



Term of Reference for - AWARD OF GRANTS FOR PEACEBUILDING INTERVENTIONS TO MITIGATE CONFLICTS IN NINE NIGER DELTA STATES

BACKGROUND

The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a non-profit organization that promotes peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region through multi-stakeholder partnerships. Our work is funded with the support of esteemed partners and collaborators, and we 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 supports projects in collaboration with a diverse range of donor partners, including bilateral and multilateral aid agencies, federal and state government agencies in Nigeria, private companies, and foundations. With an overarching goal of increasing income and employment in the region, the Foundation has two distinct but interrelated program areas. They are:

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

Four key enablers support these programs:

- The **enablers**: PIND's program delivery is enabled by an integrated approach that encompasses capacity building, advocacy, communications, gender, and social inclusion.

PIND's Peacebuilding Program:

PIND's peacebuilding program is aimed at achieving the greater goal of regional and lasting peace in the Niger Delta; it hopes to achieve this through creating sustainable peace partnerships, encouraging collaboration and synergy amongst peace actors, providing support for economic

development and strengthening indigenous structures for peace while also creating and building interface with larger state-level or regional peace efforts.

The Peacebuilding Program comprises of two interdependent components; the Partners for Peace (P4P) Network and the Integrated Peace and development Unit (IPDU). The P4P is a network of self-identified peace agents whose mission is to build social capital around peacebuilding through amplifying the voices of positive actors in the Niger Delta. Rather than the traditional, donor-driven, top-down approach, P4P facilitates conflict analysis and early warning, then identifies and promotes existing local initiatives that address the salient conflict risk factors. The Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) is PIND's response to rapidly changing dynamics on the ground. The IPDU promotes collaboration and synergy amongst existing local, regional, and national efforts of actors in both public and private sectors to address conflict early warning and response, with a focus on gender and youth, and emphasis on practical solutions for peacebuilding and conflict mitigation. It houses the Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) platform, the Peace Map and the Prevent Council- key structures for its integrated intervention strategies.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The changing dynamics of violent conflict and insecurity in the Niger Delta is mainly driven by a variety of interrelated and often overlapping conflict risk factors including historical tensions and a proliferation of armed groups (militant, criminal, and ethno-sectarian). Conflict issues include communal tensions, political competition, organized criminality, and resource-based conflicts. Incidents include cultism, election violence, militancy, piracy, communal violence, land disputes, armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, illicit drug trafficking/abuse, and mob violence. According to data on the P4P Peace Map, criminal violence, communal conflict over land and boundary disputes, clashes between herders and farmers over access to land and water resources, clashes between cult gangs, political violence, separatist agitation, and human rights violations including sexual violence and human child trafficking are major drivers of lethal violence and insecurity in the region.

To reduce conflict over the long term, PIND launched the Partners for Peace (P4P) Network in 2013, with the intention of engaging and empowering local actors in peacebuilding and conflict mitigation. The P4P was designed to build capacity, social capital, and local ownership among key stakeholder groups in the Niger Delta through the facilitation of a platform by which men, women, and youth can work together to promote peace in their communities. In 2015, PIND established the Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) to implement peacebuilding programs to provide operational level support to the P4P and other organizations through: research, capacity building and applied learning aimed at early targeting and mitigation of potential drivers of conflict and instability. Since 2015, PIND through the IPDU has implemented a number of peacebuilding and conflict mitigation interventions, leveraging its conflict early warning infrastructure and its vast network of peace actors including community-based organizations (CBOs) in the Niger Delta. Drawing on the lessons learned from these past

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interventions, and considering current trends of conflict and insecurity, PIND now wants to implement a series of targeted interventions to mitigate prevailing and emerging conflict issues in the nine (9) states of the Niger Delta.

A. CONTEXT

Over the years, PIND, through the IPDU and the P4P have amplified the efforts of local peace agents by facilitating locally owned interventions and peacebuilding networks, filling knowledge gaps that hitherto held back local peace agents from taking their efforts to scale, and by providing skills, information, platforms and resources for advocacy, conflict analysis and mitigation. This has also resulted in enhancing the capacity of peace actors in the public and private sectors to respond in a more coordinated and targeted manner to the rapidly changing conflict dynamics in the region. The IPDU has strengthened the capacities of peace actors, and as well as provided information for early warning and response through the IPDU SMS-based early warning platform and the Peace Map. Through the Peace Map, PIND has collected and collated data from multiple sources on emerging and prevailing conflict risk factors in the Niger Delta. Furthermore, PIND through the IPDU research and analytical products has influenced civil society organizations (CSOs) and other peace and security actors towards addressing the dynamics of conflict and insecurity in the region.

