



Monitoring & Evaluation Report

Quarter Three:
July - September 2025

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](https://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
FCDO	UK Government's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FIDA	International Federation of Women Lawyers
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 Labor 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 and miles
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 Partway

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 in investment by donors and funders 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 emission 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 Chevron, 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
Peace Building Program	16
General Enabling Programs	5,10,15, 17



Security

Quarter three 2025 recorded another period of improvements in peace and security across the Niger Delta, compared to the second quarter of the year, though violent crimes persisted across the nine states of the region. Data indicates a 43% reduction in lethal violence, with conflict-related fatalities dropping from 169 in Q2 to 96 in Q3. This overall decrease in conflict risks and fatalities reflects the effectiveness of ongoing peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and management interventions across the region. However, despite this progress, incidents of violence and insecurity persisted across the region. Kidnapping, both targeted and opportunistic, continues to be a significant threat across Nigeria, primarily driven by economic gains regardless of the victim’s profile.

Notable Security Incidents in Q3 2025:

- **Akwa Ibom State July 23, 2025):** At about 12.54hr, a deadly clash occurred between rival cult groups in Udo Udoma Avenue, Uyo LGA of Akwa-Ibom State.
- **Bayelsa State (August 25, 2025 at about 06.00hr):** A policeman, Obot Godwin, was killed while purchasing medicine in the Amarata area of Yenagoa, the state capital. The incident was reported as a targeted attack.
- **Delta State (September 24, 2025):** On 24 September 25, an angry mob reportedly set ablaze a lady accused in a failed child kidnapping attempt in Agbarho community, Ughelli North Local Government Area of Delta State. **On 16 September 25,** the Delta State Police Command reportedly rescued a female kidnap victim and arrested her suspected abductor in Agbor, Ika South LGA, Delta State.
- **On 8 September 25,** an Army officer was reportedly kidnapped from his lodge, after attending a marriage ceremony in Kpakiama community, Bomadi LGA of Delta State. The officer was later rescued after a military operation.
- **Edo State (September 26, 2025):** Twelve travelling passengers in a bus were kidnapped along the Okene – Auchi Road. The police later reported that eight of the passengers have been rescued while efforts are ongoing to

- ensure the safe rescue of the remaining four victims.
- **Ondo State (August 20, 2025):** Two suspected kidnappers were shot dead during a gun duel with police operatives in Ikare, Akoko North-East LGA, Ondo State, during an operation to rescue a 60-year-old victim.
- **Rivers State: (September 06, 2025):** An assassination attempts targeted Chijioke Ihunwo, Executive Chairman of Obio/Akpor Local Government Area, during a burial ceremony in the LGA. He escaped unharmed and security agencies are investigating the incident

Abridged Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) 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, 2025**), 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. Better functioning market systems

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 2025, 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, etc.) to advance activities benefiting farmers and MSMEs.

1.1 Market System Development (MSD) Program

The functionality of the market system for agricultural growth thrives with several behavioral changes observed in Q3 2025 by the **Engaged Service Providers (SPs)**. Few examples of the services delivered by the SPs include: enhancing farmers' training and knowledge transfer; strengthening the entire agricultural value chain; advancing on-farm agronomic practices; building strategic partnerships and service hubs; and diversifying operations for resilience and growth.

1.1.1 Outputs/Outcome as at Q3 2025

- In Q3 2025, PIND strengthened the 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.** A verification exercise of the **88** Service Providers onboarded so far in 2025 has shown that **45/50** entrepreneurial Service Providers have delivered services to their clientele across the four thematic areas.
- Early outputs show over **89,325/100,000** farmers – **40,940 (45.8%) women**, have been reached with crosscutting interventions by over **45 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 **N48.57billion**. Women investments were **N22billion** adopting cross-cutting models. PIND targeted **100,000** farmers and **N70billion** investment from farmers in 2025.

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 45 entrepreneurial service providers recorded an average increased income of **₦2,077,887.83**, bringing the total income of the service providers in 2025 to **₦93.5million/₦125million**.
- **Change in income of Adopting Farmers/MSMEs: 71,460 farmers (80% rate of adoption) adopted crosscutting modules in their farms/businesses in 2025.** Outcome assessment shows **60% (42,876)** of the adopters who experienced increased income of **₦29.4 billion as against the target of ₦42billion in 2025** (average of **₦684,821** per farmer). The combined income of the service providers and farmers in 2025 was **₦29,455,899,131.06, against a target of ₦42.125billion**.
- **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 outcomes monitoring showed that a total of **7,131/13,750** full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs were recorded through the service providers (**102 jobs**) and farmers (**7,029**).

