PIND

Monitoring & Evaluation Report

Quarter Three:
July - September 2026

pindfoundation.org



About PIND Foundation

The Foundation for Partnership Initiatives in the Niger Delta (PIND) is a Nigerian non-profit organization dedicated to promoting peace and equitable economic growth in Nigeria's Niger Delta region. PIND fosters multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder partnerships at regional, national, and international levels to address the complex development challenges of the region.

Recognizing that no single entity can resolve these challenges alone, PIND collaborates with government, civil society, businesses, and international development partners to implement market-driven, community-based programs that mitigate conflicts and expand economic opportunities. This ensures that economic progress in the Niger Delta is systemic, inclusive, and sustainable.

PIND operates across all nine states in the Niger Delta – Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo and Rivers, with a special focus on underserved and hard-to-reach coastal communities often overlooked in development programming.

Since 2010, PIND and its partners have contributed to peace, poverty reduction, energy access, employment generation, stability, and development in the region.

Learn more about PINDfoundation.org.

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Abbreviations and acronyms

AOIHCDT	Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe Host Community Development Trust
APNAG	Advocates of Peace, Nature and Gender Justice
A2E	Access to Energy
BATVE	Ondo State Board for Adult Technical Vocational Education
BDS	Business Development & Sustainability
BoI	Bank of Industry
CDP	Community Development Plan
CLASP	Collaborative Labelling and Appliance Standards Program - An NGO promoting efficient appliances for people and the planet.
CNA	Comprehensive Needs Assessment
CNL	Chevron Nigeria Limited
DARES	Distributed Access through Renewable Energy Scale-up
CPP	Crop Protection Product
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DELCOM COOP	Delta State Commercial Oil Palm Plantation Growers Cooperative Society
EOHCDT	Egbema OPUDIS Host Community Development Trust
EU	European Union
EWER	Early Warning and Early Response
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FSP	Farm Service Provider
FMYD	Federal Ministry of Youth Development
FUPRE	Federal University of Petroleum Resources, Effurun
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion

HCDT	Host Community Development Trust
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IDH	IDH Trade
Ibom-LED	Ibom Leadership and Entrepreneurial Development Centre
ILO	International Labour Organization
IPDU	Integrated Peace and Development Unit
IWD	International Women's Day
KAP	Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices
KEFFESO	Koluama 1, Ezetu 1, Foropa, Fish Town, Ekeni, Sangana
KSS	Knowledge Sharing Session
LMA	Labor Market Assessment
MDA	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises
MWI	Melville Women Initiative
NASME	Nigerian Association of Small and Medium Enterprises
NDPSN	Niger Delta Peace and Security Network
NDRPS	Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy
NDYEP	Niger Delta Youth Employment Pathways
NIHORT	National Institute for Horticultural Research
NPO	Nigerian Philanthropy Office
NSHP	Nigeria Solar for Health Project
NRCRI	National Root Crops Research Institute
NTU	NTU International
NUPRC	Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission
PB	Peacebuilding
PIA	Petroleum Industry Act
PIP	PIND Integrated Platform
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PREO	Powering Renewable Energy Opportunities - A demand-led donor funded productive use of renewable energy program improving the livelihoods of communities in sub-Saharan Africa and Pacific Island Countries
PSS	Procurement Support Services
PWD	Person with Disability
P4P	Partners for Peace
REAN	Renewable Association of Nigeria
RFP	Request for Proposal
REEEP	Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Policy (NREEEP)
ROGEAP	Regional Off-grid Electricity Access Project - An ECOWAS project that provides funding for certified off-grid and standalone solar
ECN	Energy Commission of Nigeria
SDN	Stakeholder Democracy Network
SFCG	Search for Common Ground
SHF	Small Holder Farmers
SMEDAN	Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria
ToT	Training of Trainers
TSPs	Technical Service Providers
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
TWG	Technical Working Group
OAODF	Okiero Anthony Okoro Development Foundation
OOPC	Okomu Oil-Palm Company PLC
WACCIMA	Warri Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Mines and Agriculture
WKHCDT	Warri Kingdom Coastal Host Community Development Trust
UK-PACT	UK Government's Partnering for Accelerated Climate Transitions
UHCDT	Ugboland Host Community Development Trust
YEP	Youth Employment Pathways

Background

Our goal at PIND is to identify, catalyze, and leverage opportunities, jobs, and incomes for our target beneficiaries. In these roles, we actively engage in identifying multi-stakeholder partners and act as a catalyst for establishing an enabling environment for socio-economic growth in the Niger Delta region. The goals of these partnerships are to reduce poverty, increase welfare benefits, and mitigate conflict by implementing interventions that promote stability and equitable growth in employment and income for beneficiaries across the nine target states: Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo, and Rivers.

To achieve this goal, PIND works to understand the root causes of economic instability, conflict, and fragility to develop community-based, market-driven, and sustainable solutions.

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

- **Economic Development Program:** Focused on generating opportunities for pro-poor market development and employment creation.
- **Peacebuilding Program:** Strengthens conflict resolution mechanisms to foster integrated peace and economic growth.

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

- **Capacity Building:** Strengthens the service delivery and engagement capacity of business membership organizations, civil society organizations, and communities.
- **Advocacy:** Seeks to influence policies, practices, and programs through in-depth analysis and an understanding of systemic constraints to growth in the Niger Delta region.
- **Communications/Knowledge Management:** Enhances PIND's reputation and brand through clear and consistent messaging across multiple channels, highlighting its unique value proposition, transformative approaches, impact, learning and knowledge management.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)**: Independently tracks, verifies, and measures program results to ensure accountability.

THE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

By the end of Phase IV (2025-2029), PIND aims to:

SO1: Achieve better functioning market systems for agriculture and MSMEs, youth skills development for employment, finance, and access to renewable energy benefiting 800,000 farmers and MSMEs, 50% of whom will increase their income by 40%, and creating 150,000 new jobs, 50% of which will benefit youths and other vulnerable groups. Additionally, 250 communities will be electrified.

SO2: Influence $50 million investment in the Niger Delta through PIND; raise a minimum of $7.5 million in additional funds from the private sector and donor community for PIND programs, equivalent to 30% of Chevron's funding.

SO3: Integrate climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to increase resilience in the Niger Delta, reducing GHG emissions from renewable energy, mitigating flood impacts through community plans, and supporting enterprises selling bio/organic products.)

SO4: Support Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) to co-invest in priority projects that improve economic and peacebuilding agendas in their communities, by enhancing their capacity to co-design and co-invest in skills development, market linkages, and renewable solutions for job creation and income generation.

SO5: Reduce conflict and promote peace by sustainably deploying the P4P Network, strengthening the link between peacebuilding and economic development, delivering value to donor, other stakeholders, and addressing regional conflict issues.

PIND's Programs contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals:

Programs	SDGs
Market development, Access to energy and Youth Employment Pathways	1,2,5,6,7
Peacebuilding Program	16
General Enabling Programs	5,10,15, 17



Executive Summary

This report highlights PIND's program achievements in the Niger Delta from July to September 2026 (Quarter 3). It includes information on program management and lessons learned. The report demonstrates how we are driving change to ensure broad-based economic growth in the Niger Delta. Our interventions aim to drive cross-cutting economic growth by fostering a culture of learning and adaptation, where evidence plays a key role in determining policy direction in economic development, peacebuilding, advocacy, and capacity building.

Achievements

Market Systems Development:
The market system development project supports farmers and small enterprises to improve productivity, increase income and reduce poverty. The project uses a market systems development approach, which begins with a thorough analysis of market systems to identify the root causes of weaknesses. This informs the design and implementation of interventions that address the underlying issues, rather than just the symptoms of market failure. To ensure the sustainability of these interventions, activities are anchored on a service providers' model. This equips local service providers with the skills, tools, and connections needed to offer viable market solutions that address the root causes of underperformance among farmers and enterprises in the region. In Phase IV (2025 – 2029), PIND supports ***Partners*** *to deploy cross-cutting services across the MSD thematic areas:* ***Access to Agricultural Inputs (fertilizers, crop protection products (CPPs), feeds, vaccines, etc.); Access to Seeds; Access to Technical and Business Development Services; and Access to Industrial Markets and Agricultural Technology.***

Key achievements as of 2026

- **Service Provision:** Over **108** service providers continued delivering cross-cutting services to farmers and MSMEs across the Niger Delta in 2026 alone, bringing the total to **162/400** entrepreneurial service providers in the first two

years of this phase.

- **Outreach:** A total **159,570** farmers/MSMEs were reached with improved cross-cutting services in 2026. From 2025 – 2026, the farmers/MSMEs outreach was **266,760/800,000** of which **128,044 (48%)** were female, 34.8% youths, as well as **68 PWDs**. With more years into *Phase IV*, more farmers will be reached with livelihood access by the Service Providers in the Niger Delta.
- **HCDTs Supports:** Over **1,932** farmers and enterprises were reached with livelihoods programs in the CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); ***Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, Egbema OPUDIS, Warri Kingdom Coastal, and Ugboland,*** in 2026 alone, bringing the cumulative to **2,905** farmers/MSMEs in the first two years of this phase. More CNL HCDTs farmers/MSMEs are being targeted with livelihood intervention in the remaining years of this phase.
- **Productivity and Income Gains:** Farmers/MSMEs who adopted improved practices in 2026 experienced increased productivity and annual net income, of **₦82.48** billion, and a cumulative income of **₦118.67 billion** for the first two years of phase IV. This also resulted in the creation of **18,474 full-time equivalent (FTE)** jobs in 2026, and **29,914 jobs** in the first two years of phase iv.

Youth Employment Pathways:
The Youth Employment Program (YEP) aims to map the ecosystem of skills development, analyze employment creation opportunities, and develop models of youth job readiness. These efforts target disadvantaged youth in the Niger Delta, providing them with enterprise opportunities. PIND's approach includes market-relevant technical vocational training, which prepares youth for employment or entrepreneurship.

Key achievements as Q3 2026

- **Training Implementation:** Over **32** implementing partners began project implementation across the Niger Delta. A total of **2,707 youths (1,435 females)** were trained in 2026 alone. The cumulative number trained in the first two years of this phase was **7,690 youths**. A target of **45,000** youths will benefit in five years of this phase.
- **Post-Training Support:** Out of the **2,707** youths who completed training in 2026, **87% (2,355)** accessed livelihoods opportunities. The cumulative number of the trained youths with access to employment/private enterprise was **7,253**. The program continues to emphasize optimizing post-training support for the youths.

Access to Energy:
Access to energy is crucial for human development and well-being. However, many rural Niger Delta communities, lack access to electricity, particularly in coastal areas where self-generation is more expensive. The lack of modern energy services impedes economic growth and compromises welfare and safety. PIND's Access to Energy (A2E) program collaborates with private sector clean energy developers to provide adaptive rural energy solutions. This strategic approach is vital to the success of the A2E program.

Key achievements:

- **Energy Connections:** A total of **9,528/(6,500-target)** households and **6,221/(3,500-target)**[1] businesses have been verifiably connected to clean energy in 2026 alone. While the cumulative Households and businesses connected to electricity for the first two years are **13,803 and 8,213**. The total number of persons with access to clean energy within this period was **57,168**[2]**.** Funds accessed by partners with PIND's influence reached **₦2.75billion** in the quarter and **₦9.39 billion** for the year.
- **Access to Energy induced Cost Savings:** Over **9,528** households that verifiably accessed clean energy from January – September 2026, have saved **₦₦2.088 billion due to the access to cheaper and clean energy solution**, while over **6,221** businesses had additional income of **₦6.35 billion** within the same period, due to the reduction in the cost of energy for their businesses. The total financial benefit enjoyed by these households and businesses was **₦8,442,177,805**[3], against the 2026 annual target of **₦9 billion**.
- **Energy Access induced Job creation:** Total Jobs created in 2026 by businesses using clean energy and energy

[1] A2E Output indicators were exceeded because, the eenergy partners expanded energy provisions faster than planned as they respond to increased demand for electricity in new communities

[2] NBS average number of persons per household in the Niger Delta is 6 – this was used to estimate the number of users of clean energy from 3,757 households reported within the reporting period.

[3] Financial benefits = Household cost savings + increased business gross margins

providers in 2026 was **3,799 FTE** against the annual target of **7,300 FTE**. **21%** of the micro businesses accessing clean energy reported employing extra paid labor to do their businesses due to expansions. The cumulative jobs created in the first two years of this phase was **4,679/10,000 FTE**.

Peacebuilding:

The primary goal of PIND's peacebuilding program is to achieve regional and lasting peace in the Niger Delta. To achieve this, PIND is fostering sustainable peace partnerships, encouraging collaboration and cooperation amongst peace actors, supporting economic development, and strengthening indigenous peace structures. PIND is also building interfaces with larger state-level or regional peace efforts to create an environment conducive to broad-based economic development.
The Peacebuilding Program consists of two interrelated projects:

1. ***Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU):*** *This unit undertakes research and provides training to local and international stakeholders to implement innovative pilot projects that can make a meaningful difference on the ground. The IPDU responds swiftly to changing dynamics, promoting collaboration and synergy among local, regional, and national actors. It also helps develop early warning and response mechanisms to address conflicts, with a particular focus on gender and youth.*
2. ***Partners for Peace (P4P) Network:*** *The P4P Network is PIND's strategy to build social infrastructure and peace capital across the Niger Delta. Over the past five years, PIND has established a network of self-identified peace agents who leverage grassroots networking to promote peace in the region. By utilizing conflict analysis and early warning systems, P4P supports existing peace initiatives and creates new ones to address conflict risk factors. The network has chapters and subchapters in all nine states and 119 local government areas (LGAs) of the Niger Delta.*

In the current strategic phase (2025-2029), the Peace Network has focused on strengthening grassroots conflict resolution initiatives that foster a more peaceful, integrated, and enabling environment for economic growth and development in the region.

Key achievements in Q3 2026 include:

- **Community Peace Outlook:** In Q3 2026, over **734,342** persons from ***48 communities in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Ondo and Rivers States*** reported improved safety among local residents in the Niger Delta - evidenced by persons reporting improved safety in their communities due to enhanced community-level engagement and resilience. This represents **29%** of the annual target of **2.5 million** people to experience improved peace outlook from the trained peace actors and community members adopting constructive conflict resolution techniques.
- **Strengthened evidence-based early warning and response:** Issued **62** early warning alerts to more than **547** response actors, produced **16** analytical outputs, attracted **38** additional subscribers to IPDU's research products, and enhanced incident verification through the launch of an Android application and misinformation detection mechanisms.
- **Expanded community-based peace infrastructure:** Supported Prevent Council interventions across six states and strengthened grassroots peacebuilding through P4P subchapters in OOPC neighboring communities, including the establishment of **17** subchapters involving **327** trained participants.
- **Advanced peacebuilding–economic development linkages:** Implemented four Safe Farm Corridors activities in Abia State to address security threats affecting the WISE Program, while sustaining corporate–community engagement, peace communication, and local conflict prevention in OOPC neighboring communities in Edo State.

Communications:

PIND's communication activities aim to increase its visibility, strengthen its reputation, and engage stakeholders to support, partner with, fund, and replicate its programs.

Key achievements in Q3 2026 include:

KM-Comms produced and published **10+ video stories** showcasing program impact across: Energy access, Peacebuilding and Livelihoods and agriculture. **Content highlights include**: Improved farmer incomes; Strengthened community resilience; and Conflict prevention outcomes. **Sample outputs include:** International Youth Day, PIND-Okomu/ETIN Power solar mini-grid commissioning, Supporting the People Building Community Peace, and recorded over **183,828** social media impressions. Reported audience: **61,255 followers**. (Few examples of the Links available below)

- International Youth Day 2026
- PIND–Okomu/ETIN Power solar mini-grid commissioning
- PIND-ColdHubs Solar-Powered Cold Room in Swali Market
- Supporting the People Building Community Peace
- Strengthening Community-Based Peace Systems in Edo State

Advocacy:

PIND's advocacy efforts remained focused on three key areas: Influencing spending and funding from governments, donors, and private sector organizations for new projects in the Niger Delta. The goal for Advocacy in the next five years (2025 – 2029) is to leverage value from already built models and structures to support program areas in cross-cutting operations and open up opportunities for investments across the Economic Development and Peacebuilding programs. Its support shall be at strategic levels and deliberate to elicit measurable impacts and will be implemented through the following approaches: Strategic/Demand-Driven Support, Supporting Program Integration, Promotion of PIND Models, Strategic Collaboration, and Deliver value to the stakeholders.