PIND through the IPDU and P4P have taken the lead in establishing grassroots led community initiatives in order to contribute to the reduction of violence as a key constraint to economic growth in the Niger Delta. The P4P provides a platform for coordination, collaboration and information sharing among local peacebuilding actors as they move beyond discussing the need for peace to actual engagement in peacebuilding activities. Over the years, peace actors have continued to leverage local capacity for conflict early warning and peacebuilding to catalyze proactive response to the drivers of conflict and instability in the Niger Delta, including the Host Communities of oil companies.

In spite of efforts by stakeholders in promoting peacebuilding and conflict mitigation, the risk of violent conflict remains because of the changing dynamics of peace and conflict in the Niger Delta. Peacebuilding and conflict management efforts must be sustained and intensified in order to address the dynamics of violent conflict and insecurity in the region. Therefore, the grants to implement peacebuilding interventions to mitigate key conflict issues in the nine (9) states of the Niger Delta is crucial for sustainable peace and economic development in the region.

B. RATIONALE

The Niger Delta peace and conflict landscape has undergone significant changes over the years. There have been important changes in the dynamics of violent conflict and insecurity including the reduction of some conflict drivers/triggers, emergence of new conflict drivers, persistence of longstanding resource-based conflicts, and major shifts in the location and hot spots of violence and insecurity. Data shows that violent conflict has intensified in the region since 2020, with

violent conflict becoming increasingly lethal causing more fatalities per incident. According to data uploaded on the P4P Peace Map (see Figure 1 below), violent conflict caused more than 11,350 fatalities in the Niger Delta between 2014 and 2023.

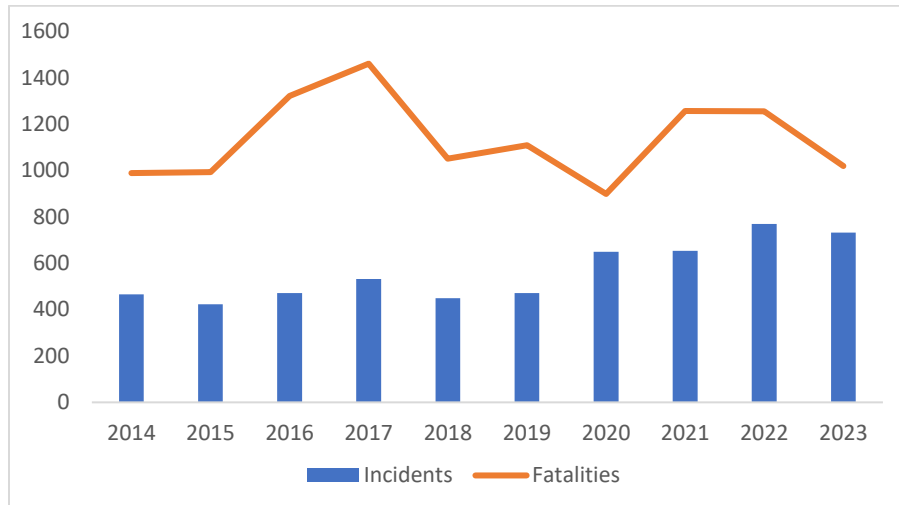


Figure 1: Trends of violent incidents and fatalities in the Niger Delta

The intensity and frequency of violent conflict and insecurity varies from one State and community to another, and largely depends on a number of historical, demographic, environmental, economic, and political factors. Key conflict issues have been mitigated in some communities while others have emerged. According to data, organized criminality, cult/gang violence, communal conflict, mob violence, and human rights violations are some of the key conflict issues that are prevalent across the Niger Delta, but with different levels of frequency, intensity and lethality. Notwithstanding the variation in intensity and frequency of occurrence, violent conflict has become a threat to human security, communal peace and stability, governance, and economic development in the Niger Delta.