1.1.3 Systemic Changes:

System Level Shifts in the market development program representing functionality of PIND's improved model have been demonstrated by the onboarded Service Providers as follows:

- **Access to Technical and Business Development: Service Providers** who had initially focused on single commodities such as oil palm, cassava, and cocoa began 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. Some of the Service Providers are: Dele Ayodele (Dorbudee) – Delta, Ibinaiye Wale (CAD Consulting) – Rivers, Dr. Badejo Ayodeji (TASK) - Akure/Benin, Isreal Yusuf – Ughelli Delta, Kindom Obuza Yenogoa Bayelsa and Osawaru Joseph Iredoma (Citron Spring) – Edo State
- **Access to Agricultural Inputs (CPP/Seeds) Market:** Input firms that once operated independently are now **co-designing 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. Some of the Service Providers are: Newland Pathway Integrated Consult (Ondo), Flourishing Field Agribusiness and Global Consult (Delta), Amadikwa Queenth (Imo), Umanah Mfon Moses (Akwa Ibom), Clement Obayuwana (Edo), Ben Wisdom Efe (Agbo Delta).
- **Access to Industrial Market and Technology (AIMAT):** During the reporting quarter, PIND advanced the aggregation model development through **Valuashore Global Resources** to strengthen market linkages across priority value chains. The model seeks to foster relationships among off-takers, processors, cooperatives, and aggregators to create sustainable and inclusive markets for smallholders. Additionally, progress is being made in developing a reference tool on appropriate agricultural technologies, including renewable energy-powered and climate-smart innovations across key commodities.

Collectively, 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. Early 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.

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 Service Providers (FSPs), and credible agro-dealers interact seamlessly, building trust, reinforcing demand, and driving the commercial viability of input delivery across the Niger Delta.

1.2.0 Access to Energy (A2E)

During the third quarter of 2025, PIND’s Access to Energy (A2E) program consolidated progress made in the first half of the year by deepening implementation readiness and strengthening partnerships with energy developers, host communities, and HCDTs. The quarter marked a transition toward broader market participation, as private developers and institutional partners demonstrated stronger ownership of the renewable energy market across the Niger Delta.

1.2.1 A2E Outputs/Outcomes as at Q3 2025

- **Number of businesses and households accessing clean energy:** Within the reporting period, **1,075** households, and **400** businesses were recorded accessing clean energy from the installation of solar Mini grids as shown below. Cumulatively as at Q3 2025, a total of **3,575/(4000-target)** households and **1,040/(1000-target)** businesses have been verifiably connected to clean energy. The total number of persons with access to clean energy within this period was **21,450**.¹
- These were part of the scaling activities reported in the last quarter, exemplified by the work of **ETIN Power**, a female-led enterprise and long-standing partner, who scaled into **Ologbonugu** Community, Edo State, deploying an 18.45 kWp mini-grid; **DARWAY Coast** who scaled its interventions across four rural communities in Cross River State - **Agbokim (113 kWp), Etomi (120 kWp), Abia (67 kWp), and Beneghe (134 kWp)**, and **A4&T Power** who sustained its growth trajectory by embedding PIND’s technical recommendations and confidence-building interventions into its expansion model. A 130 kWp mini-grid was deployed in **Kolawole**, Ondo State.
- **Access to Energy induced Cost Savings:** Over **8,983** households that verifiably accessed clean energy from January – September 2025, have saved **NGN838,038,148**, while over **1,000** businesses had additional income of **NGN160,728,917** within the same period. The total financial benefit enjoyed by these households and businesses was **NGN998.76 million**, against the 2025 annual target of **NGN1billion**.
- **Energy Access induced Job creation:** Total Jobs created in 2025 by Businesses using clean energy in 2025 was **968 FTE** against the annual target of 1,000 FTE. **17%** of the micro businesses accessing clean energy reported employing extra paid labor to do their businesses due to expansions.

Testimonial:

Mrs. Okorotemitope, an indigene of Odofado Ondo State, a family of five, was connected to the mini-grid for past 18 months mainly for household use.

Before the connection, she relied solely on her gasoline generator for energy needs, for an average of 6 hours daily spending an average of ₦32,000 monthly.

But, with the connection to the Mini grid in the community, she now enjoys 12 hours of uninterrupted access to electricity, which costs her about ₦7,000 monthly.

She is very happy for this as she saves an average of ₦25,000 monthly; and enjoys additional 6 hours of electricity daily. She has bought a television and a fan. According to her, four persons have relocated to the community because of the electricity.

1.2.2 A2E Intermediate Impact as at Q3 2025

- **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.

¹ 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.