Key achievements in Q3 2026 include:

- **Advanced policy influence and PIND model adoption:** The Safe Farm Corridors initiative promoted PIND's peacebuilding model, while engagements with agriculture ministries in Abia and Bayelsa advanced MSD and A2E opportunities. The revised KEFFESO MoU also supports integrating PIND approaches into HCDT interventions.
- **Expanded HCDT partnerships:** Through Bridges, PIND's relationships and credibility among HCDTs have been strengthened. The project contributed to improved stakeholder understanding of PIA governance and accountability models, advocacy strategies, and sustainable Community Development Plans. The commencement of the CONNECT project provides an opportunity to consolidate these gains and deepen engagement with HCDTs.

Capacity Building:

As a key enabler of PIND's Phase IV strategy, the Capacity Building program is designed to strengthen the institutional and operational capacities of Chevron Host Community Development Trusts HCDTs, private institutions, government institutions, civil society, business associations and service providers, for effective socio-economic engagement and inclusive governance. This program directly contributes to PIND's long-term development objectives and the promotion of growth and peaceful co-existence in the Niger Delta. The program focuses on two major areas:
Strengthening HCDTs: Supporting Chevron HCDT, which replaced the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) of 2021, to effectively implement peacebuilding and economic development interventions.
Empowering Local Institutions: Enhancing the institutional capacity of local BMOs, organizations, and implementing partners, to drive sustainable economic growth in the region.

Key achievements in Q3 2026 include:

- **Capacity Building for the Four Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs):** in 2026, the Capacity Building team continued to strengthen the institutional capacity of the four CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); **Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, Egbema OPUDIS, Warri Kingdom Coastal, and Ugboland,** through strategic engagements, technical advisory support, and targeted capacity development interventions.
- In Q3, PIND provided training and mentorship to four HCDTs: Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema-OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland, on Procurement Management and Leadership. This training enhanced their capacity to manage procurement processes, ensure data integrity, and comply with PIA-specific regulations. A total of 184 participants, from CNL HCDTs benefitted from Capacity Building in 2026.

GESI Key Achievements:

Key achievements in Q3 2026 include:

Out of the **117,273** program participants in Q3 2026, **55,097** were women (42.5%), and 70 PWDs for more on GESI.

The next section provides summary of progress against the 2026 targets.

Summary of progress against 2026 targets as of Q3

Table 1: The summary below presents a view of progress against PIND's 2026 target as at Q3.

Strategic Objective 1: Better functioning market systems: for agricultural and MSME, youth skills development for employment, finance, and access to renewable energy.					
	Indicators	**2026 Target**	**Results as at Q3 2026**		
1a. Number of targeted service providers reached with services across sectors (MSD), TVET centers/IPs (YEP) and energy providers (A2E)				**%**	**Rag**
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	100	137	137%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	20	22[4]	110%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	20	21	105%	
1b. Number of targeted service providers providing services across sectors (MSD), TVET centers/IPs (YEP) and energy providers (A2E)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	100	108	108%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	20	14[5]	70%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	20	21	105%	
2. Equity Investments leveraged from the implementing partners as a result of successful adoption and adaptation programs in MSD, YEP and A2E (NGN)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD) (NGN)	500 million	417.78 million[6]	84%	
	Access to Energy (A2E) (NGN)	6.5 billion	9.39 billion[7]	144%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	150 million	83.41 million	56%	
3. Service providers experiencing increased productivity/income - Service providers, reached through project facilitation, who experienced increased productivity/income					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	80	81	102%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	20	14	70%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	20	21	105%	
4. Net jobs created by the Partners' businesses (Energy providers/IPs/Other partners)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	450	350	78%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	100	88	88%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	300	82[8]	27%	
5. Number of targeted farmers and enterprises reached with improved products and services, introduced through project facilitation.		150,000	159,570[9]	106%	
5b. Number of targeted farmers and enterprises adopting improved services (MSD)		150,000	156,379[10]	149%	
6. Farmers/businesses who experienced increased productivity/income in MSD/YEP; Realize a financial benefit as a result of access to clean energy (A2E)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	73,000	68,436	94%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	3,500	3,999	114%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	8,000	1,760[11]	22%	

[4] Out of the 9 Energy Providers onboarded in Q1 2026, 5 deployed the 10 energy solutions as at Q1 2026, inQ2, addition 8 deployed energy solution – cumulative is 13

[5] Out of the 9 Energy Providers onboarded in Q1 2026, 5 deployed the 10 energy solutions as at Q1 2026, inQ2, addition 8 deployed energy solution – cumulative is 13

[6] Outstanding investments by the SPs – outcome of the outcome assessment

[7] In Q2 2026, energy providers accessed N1,389,971,694.53 in funds and grants with PIND's influence during the quarter in addition to the one reported in Q1. And in Q3 2026, a total of 2,748,560,000.00 was the Equity funds invested in energy solutions by Darway coast = N9.39 billion as at Q3 2026

[8] IP Assessments is ongoing and will be reported in Q4 2026

[9] Attributable Average Number of farmers reached in 2026 was 1,477.5, multiply by 108 SPs

[10] Rate of adoption of cross cutting practices in 2026 was 98%

[11] 87% of the 2,707 youths who completed their training in 2026, majority of those in training will graduate in Q4 2026

7. Naira value of (equity) investment by farmers adopting/adapting the cross-cutting services and innovations (MSD); by new enterprises established under YEP; and Businesses accessing clean energy (A2E)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD) NGN	119.9 billion	129.60 billion	108%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	3.5 billion	609.17 million	17%	
8. Number of Jobs created by farmers who access partners' services; Number of jobs created by Businesses established in YEP; number of jobs created by Businesses who access clean energy under A2E. (This is distinct from the SPs contribution to jobs)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	20,500	18,474	90%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	7,200	3,711	52%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	9,000	4,395	49%	
9. Net attributable income change [Naira value] - Aggregated change in cumulative income of farmers/Businesses (NGN) -MSD/YEP					
	Market System Development Program (MSD) (NGN)	80 billion	82.48 billion	103%	
	Access to Energy (A2E) (NGN) (Financial gains by HHs + Biz)	9 billion[12]	8.44 billion	94%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	2 billion	1.26 billion	63%	
10. Percentage change in cumulative income of farmers/Businesses (NGN) -MSD/YEP (%)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	70%	29%	41%	
11. Change in Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index.					
	Percentage of GESI mainstreaming	40%	40.57%	101%	
	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) - Market System Development Program (MSD)	80%	TBD in Q4	-	
12	Number of households with access to energy solutions by the energy providers in the coastal/HCDTs and neighboring communities	6,500	9,528[13]	147%	
13	Number of businesses with access to energy solutions by the energy providers, promoting tested energy models around the productive use of energy for economic development of the coastal/HCDTs and neighboring communities	3,500	6,221	178%	
14	Number of persons with access to clean energy.	42,500	58,451	138%	
15	Financial benefits accruing to users of energy solutions (NGN) - Businesses and Households (A2E) (NGN)	9 billion	8,442,177,805	94%	
16	Number of youths with applicable skills from supported TVET centers/IPs (private and public) implementing innovative youth skills development model in the ND (completed training)	10,000	2,707 [14]	27.1%	
17	Number of youths accessing employment and other income-earning opportunities after graduating from YEP program	8,000	2,355	29%	
18	Number of youths benefiting from PIND's Challenge Funds	65	TBD in Q4	-	
Strategic Objective 2: Investment by donors/funders influenced by PIND in Niger Delta ($50 million)					
	Indicators	**2026 Target**	**Results as of Q3 2026**		
19. Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the ND by partners (Energy providers/IPs and other SPs) from external donors/funders - (50 million USD)		$10 million	$7,575,955.64	76%	
A2E	Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the development of the ND by Energy providers from external donors/funders - (USD)	$5 million	$6,881,875.72[15]	138%	

[12] This was adjusted after the assessment in 2026

[13] 37 communities linked to electricity than targeted 10 in Q1 2026, 21 in Q2 2026: 6 in Q3 2026.

[14] Majority are on training and will graduate in Q4 2026. A total of **4,172** beneficiary youths is currently in various vocational training centers across 7 states in the region.

[15]In Q2 2026, energy providers accessed ₦1,389,971,694.53 in funds and grants with PIND's influence during the quarter in addition to the one reported in Q. In Q3 equity funds invested in energy solutions by Darway coast

YEP	Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the development of the ND by YEP IPs from external donors/funders - (USD)	$2 million	$61,134.36[16]	3%	
Capacity Building	Net Amount of funds raised/technical assistance from funders, donors, and private institutions by the CSOs/NGOs for local service provision (HCDTs + others) - (USD)	$1 million	$31,437.38[17]	3%	
MSD	Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the development of the ND by MSD Partners (SPs) from external donors/funders - (USD) – **SK influenced funds inclusive**	$2 million	$601,508.18[18]	30%	
20. Naira value of the demonstrable changes as a result of PIND-influenced Development Models, policies and initiatives in EDP and PB. (NGN) *Demonstrable changes (infrastructural and non-infrastructural projects) as a result of the implementation of: Long-term Development Plans (LTDP), Access to land Policy, NDRPS, policy on double taxation etc. by public and private institutions.*					
	Advocacy (Naira value - NGN)	100 billion	TBD in Q4	-	
21. BDS Funds raised for PIND managed activities (Raise additional funds from private sector and donor community for PIND programs. A minimum of $7.5 million raised for PIND, equivalent to 30% of Chevron's funding) - USD					
	BDS - Grants/Technical Services - (USD)	$1.5 million	$1.38million[19]	92%	
22. Number of firm commitments by state governments institutions and other development agencies to replicate key aspects of PIND's youth employment pathways approaches, per year and cumulatively (YEP)		5	2.00[20]	40%	
23. Number of state and non-state actors that adopt or adapt the model for youth job readiness, workforce development and entrepreneurship that is developed, tested, validated, and/or refined by PIND.		20	1.00[21]	5%	
Strategic Objective 3: Integration of climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to increase resilience in the Niger Delta. (Pilot)					
	Indicators	**2026 Target**	**Results as of Q3 2026**		
24. Quantity of CO_2 equivalent emissions reduced (metric tons of CO_2 equivalent (tCO2e) emissions) - *This is the cumulative amount of CO_2 displaced from the deployment of renewable energy technologies for community and cluster businesses energy solutions*		500,000	562,579[22]	**113%**	
Strategic Objective 4: HCDTs are co-investing in their priority projects to improve economic and peace agendas in their communities: *Enhance the capacity of Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs), to co-design and co-invest in interventions to stimulate skills development, linkages to markets, and renewable solutions for job creation and income generation in their communities. Integration of climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to increase resilience in the Niger Delta.*					
	Indicators	**2026 Target**	**Results as of Q3 2026**		
27. Number of organizations, associations and networks accessing funds/grants		5	5[23]		

[16] Aqua Green Integrated Farm Support Initiative (₦5,000,000 Agriculture); Azure Gold Ltd, Building Construction got ₦6,355,000; AMY6015 Global Enterprise (Fashion & Garment Making) ₦13,500,000; Kiara De-Luke Academy - Fashion & Garment Making; Building Construction - ₦30,000,000; in Q3 2026, 8 Implementing Partners reported ₦18,800,000 funding from FME/IDEAS TVET INITIATIVE SUPPORTED BY THE WORLD BANK; N-POWER by Federal Government; IDICE; Private sector, and Donor Organizations

[17] CARA Development Foundation reported accessing a grant of ₦15,000,000 from ActionAid Nigeria under the Renewed Women Voices and Leadership (RWVL) Project in Imo State. Newland Pathway Integrated Consult reported securing ₦2,400,000 in funding from the Young Africa Nigeria Advancement and Productivity Initiative to implement a business development intervention for women-owned nano and microenterprises in Akure North and Akure South Local Government Areas of Ondo State. In Q3 2026, Sustainable Actions for Leadership, Transformation and Inclusivity Initiative (SALTI Initiative), a youth-led organization based in Imo State that previously participated in PIND capacity-building interventions, reported securing a US$10,000) grant from the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund to implement Udo Ka Nma (Peace is Better),

[18] SK signed an agreement with the Ugboland HCDT for $291,970 (₦400,000,000) for the implementation of Access to Finance/Livelihood program. This fund was influenced under the MSD. It is not fund raised. In Q3 2026, SPs invested ₦328,642,712.69 in Q3 2026.

[19] $1,386,864 raised in 2026: CAPIND capacity building for the CNL HCDTs. Engaged 16 other HCDTs - (SK/UHCDT) - $489,000, SK/Egbema - $45,000 Opudis; OOPC 2027 CSR - OOPC: $524, 000; Ford Foundation, $300,000; ETK Group (YEP) - Ford/F - $26,315.78

[20] In 2026 Q1, PIND and the Bayelsa Ministry of Youth Development (BMYD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to scale the planned YEP program implementation in Bayelsa. 2. Dakkkada Skills Acquisition Center (DASAC): YEP, visited the Dakkada Skills Acquisition Centre (DASAC); a government owned vocational training facility in Akwa Ibom. Notably, DASAC management demonstrated strong commitment to exploring a formal partnership with PIND, including the potential adaptation and contextualization of the YEP model to enhance youth employment outcomes in Akwa Ibom State.

[21] Bayelsa State has committed to adopt the YEP model through an MoU with PIND

[22] Annual CO_2 Savings (KgCo2) from 5640 kWp installations across the Niger Delta

[23] Newland Pathway Integrated Consult accessed ₦1,846,800, while Family Welfare Foundation Bayelsa (FAWEF) accessed 10million from CONOIL

with PIND assistance.			100%	
28. Capacity Building - Organizations providing improved services to the HCDTs	5	5	100%	
29. Capacity Building - Total amount of funds raised/technical assistance from funders, donors, and private institutions by the CSOs/NGOs for local service provision at the HCDTs (NGN) - to be reported as part of the $50 million target	100 million	42,889,700.00	43%	
30. Number of targeted farmers and enterprises reached in the CNL HCDTs with improved products and services, introduced through project facilitation per year and cumulatively. This includes Youths with applicable skills in the CNL HCDTs				
MSD - Targeted farmers and enterprises reached in the CNL HCDTs inclusive of others	2,000	1,932[24]	97%	
YEP - Youths with applicable skills in the CNL HCDTs	500	198[25]	39.6%	
31. Number of CNL HCDTs persons benefiting from Capacity Building (EDP and PB)	400	184	46%	
32. Number of youths benefiting from PIND's Challenge Funds in the HCDTs	20	TBD in Q4	-	
33. P4P members trained in project management, proposal writing, and reporting with participants demonstrating enhanced skills for successful project completions in the HCDTs	15	10	67%	
Strategic Objective 5: Reducing conflict and promoting peace: *Advance Research and Data-Driven Analysis for Informed Peacebuilding; ensuring a sustainable and effective deployment of P4P Network; cultivating linkage between Peacebuilding and Economic Development; delivering value to Chevron; and addressing regional conflict issues.*				
Indicators	**2026 Target**	**Results as of Q3 2026**		
34. Percentage of population reporting improved safety among local residents in the Niger Delta - evidenced by persons reporting improved safety in their communities	2.5million	734,342[26]	29%	
35. Strategic alignment activities (workshops, consultations, and roundtables) conducted with government and corporate stakeholders to enhanced strategic alignment of government and corporate peacebuilding frameworks (e.g., NDRPS and Chevron HCDTs) with local needs, demonstrated integration conflict sensitive data and inclusive approaches.	10	8[27]	80%	
36. P4P members trained in project management, proposal writing, and reporting with participants demonstrating enhanced skills for successful project completions.	10	10	100%	
37. Stakeholders utilizing PIND's peace data and analysis - Utilization rate of EWER data and alerts by stakeholders, evidenced by subscribers.	100	98	98%	
38. **Quarterly update from P4P** detailing progress on independent projects activities, and regular peace outlook updates showing:	4	3	75%	
39. Stakeholders incorporating conflict analysis insights into planning or interventions. (Greater adoption of peacebuilding strategies by local and international stakeholders informed by data and research products, evidenced by stakeholder feedback and application in policy or interventions)	5	6	120%	

Nigeria Limited through the Koluama Host Communities Development Trust, as well as additional support from the Global Fund through the Network of NGOs working to eradicate Tuberculosis in Nigeria. In Q2 CARA Development Foundation reported accessing a grant of ₦15,000,000 from ActionAid Nigeria under the Renewed Women Voices and Leadership (RWVL) Project in Imo State. Newland Pathway Integrated Consult reported securing ₦2,400,000 in funding from the Young Africa Nigeria Advancement and Productivity Initiative to implement a business development intervention for women-owned nano and microenterprises in Akure North and Akure South Local Government Areas of Ondo State.

