management are yielding positive results. The establishment of Arable Land Committees in Delta and Edo states, influenced by PIND, led to GIS mapping and delineation of significant land for agriculture. In Edo State, the government is actively developing a clear process flow for land acquisition in collaboration with relevant ministries, while the GIS department works with communities to facilitate short-term certificates of occupancy. PIND ensures transparency by

involving Civil Society Organizations and Non-Government Organizations as witnesses in land agreement processes. In Delta State, the government adopted Arable Land Committee recommendations, opening up more land for oil palm and cassava farming. These experiences will guide advocacy efforts to support agricultural projects like FAO FOLUR and Mastercard CAP.

## Multiple Taxation and Illegal Levy Intervention

In 2022, PIND completed a draft report on the impact of multiple taxation and illegal levies on small businesses in Abia, Delta, and Rivers States with a plan to engage with governments, sharing data to influence policy solutions for the issue. This year, we held workshops to validate reports from the research. It involved stakeholders from various groups, including market and farmer associations, the National Union of Road Transport Workers, the Delta State Internal Revenue Board, Delta State Investments Development Agency, the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (SMEDAN), and civil society organizations from the tax justice movement. Recommendations from the workshop include tax harmonization, classification of MSMEs based on business size, public awareness of approved taxes, and advocacy for incident reporting centers to address citizens' concerns.

**N2.74 billion**

in government spending influenced

**N1.06 billion**

in donor and private sector spending influenced



**We have been able to get access to land for smallholder farmers**

**~Dr Felix Okonti**

Secretary General, Delta State Commercial Oil Palm Plantation Growers Cooperative (DELCOM COOP), Delta State

*I have partnered with PIND for over six years and supported the palm oil sector in providing fertilizer to farmers for their operations. I worked with the advocacy team to ensure access to land for smallholder farmers in Delta State. During the project, we identified that the issue smallholder farmers experienced was access to land, finance, and markets for their operations.*

*The project has been a success as we have achieved access to land for the farmers, though deployment has yet to begin. This is the second phase of the project and what we are working towards. We will also review Delta State's agricultural policy as we continue working on the project. We also hope that moving forward, we will provide farmers with capacity-building training to use more mechanized tools in their operations on the farm. I am thrilled to have played a pivotal role in this project with PIND.*

## Amplifying our Message in 2023

Communication is crucial in driving our programs and projects by promoting our activities to our stakeholders, including potential partners and funders. We effectively convey our messages using digital and mainstream media channels and through strategic partnerships with selected media platforms. To influence reports that are focused more on development in the Niger Delta, for the second year running, we sponsored an award, the PIND Prize for Niger Delta Reporting, at the 32nd DAME.



# 6.2 million

total number of people reached



## 1.7 million

people in the Niger Delta reached via TV, radio, newspaper, online news media

## 146 media reports

about PIND's activities



## 4.5 million people

viewed our social media posts



## 47 forums

where PIND's work, models and lessons were shared



## 131

public endorsements of PIND's work



## 899

new subscribers to our newsletter

## 42,104

first-time visitors to PIND and NDLink websites



## 308 emails

from people inquiring about PIND



Award presentation for the PIND Prize for Niger Delta Reporting, at the 32nd DAME.



# Highlights 2023



JAN

PIND's business service provider, LifeEdge Consult, organized an enterprise boot camp for 40 micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in Warri, Delta State to boost the business and management skills.



FEB

PIND facilitated Multi-stakeholder interventions to prevent/reduce election-related violence in the Niger Delta during the 2023 general elections,



MAR

PIND commemorated the 2023 International Women's Day (IWD) with activities targeted at women and people living with disabilities



APR

PIND and NNF held capacity-building workshops on the implementation of the Petroleum Industry Act for non-governmental organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) in Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Ondo and Rivers States.