- **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 **NGN200million** was invested to scale up energy models within the reporting period. New Socio-economic dynamics have also evolved from energy access as follows:

- **Diverse Geographic Inflow:** Relocation isn't just from nearby areas (like Evbware and Evbowie); people are moving in from distant communities and even other states such as Kogi, Benue, Rivers, Calabar, and Benin, alongside those returning home from the coast.
 - This was attested by **Mrs. Mafolabunmi Adewunmi** (Ugbonla, Ondo State) and **Henry Ekogiawe** (Evbuwa, Edo State), who 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 Welders.**
- **Surge in Business Ventures:** The reliable electricity supply has led to a significant influx of new businesses. Key services established by non-natives and returning locals include barbing salons, welding workshops, fashion design shops, and provision stores. Promise Paul, Evbuwa community, Edo State explained that some people from Evbowie community have moved into their community, there is even competition for farmland because the population has increased.
- **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)

Implementing Partners fully engaged for Facility Upgrade: Following the completion of facility assessments, screening, and selection of TVET organizations, fifteen (15) TVET organizations were shortlisted for final consideration. In Q3, after further reassessments, **14** organizations were finally approved for engagement through the facility improvement grant. The sum total of **N112,700,450** was awarded to the 14 organizations to facilitate strategic outcomes such as - the expansion and scale-up of TVET's operations and service delivery; the increase of commercially effective skills training models. Also, a total of fourteen (14) different TVET organizations have been profiled and are awaiting approval for engagement under the TVET scholarship grant intervention.

1.3.1 YEP Implementing Partners Outputs and Outcomes

Within the reporting period, an additional **714** youths were trained by 5 implementing partners, bringing the cumulative number of youths trained in 2025 to **2,897/ (5,000 target)** across the region. These partners are: *The Footwear Academy, Aqua-Green Integrated Initiative, Coriftech Nigeria Ltd, Meranos Nigeria Ltd, and Rad5 Tech-Hub.* An investment of **NGN20million** was recorded by these partners in their businesses.

Post Training experience: 1,522/ (1,900 -target) youths with employable skills established new businesses, and over

1,000 have been linked to jobs between January and September 2025. The entrepreneurial youths are earning income of an average of over **NGN 60,000** monthly from their businesses for both grantees and non-grantees. The Net additional income recorded between January and September 2025 was **NGN1.1 billion** against the **NGN2billion** target for 2025.

More jobs are created: These youths are contributing to the reduction of unemployment in the region by creating more jobs from their businesses. Currently, an average of 2.7 full-time equivalent were created by each business, leading to over **3,916/ (4,200 -target) FTE jobs**, from 1,552 businesses in 2025.

1.3.2 2025 Challenge Fund Grants Award

In August, the Business Startup Challenge Fund grant award ceremony was held during the 2025 International Youth Day commemoration event in Asaba. A total of 65 beneficiaries spread across four (4) program implementation states were awarded the sum of **N44,304,000** to grow and scale their business ideas across the skill sectors of building construction, agriculture, ICT, and services leveraging technical support from their training partners. Meanwhile, business mentorship and incubation commenced in Q3 after the completion of online entrepreneurship training in Q2

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 **193** leveraging supports from PIND. With the current support to upgrade some TVET Centers, more youths will benefit.
- **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 38% of the youths with employable skills established new businesses with personal equity, while 46% are being linked to jobs. Overall, **84%** of youths with applicable skills have access to livelihood being a panacea for attraction into youths' enrolment into YEP programs - **57.3%** were males and **42.7%** were females.
- **Formation of YEP Alumni Network for improved coordination:** For a sustained **YEP model adoption, adaptation, and stakeholders' response a YEP alumni network was** formed in 2025, in collaboration with the implementing partners. This was part of a broad strategy to sustain promotion of the value proposition.

2.0 Strategic Objective 2: Influence \$50million Investment by donors/funders in the Niger Delta by 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).

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. Also, the government's funds spent on projects emanating from PIND-influenced development models, policies and initiatives, (e.g. 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

Within the reporting period, PIND influenced a total of **(\$633,590) ₦950,385,000** in investment by donors and funders into the Niger Delta under Youth Employment Pathways (YEP), Access to Energy and Capacity Building (CB) programs. This constitutes **6.3%** of the target of **\$10million** set for 2025. Outcome monitoring is in progress in Q4 2025. Details below:

- **Youth Employment Program (YEP):** Two implementing partners - *Kiara De-Luke Academy and Micafotoy Technologies Limited* attracted **\$14,666.67 (₦22,000,000)** in Q3 2025. The cumulative funds attracted by the IPs as at Q3 2025 was **(\$228,812.05) ₦343,218,070.00** for investments into skills development in the Niger Delta.