[24] 755 farmers, traders, and fisherfolk were linked to ColdHubs' solar-powered cold storage services and introduced to the Coldivate digital platform. Cold Hub 3 Ton cold storage and 1 Ton capacity Ice maker Swali Market, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State. In Q3 2026, there was a training of 264 fisherfolk in Ugbonla Community, Ilaje Local Government Area (LGA), Ondo State, facilitated by Newland Pathway; , Marich Agro Allid Services, a PIND-supported service provider, trained 320 fisherfolk in Ogidigben (230) and Gbokoda (90), 10 fisherfolk from Ajamita Community adopted 10 improved fishing nets, demonstrating initial uptake of the promoted technology.

[25] Names of 138 youths for training by Egbema-Opudis HCDT and Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe HCDTs. Ugboland HCDT: 2 partners (AMY6015 and Micafotoy) working with GTC have shortlisted over 60 youths from the CNL communities in Ondo State for enrollment and onboarding on the Vocational Training program

[26] PB Interventions from 48 communities in 8 states of the ND:

[27] https://drive.google.com/file/d/1PBDP_frfZw9zGFwSEeQs8aegsuLGTv9F/view?usp=sharing

40. Briefs/Trackers and Research Products published	48	41[28]	85%	
41. Integrated plans and implementation strategy developed across peacebuilding and economic development teams, yielding joint interventions that are reported to enhance both stability and economic growth in targeted regions.	3	4[29]	133%	
42. Documented cases of improved economic stability linked to peacebuilding interventions, tracked semi-annually.	2	1	50%	
43. New business investments attracted to the ND due to increased safety.	20	13	65%	

Security Update

During the third quarter of 2026, the Peacebuilding (PB) Program continued to strengthen data-driven conflict prevention, reinforce community-based peace infrastructure, and deepen the integration of peacebuilding with economic development across the Niger Delta. The operating environment remained volatile, with reported conflict-related fatalities declining by 7 percent, from 171 in Q2 to 159 in Q3. While fatalities associated with communal violence, cult-related clashes, and climate-induced disasters declined, organized criminal violence, kidnapping, and armed confrontations between security forces and criminal groups increased significantly. Heightened political competition ahead of Nigeria's 2027 general elections further contributed to emerging security risks, underscoring the importance of sustained, adaptive, and locally led peacebuilding interventions.

PIND continued to collaborate with local peace actors and civil society organizations to mitigate emerging conflict risks across the Niger Delta, including identifying and addressing emerging conflict issues across Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) in Delta and Ondo States. For example, during Q3 2026, in Delta State, the IPDU collaborated with the Warri Peace Community Support Initiative (WPCSI) to implement peacebuilding and conflict management interventions aimed at de-escalating communal tensions arising from the Independent National Electoral Commission's (INEC) ward delineation exercise within the Warri Federal Constituency. This was through dissemination of peace messaging stickers and a radio campaign under the theme ***Warri Na One***. Radio programs were aired on DBS Warri, Melody FM, Wafi FM, and Kpoko FM. During the quarter, more than 20 advocacy visits were conducted, engaging over 80 stakeholders, including traditional leaders, government officials, media practitioners, business leaders, and other key actors.

Generally, kidnapping, both targeted and opportunistic, continues to be a significant threat in the Niger Delta and across Nigeria, primarily driven by economic gains regardless of the victim's profile. Other forms of security situations recorded in Q3 2026 are provided below:

- **Delta State (September 02, 2026):** At about 7:45 pm, armed men ambushed and abducted a woman at the entrance of her residence along Eko Amukpe Road, Sapele (Sapele LGA) as she tried to drive into her compound. They fired shots into the air (expended AK-47 shells recovered) and took her into a nearby bush. Police (Sapele Division) and local vigilantes searched overnight, pressuring the kidnappers to abandon her. She was rescued unharmed and reunited with her family; a manhunt for the suspects continued.
- **Ondo State (August 24, 2026):** The Ondo State Security Network (Amotekun) lost two of its officers in an ambush by suspected criminals around Ala Daadaa in Akure North LGA.
- **Cross River State (August 11, 2026):** On 11 August 2026, five-armed sea robbers in a speedboat hijacked a wooden passenger boat travelling from Henshaw Town Beach (Calabar) to Utan Uyata, Ibaka. They took control of the vessel and passengers. The Nigerian Navy (FOB Ibaka) and Marine Police responded with patrols/blockades. Attackers abandoned the hijacked boat and 11 captives at Asak-Ikang Creek and fled toward Oron. Another 11 victims who escaped earlier were also accounted for. All 22 passengers rescued received medical checks at FOB Ibaka Sickbay before returning to Calabar with the recovered boat.
- **Akwa Ibom State (August 31, 2026):** A Joint operation by Government Security Forces (GSF) raided a purported illegal "Nigeria Coast Guard Academy" / Merchant Seaman Academy at Uwa West, Essien Udim LGA. They arrested 12 people (six alleged organizers, five trainees, and one cadet) over an illegal recruitment and training

[28] https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aJs6p4JvFqONZ1iSH8OeKDGmobThdCb2?usp=drive_link
[29] https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Scg3DNtsOaENldYvdLFEW5OCuD-3DqIa/view?usp=drive_link

scheme operating outside recognized authority. Suspects were handed over for further investigation.

Q3 2026 Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Detailed Report

Introduction:

The Monitoring and Evaluation report provides updates to donors, Board of Trustees, and partners on project achievements, challenges, and lessons learned. It also aims to strengthen collaboration for greater impact and sustainability while demonstrating how PIND's work contributes to a peaceful and stable operating environment in the Niger Delta.

The report highlights successes and challenges, fostering shared learning and encouraging further collaborations with partners including the Ford Foundation, the Master Card Foundation, and the European Union.

This quarter's report **(July – September, 2026),** is the third under Phase IV strategic period (2025 – 2029), and it provides updates on programs performance in line with PIND's five strategic objectives. Each quarter, PIND will present consolidated progress updates across all programs and projects under these objectives.

1.0 Strategic Objective 1 (SO1). Better functioning market systems - *for explicit statement of strategic objective 1, please refer to page 5.*

This objective focuses on improving market systems in agriculture, MSMEs, youth skills development, finance, and access to renewable energy. Additionally, it aims to deepen economic growth outcomes in the Niger Delta through improved interventions to address systemic constraints hindering business functionality and equitable delivery of business gains to the players. In Q3 2026, the Market Systems Development (MSD), Access to Energy (A2E), and Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) programs continued to work collaboratively with PIND's cross-cutting units (Capacity Building, Advocacy, Knowledge Management - Communications, Planning Monitoring and Evaluation to advance activities benefiting farmers and MSMEs.

1.1 Market System Development (MSD) Program

The market system development for agricultural and economic growth continues to deepen its impacts in Q3 2026. **Service Providers (SPs)** continued to enhance farmers' knowledge on improved productivity models; supported the entire agricultural value chain through on-farm agronomic demonstrations; including finance access, business and services support and linkages to SMEs and Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); and expanded operations for resilience and growth in the region. To expand the outcomes of service partners, PIND continued to identify entrepreneurial partners and onboard them into cross-cutting services across the MSD thematic areas: **Access to Agricultural Inputs (fertilizers, crop protection products (CPPs), feeds, vaccines, etc.); Access to Seeds; Access to Technical and Business Development Services; and Access to Industrial Markets and Agricultural Technology.**

1.1.1 Outputs/Outcome as of Q3 2026

- In Q3 2026, PIND strengthened its partners to deliver cross-cutting services to farmers and MSMEs across the MSD thematic areas: **Access to Agricultural Inputs (Fertilizers, Crop Protection products (CCPs), Feed, Vaccines, etc.); Access to Seeds, Access to Technical and Business Development Services; and Access to Industrial Market and Agricultural Technology.** Within the quarter **59 new Service Providers** were onboarded, making it 137 service providers onboarded as of Q3 2026, and 108 service providers have delivered cross cutting services to farmers/MSMEs in 2026.
- Field monitoring shows over **159,570/150,000** farmers – **76,594 (48%) women,** have been reached with crosscutting interventions by **108 service providers** under **access to improved seeds, access to technical and business development services**, **access to market and technologies and access to inputs** with an investment of **₦129.60billion for adoption of improved cross-cutting services.** Women investments were **₦62.2 billion** adopting cross-cutting models. PIND targeted **150,000** farmers and **₦119.9 billio**n investment from farmers/MSEs in 2026.

1.1.2 Program Impact on Service Providers, Farmers, and MSMEs

- **Change in income of Service Providers:** Service Providers and Farmers are experiencing increased income from providing services to their clientele. So far for this year, the **81/80** entrepreneurial service providers recorded an average increased income of **₦7,094,924** bringing the total income of the service providers in 2026 to **₦577.47 million/₦500 million.**
- **Change in Income of Adopting Farmers/MSMEs: 97,493** farmers *(94% rate of adoption)* **adopted crosscutting modules in their farms/businesses in 2026.** Outcome assessment shows **44% (68,436)** of the adopters who experienced increased income[30] of **₦82,48 billion as against the target of ₦80 billion in 2026 (**average of **₦3,464,562.66** per farmer). The combined income of the service providers and farmers in 2026 was **₦83,056 billion against a target of ₦80.50 billion.**
- **Contribution to Jobs (FTE):** PIND's activities geared at strengthening the systems around services, inputs, market and technology are showing an early stage of traction. This is reflected in the jobs facilitated via the activities of the service providers and farmers who engage with the services and adopt improved inputs and practices. The 2026 outcomes monitoring showed that a total of **18,825/ 20,950** full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs were recorded through the service providers **(350** jobs) and farmers **(18,474).**

1.1.3 Systemic Changes:

The 2026 outcome monitoring showed a continuous deepening of system level growth at both Service Provision level and at the core market level (farmers) as follows:

- **Access to Technical and Business Development: Service Providers** who had initially focused on single commodities such as oil palm, cassava, and cocoa continued adapting their operations to serve multiple value chains and commodities such as vegetables, maize, and rice. These services included technical advisory, climate-smart good agricultural practices training, linkages to quality inputs, including improved seed access and business linkage support
- **Access to Agricultural Inputs (CPP/Seeds) Market:** Input firms that once operated independently continued to **co-design outreach strategies** with local partners. Agro-dealers are moving beyond transactional sales toward **advisory-driven service delivery**. Farmers are transitioning from dependency to informed decision-making, recognizing the value of certified and climate-smart inputs. The ripple effects are visible in how market actors now interact with higher levels of coordination, trust, and mutual benefit
- **Farmers' Adoption/Adaptation/Expansion Recorded:** improved cross-cutting system changes were recorded as farmers expanded farming to different commodities, cross-cutting crop management techniques, livestock/ aquaculture practices, and farm management: i.e., *Cassava, Yam, (Tomatoes, Onions, Peppers & Vegetable), Tree Crops & Plantations (Cocoa, Palm, Plantain, Fruit Trees), General Crop & Soil Management Practices, Animal Husbandry, Poultry & Aquaculture, and General Farm Management & Administration*. *Details: click 2026 MSD cross-cutting system changes in brief*
- **Other core system shifts** were observed within the quarter such as:
  - Mindset shift – making farming as a structured business;
  - Increased farmers' economic resilience & risk management through income diversification and sustained profitability;
  - Integrated farming & waste-to-wealth through circular resource efficiency and synergistic cropping.
  - Achievement of technical precision & best agronomic practices through standardized good agricultural practices (GAP) and targeted input management; and
  - Increased collaboration, processing & networking through value-chain integration and farmer networks.

Together, these mark a **systemic transition** from fragmented, firm-led interventions to a **collaborative, market-led input ecosystem**. For example, the **Input Distribution Model** is no longer a theoretical framework; it is evolving into a functional mechanism that embeds sustainability, private-sector participation, and local ownership within the agricultural input market. In 2026, deeper evidence of systemic change is reflected in the increasing adoption and repeat use of quality inputs, particularly fertilizers, and crop protection products as farmers now actively source, apply, and repurchase these through verified FSPs and agro-dealers introduced under the model.

[30] This is measured by those whose additional income surpassed pre-intervention income with the same period and in the same measure.

These changes embody the core of PIND's systemic change vision: a Niger Delta where efficient distribution systems, inclusive partnerships, and empowered local actors drive continuous access to affordable, high-quality agricultural inputs, unlocking productivity, resilience, and shared prosperity across the region. Combining demonstration-based learning with wide-scale farmer outreach, private-sector linkages, and improved last-mile seed distribution through agro-dealer and service provider networks demonstrated a complementary approach to strengthening seed systems in the Niger Delta.

This marks a strong indicator of **systemic change**, as farmers increasingly purchase verified products through structured distribution networks established under the Input Distribution Model. The growing adoption and repeat purchase of these products reflect a functional market system where informed farmers, trained Farm Sservice providers (FSPs), and credible agro-dealers interact seamlessly, building trust, reinforcing demand, and driving the commercial viability of input delivery across the Niger Delta.

Click Q3 2026 MSD Detailed Report for more information.

1.2.0 Access to Energy (A2E)

In Q3 2026, the Access to Energy (A2E) program saw a long-standing partner turn technical assistance into large-scale investment, opened a new pipeline through the Coastal Communities Off-Grid Energy Acceleration Fund, and produced its first full set of 2026 outcome data on what clean energy has done for households and businesses in the Niger Delta.

A2E held co-creation sessions with eleven Acceleration Fund applicants to help them align their proven models with the fund's requirements, and introduced the A2E model to new developers at Solar & Storage Live Nigeria 2026 in Lagos. Rensource Energy, Dlect Technologies and Folivision have since approached PIND to partner and have been added to the partner pipeline.

HCDT work moved forward on several fronts. The Warri Kingdom assessment report for nine Energy Cabin sites was finalized and shared, the Egbema-OPUDIS HCDT flagged off implementation in Ogbinibiri and Ogbudugbudu, an MoU was signed with the KEFFESO HCDT, draft Technical Assistance MoUs went to the Ugboland, Rivers 1 and Rivers 3 Trusts after joint field assessments with the Team Energies, and A2E presented its model to the Uherevie HCDT. On clean cooking, the BHLF-PIND LPG loan program reached operators in Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta through a virtual information session, a field assessment of five LPG stations and a Physical KYC meeting with 13 LPG value chain participants. The Gbelebu Energy Cabin under the OOPC project was commissioned, and A2E joined the GESI team at International Youth Day in Yenagoa.

1.2.1 A2E Outputs/Outcomes as of Q3 2026

- **Number of businesses and households accessing clean energy:** Darway Coast applied learning from A2E's technical assistance on accessing funds and developing an REA project pipeline to deploy six new solar mini-grids in **Okumbiri, Amatolo, Ekowe and Oporoma (Bayelsa), Nsukwa (Delta) and Eziama (Imo).** The six systems add about 1.82 MWp of solar capacity and 4.97 MWh of storage and extend electricity to 16,166 people in **2,425** households and **1,616** businesses. They are supported by 12 local technicians from the communities. This brings the 2026 total to **28** new energy solutions in **37** communities.
- Cumulatively as of Q3 2025, a total of **9,528/(6,500-target)** households and **6,221/(3,500-target)**[31] businesses have been verifiably connected to clean energy. The total number of persons with access to clean energy within this period was **57,168**[32]**.** Funds accessed by partners with PIND's influence reached **₦2.75 billion** in the quarter and **₦9.39 billion** for the year.
- **Access to Energy induced Cost Savings:** Over **9,528** households that verifiably accessed clean energy from January – September 2026, have saved **₦2.088 billion**, while over **6,221** businesses had additional income of **₦6.35 billion** within the same period. The total financial benefit enjoyed by these households and businesses was **₦8,442,177,805**, against the 2026 annual target of **₦9 billion**.
- **Energy Access induced Job creation:** Total Jobs created in 2026 by Businesses using clean energy and energy providers in 2026 was **3,799 FTE** against the annual target of **7,300 FTE**. **21%** of the micro businesses accessing

[31] A2E Output indicators were exceeded because, the eenergy partners expanded energy provisions faster than planned as they respond to increased demand for electricity in new communities

[32] NBS average number of persons per household in the Niger Delta is 6 – this was used to estimate the number of users of clean energy from 3,757 households reported within the reporting period.

clean energy reported employing extra paid labor to do their businesses due to expansions.