MAY

PIND partnered with the Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria (REAN) to hold an energy access roadshow across the Niger Delta



JUN

PIND held a ceremony to disburse grants to 66 winners of its Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) project's Start-Up Business Challenge Fund to ease their transition to entrepreneurship.



JUL

PIND paid a courtesy visit to His Excellency Sheriff Oboroewoyi, the Delta State Governor, represented by the Secretary to the State Government (SSG), Dr. Kingsley Emu.



AUG

PIND facilitates the inauguration of a multi-stakeholder platform (MSP) to provide good examples of models that can help the HCDDTs operate successfully



SEP

PIND held an organization-wide capacity-building workshop on impact investment as a new funding source to foster a seamless adoption of the new strategy across its programs, projects, and enablers



OCT

PIND inaugurated Peace Clubs at Imo State University, the University of Calabar, Cross River State, and Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic



NOV

PIND facilitated a conflict Early Warning/Early Response (EWER) System training for the Association of Coastal and Waterways Communities in Delta State



DEC

PIND signed a memorandum of understanding with the Ibom Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Centre (Ibom-LED) in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State

## Awards and Recognitions



For its work within the Niger Delta region, PIND received an award of excellence from CSR Reporters, a reputable media reporting outfit, during its Nonprofit Roundtable and Excellence Awards event in July, 2023

## Our Partners



Federal Ministry of  
Niger Delta  
Affairs



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office



FORD  
FOUNDATION



**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



USAID  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

POWER  
AFRICA  
AN AMERICAN PEOPLE INITIATIVE



Palladium  
MAKE IT POSSIBLE



SERENDIB  
CAPITAL



## Commendations



PIND has created an impact - empowering private actors, facilitating access to energy for coastal communities, and enhancing security, collaboration, and behavior change in the Niger Delta. PIND has leveraged its local presence and expertise to emerge as the premier convener of development actors in the Niger Delta, enabling investment, fostering collaboration, and leading implementation.

### **Chimdindu Onwudiegwu**

*Associate Partner  
Dalberg Global Development Advisors*



PIND retains vast and versatile experience providing and supporting pro-poor social services in the Niger Delta. It deployed its innovative energy cabin technology (a 20-foot off-grid solar PV system capable of generating 15-20 kilowatts of electricity) and business model through dedicated offtake arrangements to sustainably electrify these last-mile healthcare facilities. Besides PIND's innovative technological and business models, the Foundation has a strong capacity to mobilize and aggregate partnerships to implement sustainable solutions. PIND mobilized technical implementation partnerships and support from renewable energy and mini-grid companies. Together, these partnerships have proved the viability of the technological and business models to electrify healthcare facilities. HETA is keen to partner with PIND to scale its impactful model to electrify more health facilities in the Niger Delta. We are truly proud of the achievements we have recorded together. We anticipate further collaborations as we have found a formidable partner in PIND and wish the Foundation more success in its activities moving forward.

### **Joan Chahenza**

*Project Director  
USAID-Power Africa Health Electrification and  
Telecommunications Alliance (HETA)*



Partnering with PIND over the past year has been a delightful experience for the CrossBoundary team. PIND's outstanding commitment to this visionary impact investing project and relentless dedication to driving growth in the Niger Delta is truly commendable. We are excited to see the transformative impact of this project, as it not only redefines investing in the region but also ushers in a significant flow of capital to empower the scaling of businesses and catalyze sustainable development across key sectors.

### **Efe Braimah**

*Managing Director  
Crossboundary*



# OUR TEAM

## Board of Trustees



**Rick Kennedy**  
*Chairman*



**Tunji Idowu**  
*Executive Director*



**Esimaje Brikinn**



**Timiebi Koripamo-Agary**



**Dara Akala**



**Benjamin Oviolu**



**Ibiye Asime Wakama-Ekong**



**Temisan Tuedor**



**Monday A. Ovuede**  
*(Deceased - June 2023)*



**Cosmas Iwueze**



### Tribute to Late Engr. Monday Ovuede

In June 2023, the staff, management, and members of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) were saddened to hear about the demise of Monday Ovuede. He was a valuable member of the Board of Trustees, and his contributions to the growth of our organization will be remembered for long.