- **[\$214,145.38]** was reported in Q2 2025 from Olotu Square (technology), Asteven Renewable Energy & Efficiency Academy Ltd, Micafotoy technologies limited, Start Innovation Hub (ICT) and Clintonel Foundation - (ICT & Renewable Energy)
- **Access to Energy:** A2E attracted **(\$398,000) ₦597,000,000** from the following:
 - **Collaborative Labelling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)** - an NGO promoting efficient appliances for people and the planet;
 - **Regional Off-grid Electricity Access Project (ROGEAP)**-an ECOWAS project that provides funding for certified off-grid and standalone solar systems to start-ups, established SMEs or large companies; and
 - **Powering Renewable Energy Opportunities (PREO)**- a demand-led donor funded productive use of renewable energy programs improving the livelihoods of communities in sub-Saharan Africa and Pacific Island Countries attracted **(\$398,000) ₦597,000,000** into the Niger Delta.
- **Capacity Building:** The cumulative funds attracted as of Q3 2025 by three local CAPABLE-trained organizations: *Newland Pathway Integrated Consult, Women United for Economic Empowerment (WUEE), and Family Welfare Foundation Bayelsa (FAWEF)*, was **(\$6,778) ₦10,350,000** in funding to provide community-based services.

3.0 Strategic Objective 3: Integrate climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to increase resilience in the Niger Delta, reducing GHG emission from renewable energy, mitigating flood impacts through community plans, and supporting enterprises selling bio/organic products.)

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-supported interventions continued to advance climate adaptation and mitigation across the Niger Delta by replacing reliance on diesel and petrol generators with decentralized renewable energy solutions. Consistent Energy's implementation of SHS and PUE in rural Ondo State enabled 163 MSMEs to operate without fuel-based generators. This transition not only lowered greenhouse gas emissions but also reduced dependence on costly and volatile fuel supplies, strengthening the resilience of local businesses to climate and market shocks.

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.

3.1.1. Market System Development Program

In Q3 2025, PIND intensified the integration of climate adaptation and mitigation practices across all four MSD thematic areas to strengthen smallholder resilience in the Niger Delta as follows:

- **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.
- **Establishment of climate-smart demonstration farms to promote large-scale adoption of environmentally friendly practices and technologies:** A total of 90 climate-adaptive demonstration plots were established by SAROs across target states, showcasing resilient technologies in maize, rice, cassava, and cocoa. These sites served as practical learning hubs where farmers observed the benefits of organic composting, efficient fertilizer use, and eco-friendly pest control, leading to early adoption of climate-smart practices. CHC Agritech Africa, engaged as a strategic partner for climate-smart technologies, completed preparatory activities and is set to establish 100 demonstration farms across Cross River, Rivers, Edo, Delta, and Bayelsa States beginning in Quarter 4. Their eco-friendly biofertilizers and microbiome technologies promote soil regeneration, reduce dependency on chemical inputs, and strengthen environmental resilience across both crop and livestock systems.

3.1.2 Peace Building Program

A policy brief on climate change as a trigger of conflict through disruption of economic activities in the Niger Delta was disseminated. This would generate actionable insights for stakeholders, including government institutions, civil society, the private sector, and development partners, on how climate-related stressors are influencing conflict dynamics, and to recommend strategies that promote resilience and sustainable development in the region.

PB progressed the deployment of a filter for climate-related data on the Peace Map. This data would showcase environmental risks and hazards (ERH) data of the Niger Delta (including flooding, windstorm, gully erosion and oil spillage). The data would complement the conflict data on the Peace Map and provide context that would inform and guide climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives by the PB and ED programs, as well as external stakeholders in the region.

4.0 Strategic Objective 4:

Support to CNL HCDTs to co-investing in their priority projects to improve economic and peace agendas in their communities.

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 to support Chevron Nigeria Limited Host Community Development Trust communities as well as the Non CNL HCDTs across the Niger Delta region as part of PINDs broad response to the PIA opportunity in phase IV.

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. 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.

During the period under review, PIND supported MSMEs, fisherfolk, and processors in the HCDT communities with improved access to technical and business development services. This was in collaboration with **Newland Pathway Integrated Consults**, which facilitated a *Business Management, Financial Literacy, and Linkages activity* in Awoye Community, Ilaje LGA, Ondo State. The engagement targeted fisherfolk and processors and helped strengthen participants' understanding of business management and financial practices, while also introducing them to improved processing technologies and cooperative development. A total of **100 fisherfolk** and processors were reached, and discussions were held on upgrading existing savings groups into structured cooperatives to further improve access to finance and market opportunities.

Additionally, Marich Agro Allied Services conducted business development and financial literacy training across Otumara, Orere, and Obaghoro communities in Delta State, reaching **514 MSMEs** and fisherfolk. The sessions focused on improving business practices, strengthening financial management skills, and linking participants to potential markets and technologies. This brings the total number of MSMEs and fisherfolk reached in the HCDT communities to 614 as of Q3.