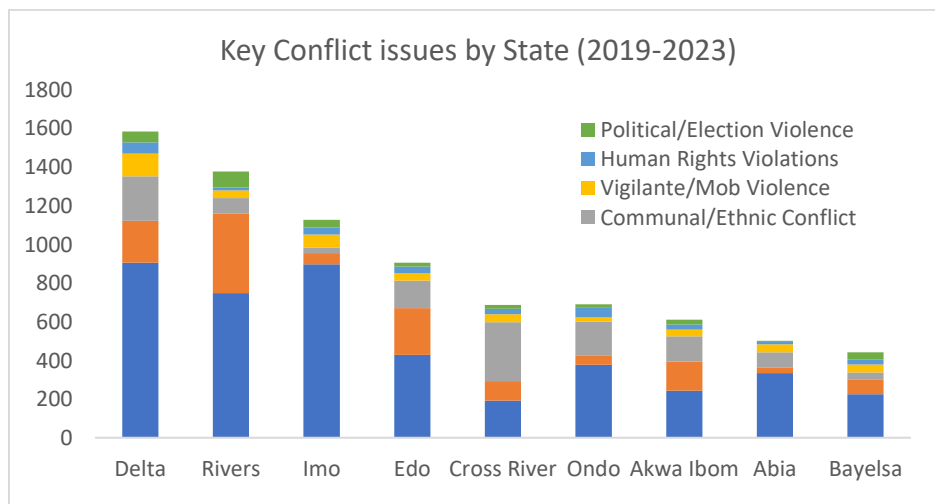


Figure 2: Distribution of key conflict risk factors by state in the Niger Delta from 2019 to 2023

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The objectives of the grants are as follows:

- a. To research and identify the underlying causes and drivers of the prevailing conflict in specific communities in the target States.
- b. 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.
- c. To identify systems, structures, and leverage institutions in the target communities and LGAs to engender sustainable peacebuilding, social cohesion and economic cooperation.
- d. To strengthen existing community-based structures and create new platforms to support dialogue between stakeholders in the target States.
- e. To build capacities of local peace actors in targeted communities for enhanced conflict mitigation.
- f. To contribute to conflict reduction, and an overall increase in peace and safety in the Niger Delta.

PURPOSE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The purpose of this assignment is for the grantees to design, implement and monitor peacebuilding intervention in each Niger Delta state towards managing conflicts, mitigating violence and increasing the overall indices of peace and safety in the Niger Delta. The interventions are unique to the conflict issues prevalent in the nine Niger Delta states based on data (see Table 1 below).

Data shows that general criminality including kidnap for ransom is prevalent in all nine (9) states in the region. At the state level, communal violence over land and boundary disputes as well as clashes between herders and farmers is prevalent in Delta, Cross River, Ondo and Akwa Ibom; clashes between cult gangs are pervasive in Rivers, Edo, Akwa Ibom, Delta and Bayelsa; while organized criminal violence including targeted gun violence and clashes between separatist militias and government security forces is common in Imo and Abia States. Periodic outbreak of communal violence over land dispute and leadership tussle are also major conflict risk and security issues in Abia and Imo States.

If the prevailing conflict situation is not appropriately addressed it could escalate and become more intense and prolonged in ways that could derail the broader peacebuilding objectives of PIND and other stakeholders in the region. Hence, the need for more targeted and community-driven peacebuilding intervention to mitigate the prevailing conflict drivers in the region. It is as a result of the foregoing, that PIND requests for proposals from Civil Society Organizations and

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experienced Peace Actors for grants to implement targeted peacebuilding interventions in the Niger Delta.

Table 1: Interventions proposed for each state based on prevalent conflict issues

S/n	State	Prevalent conflict issues	Intervention proposed	No. of grants	LGAs for potential interventions
1	Abia	Criminality, including clashes between separatist militias and government security forces; as well as communal conflict over land boundary	Design and implement appropriate interventions to address the underlying drivers of youth restiveness	1	Uhafia, Umuneochi, Isiukwuato
2	Akwa Ibom	Gang and communal violence, including clashes over land boundaries	Creation and strengthening of peace structures to mitigate gang violence, and resource-based communal conflict	1	Ukanafo, Itu, Ibiono Ibom, Ibeno
3	Bayelsa	Criminality and gang violence, including clashes between rival cult gangs	Design and implement appropriate interventions to address the underlying drivers of youth restiveness	1	Yenagoa, Ogbia, Southern Ijaw, Ekeremo
4	Cross River	Communal conflict and criminality, including mob violence driven by harmful cultural practices	Interventions to reduce communal conflict and mob violence driven by harmful cultural practices	1	Boki, Akammkpa, Odukpani, Yakurr
5	Delta	Gang and communal violence, including clashes over land boundaries, and between herders and farmers	Creation and strengthening of peace structures to mitigate gang violence, land boundary disputes, herder-farmer clashes	3 (including 2 additional grants for interventions in host communities)	Ughelli South, Udu, Ethiope East, Aniocha South, Warri North, Warri South West