# Leadership



**Tunji Idowu**  
*Executive Director*



**Effiong Essien**  
*Program Director*



**Florence Agbejule**  
*Operations Manager*



**Chuks Ofulue**  
*Advocacy Manager*



**Busuyi Okeowo**  
*Economic Development  
Program Manager*



**Olayinka Anyachukwu**  
*Finance Manager*



**James Ebube**  
*Business Development  
Manager*



**Ezekiel Odeh**  
*Planning, Monitoring &  
Evaluation (PM&E)  
Manager*



**Adaora Ezeokana**  
*Project Support Services  
Manager*



**David Udofia**  
*Peacebuilding Program  
Manager*



**Helen Bassej-Osijo**  
*Knowledge Management &  
Communications Manager*



**Misan Edema-Silo**  
*Market Systems  
Development (MSD)  
Project Manager*



**Teslim Giwa**  
*Access to Energy Manager*



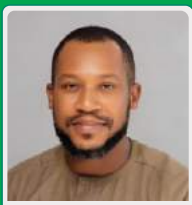
**Patrick Ekpe**  
*Youth Employment  
Pathways (YEP) Project  
Manager*



**Abdulfatai Mohammed**  
*Security Manager*



# Our Team



**Chukwudi Njoku**  
*Capacity Building Coordinator-  
Peacebuilding Program*



**Afeno Odomovo**  
*Research Coordinator  
(Peacebuilding Program)*



**Abiodun Akanbi**  
*Research Assistant  
(Peacebuilding Program)*



**Africas Lawal**  
*Network Coordinator,  
Partners for Peace*



**Faith Emmanuel Soya**  
*Senior Market Development  
Advisor*



**Chioma Obi-Osuji**  
*Senior Market Development  
Advisor*



**Anas Mustapha**  
*Senior Market Development  
Advisor*



**Tuoyo Omagbitse Blessing**  
*Market Development Advisor*



**Emmanuel T. Nwala**  
*Market Development Advisor*



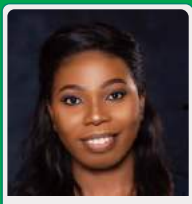
**Nezah Obi-Odu**  
*Market Development Advisor*



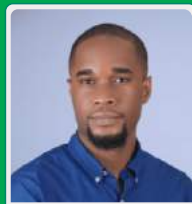
**Roy Ndidi**  
*Market Development Advisor*