4.1.1 Capacity Building (CB)

Mentoring of HCDTs: PIND conducted a workshop for the four existing Chevron Nigeria Limited Host Community Development Trusts—Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland—across Delta and Ondo States to help the HCDTs develop practical project management guidelines and operational structures, reinforce key concepts and address context-specific challenges. *This has contributed to the **HCDT capacity enhancement and operational effectiveness.***

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

A total of **58** representatives (**49 males and 9 females**) from the four Chevron Nigeria Limited Host Community Development Trusts (Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland) benefited from the mentoring and handholding capacity-building sessions conducted during the quarter. The participants, comprising members of the HCDT Boards of Trustees, Management Committees, and Advisory Committees, received targeted guidance on sustainable project management practices, governance, and operational planning. This engagement strengthened their capacity to design and implement community development projects in line with compliance standards, thereby enhancing their effectiveness in driving local economic growth and peacebuilding outcomes within their host communities. The cumulative number of CNL HCDTs persons benefitting from Capacity Building (EDP and PB) was **158 MSMEs** as against the 2025 target of **400** as at Q3 2025.

Corporate Affairs-PIND harmonized plan for HCDTs Support: As part of its coordination role, the Capacity Building facilitated the **Corporate Affairs (CA) - formerly PGPA - PIND** Strategic Alignment Meeting in Q3 2025, to strengthen collaboration, close existing gaps, and establish a unified framework for supporting the HCDTs. Key outcomes included the **establishment of a two-tier collaboration structure** - comprising a Steering Committee and Collaboration Team—to enhance coordination and accountability. Both parties agreed to harmonize and evolve annual work plans into a five-year joint strategy.

Carried out a rapid assessment of the HCDTs: As part of the Capacity Building – Peace Building Nexus, the Team carried out a rapid assessment alongside the Peacebuilding Program to generate data and insights to guide the prioritization of communities for joint peacebuilding and economic development interventions. Specifically, it sought to identify target communities based on conflict risk factors and program opportunities while deepening understanding of the history, causes, and dynamics of local conflicts. It also examined how these conflicts affect livelihoods, agricultural productivity, and overall economic resilience. Ultimately, the findings will provide actionable recommendations to inform context-specific, conflict-sensitive, and integrated interventions that strengthen peace and economic stability across targeted communities.

4.1.2 HCDTs Access to Energy

In Q3, A2E continued to support Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs) as they prepared to co-invest in renewable energy solutions aligned with their development priorities. For **Egbema-Opudis HCDT**, PIND provided ongoing guidance to ensure their proposed energy budget receives final approval from NUPRC. While project implementation, including mini-grid upgrades and new energy installations, was planned for this quarter, progress was delayed pending budget signing. In the meantime, A2E maintained technical advisory support, preparing the HCDT for smooth execution once approval is granted.

Ugboland HCDT: A2E collaborated on a comprehensive energy assessment covering 80 communities. The assessment mapped community clusters, identified potential energy solutions, evaluated demand, and reviewed existing infrastructure. These insights informed both budget planning and energy system sizing, strengthening the HCDT's proposal for submission to NUPRC. A2E continues to provide guidance to ensure the proposal aligns with technical, financial, and regulatory requirements.

Preparatory work is also underway with **other CNL HCDTs**. Through discussions facilitated by the PIA-HCDT consultant, plans are in motion to present renewable energy options to the Warri Coastal HCDT. Additionally, PIND is organizing a Niger Delta **Deal Room**, where representatives from four **CNL HCDTs—Ogulagha-Ibe, Egbema-Opudis, Ugboland, and Warri Coastal** - will convene with financiers, developers, and energy stakeholders. This platform aims to deepen HCDT understanding of renewable energy solutions, explore co-investment opportunities, and link community priorities with viable financing options. These engagements underscore how HCDDTs are actively preparing to invest in their priority projects, with PIND's technical facilitation ensuring that community-driven energy initiatives are both feasible and aligned with broader development goals.

4.1.3 HCDDTs Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

New Implementing Partners Expand to HCDDTs: In Q3 2025, three engaged Implementation Partners for Youths training - **Asteven Energy Institute (clean energy), Meranos Nig. Limited (ICT), and Amy6015 Global Enterprises (Services)** have concluded plans to commence enrollment of interested youths for skills acquisition training in Q4. The YEP team is also following up with an expression of interest received from Foukeregha HCDT to deploy the YEP program in its territory. The number of Youths trained by YEP Implementing Partners in CNL HCDDTs will be tracked and reported as from 2026 due to the late onboarding (due to complex processes of identifying/selecting suitable implementing partners) of implementing partners showing interest in the HCDDTs.

Challenge fund beneficiaries from CNL HCDDTs: In 2025, YEP recorded 11 youths with applicable skills from CNL HCDDTs who have received challenge funds, as a starter pack for new enterprise development out of the 65 who benefited from the Challenge fund in 2025: Ondo State (3), and Delta (8). These are graduates from the YEP trainings completed in 2024.