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			and communal leadership tussle	of oil companies)	
6	Edo	Gang and communal violence, including clashes over land boundaries, and between herders and farmers	Creation and strengthening of peace structures to mitigate gang violence, land boundary disputes and herder-farmer clashes	1	Etsako West, Ikpoba Oka, Ovia North East, Akoko Edo
7	Imo	Criminality, including clashes between separatist militias and government security forces; as well as communal conflict over land boundary	Design and implement appropriate interventions to address the underlying drivers of youth restiveness	1	Oguta, Orlu, Okigwe, Ohaji Egbema
8	Ondo	Criminality and communal violence, including clashes between herders and farmers	Creation and strengthening of peace structures to mitigate herder-farmer clashes and related criminal violence, as well as communal leadership tussle	2 (including 1 additional grant for interventions in host communities)	Owo, Akoko North East, Ose, Ilaje
9	Rivers	Gang violence, including clashes between rival cult gangs and related organized criminal violence	Intervention to reduce youth restiveness	1	Emuoha, Ahoada East, Degema, Ogba-Egbema-Ndoni

SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work for this assignment would include the following broad headings:

- Submission of detailed proposal, work plan and budget for the intervention.
- Submission of inception report highlighting the issue, methodology and expected outcomes.
- Implementation of peacebuilding and conflict management intervention.
- Setting up of community peacebuilding advocacy committees.

- Monitoring and evaluation, including submission of progress reports, completion report and peacebuilding actions.
- Ensure project sustainability through short- and long-term follow-up with communities and stakeholders.

RECOMMENDED APPROACHES

PIND strongly recommends that proposals prioritize the following approaches:

a. **Inclusiveness:** Proposals should contain evidence of intention to consult with key stakeholders such as women, youth, people with disability (PWD), vulnerable groups and other relevant parties to the conflict.

b. **Data-Driven:** All proposals should contain provisions for a pre-intervention baseline assessment as well as a post-intervention assessment.

As with all PIND's peacebuilding projects, the approach to this intervention project is data-driven, such that it flows directly from the existing early warning infrastructure. This early warning infrastructure collects and triangulates data on the Peace Map from the IPDU's SMS system, Armed Conflict Location Event Data (ACLED) Nigeria Watch, Community Initiative for Enhanced Peace and Development's (CIEPD) crowd sourcing, and other sources. This data is consolidated weekly, monthly and quarterly in the form of trackers and briefs which are delivered to a broad range of stakeholders across the region, including the P4P chapters.

The interventions funded through these grants will be the ones responding directly to the identified issues and concerns highlighted in these conflict reports and the Peace Map.

c. **Sustainability:** Proposals should contain long term strategies that address the identified conflict risks, rather than short term efforts. Sustainability also ensures that solutions are integrated into existing structures within the communities. Also, before and after implementation of the interventions, grantees will brief the P4P State Chapters so as to share best practices, lessons learned and link the intervention to the P4P. Extra consideration will be given to proposals that include P4P in the design and implementation of the intervention itself. This way the Network will increase in its effectiveness going forward as a result of this project, as well as support the sustainability of the project.

d. **Deep Impact:** Although the grants target real-time salient dynamics as identified through PIND's early warning system, the interventions should be designed to address the deeper drivers of those conflict dynamics, rather than simply managing current escalation. The proposed interventions should also affect a significant number of people

e. **Capacity Building for community representatives:** Proposed interventions should include mentoring and capacity building for representatives in the target communities in the design and implementation of the intervention itself.

ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES

The grantees shall review the terms of reference (ToR) for the project and submit a proposal which will be the basis of their selection. After selection, the grantees will provide an inception report describing their approach, expected outcomes, as well as the work plan. The grantees will be expected to meet with PIND's technical team for an inception meeting and planning.