**Anthony Osibajo**  
*Access to Energy Coordinator*



**Nchegem Gahia**  
*YEP Coordinator*



**Andrew Banigo**  
*Advocacy Coordinator*



**Rosecolette Ottih**  
*Advocacy Coordinator*



**Onyinye Muomah**  
*Communications Coordinator*



**Lateefa Musah**  
*Communications Coordinator*



**Semira Agabu**  
*Executive Assistant & Knowledge  
Management Coordinator*



**Oteheri Akinruntan**  
*Business Development Coordinator*



**Laju Akperi**  
*PM&E Coordinator*



**Sunday Omori**  
*PM&E Coordinator*



**Adedayo Oguntunase**  
*PM&E Coordinator*



**Abdulghaniyyu Is'haq G.**  
*Finance Officer*



**Shadrack Anigbo**  
*Project Accountant*



## Our Team



**Solomon Izuagie**  
*Project Accountant*



**Oladeji Olalekan**  
*Project Accountant*



**Lewis Onwo**  
*IT Administrator*



**Everestus Ezeigbo**  
*IT Administrator*



**Ifeyinwa Nwosu**  
*Office Administrator*



**Yemi Omire**  
*Office Administrator*



**Gladys Melbury**  
*Office Administrator*



**Juliana Tete**  
*Office Assistant*



**Emmanuel Uroye**  
*Office Assistant*



**Loretta Eboma**  
*Office Assistant*



**Prince Nwaju**  
*Office Assistant*



**Blessing Iyabia**  
*Office Assistant*



**Samuel London**  
*Driver*



**Kehinde Igboro**  
*Driver*



**Pius Uwua**  
*Driver*



**James Onalo**  
*Driver*



**Isaac Dusu**  
*Driver*



**Ikechukwu Ehirim**  
*Driver*



**Frank Ukpong**  
*Driver*



**Meshack Gbogbor**  
*Driver*



**Omoruyi Uwagbor**  
*Driver*



**Yemi Mabiaku**  
*Driver*

## Interning at PIND

### Emmanuel Chijioko Okoro

*Project Support Services Unit  
March-December 2023*



My time at PIND has been pivotal, shaping me into a proficient procurement personnel and grant management consultant, marking a highlight of 2023. I honed my communication, interpersonal, and time management skills in a brief period, adeptly handling pressure and tight deadlines. Explicitly, I grasped grant management intricacies and the importance of working smart. This experience illuminated industry insights, empowering me to excel in diverse organizational settings. PIND's safety moments, Monday meetings, and the supportive atmosphere were delightful. My exceptional line manager's guidance and the collaborative ethos of the PIND team were instrumental in my growth. The nurturing environment facilitated personal and professional development, enhancing my ability to contribute meaningfully to the team's objectives.

### Toritseju Odin

*Market System Development Unit  
November 2022 - November 2023*



Working at PIND proved immensely rewarding and transformative. The consistent guidance and feedback from my manager, team, and cross-functional colleagues enriched my performance and deepened my understanding of market systems development. This experience has profoundly shaped my career trajectory by expanding my professional network and bolstering my confidence to tackle complex projects. Navigating challenges during my internship honed my project management, problem-solving, communication, and networking skills. The supportive environment at PIND facilitated personal and professional growth, empowering me to make meaningful contributions to the team. Overall, the skills acquired and personal development attained at PIND will propel me toward future success in my professional journey.

### Peace Peter Udoh

*Advocacy Unit  
October 2022 - October 2023*



Working with various development organizations, PIND stands out as an exceptional environment. My involvement in the Niger Delta Peace Championship Program initiated my journey with PIND, where I served as an Advocacy and NDLink intern. This experience has been enriching, contributing to meaningful impacts. Participation in PIA training sessions empowered numerous individuals to navigate the new dispensation effectively. Engaging with the Peacebuilding unit enhanced my understanding of conflict dynamics and resolution strategies while developing advocacy and web administration skills. My ultimate career goal is to alleviate poverty, a vision shared by PIND through policy advocacy for smallholder farmers' land access. PIND's values resonate with my aspirations, fostering a sense of purpose and a supportive team environment. This internship has honed my project management, communication, and strategic thinking skills, amplifying my prospects in the development sector. I value PIND's inclusive culture, managerial support, and opportunities for personal and professional growth, making it a remarkable journey of learning and contribution.



## Financial Accountability for 2023

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(0) 802 310 6422  
E-mail: [btinlag@bakertillynigeria.com](mailto:btinlag@bakertillynigeria.com)  
Website: [www.bakertilly.ng](http://www.bakertilly.ng)

### FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA

#### REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2023

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Foundation, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December, 2023, the statement of activities, the statement of changes in net assets and the statement of cash flows for the year that ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta as at 31 December 2023, its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the provisions of both the Companies and Allied Matters Act and the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria (FRCN) Act.

#### Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company within the meaning of International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and have fulfilled our other responsibilities under those ethical requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Going Concern

The Foundation's financial statements have been prepared using the going concern basis of accounting. The use of this basis of accounting is appropriate unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management has not identified a material uncertainty that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and accordingly, none is disclosed in the financial statements. Based on our audit of the financial statements, we also have not identified such a material uncertainty.