Mapping of TVETs Centers across CNL HCDDTs: PIND is exploring possible upgrades of defunct TVET Centers to serve as **make-shift training centers** for youth skills acquisition in HCDDTs. Within the quarter, mapping of defunct infrastructures such as townhalls, youth development centers, etc. was conducted across several HCDDTs to understand their status and disposition to being used as a make-shift training center for youth skills acquisition. The HCDDTs are as follows:

- **Undergoing the various stages of registrations:** **Ikpere HCDT (Escravos area), Dibi Olero HCDT (Tisun; Jakpa; Udo; Tebu; Obhagoro; Eghoro Ureju) and AMU HCDT (Bateren Deghele).**
- **Registered:** **Egbema OPUDIS HCDT (Some of the townhalls are located in Opuama, Ogbinibiri), Warri Kingdom Coastal HCDT (Obogoro), Ugboland HCDT – (existing skill center at Ugbo), Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe HCDT (no designated skill centers)**

4.1.4 Peace Building Activities in the HCDDTs

During the quarter, the IPDU carried out a conflict risk assessment of CNL HCDDTs to identify the root causes and drivers of conflict, key actors, underlying community dynamics and risk levels of conflicts in the areas as follows:

- **Agbonu Ogulagha - Ibe HCDT** in Burutu LGA
- **Warri Kingdom Coastal HCDT** in Warri South and Warri South West LGAs,
- **Egbema Opudis HCDT** in Warri North LGA Delta State, and
- **Ugboland HCDT** in Ilaje LGA of Ondo State. The aim is to provide a comprehensive, data-driven foundation to inform conflict-sensitive interventions enhancing sustainable peace and development in CNL host communities.
- Also, during the quarter, the IPDU disseminated 6 conflict early warning alerts and information to CNL HCDDTs. The early warning alerts were sent to the HCDT leaders and Secretaries, alongside other peace actors in the area.

4.1.5 Advocacy - HCDT Engagements

- **States MSP sustainability:** In Q3, PIND successfully constituted the state-level MSPs and finalized the Bridges project PIA Multistakeholder platforms (MSP) in the five focal states. This further drove awareness of the provisions and implementations of the PIA, as well as the adoption of PIND-influenced PIA models at the grassroots level. As part of its sustainability plan, PIND supported additional sittings of the state MSPs, which allowed them to share experiences and learn from each other. A significant outcome from the state MSPs was that the representatives from Bayelsa, Ondo, and Delta states conducted advocacy visits to the state representatives in the government. Some of the states have continued to sponsor and hold their own meetings, crediting PINDs and acknowledging their PIA intervention.
- **PIA Handbook completed:** To document and disseminate learnings from the Bridges Project, PIND has

completed the PIA handbook, which is designed for further sensitization and scaling the identified PIA models. The target audience is CSOs, government, policymakers, HCDT members, and settlers. The PIA handbook/toolkit is a compendium of PIA models, presented in simple language, serving as a resource to develop the capacity of early practitioners and deepen the knowledge and understanding of relevant stakeholders. It is expected to be presented in both soft and hard copies, added as part of PIND's publications, and distributed to relevant bodies during the closeout.

- **Bridges Project Roadshows:** To further disseminate learnings on the identified HCDT PIA implementation models to a broader group of Community stakeholders, the Bridges project PIA Roadshow ensured that a wider range of non-HCDT community stakeholders were informed about the PIA and the validated HCDT models. This would provide better ownership and consensus in implementing Chapter 3 of the PIA.
- **Bridges Project Closeout convening:** The Bridges project closeout is scheduled for Q4 2025; however, activities and plans leading up to the closeout have already begun. So far, Advocacy has successfully set up a committee comprising nominees from program areas whose support is critical for the closeout event. Three meetings of this committee were held in Q3. The committee, whose deliverables have been indicated according to expected support, has provided a status report at each engagement on the steps taken to advance the plans for the closeout. The closeout is scheduled as a 2-day event in Akwa Ibom State, with a wide range of stakeholders, including government, regulatory bodies, settlers, community groups, and HCDT members, expected to participate.

5.0 Strategic Objective 5 (So5): Reduce conflict and promote peace - *ensuring the sustainable and effective deployment of the P4P Network; cultivating linkages between Peacebuilding and Economic Development; delivering value to Chevron; and addressing regional conflict issues. HCDTs are co-investing in their priority projects to improve economic and peace agendas in their communities.*

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

5.1.1 Percentage of population reporting 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.

In phase IV, PIND sets a target of 25 million of the Niger Deltans that would experience improved safety in their communities through the PB interventions - 12.5 million people per year will be impacted through direct PB activities, while the rest 12.5 million will be impacted through nexus with economic development and NDPRS Implementation) for five years. (2025 – 2029)

The annual target to be impacted by direct peace building intervention is 2.5 million people. However, in 2025, being a base year for this phase, only 50% of the 2.5 million, which is 1.25 million population targeted to experience improved safety through various PB interventions.