1.2.2 A2E Intermediate Impact as of Q3 2026

The 2026 outcome monitoring shows a sustained electricity benefit to the households and businesses who are using the clean energy solution across the Niger Delta, as follows:

- **Improved Comfort and Rest:** The most common benefit is significantly better sleep and relaxation, largely due to the consistent power for fans, which reduces heat and discomfort.
- **Significant Financial Savings:** Residents no longer need to spend money on fuel for generators, freeing up funds and eliminating the stress of sourcing fuel.
- **Enhanced Family and Social Bonds:** Stable electricity encourages families and friends to spend more quality time together at home in the evenings, strengthening relationships.
- **Greater Household Convenience:** Daily life has become much easier with the ability to use various appliances like refrigerators for cold food and drinks, electric irons, and water pumps, and to charge phones at any time.
- **Reduced Environmental Pollution:** The community is now a quieter and more peaceful place due to the drastic reduction in noise and air pollution from personal generators.
- **Increased Entertainment and Happiness:** Access to reliable power for televisions and other media has brought more entertainment and joy into homes.
- **Overall Improvement in Quality of Life:** The combination of these factors has led to a less stressful, more convenient, and happier lifestyle, fundamentally improving residents' overall well-being.

1.2.3 Systemic Changes - Energy Access System Level Shifts

Clean energy service is independently expanding into new communities, as shown by increased Providers' investments - over **₦9.39 billion** was invested in 2026 to scale up energy models within the reporting period. New Socio-economic dynamics have also evolved from energy access as follows:

- **Diverse Geographic Inflow:** In Q3 2026**,** 43% of the clean energy users across the region reported **r**elocation of people into their communities due to the electricity supply, For example, Mr. Peter Chukwu, 42, family of five, from Etomi village, Etung LGA, Cross river State, Tina Joel, 35, Akede, Bayelsa State, also, a family of five and Odozi officer, 44, a family of 10, ToruEbeni, Bayelsa State owner of phone charging point explained how people moved into their communities to do business due to the availability of electricity. Such businesses include*:* ***barbing salons, fashion design and provision stores, selling refrigerated products and drinks as well as Wielders*****.**
- **Expansion of Refrigerated Sales:** A major attraction is the ability to sustain businesses dependent on refrigeration. This has led to the growth of stores selling cold drinks, refrigerated products, and seafood, with some fish dealers relocating specifically to expand their capacity.
- **Cost and Stress Reduction for Businesses:** The new energy source attracts entrepreneurs by eliminating the stress, frustration, and high costs associated with running businesses using private generators.
- **Community as a Hub for Services and Relaxation:** The community is becoming a central hub for various activities, including phone charging, a place for relaxation (bars/restaurants), and a safe location for neighbors and relatives to store/preserve perishable items.
- **Increased Fame and Magnet Status:** The light is turning the community into a "sanctuary" that offers a "city life" experience and attracts "strangers" seeking an easier way of doing business, which is dramatically increasing the community's fame and overall non-native population.

1.3.0 Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

The Youth Employment Pathways program adopts a three-pronged approach in Phase IV of PIND's program aimed at deemphasizing the traditional direct grants provision to Implementing Partners, scaling systemic impact, and ecosystem development for youth employment. These approaches are: TVET facility upgrades for inclusive training; TVET scholarship grants; and Challenge Fund award. These complement each other in building a system that stimulates ecosystem functionality for youth development in the Niger Delta.

In Q3 2026, YEP continued to deepened its shift towards enabling commercially driven TVET models, strengthening partner capacity, enhancing industry linkages, and expanding pathways for youth employment outcome. Ecosystem

changes around youth employment programming recorded a number of positive outcomes. Facility Improvement Grant beneficiary partners continue to report improved institutional performance resulting from the installed advanced and much improved TVET infrastructure and equipment, supporting a drastic reduction of their business operational costs, expanded training capacities, enhancing increased enrolment, and the overall service delivery of practical vocational skills training. This contributes effectively to the commercial viability and sustainability of the TVET centers.

1.3.1 YEP Implementing Partners Outputs and Outcomes

Fourteen (14) partner organizations who benefitted from the TVET facilities upgrade grant continue to witness increase and improvement of their services. Seven of the beneficiary institutions are ICT training centers with requirements for power upgrade with solar and inverter installation to provide sustainable power solution to the centers. Two agriculture TVET centers acquired various training materials including a complete set of green-house (40ft x 30ft) for Aquagreen Integrated Farming Center and 1 pellet machine each for Ibiteinye Farms and Aquagreen. Four other TVET centers providing services in fashion and tailoring, photography, finished leather and renewable energy also received the grant to upgrade various facilities to improve their vocational training. The 14 beneficiary institutions have confirmed significant improvements in their provision of vocational training services in the various sectors. All the TVET institutions with power upgrade facilities confirm drastic reduction in power cost as they all now run on full 24-hour power supply. Others with various equipment upgrade have reduced tuition which means more young people can afford the training program. Partners also reported investments and positive changes in business income, demonstrating the continuous institutional and commercial benefits from the YEP program. Some examples are below:

- Eight Implementing partners received and invested **₦18.8 million** from external funders in their TVET programs in Q3 2026. These are - Kiara De- Luke Academy; Clintonel Foundation; Solar World Gesellschaft Ltd; FotoAfrik International; AMY6015 GLOBAL; FUTURELABS LTD; RAD5 Tech Hub; Aqua Green Integrated Farming Support Initiative (AGI). Example, FME/Ideas TVET Initiative was supported by the World bank; N-POWER by Federal Government; IDICE; Private sector, and Donor Organizations.
- 10 implementing Partners recorded income of over **₦50.19 million** from their business – these are Innovation Growth Hub LTD; The Footwear Academy; KIARA DE-LUKE ACADEMY; Clintonel Foundation; Solar World Gesellschaft Ltd; FotoAfrik International; AMY6015 GLOBAL; FUTURELABS LTD; RAD5 Tech Hub; Aqua Green Integrated Farming Support Initiative (AGI).
- 10 implementing partners reported creating 35 new full-time jobs and 35 new part time jobs in Q3.

Within the reporting period, an additional **1,554** youths **–831 females (53.5%)** were trained by **21** implementing partners, bringing the cumulative number of youths trained in 2026 to **2,707/ (10,000 target)**[33] across the region **– 1435 females.** The 21 partners are actively implementing technical and vocational skills training, facilitating entrepreneurship training, and supporting the transition to employment and entrepreneurship of young persons in 7 YEP implementing states across 4 broad skills sectors.

Q3 2026 YEP Trainig update					
Sectors	Gender	Completed		Nos still in Training	
		PWD	Total	PWD	Total
Services	Female	4	353	2	371
	Male	5	266	12	101
Agric	Female	-	43	7	359
	Male	-	40	11	279
Building Construction	Female	3	237	3	71
	Male	1	114	9	217
ICT	Female	-	198	3	399
	Male	3	303	3	575
TOTAL	Female	7	831	15	1,200
TOTAL	Male	9	723	35	1,172
TOTAL	**All**	**16**	**1,554**	**50**	**2,372**

Table 2: Detail of youths training as of Q3 2026

Post Training experience: 22% **(596)** youths who have completed training were linked to jobs, while 65% **1,760** established their own new businesses, while 13% are still on apprenticeships. In summary, **87%** had access to livelihood opportunities. The cumulative number of youths with employable skill as Q3 2026 was **2,898/8,000 -target)**[34] youths with employable skills established new businesses between January and September 2026. The entrepreneurial youths are earning monthly average additional income of **₦63,455** from their businesses for both grantees and non-grantees. The net additional income recorded between January and September 2026 was **₦1.26billion** against the **₦2billion** target for 2026.

More jobs are created: These youths are contributing to the reduction of unemployment in the region by creating more

[33] 2,372 youths are still on training across the region, to graduate in Q4 2026.
[34] The TVET centers are still admitting and training more young people in Q4, and in addition to the ongoing training, the 2026 YEP target will be met.

jobs from their businesses. Currently, an average of 2.5 full-time equivalent was created by each business, leading to over **4,395/9,000 -target) FTE jobs,** from **1,760** businesses in 2026.

1.3.3 System Level Shifts - Sustainability of YEP

- **Sustained Independent Youths Training:** The Implementing Partners are sustainably delivering employability training with the average number of youths trained at **135** leveraging supports from PIND. With the current support - upgrade of some TVET Centers, the IPs are intensifying efforts to maximize the opportunity for more inclusivity.
- **Deepened Independent Partners' Post Training Linkages:** Partners now adopt and are adapting conscious promotion of post-training engagements for youths who completed skills training at their centers. Within the reporting period, our verified post-training experience shows that 65% of the youths with employable skills established new businesses with personal equity, while 22% are being linked to jobs. Overall, as of Q3 2026, **87%** of youths with applicable skills have access to livelihood being a panacea for attraction into youths' enrolment into YEP programs - **53%** were females and **47%** were malesmore information.

2.0 Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): **Influence $50 million investment and raise a minimum of $7.5 million in additional funds** - *for explicit statement of strategic objective 2, please refer to page 5.*

This objective seeks to attract external investments into the Niger Delta from donors and funders to deepen the economic growth outcomes in the region through improved interventions that address systemic constraints hindering business functionality and equitable delivery of business gains to market players.

New funds will be raised from the private sector and donor community for PIND programs through the activities of the Business Development and Sustainability (BDS) unit. The target is to raise a minimum of $7.5 million, equivalent to 30% of Chevron's funding. Funds from Government and other sources spent on projects arising from PIND-influenced development models, policies and initiatives, (e.g. HCDTs; Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy (NDRPS), Access to Land Policy, State long-term development plans, etc.) and resulting in demonstrable changes will be tracked and reported, annually.

2.1.0 Q3 Key Achievements

In Q3 2026, PIND influenced a total of **[$2,280million] - ₦3.11 billion** in investment by donors and funders into the Niger Delta under Youth Employment Pathways (YEP), Access to Energy and Capacity Building (CB) programs. The cumulative funds influenced by partners into the development of the Niger Delta from Q1 – Q3 2026 was **[$7.58million]** - **₦10.34 billion** This represents **76%** of the target of **$10 million** set for 2026. Details for Q3 fund influence below:

- **Youth Employment Program (YEP):** Eight Implementing Partners, below, received and invested [**$13,780.06] ₦18.8 million** - from external funders in their TVET programs in Q3 2026. These are - Kiara De- Luke Academy; Clintonel Foundation; Solar World Gesellschaft Ltd; FotoAfrik International; AMY6015 GLOBAL; FUTURELABS LTD; RAD5 Tech Hub; Aqua Green Integrated Farming Support Initiative (AGI). FME/Ideas TVET Initiative was supported by the World bank; N-POWER by Federal Government; IDICE; Private sector, and Donor Organizations. The cumulative funds attracted by the YEP IPs as of Q3 2026 was **($61,134.36) ₦83.41 million** for investments into skills development in the Niger Delta.
- **Access to Energy:** Over previous quarters, A2E supported Darway Coast on accessing funds and on developing a pipeline of projects eligible for REA financing. The company applied that learning to secure financing for six new mini-grids in rural communities across Bayelsa, Delta and Imo States, all deployed during the quarter. Darway Coast was the one energy provider that moved into delivering energy services in Q3, bringing the number of providers efficiently delivering services in 2026 to 14. The **($2.01million) ₦2.75billion** in funds accessed with PIND's influence this quarter mainly reflects this pipeline, raising the total for the year to N9.39 billion.A2E attracted from the following:
- **Market System Development Program (MSD) –** Over 108 Service providers invested over **₦328.64million ($240,889.19)** in Q3 2026 2026. The cumulative funds invested in the development of the agricultural sectors in the Niger Delta by MSD Service providers in 2026 was **$601,508.18 (₦417.79million).** These investments were on adaptive practices that enable farmers' access to improved practices in the region.
- **Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) –** Within the quarter, 8 Implementing Partners reported **$13,780.06/**

(₦18.80million) funding from FME/IDEAS TVET Initiative supported by the World Bank; N-POWER by Federal Government; IDICE; Private sector, and Donor Organizations. The funds are used to improve TVET centers, promote and facilitate training logistics across the Niger Delta. The cumulative funds attracted by the YEP partners in 2026 were **$61,134.36/$2,000**- which is **3%**[35] of the 2026 target.

- **Capacity Building:** Sustainable Actions for Leadership, Transformation and Inclusivity Initiative (SALTI Initiative), a youth-led organization based in Imo State that previously participated in PIND capacity-building interventions, reported securing a (**$10,000**) grant from the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund to implement Udo Ka Nma (Peace is Better) program. The cumulative funds attracted as of Q3 2026 by CSOs whose capacity were developed to provide development services to local communities was **$31,437.38/$1,000**[36]
- **Funds Raised: In 2026** a total of **$1.38million**[37]**/$1.5million** against the target of $1.5million was raised through Business Development and Sustainability (BDS) activities from private sector and donor community for PIND programs, which is **91%** of the annual target of **$1.5 million**.

3.0 Strategic Objective 3: Integration of climate adaptation and mitigation across program delivery - *for explicit statement of strategic objective 3, refer to page 5.*

This objective aims to build resilience in the Niger Delta by promoting carbon markets, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, mitigating flood risks, and supporting enterprises selling bio/organic products.

3.1.0 Access to energy

A2E interventions continued to link energy access with climate mitigation and adaptation across the Niger Delta during the quarter. In 2026 the 28 new energy solutions deployed in 37 communities added a combined solar capacity of about 5,640 kWp capacity installed, 45,340 total days of operation, and generating a total energy operating days of 1,022,870,400. This is displacing petrol and diesel generation in the 37 communities' average emission for grid electricity from fossil fuel of 0.55. This led to **562,578.72 CO_2** Savings (Metric tons **CO_2**) in 2026. In many of these communities, a shared community generator has been the default source of electricity; each solar deployment cuts the running hours on these generators along with the fuel costs, noise, and emissions that come with them.

In Q3 alone, the six Darway Coast mini-grids deployed this quarter add about 1.82 MWp of solar capacity and 4.97 MWh of battery storage to the Niger Delta.

Location	kWp Solar	Storage
Okumbiri, Bayelsa	99.91 kWp solar	215 kWh storage
Amatolo, Bayelsa	99.54 kWp	215 kWh storage
Ekowe, Bayelsa	191.97 kWp	439 kWh storage
Oporoma, Bayelsa	277 kWp solar	552 kWh storage
Nsukwa, Delta	156.6 kWp solar	430 kWh storage
Eziama, Imo	999.92 kWp solar	,121 kWh storage

By powering productive activities with renewable energy, these solutions are helping communities maintain economic operations under adverse conditions, safeguarding livelihoods and local commerce from climate-related interruptions. Through these interventions, A2E demonstrates that access to clean energy can simultaneously mitigate environmental impacts and enhance the adaptive capacity of last-mile communities in the Niger Delta.

Clean cooking through the BHLF partnership. A2E continued its partnership with BHLF, a US-based impact lending organization, under a signed Memorandum of Understanding to extend affordable, single-digit interest loans to LPG businesses in the Niger Delta. The aim is to help small and growing LPG operators expand into underserved rural and coastal communities so that more households and food businesses can switch from firewood and charcoal to LPG. This cuts pressure on forests and mangroves and reduces the household smoke that falls hardest on women and children.