#### ADVISORY · ASSURANCE · TAX

Bakertilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.

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#### Responsibilities of the Board of Trustees for the Financial Statements

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements which are in compliance with the requirements of both the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria Act and the Companies and Allied Matters Act. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatements, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) issued by the International Audit & Assurance Standards Board (IAASB). Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

The Companies and Allied Matters Act requires that in carrying out our audit we consider and report to you on the following matters. We confirm that: -

- i) we have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- ii) in our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Foundation; and
- iii) the Foundation's statement of financial position and statement of operating activities are in agreement with the books of account.

Oluwale O. Ogundeji  
FRC/2013/ICAN/0000002825  
for: Baker Tilly Nigeria  
(Chartered Accountants)

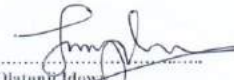
ABUJA, Nigeria  
14 March, 2024


**FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES  
IN THE NIGER DELTA  
STATEMENT OF OPERATING ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2023**

	2023 N'000	2022 N'000
<b>Income:</b>		
Revenue: Grants from NDPI and other sources	6,080,553	788,888
Other income	179,576	149,650
	<u>6,260,129</u>	<u>938,538</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Consultancy	1,247,796	950,696
Legal, audit, and other service fees	89,493	66,387
Travel, accommodation, and meeting expenses	211,589	139,618
Technical assistance and monitoring cost	275,724	119,693
Publicity cost	41,186	41,155
Grant contribution and capacity building cost	424,001	316,320
Office and operational expenses	146,912	115,750
Depreciation	34,601	36,432
Finance expenses	1,794	1,031
Insurance	48,774	34,838
Training and other expenses	98,513	51,159
	<u>2,620,383</u>	<u>1,873,079</u>
<b>Total comprehensive income/ (loss) for the year</b>	<u>3,639,746</u>	<u>(934,541)</u>

**FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER, 2023**

	2023 N'000	2022 N'000
<b>ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	377,658	381,904
Long term prepayment	-	20,842
	<u>377,658</u>	<u>402,746</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Receivables	79	79
Short-term prepayment	35,649	31,808
Cash and cash equivalents	5,569,519	1,909,737
	<u>5,605,247</u>	<u>1,941,624</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>5,982,905</u>	<u>2,344,370</u>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	26,429	29,673
Accruals	61,948	59,915
	<u>88,377</u>	<u>89,588</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>88,377</u>	<u>89,588</u>
<b>Funds</b>		
Accumulated Fund	5,894,528	2,254,782
	<u>5,894,528</u>	<u>2,254,782</u>
<b>Total accumulated fund and liabilities</b>	<u>5,982,905</u>	<u>2,344,370</u>

  
 .....  
 Olatunji Idowu  
 Executive Director  
 FRC/2023/PRO/DIR/003/141979

  
 .....  
 Ayodele Ogunsemowo  
 Financial Secretary  
 FRC/2014/ICAN/00000009398





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FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUNDS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

As at 31/12/2023	Accumulated Fund N'000	Total N'000
As at 01/01/2023	2,254,782	2,254,782
Excess of revenue over expenditure	3,639,746	3,639,746
As at 31/12/2023	<u>5,894,528</u>	<u>5,894,528</u>
<b>As at 31/12/2022</b>		
As at 01/01/2022	3,189,323	3,189,323
Excess of expenses over revenue	(934,541)	(934,541)
As at 31/12/2022	<u>2,254,782</u>	<u>2,254,782</u>