In 2025, four categories of community-based **Peacebuilding Interventions** to improve peace outlook across various communities in the Niger Delta were carried out as follows:

- **Small grants Implementation:** Campaign on violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Abia, Peacebuilding dialogue in Akwa Ibom, Community peace dialogue between Oboro and Alota Communities in Delta, mitigating gender-based violence in Edo, Mediation on Obazu community leadership crisis in Imo; and Transforming attitudes and behaviors to reduce violence against persons in River State.
- **EU-CRIN VIN Project:** Social Cohesion events, Arts & Culture events, Transformative Dialogue and Peace Initiatives in Bayelsa State; Arts & Culture Events, Transformative Dialogue and Peace Initiatives in Delta State
- **State Chapter interventions:** Provision of alternative livelihood to reduce youth restiveness in Akwa Ibom; Mitigating farmers-herders violent conflict in Bayelsa; Voters' Education and Enlightenment in Edo State; Mitigating substance abuse in Imo State. The emphasis on drug and substance abuse remained a priority theme, reflecting the concerns that emerged from Q2 After Action Reviews. By embedding these conversations in

familiar spaces, communities began to see peace not as a one-off project intervention but as a shared responsibility rooted in daily life.

- **Prevent Team (Committee):** Campaign against ritual killings and organ harvesting in Abia State; Addressing cult related violence in Bayelsa State; Sensitization on the VAPP Law to Reduce Violence Against Women and Girls in Cross River; and Campaign against rape and ritual killings, have been the key activities by the prevent committee of the state chapter of P4P network.

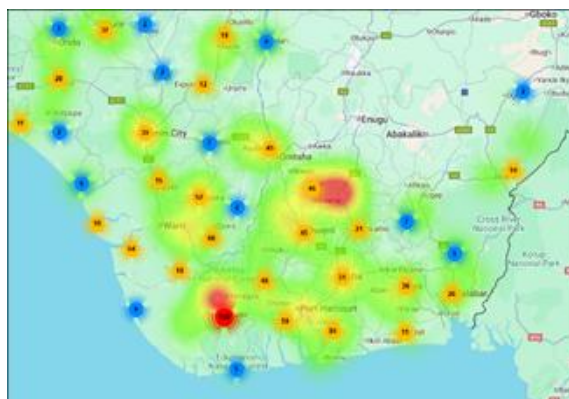
From 50 communities across the 9 states of the Niger Delta, over **594,837** people reported improved and satisfactory peace outlook in their environment, which has enabled good socioeconomic activities. This population constitutes 50% of the 1.25 million people target to be impacted directly by PB interventions in 2025.

5.1.2 Niger Delta Peace Outlook in Q3 2025:

In Q3 2025, the Niger Delta experienced a relative period of stability and peace, marking a notable improvement in overall security compared to the second quarter of the year. Data indicates a **43%** reduction in lethal violence, with conflict-related fatalities dropping from **169 in Q2 to 96 in Q3**. This overall decrease in conflict risks and fatalities reflects the effectiveness of ongoing peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and management interventions across the region. However, despite this progress, incidents of violence and insecurity persisted across the region.

Analysis of conflict trends and dynamics during the quarter revealed a significant decline across key historical drivers of insecurity in the region, including criminal violence, cult gang clashes, communal conflict, mob violence, and armed confrontations between security forces and non-state armed groups. Organized criminal violence (including homicide and kidnapping) declined substantially during the period. Fatalities from criminal violence fell by **20%**, from **110 in Q2 to 87 in Q3**, while reported incidents dropped by **51%**, from **170 to 83**. Despite this decline, criminal violence remained the leading driver of insecurity and fatalities in the Niger Delta during Q3, with the highest fatalities recorded in Imo, Delta, Bayelsa, Ondo, and Rivers states.

Communal violence similarly declined, with fatalities falling by **51.2%**, from **39 in Q2 to 19 in Q3**. Only a few incidents were recorded in Imo, Delta, and Cross River states, indicating relative calm in previously volatile areas. In contrast, violent separatist agitation increased moderately in Q3 compared to Q2. Fatalities associated with separatist violence rose by **26.3%**, from **19 in Q2 to 24 in Q3**. Separatist violence was largely confined to Imo State, where clashes between separatist militias and government security forces led to several deaths and property destruction in Okigwe, Ideato North, and Mbaitoli LGAs.



5.1.3 Peacebuilding highlights of activities in Q3 2025

Advance Research and Data-Driven Analysis for Informed Peacebuilding: PIND produced and disseminated numerous data-driven and research-based conflict early warning products to update peace and security stakeholders and facilitate targeted peacebuilding and conflict management interventions across the Niger Delta. During the period, PIND disseminated **49 conflict early warning alerts** to over **107 response actors**, including P4P Prevent Committees, Prevent Councils, CNL Host Community Development Trust (HCDT) peacebuilding committees, and EU-Niger Delta Project Consortium partners. Additionally, PIND produced **13 data-driven research and analytical products**, comprising **12 weekly conflict briefs** and **one Q2 2025 Niger Delta Conflict Tracker** highlighting emerging conflict risks and security issues in the region, including organized criminal violence, cult and gang violence, communal tensions, mob violence, communal conflict, and public awareness on disasters and infectious disease outbreaks.