During the quarter, A2E held a virtual information session open to any LPG business owner in Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta

[35] Currently YEP partners are conducting training and their investments will be assessed in Q4 2026
[36] The 3% performance will be updated after the current outcome assessments of the CAPABLE CSOs providing local services across the region.
[37] $1,386,864 raised in 2026: CAPIND capacity building for the CNL HCDTs engaged 16 other HCDTs - (SK/UHCDT) - $489,000, SK/Egbema - $45,000 Opudis; OOPC 2027 CSR - OOPC: $524, 000; Ford Foundation, $300,000; ETK Group (YEP) - Ford/F - $26,315.78

States. The session was designed to reach retailers, cylinder distributors and refilling plant operators who are running viable businesses but did not know an affordable loan option exists. It explained the loan's eligibility criteria, loan sizes, repayment terms and permitted uses, walked participants through the application process, and gave them live access to the PIND and BHLF team for questions.

From 16 to 18 September 2026, a joint BHLF and PIND team carried out a three-day field visit. The team assessed four LPG stations in urban and peri-urban parts of Delta and Rivers States. The visit closed with a Physical KYC meeting at the Port Harcourt EDC on 18 September, attended by 13 participants including LPG station owners, smart meter makers and cylinder makers. BHLF presented the loan program and the documentation each business needs, CookBlu presented on LPG adoption, safety and awareness, and A2E facilitated a Business Connect session on the challenges operators face and the linkages that could help them. Businesses then presented their own models. Linkages began to form during the session. One-on-one assessment sessions were held with shortlisted businesses, and the assessment form was shared so operators can update their applications with what they learned.

3.1.1. Market System Development Program:

Adoption of improved and climate-smart practices across the thematic areas:

Climate mitigation remained a cross-cutting feature of PIND's Market Systems Development (MSD) interventions during the reporting period. Rather than implementing stand-alone climate activities, the program integrated climate-smart agricultural practices into market-led service delivery models, strengthening the capacity of service providers, agro-dealers, technology providers, processors, and other private-sector partners to promote sustainable production practices across multiple agricultural value chains. This approach supports long-term adoption by embedding climate-smart solutions within commercially viable business models rather than relying on project-led extension. The climate mitigation and resource-management practices promoted during the quarter included:

- **Reducing open burning:** Herbicide use as an alternative to bush burning was promoted in Imo, while land preparation without burning was encouraged for oil palm establishment in Akwa Ibom.
- **Improving fertilizer management:** Farmers received guidance on fertilizer placement and timing, including the use of NPK blends with organic matter, to improve nutrient use and reduce losses during heavy rainfall.
- **Promoting more targeted crop protection:** Selective crop protection products, targeted ring weeding, and integrated pest management were encouraged to limit unnecessary chemical use.
- **Demonstrating improved practices**: Demonstration plots in Imo provided practical learning opportunities for farmers to observe improved production methods.

Of the 159,570, farmers reached within the year, results from the outcomes monitoring exercise showed that 156,378 (98%) of these farmers sustained adoption of the improved and climate smart practices and cross-cutting modules delivered by the service providers. Details are as follows:

- **Establishment of climate-smart demonstration farms to promote large-scale adoption of environmentally friendly practices and technologies:** CHC Agritech Africa promoted organic and biological inputs, including its microbiome products, and demonstrated their use in vegetable production at Omoku, Rivers State, and during a field day at Oton, Delta State. These products were presented as options for supporting soil health and reducing dependence on synthetic inputs.
- **Efficient fertilizer application and organic composting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve soil carbon sequestration:** Across different states, farmers were trained on efficient fertilizer application, organic composting, and the use of bio-based soil enhancers to restore fertility and minimize nutrient loss. Demonstrations in Ondo and Cross River showcased mulching, ridge planting, and cover cropping to improve soil carbon retention, prevent erosion, and conserve moisture. These practices are helping farmers adapt to erratic rainfall while mitigating carbon emissions associated with excessive fertilizer use.
- **Adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and use of certified, eco-friendly CPPs to limit environmental pollution and protect biodiversity:** Partners also promoted the responsible use of certified crop protection products and integrated pest management to reduce dependency on hazardous chemicals and strengthen ecological balance. Livestock-oriented interventions emphasized the use of vaccines and quality feed to reduce climate-related mortality and improve animal health.
- **Use of drought-tolerant and heat-resistant crop varieties to maintain productivity under changing climatic conditions and reduce crop failure:** Across Cross River, Bayelsa, and Akwa Ibom, farmers were introduced to

climate-smart varieties such as TME 419 cassava, SC 419 and SC 612 maize, and FARO 44 rice, along with CRIN-approved fungicides that reduce fungal infections in cocoa caused by high humidity.

- **Improved water-use efficiency through mulching, ridge planting, and controlled irrigation to reduce runoff and water wastage:** In Delta State, training on irrigation and water management introduced farmers to techniques that conserve soil moisture and reduce reliance on unpredictable rainfall.
- **Livestock vaccination and improved feed management to lower mortality, reduce methane emissions, and enhance animal productivity:** Livestock-oriented interventions emphasized the use of vaccines and quality feed to reduce climate-related mortality and improve animal health.

These activities contribute to climate resilience and more responsible input use. Further monitoring is needed to establish the extent to which farmers have adopted the practices and whether they are sustaining them beyond the training period.

3.1.2 Peacebuilding Program

Climate Change and Human Security Policy Roundtable

During the period, the IPDU, in collaboration with the Advocacy and Communications team, convened a stakeholder roundtable on its special policy brief, Climate Change and Human Security in the Niger Delta: **Pathways to Peace and Resilience**. The roundtable brought together over 40 stakeholders, including representatives of the Ministry of Regional Development; the Office for Strategic Preparedness and Resilience (OSPRE); the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ); the United Nations Development Program (UNDP); State Emergency Management Agencies (SEMAs); Ministries of Environment and Agriculture; CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA); the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet); the National Orientation Agency (NOA); the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC); the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP); Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN); the media; and traditional institutions.

The roundtable provided a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue on actionable recommendations for advancing climate- and conflict-sensitive policies, interventions, and investments. Discussions focused on addressing climate-related risks, strengthening human security and community resilience, protecting livelihoods, and promoting sustainable development across the Niger Delta.

3.1.3 Advocacy - Climate Adaptation and Mitigation initiatives

The Ford Foundation-funded CONNECT Project provides a strategic opportunity to mainstream climate considerations into Host Community Development Plans (CDPs) through climate impact assessments, stakeholder engagement and climate-smart development models. These interventions aim to address climate-related conflict drivers, promote sustainable resource management and strengthen community resilience across the Niger Delta.

The Climate Roundtable on Advancing Climate Resilience, Climate-Sensitive Peacebuilding and Human Security in the Niger Delta strengthened understanding of the links between climate change, conflict and human security, generating actionable recommendations to inform PIND's programming and CONNECT implementation. Through evidence-based advocacy and strategic stakeholder engagement, PIND is advancing climate-sensitive development planning and promoting approaches that strengthen livelihoods, food security, environmental sustainability and community resilience against climate-related risks.

4.0 Strategic Objective 4 (SO4): Support Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) to co-invest in priority projects - *for explicit statement of strategic objective 4, refer to page 5.*

This objective focuses on enhancing the capacity of HCDTs to co-design and co-invest in interventions that improve economic conditions and peacebuilding in their communities through skills development, market linkages, and renewable solutions for job creation and income generation. This section will highlight activities supporting Chevron Nigeria Limited Host Community Development Trust (CNL HCDTs) communities, as well as the non-CNL HCDTs across the Niger Delta region, as part of PIND's broad response to the PIA opportunity in Phase IV.

Click HCDTs Dashboard to navigate the CNL and other HCDTs in the map. You can navigate the platform by other clicks on any of the states, to see specific HCDTs geolocations.

4.1.0 Market Systems Development (MSD) HCDTs Engagement:

MSD aims to improve the livelihood of 12,000 farmers and Nano, Micro and small businesses in the HCDT communities

between 2025 - 2029. The MSD project continued its community-based training and demonstration activities tailored to MSMEs in the HCDT communities. These efforts are designed to build local capacity and drive the adoption of good agricultural and business practices within the communities.

In Q3 2026, Service Providers worked with HCDTs farmers fisherfolk groups, cooperatives, and MSMEs to strengthen business management, financial literacy, access to finance, and market participation. Community members also benefited from climate-smart agricultural advisory services, improved production practices, and market linkage support. These interventions are helping to strengthen local service delivery structures that HCDTs can leverage to support future livelihood investments.

A key activity during the quarter was the training of **264 fisherfolk** in Ugbonla Community, Ilaje Local Government Area (LGA), Ondo State, facilitated by Newland Pathway, a PIND-supported Business Service Provider. The training enhanced participants' knowledge of good fishing practices, improved fishing technologies, and basic business management, with emphasis on sustainable fishing practices and improving the productivity and profitability of fishing businesses. Participants were also introduced to improved fishing nets to encourage the adoption of more effective fishing technologies.

In another intervention, Marich Agro Allid Services, a PIND-supported service provider, trained **320 fisherfolk** in Ogidigben (230) and Gbokoda (90). Participants included fisherfolk from Tebu, Ajamita, and Udo communities, who participated in the training activities in Gbokoda. The intervention focused on improved fishing practices, access to improved fishing technologies, and market linkages. Following the intervention, 10 fisherfolk from Ajamita Community adopted 10 improved fishing nets, demonstrating initial uptake of the promoted technology.

With these interventions, the cumulative number of fisherfolk and MSMEs reached under the HCDT-related activities stood at 1,276 as of Q3 2026. In Ibeno LGA, Akwa Ibom, Ukana-Nko Services held initial discussions with community leaders in HCDT structures, who expressed interest in co-investing in an improved oil mill processing facility for a farmer cooperative. Building on this engagement, PIND will support a selected HCDT in Q4 to pilot a community input distribution hub, co-invested by the HCDT and supplied through partner input firms and agro-dealers, as a model for last-mile input access in host communities.

4.1.1 Capacity Building (CB) - HCDTs Engagement:

During Q3 2026, the Capacity Building team continued to strengthen the institutional capacity of the four CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); **Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, Egbema OPUDIS, Warri Kingdom Coastal, and Ugboland,** through strategic engagements, technical advisory support, and targeted capacity development interventions. The team is also currently conducting capacity assessment of trained cooperatives/farmer groups to track improvements, systematic and institutional changes and how these groups have contributed to MSD overall work.

Monitoring and Evaluation for HCDTs: The M&E mentoring and handholding that began in June continued through refinement sessions with the CNL HCDTs where 10 representatives across the HCDTs that form the M&E committee in each HCDT were present. For those who were absent, the members present were to cascade the review and implementation recommendation that emerged from the sessions. The sessions go back to the Impact Frameworks and MRM Plans developed earlier, so that they can be revisited and revised where needed and give each Trust a sound basis for monitoring its projects. Responsible M & E officers would be identified and engaged in each HCDT.

CNL HCDTs persons benefitting from Capacity Building (EDP and PB)

During Q3 2026, a total of **67 HCDT** representatives (59 males and 8 females) from the four Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs): Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland, benefited from PIND's capacity-building interventions through advocacy training as well as mentoring and handholding support. The advocacy training equipped members of the Boards of Trustees, Management Committees, and Advisory Committees with practical knowledge and tools for evidence-based advocacy, including advocacy planning, stakeholder mapping, issue analysis, and monitoring and evaluation of advocacy initiatives. Participants also developed draft advocacy issue papers to strengthen their engagement with government and other stakeholders on priority community development issues.

4.1.2 HCDTs Access to Energy

A2E's HCDT work in Q3 moved several Trusts closer to investment, from completed assessments and signed agreements to the start of project implementation. **Warri Kingdom Coastal HCDT (WKHCDT):** The engagement moved from field work into analysis and reporting. Load analysis, system sizing for nine Energy Cabin sites and the financial model were completed, and the final assessment report was produced and shared with the Trust. Since the technical findings were validated with the Trust in June, Q3 was about closing out the deliverable and positioning the WKHCDT to act on the investment case. Egbema-OPUDIS HCDT (EOHCDT). A2E continued technical support on the upgrade and electrification of energy solutions in Ogbinibiri and Ogbudugbudu communities. The Trust held its flag-off ceremony during the quarter, marking the formal start of project implementation.

Rivers 1 and Rivers 3 HCDTs: In July, Team Energies carried out a joint field assessment across communities in the rivers 1 and rivers 3 clusters, covering energy audits in seven communities. Load analysis, system sizing and financial projections were developed from the field data and the draft energy assessment report was submitted. Draft Technical Assistance MoUs have been shared with both Trusts for review.

Ugboland HCDT (UHCDT): The draft Technical Assistance MoU was shared with the Ugboland HCDT for review toward the end of the quarter, building on the community engagement and pre-implementation work of the first half of the year. KEFFESO HCDT. An MoU was signed with the KEFFESO HCDT, formalizing the technical assistance relationship and opening the way for project delivery under A2E. Uherevie HCDT. A2E presented its value proposition to the Uherevie HCDT, introducing the A2E model and exploring areas of engagement. The Trusts are taking on clearer roles as co-investors. Egbema-OPUDIS is now implementing, WKHCDT has an investment case in hand, and the signed and draft MoUs with KEFFESO, Ugboland and the Rivers Trusts set out how A2E's technical support will help them put their own funds into energy projects.

4.1.3 HCDTs Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

In Q3 2026, YEP is partnering with Egbema OPUDIS HCDT to support **75 youth**s in technical and vocational skills and transition to work and entrepreneurship opportunities in solar installation, fashion and tailoring, and ICT skills. Continued engagement is ongoing with other HCDTs – Warri Kingdom Coastal HCDT, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe HCDT, Ugholand HCDT, and some other HCDTs who are in the process of registration to prioritize and fund skills development program for the youths from their communities.

4.1.4 Peacebuilding Activities in the HCDTs

During Q3 2026, in Delta State, PIND collaborated with the Warri Peace Community Support Initiative (WPCSI) to address tensions surrounding INEC's ward delineation exercise through advocacy, mediation, peace messaging, radio campaigns, and engagement with government and community stakeholders. Early warning and follow-up engagements also supported responses to boundary disputes and protests concerning inadequate healthcare infrastructure and youth unemployment. While some tensions subsided following stakeholder engagement, several underlying grievances remained unresolved. Environmental risks, including flooding and other climate-induced disasters, also continued to require monitoring and preparedness.
Also, to strengthen coordination with CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) Peacebuilding Committees, the IPDU continued to engage, mentor, deploy, and coordinate Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) Field Assistants across the HCDTs. The Field Assistants served as an additional layer of PIND's early warning and response system, facilitating timely information exchange between early warning monitors, peacebuilding structures, and response actors to support preventive and coordinated interventions.

Through active stakeholder engagement and early warning monitoring, the Field Assistants brought several incidents with the potential to trigger violence to the attention of relevant response actors for timely intervention. These included protests over health infrastructure in CNL HCDT communities in Burutu and Warri North LGAs, as well as tensions arising from a boundary dispute involving Itsekiri communities in Delta State and a neighboring community in Ondo State. These efforts strengthened the flow of early warning information and supported engagement with relevant stakeholders to address emerging concerns before they escalated

4.1.5 Advocacy - HCDT Engagements

Through the implementation of CAPIND's Advocacy workplan, Advocacy Committees have been set up in all CNL HCDTS, leading to non-disruptive approaches to addressing issues. The ongoing Ford-funded PIA interventions and the prospective collaboration with NUPRC provide avenues for deepened interventions towards facilitating successful PIA implementation.

5.0 Strategic Objective 5 (SO5): Reduce conflict and promote peace - *for explicit statement of strategic objective 5, refer to page 5.*

Building on over a decade of achievements, the Peacebuilding Program aims to position PIND more centrally as a strategic enabler of sustainable peace and development in the region. In **Phase IV (2024-2029),** the Peacebuilding Program will bridge communities, government, and corporate stakeholders, empowering the P4P Network to independently manage peacebuilding initiatives aligned with broader development strategies. By linking peacebuilding with economic growth initiatives, PIND will promote a holistic model that leverages economic stability as a foundation for long-term peace.

5.1.0 Niger Delta Peace Outlook in Q3 2026

During the third quarter of 2026, the Peacebuilding (PB) Program continued to advance its mandate of promoting data-driven conflict prevention, strengthening community-based peace structures, and aligning peacebuilding with economic development across the Niger Delta. These interventions enhanced local capacity for conflict prevention, improved early warning reporting, reinforced community ownership of peacebuilding processes and improved situational awareness, informed policy and programming, and strengthened preventive responses.