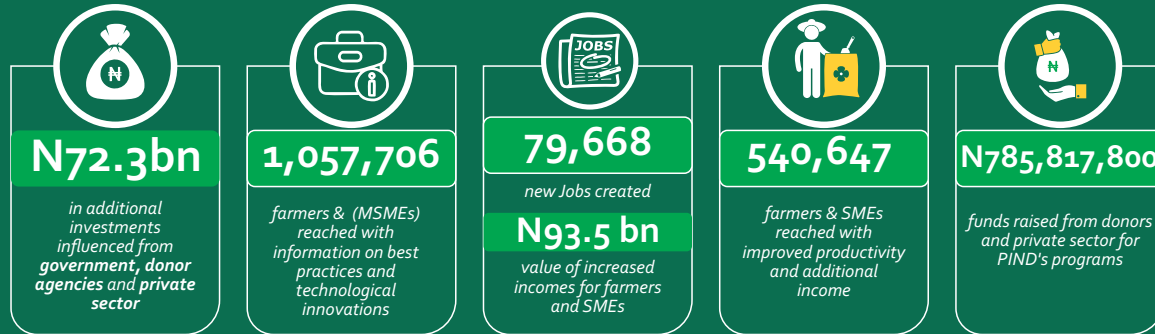
- Page 11 -

FOUNDATION FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES IN THE NIGER DELTA  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

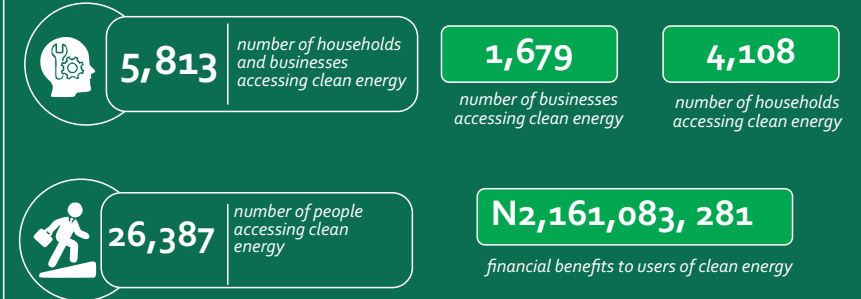
	2023 N'000	2022 N'000
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Operating surplus/ (deficit) before working capital changes		(1,136,595)
Changes in working capital	3,497,026	9,432
<b>Net cash inflow/ (outflow) from operating activities</b>	<u>3,512,815</u>	<u>(1,127,163)</u>
<b>Cash flow from investing activities:</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(30,515)	(31,840)
Proceed from disposal of fixed assets	434	14,275
Interest received on deposit	177,048	135,830
<b>Net cash inflow from investing activities</b>	<u>146,967</u>	<u>118,265</u>
<b>Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	3,659,782	(1,008,898)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of year</b>	<u>1,909,737</u>	<u>2,918,635</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>	<u>5,569,519</u>	<u>1,909,737</u>

## Our Achievements [2010-2023]

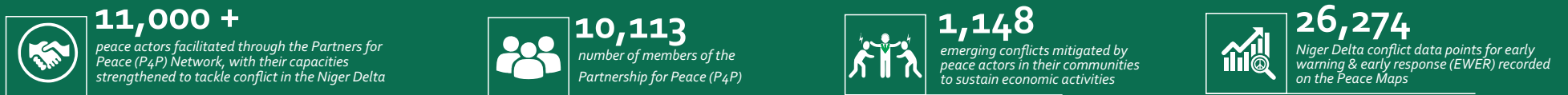
### Reducing Poverty



### Facilitating Alternative Clean Energy Solutions



### Reducing Conflict, Fostering Peace & Stability



### Fostering Youth Employment





**PIND**  
PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE FOR THE NIGER DELTA

**BEING-COST**  
INTEGRATED SOLUTION

**GBOKODA ENERGY CABIN (20 KWP SOLAR POWER PLANT)**  
Wekin, Wari North LG, Delta State  
13 Muritala Mohammed Street, Ojodu Abiodun, Berger, Lagos

Partnership Initiative For The Niger Development (PIND)  
info@beingcostsolutions.com

Operated by:  
Being-cost Integrated Solution Limited  
www.beingcostsolutions.com



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 [www.pindfoundation.org](http://www.pindfoundation.org)

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