The following tables present summary key tasks (T) and deliverables (D) as well as the timelines for the project:

Table 2: Tasks and number of days attached per task

Item		Indicative Due Dates
1	Proposal submission and selection process	June 28th 2024
2	Inception report submitted by the grantee with the scope of work, approaches, timelines, and templates in respective state of interest clearly covered.	July 8th 2024
3	Inception meeting between grantees and PIND representatives	July 9th 2024
4	Submission of progress report (including narratives, means of verifications [MOVs] and financial reports)	September 16th 2024
5	Submission of project completion report (including list of members inaugurated into the community peacebuilding advocacy committee, narrative report, testimonies of peace actions based on template provided, means of verifications [MOVs] and financial reports).	October 23 rd 2024
6	Project After Action Review with PIND (virtual), meeting with State P4P for project sustainability (in-person) and close out.	October 29 th 2024

DELIVERABLES

Deliverables stated in the table below are directly linked to specific tasks in 'Activity Timeline' section.

Table 3: Deliverables and indicative due dates

Item	Activity	Indicative Due Dates
D1 (T2 – T3)	Inception report submitted and reviewed.	July 8th 2024
D2 (T4)	Progress report submitted (including narratives, means of verifications [MOVs] and financial reports)	September 16th 2024

D3 (T5)	Project completion report submitted (including list of members inaugurated into the community peacebuilding advocacy committee, narrative report, testimonies of peace actions based on template provided, means of verifications [MOVs] and financial reports).	October 23rd 2024
D4 (T6)	Project After Action Review with PIND (virtual), meeting with State P4P for project sustainability (in-person) and close out.	October 29th 2024

DURATION

We invite project proposals that will be implemented with tangible results over a maximum period of four (4) months from the date of signing of the agreement.

COST

PIND intends to award grants to 12 organizations (one per state in the Niger Delta, and an additional two in Delta and one in Ondo State). The grant award for each organization in each state would range to a maximum of NGN 4,000,000. For the three additional grants in Delta and Ondo States, the grant award would be up to NGN 4,500,000 each. PIND will disregard budgets bloated with operational costs (e.g. administrative and office expenses like rent and salaries). The expectation is that project costs should amount to about 80% of the total budget

The grant will be paid in two tranches- the first tranche (70% of the total grant sum will be paid after signing the grant agreement, delivery of D1 and submission of invoice, and the final 30% after project completion – D2 to D4 (see Table 2 and 3 above).

The total grant sum shall be subject to 1% Stamp Duty deduction deductible at once upon contract execution and remittance shall be to the FIRS.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Civil Society Organizations operating in any of the Niger Delta States are encouraged to apply, especially those with experience in implementing peacebuilding projects. However, there will be additional consideration for organizations that are based in the target States. All P4P, and female led organizational members are encouraged to apply.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested organizations should submit a technical proposal, including a detailed monitoring and evaluation plan and a budget to procurement@pindfoundation.org with the subject heading

'PIND Peacebuilding Grant 2024_State' along with the mandatory item/supporting documents listed below not later than June 21st 2024 by 5PM Nigerian time.

The proposal should focus on the conflict issue identified in Table 1. It should also be based on the intervention proposed for each state. It should be narrowed down to specific communities and local governments that are hotspots of prevailing conflicts in the state.

Proposals received in response to this call will be reviewed internally, and after due verifications, the most promising proposals are selected and recommended for approval. Due to the volume of proposals expected, only successful applicants will be contacted. We will not be able to provide feedback on unsuccessful bids.

After selection of grantees, their contracting will be based on their approved proposal and budget.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Mandatory required items from vendors/ consultants/ grantees who intend to bid for any work or service in PIND include:

1. Certificate of Business Registration
2. Profile of organization and Résumé of key project staff
3. Most Recent Tax Clearance Certificate
4. Full physical contact address
5. Bank Reference Letter

6. Stamp Duty Notification Applicability:

All bidders are advised to take note that Stamp Duty (1%) applies to the total value specified in all contracts/grant agreements, as stipulated by the Stamp Duties Act of 2004. The deduction will be done at source (at once) and remitted to the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) upon the execution of the agreement.

Non-Discriminatory Clause:

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