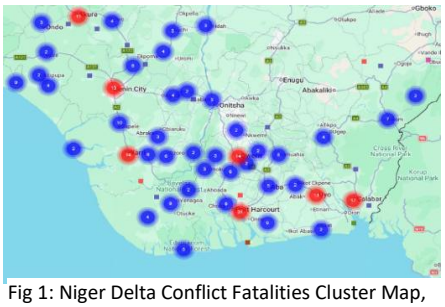


Fig 1: Niger Delta Conflict Fatalities Cluster Map, 2026 Q3

The Niger Delta's peace, conflict, and security landscape remained dynamic during the third quarter (Q3) of 2026, with reported conflict-related fatalities declining by 7%, from 171 in the second quarter (Q2) to 159. This improvement was driven largely by a reduction in fatalities resulting from communal violence and cult gang-related clashes. The decline reflects the combined efforts of key stakeholders, including law enforcement and security agencies, community leaders, civil society organizations (CSOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), and other local peace and security actors.

A review of conflict trends reveals a marked decline in fatalities associated with communal violence, cult-related clashes, and climate-induced disasters. Fatalities resulting from communal violence decreased by 86.2%, from 102 in Q2 to 14 in Q3, reflecting a substantial reduction in violence linked to communal tensions, including land disputes and farmer–herder conflicts. Similarly, fatalities associated with cult-related clashes fell by 75%, from 20 to five, while those linked to climate-induced disasters declined by 29.6%, from 27 to 19.

However, the overall decline in fatalities masks a resurgence of other forms of violence and insecurity, particularly organized criminality and armed confrontations between security forces and criminal groups. Fatalities associated with criminal violence, including robbery and homicide, increased by 63.5%, from 181 in Q2 to 296 in Q3. Kidnapping for ransom also intensified, with associated fatalities rising by 76%, from 46 to 81. The prevalence of kidnapping remained a major concern, particularly along major highways, transport routes, and agricultural corridors. Rivers, Cross River, and Ondo States recorded the highest levels of criminal violence.

Fatalities resulting from clashes between security forces and criminal groups also increased sharply, from 22 in Q2 to 174 in Q3, representing a 690.9% increase. This escalation highlights the growing lethality of confrontations involving security forces and armed criminal groups, as well as the persistent security risks associated with organized criminal activity across the region.

Heightened political competition ahead of Nigeria's 2027 general elections further contributed to the evolving conflict and security risks. Overall, the trends point to an uneven security situation: while fatalities associated with communal violence, cult-related clashes, and climate-induced disasters declined, criminal violence, kidnapping, and armed confrontations intensified. These developments underscore the need to sustain existing peacebuilding efforts while strengthening early warning and early response mechanisms, improving coordination among security and community actors, and intensifying preventive and conflict mitigation measures across the Niger Delta.

5.1.1. Peacebuilding highlights of activities in Q3 2026

In view of the persistent incidents of violence and criminal activities, PIND continued to undertake interventions in conflict prevention, conflict management and peacebuilding in the Niger Delta region as part of the plan of action aimed at keeping the level of violence low, particularly in key communities of interest. PIND continued to leverage on its PB social infrastructure and social capital of peace actors across the region for long-term sustainable peace. PIND's peacebuilding strategy recognizes the need for an integrated and comprehensive approach to tackling the complex causes and drivers of conflict; adopting innovative approaches to work on problems of militancy, election violence, gang/cult violence, communal violence, and the cross-cutting issue of Violence Affecting Women and Girls (VAWG). The following provides details of the activities carried out in Q3 2026.

5.1.2. Strengthened Niger Delta Peace and Security Ecosystem Through Evidence-Based Early Warning and Response

The IPDU continued to strengthen the Niger Delta's peace and security ecosystem through information-sharing platforms, conflict data analysis, research, and evidence-based early warning products to inform targeted peacebuilding and conflict management interventions. During Q3 2026, the IPDU launched an Android mobile application for its EWER system, further strengthening its multi-channel reporting mechanisms, which include mobile applications, SMS, voice calls, and online reporting. The IPDU also introduced an integrated fact-checking and misinformation detection system as an additional verification layer to improve the credibility and reliability of conflict reports. The system flags potentially false, misleading, or inflammatory information, including hate speech and manipulated narratives, to support the verification of reported incidents and emerging threats.

5.1.3. Advance Research and Data-Driven Analysis for Informed Peacebuilding

In Q3 2026, PIND made significant progress in strengthening the Niger Delta's peace and security ecosystem through improved early warning and early response (EWER) mechanisms, evidence-based conflict analysis, and coordinated stakeholder engagement. The Integrated Peace and Development Unit (IPDU) issued **62** early warning alerts to more than **547** response actors and produced **16** analytical outputs, including **12** weekly conflict briefs, three Election Security Situation Updates, and the Niger Delta Quarterly Conflict Tracker for Q2 2026. The launch of an Android mobile application for the EWER system and the introduction of fact-checking and misinformation detection mechanisms further strengthened incident reporting and verification. An additional 38 stakeholders subscribed to IPDU's research and analytical products, expanding access to conflict intelligence and supporting evidence-based decision-making. For PB Weekly Research product Click Q3 2026 PB Research Products

Peacebuilding program also strengthened community-level peace infrastructure through Prevent Council interventions and the expansion of the Partners for Peace (P4P) Network. Prevent Council activities in Ondo, Edo, Cross River, Abia, Delta and Akwa Ibom States strengthened local capacity for conflict prevention, mediation, stakeholder coordination, and early response. In Edo State, 17 P4P subchapters were established in Okomu Oil Palm Company (OOPC) neighboring communities as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen grassroots peacebuilding in the area. PIND also expanded peace communication through local-language materials and radio programs, and sustained engagement with Peace Monitors and Integrated Peacebuilding Committee members. These structures provide platforms for community-led conflict prevention, improved corporate–community relations, and more coordinated responses to emerging security concerns.

The program continued to integrate peacebuilding with economic development through targeted interventions to address insecurity affecting agricultural investments and livelihoods. In Abia State, four activities were implemented under the Community Peace and Security Initiative for Safe Farm Corridors, supporting the Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE) Program implemented by PIND, with Von Foods and Farms Limited as the partner in the State. The activities brought together government representatives, security agencies, traditional rulers, community leaders, women, youth, and other stakeholders to address insecurity, strengthen community participation and access to farms, improve incident reporting, and promote safer agricultural operations.

In Delta State, collaboration with the Warri Peace Community Support Initiative (WPCSI) addressed tensions surrounding INEC's ward delineation exercise through advocacy, mediation, peace messaging, radio campaigns, and engagement with government and community stakeholders. Early warning and follow-up engagements also supported responses to boundary disputes and protests concerning inadequate healthcare infrastructure and youth unemployment. While some

tensions subsided following stakeholder engagement, several underlying grievances remained unresolved. Environmental risks, including flooding and other climate-induced disasters, also continued to require monitoring and preparedness.

5.1.4. Q3 2026 Peacebuilding Significant achievements

- **Community Peace Outlook:** In Q3 2026, over **734,342** persons from ***48 communities in Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Ondo and Rivers States*** reported improved safety among local residents in the Niger Delta - evidenced by persons reporting improved safety in their communities due to enhanced community-level engagement and resilience. This represents **29%** of the annual target of **2.5 million** people to experience improved peace outlook from the trained peace actors and community members adopting constructive conflict resolution techniques.
- **Strengthened evidence-based early warning and response:** Issued 62 early warning alerts to more than 547 response actors, produced 16 analytical outputs, attracted 38 additional subscribers to IPDU's research products, and enhanced incident verification through the launch of an Android application and misinformation detection mechanisms.
- **Expanded community-based peace infrastructure:** Supported Prevent Council interventions across six states and strengthened grassroots peacebuilding through P4P subchapters in OOPC neighboring communities, including the establishment of 17 subchapters involving 327 trained participants.
- **Advanced peacebuilding–economic development linkages:** Implemented four Safe Farm Corridors activities in Abia State to address security threats affecting the WISE Program, while sustaining corporate–community engagement, peace communication, and local conflict prevention in OOPC neighboring communities in Edo State.
- **Supported the prevention and de-escalation of communal and politically sensitive tensions:** Collaborated with WPCSI to promote dialogue around the Warri ward delineation controversy and leveraged EWER Field Assistants and HCDT Peacebuilding Committees to facilitate responses to boundary disputes, leadership tensions, and protests over public services.
- **Strengthened stakeholder coordination and local ownership:** Engaged government institutions, security agencies, traditional rulers, women, youth, community organizations, and private-sector actors to improve information-sharing, mediation, community participation, and coordinated conflict prevention.

6.0 General Enabling programs

This section presents key achievements in Q3 2026 for initiatives implemented under the General Enabling Program. PIND's work is anchored on two interrelated pillars: (1) Economic Development program, focused on enabling pro-poor market development and job creation.; and (2) Peacebuilding program, centered on strengthening conflict resolution mechanisms to promote sustainable peace and economic growth.

To support, enable, measure the outcomes of these pillars, PIND implements several cross-cutting initiatives:

- **Capacity Building:** Enhancing the capabilities of Business Membership Organizations (BMOs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and local communities, for sustainable development.
- **Advocacy:** influencing public policies, practices, and programs, using in-depth analysis to address systemic constraints to regional growth through evidence-based engagements.
- **Communications**: Ensuring consistent, high-impact messaging that amplifies PIND's models, results, and learning.
- **Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation (PM&E):** Tracking and assessing performance and ensuring data-driven decision-making across all program areas.

6.1.1 Capacity Building

As a key enabler of PIND's 2025 – 2029 strategy, the Capacity Building program is designed to strengthen the institutional and operational capacities of Chevron Host Community Development Trusts HCDTs, private institutions, government institutions, civil society, business associations and service providers, for effective socio-economic engagement and inclusive governance to promote growth and peaceful co-existence in the Niger Delta. This program directly contributes

to PIND's long-term development objectives.

The program focuses on two major areas:

1. **Strengthening HCDTs**: Support Chevron HCDT (which replaced the Regional Development Councils (RDCs) under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) of 2021) to effectively implement peacebuilding and economic development interventions.
2. **Empowering Local Institutions:** Enhancing the institutional capacity of local BMOs, organizations, and implementing partners, to drive sustainable economic growth in the region.

Key Achievements – Q3 2026:

During the quarter, the Capacity Building team continued to strengthen the institutional capacity of the four CNL Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs); **Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, Egbema OPUDIS, Warri Kingdom Coastal, and Ugboland**, through strategic engagements, technical advisory support, and targeted capacity development interventions. The team is also currently conducting capacity assessment of trained cooperatives/farmer groups to track improvements, systematic and institutional changes and how these groups have contributed to MSD overall work.

Number of organizations, associations and networks accessing funds/grants with PIND assistance

Within Q3 2026, CB recorded one CSO who got a grant to provide local services to the communities - **Sustainable Actions for Leadership, Transformation and Inclusivity Initiative (SALTI Initiative),** a youth-led organization based in Imo State that previously participated in PIND capacity-building interventions, reported securing a **US$10,000 (₦13,642.90)** grant from the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund to implement Udo Ka Nma (Peace is Better), a community-based peacebuilding initiative focused on establishing early warning mechanisms across the 27 LGAs in Imo State. The organization reported that its participation in PIND interventions strengthened its focus on peacebuilding and conflict management and supported the development of project concept notes. This brings the total numbers of CSOs who received grant in 2026 to five.

Organizations providing improved services to their constituency (HCDTs and others)

Also, in Q3 2026, One CSO, **Development Initiative for Community Impact (DICI-Nigeria)** provided technical support to the Egbema OPUDIS Host Community Development Trust (EOHCDT) by delivering a three-day Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Capacity Building Training for 51 representatives of the Trust's Board of Trustees, Advisory Committee and Management Committee. This brings the total number of CAPABLE CSOs who provided improved services to their communities in 2026 to 5. **Cara, ColdHubs' solar-powered cold storage services** and **Newland** worked in Q2, while in Q1, and in partnership with **Marich Agro Allied Services**, 493 MSMEs and fisherfolks across five Delta State communities (Ogbiribiri (141), Ogbudugbudu (218), Madagho (36), Ugborodo Coastain (98), and Agogboro (6) communities) received training and linkage support focused on business practices, financial management, and access to markets and finance.

The training strengthened participant's practical capacity in digital literacy, Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, professional email communication, virtual collaboration, electronic filing and records management, data protection, cyber-safety and practical use of AI tools for organizational tasks.

Number of CNL HCDTs persons benefitting from Capacity Building (EDP and PB)

During the quarter, a total of 67 HCDT representatives (59 males and 8 females) from the four Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs): Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland, benefited from PIND's capacity-building interventions through advocacy training as well as mentoring and handholding support. The advocacy training equipped members of the Boards of Trustees, Management Committees, and Advisory Committees with practical knowledge and tools for evidence-based advocacy, including advocacy planning, stakeholder mapping, issue analysis, and monitoring and evaluation of advocacy initiatives. Participants also developed draft advocacy issue papers to strengthen their engagement with government and other stakeholders on priority community development issues.

In addition, tailored mentoring and handholding sessions on M&E were delivered to support the practical application of knowledge acquired through previous trainings, with particular emphasis on strengthening organizational systems and developing Monitoring, Results and Measurement (MRM) Plans for Community Development Plan (CDP) projects.

6.1.2 Advocacy

In Q3 2026, PIND's Advocacy Program strengthened government partnerships, advanced policy influence, promoted PIND models, and deepened HCDT engagement across the Niger Delta.

Significant achievements/results

- Advanced policy influence and PIND model adoption: The Safe Farm Corridors initiative promoted PIND's peacebuilding model, while engagements with agriculture ministries in Abia and Bayelsa advanced MSD and A2E opportunities. The revised KEFFESO MoU also supports integrating PIND approaches into HCDT interventions.
- Deepened government engagement: Engagements with Edo State's Deputy Governor and Bayelsa's Ministry of Agriculture strengthened relationships and opened opportunities for policy action on agricultural development, land access, and other program priorities.
- Strengthened WISE Program implementation: Government engagements created opportunities to address farmland insecurity and improve land access for participating SMEs and women.
- Expanded HCDT partnerships: Through Bridges, PIND's relationships and credibility among HCDTs have been strengthened. The project contributed to improved stakeholder understanding of PIA governance and accountability models, advocacy strategies, and sustainable Community Development Plans. The commencement of the CONNECT project provides an opportunity to consolidate these gains and deepen engagement with HCDTs.
- Enhanced strategic partnerships and resource mobilization: Participation in key stakeholder platforms has increased PIND's visibility and prospects for collaboration and funding. The transition from Bridges to CONNECT sustains engagement and provides a foundation for expanding program outcomes.

6.2.1 KM-Communications

During July–September 2026, KM–Comms supported PIND's Phase IV delivery through media relations, executive communications, event branding, photography/videography, digital campaigns, knowledge products and programme storytelling.

Significant Achievements / Results

- Supported 15+ programs and partnership activities, including Warri Tech Summit; WACCIMA tax workshop; MSD service-provider onboarding; UNIPORT job-readiness orientation; Climate-security policy roundtable; International Youth Day; BHLF–PIND LPG webinar; Gbelebu mini-grid commissioning; Bridges peer-learning workshop; The Bridges Project Impact Summit; Abia safe-farm-corridor peace activities; Okomu Green Field Days; NASC-PIND MoU Signing and KEFFESO HCDT MoU signing. Activities were supported through tailored communications plans, editorial materials, branding, event documentation, photography/videography, media engagement and digital promotion as applicable.
- Syndicated 7 press releases, generating 150+ media mentions;
- Produced 10+ multimedia impact videos and recorded over 183,828 social media impressions. Reported audience: 61,255 followers.
- Continued the "Warri Na One" peace campaign across 3 radio stations for a further 12 weeks;
- Produced 70 copies of the Climate-security Policy Brief and 500 Bridges project trifold flyers/toolkit materials; facilitated 3 internal knowledge-sharing sessions.
- Advanced NDLink migration and website revamp to 75% completion, while supporting the LPG information session and International Youth Day outreach.

KM-Comms Produced and published **10+ video stories** showcasing program impact across: Energy access, Peacebuilding and Livelihoods and agriculture. **Content highlights include**: Improved farmer incomes; Strengthened community

resilience; and Conflict prevention outcomes. **Sample outputs include:** International Youth Day, PIND-Okomu/ETIN Power solar mini-grid commissioning, Supporting the People Building Community Peace. (Links available below)

- International Youth Day 2026
- PIND–Okomu/ETIN Power solar mini-grid commissioning
- PIND-ColdHubs Solar-Powered Cold Room in Swali Market
- Boat Safety and Security Management Training for Boat Drivers and Jetty Operators
- Supporting the People Building Community Peace
- Strengthening Community-Based Peace Systems in Edo State
- Transforming Cocoa Farming, One Community at a Time
- Monitoring and Evaluation Training for Host Community Development Trusts
- Measuring Progress. Strengthening Impact
- Advancing Livelihoods Through Energy Access
- From Energy Access to Community Growth
- Empowering Fish Farmers to Strengthen Aquaculture in the Niger Delta
- Driving Investment Reform Through Strategic Advocacy
- Building the next generation of agricultural service providers in Okomu communities
- From Small Business to Market Success: Braimo Lovelyn's Story
- Empowering Communities Through Aquaculture:

Digital communications continued to expand PIND's reach and influence. The Unit disseminated more than **10+ multimedia impact stories** documenting program achievements across Access to Energy, Peacebuilding, Youth Employment Pathways, and Market Systems Development, generating **183,828 social media impressions**, against the quarterly target of 200,000, while growing PIND's online audience to **61,255 followers** across digital platforms.

Significant progress was also made in strengthening PIND's digital infrastructure through continued implementation of the NDLink website revamp, achieving the planned quarterly milestone while advancing cybersecurity, user experience, and data privacy improvements.

6.3.1 Q3 2026 GESI Key Achievements:

Q3 2026			
Programs /PSS	Output Number reported	Female	%
MSD farmers and MSMEs reached	99,483	47,752	48.0%
Youths with employable skills	1,554	831	53.5%
A2E HHs and Businesses accessing Clean energy	15,749	6,378	40.5%
Peace Building Program: Workshops, Roundtables and Meetings	487	136	27.9%
PSS Professional Services Contract, Service Orders, Grants MOU/MOA	68	17	25%
Programs only)	117,273	55,097	42.48%
program plus non program	117,341	55,114	38.98%
Overall Female %:	38.98%		

Table 4: GESI mainstreaming disaggregation

6.3.2 GESI Mainstreaming: During the reporting period, PIND's mainstreamed gender data recorded **39%** of participants in its activities as women with non -programs. While programs only were 42.5%, exceeding the GESI target of 40%. Details by program area:

- **MSD:** As at Q3 2026, a total of **99,483** farmers and MSMEs were reached, of which **47,752** were women, representing approximately **48%** female participation 34.8% youths, as well as 68 PWDs. This reflects a strong commitment to gender inclusion and an encouraging balance in outreach efforts. Specific interventions were designed using inclusive service models, ensuring that women and youth were not only participants but also positioned as service providers, seed entrepreneurs, and agripreneurs within the evolving market systems.
- **YEP:** By Q3 2026, over 16 partners reported a cumulative of **1,554** youths trained on applicable skills between January and September. Out of these, **831 (53.5%)** were female.
- **Access to energy: 15,749** Households and businesses accessed clean energy in Q3 2026, **6,378** HHs and Businesses were female headed/owned.
- **Peacebuilding Program:** Training and Creation of Subchapters in 13 Okomu Oil Palm Company (OOPC) Neighboring Communities During the quarter, a total of **487** participants including **136 females (27.9%), 135** youths **(27.7%),** and **2 PWDs** took part in Peacebuilding (IPDU/P4P) activities. Key activities included the establishment of P4P subchapters in OOPC communities, a roundtable discussion on the policy brief on climate change, and peacebuilding engagements to support the Safe Farm Corridors initiative under the WISE Project in Abia State.
- **The Project Support Services unit** awarded a total of **68** contracts (comprising service orders and purchase orders) during the period, with **17** awarded to female-led vendors, representing **25%** of the total.

6.3.4 2026 International Youth Day

The 2026 International Youth Day (IYD) was commemorated on 12 August 2026 in Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, under the theme "Youth Empowerment for a Sustainable Future." A post-event survey showed that 98% of the youths surveyed were inspired to take a specific career-related action, while participating organizations at the Career Opportunities and Support Fair received at least 326 CVs, applications and expressions of interest. The 2026 International Women's Day Mentorship Program continued across its three thematic areas and runs until December 2026. The program is now being linked to the 2026 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), which will serve as the practical application stage of the mentorship.

Strategic Partnership with Plan International Nigeria

Building on the strategic partnership with Plan International Nigeria established in the previous quarter, the collaboration moved from planning to joint programming during Q3. PIND and Plan International Nigeria developed a concept note for the 2026 16 Days of Activism Against GBV, to be implemented from 25 November to 10 December 2026 under the theme "From Mentorship to Action: Young Women Leading Community Action to Prevent Gender-Based Violence in the Niger Delta."

The intervention is designed as the practical application stage of the 2026 International Women's Day Mentorship Program. PIND and Plan International Nigeria will provide small grants to three women-led organizations established by mentees from the Peacebuilding and Resource Mobilization component, who will design and lead community-level GBV prevention activities with continued coaching from their mentors. Both organizations will jointly provide technical guidance, quality assurance and monitoring, and are expected to commit financial resources to implementation.

The partnership is expected to demonstrate how sustained mentorship can be translated into women-led community action, and to generate learning that will inform future joint programming on GBV prevention, gender-transformative approaches and social inclusion in the Niger Delta.

6.4.0 Q3 2026 Planning M & E Key Achievements

Within the reporting period, the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation team

- Provided overarching support through oversight to ensure Phase IV strategy implementation across all programs aligned with the Theory of Change (ToC) in all programs/projects;
- Measured results for 2026 through engagement and onboarding of 9 M&E associate organizations who tracked program outcomes across the 9 states of the Niger Delta.
- Leverage the assessments and programs' field reports to produce the Q3 2026 M & E progress report.
- Carried out data quality assurances of program deliveries and their outputs and managed the Intervention Control Framework to ensure enhance accountability.
- Tracked and quality-assured program outputs, outcomes and impact to ensure plausibility of programs objectives.
- Conducted the second 2026 Programs and Projects sub-committee meeting - *action items from the meeting would improve program/project implementation.*
- Facilitated the PIND Mid-year **Review and Reflections**, and ensured implementation of the feedback from it.

6.5.0 Business Development and Sustainability (BDS)

In 2026, BDS aims to raise **$1.5 million**. In alignment with its Strategic Objective to diversify and expand its funding base, the BDS team deepened internal collaboration with other units in Q3 2026 to advance fundraising efforts. Within the period, a total of **$1.38million (91% of the annual target)** was raised as follows:

- **Technical support to HCDTs: $537,000 was** influenced under Corporate Affairs - PIND (CAPIND) facilitation for capacity building program by the CNL HCDTs, implementation of access to finance/livelihood program by (**Sombreiro Kapital)** in **Ugboland HCDT** – [$489,000], and by **Sombreiro Kapital** in **Egbema-OPUDIS** – [$45,000,]
- **Fundraising through grants:** The sum of **$849,864** was raised from Okomu Oil Plam Company (OOPC) for 2027 CSR. - $524,000, A $300,000 secured from the Ford Foundation for "**CONNECT Project",** a strategic initiative for inclusive, climate-responsive and accountable community development for strengthening Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) in the Niger Delta (2026–2028), and $26,315.78 from ETK Group to implement Youth skills development under the youth employment pathway (YEP) in the Niger Delta.

Within the quarter, BDS activities included a finalized project-specific agreement with the PRESCO PLC/SIAT on their Community High-Impact Partnership projects is underway; agreement has been reached with OOPC for 2027 CSR Initiative. A project specific agreement has been developed and is pending signing in November, with implementation starting in January 2027.

Others are project-specific agreement (PSA) developed for the Saroafrica Nig. Ltd; a contract service agreement is being finalized with YieldPlay SA, for the Healthcare Renewable Energy Program targeting 3000 Health facilities in the Niger Delta over a 3-year duration. An MoU has been signed with the UNDP, and the National Seed Council of Nigeria (NASC), and Seed Forum has been planned for November in 2026.

7.0 Technology and Digital Innovation (Enterprise Systems, Cybersecurity, Digital Workplace, Knowledge & AI) - **TDI**

The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) unit was upgraded to be a standalone department in June 2026 known as **Technology and Digital Innovation** ***(****Enterprise Systems, Cybersecurity, Digital Workplace, Knowledge & AI)* to advance PIND optimization of knowledge management including Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other support in the delivery of programs. It will synergize with the planning, monitoring and evaluation and KM-communications units in managing PIND's data and information transformation agenda.

7.1.0 Key TDI Activities/Outcomes in Q3 2026

In Q3 2026, the TDI Team progressed with the creation of **Program Event Platform (PEP),** and **HR Self-Service Portal**. It also created **a Salesforce shared vendor database** linked to SRN creation, with new vendor creation restricted to PSS and TDI. Installed an **interactive board** and in use in Abuja, Port Harcourt and Warri, and launched **weekly One-Minute AI Nuggets.** The Data protection audit, penetration testing and phishing-awareness work is also in progress, as well, a *responsible AI use Policy* has been drafted and ready for management approval. Further details below:

- **Program Event Platform (PEP) concluded:** This is now live and in use for every event held since launch. It provides a common process for registration, validation and QR-code check-in, supporting more consistent event administration. Users report a simpler process; savings have not been quantified.
- **HR Self-Service Portal Concluded:** This is also live, with consultants beginning to submit their details. Provides a direct submission route and a central dashboard for HR, establishing a more structured approach to consultant records. Completion and accuracy require monitoring.
- **Salesforce vendor database:** This is now linked to SRN creation, allowing staff to select vendors from a shared list. Reduces the risk of inconsistent vendor names and supports record consolidation and reporting.
- **Digital workplace:** Interactive boards installed and in use across all three locations. Phase 1 is complete, with a positive meeting and presentation experience. Phase 2 integration remains outstanding.
- **Knowledge and innovation:** Weekly One-Minute AI Nuggets launched to promote practical AI awareness. The PIND Knowledge Assistant remains under testing and optimization, and the **Omdena** engagement continues.
- **Responsible AI Use Policy:** draft was completed following internal consultations and is ready for submission for management approval. It provides a basis for clearer organizational guidance, subject to approval and implementation.
- **Cybersecurity:** Data protection audit and penetration-testing/security review remain in progress. Phishing-awareness platform setup and testing have started. These activities support risk identification and stronger security practices; outcomes are not yet confirmed.
- **PM&E collaboration:** Joint work on data management and reporting practices continues. Specific outcomes will be documented as evidence becomes available.

8.0 Program Management - Governance and Accountability/Organizational Sustainability:

PIND held her third 2026 Leadership Team (LT) meeting in Warri to review organizational health and guide the course for 2026 program management. PIND continues to refine its program governance structure to enhance outcomes and stakeholders value. The **Information and Communications Technology (ICT)** unit upgraded to be known as **Technology and Digital Innovation (Enterprise Systems, Cybersecurity, Digital Workplace, Knowledge & AI)** continued to receive management attentions to advance PIND optimization of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other support in the delivery

of programs.

Program management continued to emphasize ***Energies and Non-Energies portfolios*** as delivery model commenced January this year to drive pragmatic models to greater impact. The **Energies portfolio** covers engagements around projects, interventions and stakeholders – Host Communities Trusts across oil and gas ecosystem as a response to new development opportunities created by PIA and associated HCDTs establishment; while the **non-energies portfolio** focuses on projects, interventions and non – oil extraction community engagements outside of oil and gas ecosystem in the Niger Delta. With the growing third-party engagements across these two ecosystems, PIND is better positioned to respond to the new partnership relations for scaled impact.

In Q3 2026, PIND progressed with the implementation of the ₦1billion program delivery agreement with Okomu Oil Plc to implement CSR interventions in 2026. This milestone is strengthening non-oil corporate partnerships in the Niger Delta.

8.1.0 Organizational effectiveness, health, safety, and security

PIND continued investing in employee well-being and workplace safety. In Q3 2026, the Operations Unit provided seamless services to consultants and stakeholders, enabling effective project delivery for all programs inclusive of WISE project.

Key achievements included:

- 12 safety & security reports were circulated to the workforce to enhance their safety and security awareness.
- Maintained accountability and protection of PIND personnel and assets across all locations.
- Optimal logistics support for program implementation and operations.
- Provided security updates and travel advice for approved field trips with regular liaison with the emergency response team at various locations in readiness for uncertainties.
- Conducted safety and security risk assessments across locations and implemented appropriate mitigation measures.
- Recorded zero major road traffic accidents and zero major safety or security incidents across all locations.
- Facilitated the conduct of First Aid, CPR and AED training across all PIND locations.

9.0 Project Support Services (PSS):

During the quarter under review, the PSS team recorded progress in strengthening operational systems, ensuring compliance, and placing greater emphasis on transparency and integrity across all procurement and grants management transactions. PSS awarded a total of **68** contracts: **32** grant agreement, **21** service orders, **9** purchase orders, and **6** MoAs. - see table 3 below.

Table 5: Contracts awarded in Q3 2026 in their types, total amount and by type of recipient

Q3 2026												
Instruments	Number (Q3 2026)	Number Processed to date (January - Sept. 2026)	Value Committed (Q3 2026) (NGN)	Total Amount committed to date (January - Sept. 2026) (NGN)	Total Value Committed by Gender (Q2 2026)							
					Male	Value Committed (NGN)	Female	Value Committed (NGN)	Female-Headed/Owned Organizations	Value Committed (NGN)	Male-Headed/Owned Organizations	Value Committed (NGN)
Professional Services Contract	0	5	0.00	3,540,513,042.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services Order	21	65	790,986,050.00	1,238,306,386.42	10	28,080,000.00	1	21,600,000.00	1	1,250,000.00	9	740,056,050.00
Purchase Order	9	23	71,917,685.00	276,163,141.75	-	-	-	-	3	10,465,475.00	6	61,452,210.00
Master Services Contract	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	32	39	227,829,350.00	338,145,850.00	7	46,431,250.00	7	39,350,000.00	4	31,800,000.00	14	110,248,100.00
MOU	6	14	364,446,250.00	677,992,750.00	-	-	-	-	1	21,500,000.00	5	342,946,250.00
Total	**68**	**146**	**1,455,179,335.00**	**6,071,121,170.57**	**17**	**74,511,250.00**	**8**	**60,950,000.00**	**9**	65,015,475.00	**34**	**1,254,702,610.00**

A major milestone achieved during the quarter was the successful optimization of the vendor database on PIP. This strengthens the efficiency of vendor information management, improves access to accurate and up-to-date vendor data, and supports a more streamlined procurement process, thereby facilitating timely vendor sourcing and engagement.

In addition, PSS successfully facilitated the engagement of 5 consultants to respond to Emerging Communal Conflicts Through Existing Prevent Councils in Abia, Ondo, Cross River, Edo, and Akwa Ibom States. This further shows PSS's commitment to supporting PIND's program teams in delivering measurable outcomes. The quarter also marked the

successful procurement of interactive screens to improve the organization's virtual meeting experience. Furthermore, PSS successfully completed the engagement of key consultants and vendors to facilitate the closeout of the Bridges Project.

10.0. Sombreiro Kapital (SK)

Sombreiro Kapital Ltd/Gte (SK), incorporated on July 2018, was established to drive innovation in agricultural value chain financing and MSME support in the renewable energy sector. Over the years, SK has demonstrated multiple models to improve access to finance for target sectors and businesses in the Niger Delta, stimulating capital flow on both the demand and supply sides of finance for agribusinesses, with a focus on smallholder inclusion. With the initial capital base of ₦100 million, SK focuses on increasing financial inclusion for smallholder farmers and MSMEs in the Niger Delta by reinvesting interest earned, lowering the cost of capital through blended finance, and serving as a testing ground for innovative financing models.

In Phase IV (2025 – 2029), SK plans to:

- Influence financial institutions to tailor products for PIND's target beneficiaries in the Niger Delta and develop innovative financial products for PIND's Economic Development programs (MSD, YEP, and A2E).
- Increase its capital base to leverage more loans by seeking new capital injections from PIND and external investors, including HCDTs.
- Test new financing models aligned with evolving market and regulatory dynamics of the operating environment in target ED programs
- Expand financial services into Coastal communities and HCDT ecosystems by developing a bespoke funding strategy with the HCDTs.

By the end of 2026, SK is expected to have strengthened its capital base, expanded its partner ecosystem, improved portfolio performance, and progressed significantly toward becoming a fully independent blended finance institution supporting inclusive economic growth in the Niger Delta. In 2026, SK's main focus is to:

- **Capital Mobilization and Strategic Partnerships:** Expand and diversify SK's capital base through funding partnerships with HCDTs, Development agencies, Foundations, and corporates, while progressively reducing reliance on legacy funding sources.
- **Financial Innovation and Inclusive Portfolio Growth:** Develop and scale blended finance models that improve access to finance for over 1,000 MSMEs and smallholder farmers, while maintaining strong portfolio quality with Portfolio at Risk (PAR 30) below 5%.
- **Institutional Strengthening and Operational Sustainability:** Strengthen internal systems, governance structures, and revenue generation capacity to support SK's transition into a self-sustaining financial intermediary.

Key Sombreiro Kapital (SK) Achievements in Q3 2026:

Building on the implementation structures established in the first quarter and the partnerships advanced in the second quarter, SK continued to expand access to finance for MSMEs and smallholder farmers in Q3 2026. Activities focused on facilitating affordable credit, strengthening cooperatives, improving aggregation and market linkages, broadening financial institution partnerships, and advancing engagements with HCDTs and corporate partners. These efforts improved beneficiary readiness for finance and strengthened the systems required for program delivery.

Key Highlights

- **500** MSMEs and smallholder farmers accessed direct CRG finance in Q3, while over **200** more accessed finance through indirect leverage. Both count toward the 2026 target of more than 1,000.
- **Financial literacy:** 395 farmers trained from 17 communities
- **Credit disbursed**: ₦100 million revolving credit facility has been disbursed through Sterling Bank Plc at a 9% interest rate, Aggregation Model through TA Commodities; supporting 500 profiled smallholder farmers in the Okumu Oil Palm Company Plc (OOPC) supply chain
- **HCDT programs:** Ugboland HCDT- total catalytic funding provision of ₦650 million. Egbema OPUDIS HCDT: ₦83 million co-financing framework

- Capital mobilization pipeline: Approximately ₦1.133 billion (excluding the ₦100 million Sterling Bank facility)
- **14 existing cooperatives** strengthened and **5 new cooperatives** registered, in collaboration with relevant MDAs, improving governance and financial readiness.
- **Credit Risk Guarantee (CRG) portfolio**: **₦138** million transferred to Sterling Bank; ₦100 million was disbursed; ₦38 million pending bank verification and approval

10.1. Continuum Capital (CC)

Continuum Capital (CC) Limited is PIND's dedicated impact investing SPV, established to enable access to affordable finance for growth stage companies across the Niger Delta. CC represents PIND's scaling of its Access to Finance interventions, building on the success of its pioneer SPV, Sombreiro Kapital. CC's core mandate is the deployment of concessionary debt capital via co-financing structures with selected partner banks.

CC's focus spans three investment verticals - Agricultural Value Chains, Clean Energy and Youth Enterprise Development. CC's investment thesis is anchored by the Financing for Systemic Change approach, guided by CC's proprietary return on investment impact (RIMPACT) philosophy. Through the FSC approach, CC will be driving the continuum of PIND's market systems approach and its broader systems change agenda for development, translating PIND's legacy into a live, scalable investment platform for the region.

Q3 2026 Key Activities

- **PIND Board Endorsement of Seed Fund Approval -** Endorsement was received from the PIND Board for the investment of the approved seed capital in CC as an equity investment by PIND.
- **Governance Oversight -** Ongoing oversight over CC's activities continued with the holding of our Q3 Board meeting. The PIND Executive Director was in attendance as a Board member, providing direct representation for PIND and offering a line of sight to our activities.
- **Joint Partnership Calls -** Joined the PIND Programs Leads on calls with key strategic partners – UNDP, NCX, Ella Lakes,
- **Visibility Enhancing Activities -** Participated at several third-party events to draw visibility for the vehicle, continue to announce our impact investing foray to the ecosystem and enhance our overall corporate profile. Events attended include the Africa Social Impact Summit (ASIS 26), Impact Investors Foundation (IIF) Policy Roundtables, and featuring as speaker at an Innovision Consulting webinar on "Navigating a Changing Funding landscape".
- **Bilateral meetings with potential investors -** Held several meetings with potential investors. This include 2X Global, Kupanda Kapital, MacArthur Foundation and Amethis.
- **Bank Partnership Relationships -** We progressed opening of bank accounts with Access and Sterling Banks and development of the formal co-financing frameworks. The frameworks are underpinned by CC's proprietary Financing for Systemic Change concept with the Banks as the principal engine room for operationalization of our impact investing interventions and CC playing a facilitative role at this stage. The MOU with Sterling Bank is ready for execution.
- **Refinement of the Financing for Systemic Change (FSC) framework -** Further refinement has been done to the FSC approach and accompanying framework to further align it with the overall PIND Phase IV strategy and make it ready for adoption at the commencement of our co-financing activities.
- **Internal Engagement on Leverage Points identification** - Commenced initial engagements with selected program leads to identify key leverage points to channel financing in line with the FSC structure.

Q3 2026 Key outputs

- Sterling Bank MOU drafted, reviewed and ready for sign off.
- Bank credit appraisal framework developed, shared with Sterling Bank and integrated into the MOU by reference.
- Co-financing structure designed, setting out the bank's contribution to, and matching of, the funds CC mobilizes for deployment as concessionary debt capital.
- Financing for Systemic Change (FSC) framework further refined and aligned to PIND Phase IV strategy.

Q3 2026 Key outcomes

- CC's initial capital base is secured, enabling full operationalization of the vehicle.
- One bank relationship operational, with the co-financing MOU ready for sign off, providing the core foundation for CC's investing activities.
- CC has a defined, bank-backed route to deploy concessionary debt capital to identified leverage points, with the bank contributing and matching the funds CC mobilizes.
- FSC is ready to be applied from the first co-financing transaction, so investments are directed at structural change in the Niger Delta's real economy.
- Early dialogue with strategic partners and prospective investors creates a base for future capital mobilization.
- Sterling Bank MOU drafted, reviewed and ready for sign off.

11.0 Programs Challenges and Lessons Learned

11.1 Challenges: Peace Building

Peace building challenges identified in Q3 2026 are as follows:

- **Weak coordination and response capacity:** Gaps in security presence, information-sharing, and follow-through on stakeholder commitments constrained effective responses. PB continue to explore the prevent council's senor memberships to help connect the security architectures and other stakeholders in the States to support early responses.
- **Sustaining community structures:** Newly established Prevent Councils and P4P subchapters require continued mentoring, resources, and institutional support to remain effective. PB continues to liaise with the P4P network to strengthen its autonomous state.

11.2 Challenges: Market Systems Development (MSD)

Implementation during Q3 2026 was affected by a combination of market, operational, and institutional constraints that influenced the pace of program delivery across the Niger Delta. While these challenges affected implementation in some locations, PIND and its partners adapted delivery approaches to maintain progress toward program objectives.

- **High cost of service delivery:** Poor Road infrastructure, dispersed communities, transportation costs, and difficult terrain increase the cost of reaching farmers and MSMEs, particularly in rural areas of the Niger Delta. In response to PIND's advisory, service providers clustered farmers by location, coordinated service delivery with local providers, and leveraged group training, phone calls, and WhatsApp to reduce transportation costs and improve outreach efficiency.

- **Digital connectivity and adoption gaps:** Poor network coverage, limited digital literacy, access to smartphones, and data costs can constrain the uptake of digital advisory and business support platforms in rural communities. In response, PIND supported CAD Consulting and Digital Green to onboard and train service providers on digital platforms and promote a blended service delivery approach that combines digital tools with face-to-face engagement. The service providers are also training farmers on how to use these platforms to access timely agricultural information and advisory services.

- **Climate and environmental risks:** Flooding, irregular rainfall, drought, and other climate-related challenges can disrupt field activities, reduce farm productivity, and affect the ability of service providers to deliver services as planned. In response, PIND integrates climate-smart agricultural practices into farmer training and demonstration activities through service providers, promoting improved soil management, efficient input use, and sustainable crop production practices to help farmers build resilience to climate-related risks.

11.3 Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

The key challenges are:

- **Low participation of persons with disabilities (PWDs):** Despite efforts to promote inclusive participation, enrolment of persons with disabilities remained low due to financial, accessibility, and support constraints. Recognizing that these barriers require targeted interventions, YEP plans to design a dedicated PWD-focused program in 2027, incorporating accessible training approaches and tailored support to improve participation and employment outcomes.
- **Poor Soft Skills Training Implementation:** Inconsistency in soft skills training adoption and delivery was observed with a few new partners. Partners were encouraged to review the structure for soft skills integration and improve on its delivery by allowing trainee's profile to inform methodology of soft skills training delivery for increased understanding and practice. The program is also planning a Training of Trainers Workshop on Soft Skills for Newly onboarded Partners.

11.4 Challenges: Access to Energy (A2E)

Two challenges came up during the co-creation sessions for the Challenge Fund and the Acceleration Fund.

- **The first concerns PIND's contracting instruments.** Some developers raised concerns about specific terms, particularly the indemnity clause. If these concerns are not addressed, contracting could be delayed and some strong applicants could withdraw. A2E is addressing this by explaining the purpose of each clause and how risk is shared under the agreement, and by referring specific concerns to PIND's PSS team so that the wording can be clarified where it is unclear, without weakening PIND's protection.

- **The second is that developers now want larger ticket sizes from PIND's incentives.** Developers argue that the current amounts are small relative to the cost of entering coastal markets, where boat logistics, flood protection and fewer connections per site push project costs above upland levels. A2E's response is to make clear that PIND's funds are catalytic and are meant to be combined with other sources. A2E is helping developers combine PIND support with DARES grants, HCDT co-investment and private finance, as the OOPC co-funding of the Gbelebu project and Darway Coast's REA pipeline show. The planned Niger Delta Deal Room will also connect developers with investors and financiers who can fill the remaining financing gap.

11.5 Lessons learned:
11.6 Lesson: Communications-KM

- **Early Integration of Communications Enhances Program Visibility:** Early KM-Comms involvement in program planning enables communication objectives, documentation, branding, and media engagement to be integrated from the outset, resulting in stronger program visibility, higher-quality outputs, and more effective storytelling.

- **Structured Request Management Improves Turnaround Time:** Late communications requests place pressure on delivery timelines and output quality. Establishing clear submission deadlines, defined approval processes, and a structured request management system can improve coordination and enable more efficient delivery of communications outputs

11.7 Market Systems Development (MDS)

- **Practical demonstration accelerates adoption:** Farmers are more likely to understand and apply improved practices when training is complemented by practical demonstrations and field-based learning.

- **Local service providers are critical for sustainability:** Building the capacity of local TSPs/BSPs creates a more sustainable mechanism for farmers and MSMEs to access technical and business support beyond direct project intervention.

11.8 Access to Energy (A2E)

Contract terms should be explained before contracts are shared. The concerns developers raised about the indemnity clause showed that key contracting terms are better explained early. In future, A2E will walk developers through each key clause before sharing contracts with them, and will introduce PIND's main contracting terms during co-creation, so that concerns surface early and do not delay contracting.
The Energy Cabin model holds up well in flood-prone communities. When high tides kept developers away from their sites this quarter, the systems kept running. The Energy Cabin's elevated platforms protect equipment from flood water, and having at least two trained local technicians at each site means faults can be fixed without waiting for the developer. These two design features will remain standard requirements for new projects in coastal communities.

11.9 Youth Employments Pathways (YEP)

- **Commercial sustainability requires blended financing and institutional strengthening**: The experience of the Scholarship Grant and Facility Upgrade Grant demonstrates that combining direct support to youths with investments that reduce TVET operational costs can enable partners to expand enrolment while strengthening the commercial viability of their training services.
- **Job Readiness Orientation:** Practical engagement increases the value of orientation sessions. The business idea challenge employed during the entrepreneurship session demonstrated the value of giving participants opportunities to immediately apply what they learned, making the orientation more practical and engaging.

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12. Third-Party Project: Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE)

The Cassava Youth Agripreneur Program— now known as Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE) — is an intervention under the agriculture priority sector of the Mastercard Foundation that contributes to the realization of the Young Africa Works (YAW) strategy in Nigeria. WISE seeks to transform the cassava value chain in Nigeria by promoting innovative and sustainable business approaches that boost production for both the food and industrial markets, while attracting youth and women into the cassava value chain to build capacity, access resources (including finance and markets), and improve efficiency in cassava production and processing. The program's approach focuses on providing key support, aligning relationships, and offering incentives needed to optimize productivity and efficiency across the value chain.

This will lead to profitable cassava farming businesses and the creation of dignified and fulfilling jobs. WISE aims to support cassava youth out grower farmers (YOFs**) —80% of whom are young women** —and other cassava agripreneurs to increase knowledge and capacity in cassava production and processing. This will ensure the supply of safe, quality-assured, and price-competitive cassava-based raw materials and products to processing factories and global markets. The intervention will incentivize investment to unlock opportunities within the cassava value chain in Nigeria and create institutional changes that will sustainably drive the impact.

A total of **80,000 youth** participants aged **15-35 years** will be onboarded into the program, 80% of whom will be young women. These youth out grower farmers will be integrated into the supply chains of cassava SME processors. In addition, 1,250 more participants will be onboarded into other segments of the cassava value chain.

PIND is responsible for onboarding and engaging **30,000** youth agripreneurs and **94** cassava seed entrepreneurs, delivering **9** makeshift cassava processing centers, and engaging **10** SMEs within the Edo/Delta cluster in the implementation, coordination, and results delivery and reporting on the project.

WISE Program Key Achievements as at Q3 2026

During the third quarter of 2026, the WISE Program continued implementation across five pathways designed to strengthen food systems alliances, improve SME business models and value-chain performance, expand access to production services and climate-resilient practices, unlock investment and market opportunities, and generate evidence

for learning and adaptation. Delivery during the quarter combined field monitoring of participating Strategic Implementation Partners (SIPs), engagement with state and community institutions, technical coordination with service providers, farmer onboarding and data-quality follow-up, and communications and safeguarding activities.

A major area of work was addressing enabling conditions for cassava production. Engagements with government and traditional authorities in Delta, Bayelsa and Edo States focused on land access, mechanization, community relations and institutional support. In Delta, follow-up engagement with traditional and community leaders resulted in access to land and wider community support for program implementation. In Edo, government support included tractors for one SME to prepare approximately 600 hectares. In Bayelsa, the Commissioner for Agriculture expressed support, while further discussions on land access were planned for October. These results demonstrate progress in advocacy, although additional follow-up is needed to translate interest and commitments into verified, sustained support.

The program also worked with PIND's Peacebuilding Unit to address conflict-related barriers to farm access. In Abia, the **Safe Farm Corridors Initiative** brought together security agencies, government representatives, traditional and community leaders, and Von Food & Farms to discuss practical approaches to safer farm access. Further community engagement and peacebuilding and early warning training took place during the quarter. Consultations with SIPs in Edo, Delta and Ondo informed a concept note for a proposed peacebuilding intervention across the three states.

The KPI data provided for this report records cumulative outreach of **30,323 YOFs** against a target of **30,000,** including **26,625** young women. **Ten enterprises** were reported as supported, including two women-led enterprises. For Youth-in-Work (YIW), the program achieved **23,379** during Q3 against a quarter target of **30,794**, including **23,000** young women against a target of **24,635**. The cumulative YIW total was **56,649**. These figures represent different reporting periods and are presented separately throughout the report. The available data also shows gaps in participation by persons with disabilities (PWD), while reported outreach among internally displaced people and refugees/returnees exceeds some listed targets; these figures require consistent disaggregation and validation.



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