The research and data analysis products were disseminated to a wide range of stakeholders, including local peace actors, civil society organizations (CSOs), academia, government security agencies, and development partners at local, national, and international levels.

Sustainable and effective deployment of P4P Network: Within the Quarter, the Partners for Peace Network (P4P) continued to hold general meetings, organize training programs, mobilize resources for state-level activities, engage key stakeholders and implement activities.

5.1.4 2025 World Peace Day Commemoration: The 2025 World Peace Day with the UN Theme: “**Advancing Global Peace Through the SDGs**” was marked by the Abia, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom, Edo and Ondo state P4P Networks in September 2025. The Abia State P4P Chapter marked the event in collaboration with the Rotary Club of Umuahia. The ceremony climaxed with the symbolic release of pigeons, representing freedom, unity, and the shared hope for a peaceful future. Participants pledged to keep the flame of peace alive through personal and group advocacy, described as the “Gospel of Peace” within their various spheres of influence.

5.1.5 EU-funded Niger Delta Project: PIND sustained its partnership with a consortium of peacebuilding organizations, including Search for Common Ground and Stakeholder Democracy Network, to implement the EU-funded community-centered conflict management project addressing criminality and violent conflict in the region. As a leading implementing partner of the EU-Niger Delta Project, PIND collaborated closely with consortium members and community leaders to deliver several community-driven peacebuilding interventions. These initiatives focused on strengthening social cohesion, fostering intergroup harmony, enhancing community resilience, and promoting behavioral change among youth to reduce drug abuse and criminality. Many of these interventions leveraged arts, sports, culture, and indigenous peacebuilding mechanisms to address local conflict drivers in innovative and context-specific ways.

During Q3, the project moved from consolidation to scale. Having laid the groundwork in earlier quarters with sensitization, legacy infrastructure, and system-wide reviews, this period was marked by institutionalization and scale. Communities did not simply participate in activities; they convened, structured, and began to sustain their own peace platforms. The activation of Local Government Peacebuilding Committees (LGPCs) across Bayelsa stood out as a central achievement, providing an anchor for community voices, EWER monitors, and traditional leaders to jointly plan for peace and advocate to local councils. Alongside this, social cohesion dialogues, arts and cultural programming, and the deliberate prioritization of women and persons with disabilities (PWDs) ensured that the peace narrative was both inclusive and resonant.

5.1.6 Nexus between Peace Building and Economic Development: The alignment of peacebuilding initiatives with economic development goals materialized through the ongoing collaboration between PIND and Okomu Oil Palm Company (OOPC). Both programs worked together to carry out follow-up engagements with OOPC, which would culminate in the signing of an MoU with the company in Q4 2025.

Both programs also collaborated to make presentations, alongside PIND’s Business Development Team to Wilmar in Cross River State, in a bid to mirror our ongoing support to OOPC for the company, pitching PIND’s peacebuilding and economic development models. This preliminary activity is expected to yield an implementation of targeted peacebuilding and economic development initiatives that promote social cohesion, mitigate conflicts, foster livelihood improvements, strengthen community relationships between Wilmar and its host communities, and at the same time, increase the profitability of the company.

This strategic engagement aims to lay a strong foundation for peacebuilding, economic development, and stakeholder collaboration by identifying conflict triggers, socio-economic gaps, and opportunities for sustainable development in OOPC neighboring communities. This will leverage PIND’s proven models and infrastructure, including the Market Systems Approach, sector-based programs, Access to energy (A2E), and Youth Employment Pathways (YEP). Others include access to finance, Peacebuilding’s Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) systems, the Partners for Peace (P4P) network, and Peace Actors.

6.0 General Enabling programs

This section presents key achievements in Q3 2025 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) Peace Building 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 HCDDTs, private institutions, government institutions, civil society, business associations and services 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 HCDDTs:** Support Chevron HCDDT (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 2025:

During the third quarter, the **Capacity Building** progressed in the following areas:

Mentoring: Conducted a mentoring and handholding workshop for the four existing Chevron Nigeria Limited Host Community Development Trusts (HCDDTs): Warri Kingdom Coastal, Egbema OPUDIS, Agbonu Ogulagha-Ibe, and Ugboland, across Delta and Ondo States. The workshop aimed to reinforce key concepts, address context-specific challenges, and support the HCDDTs in developing practical, sustainable project management guidelines and operational structures.

Produced a Project Management Manual/Guideline: Building on previous Sustainable Project Management training sessions, this initiative sought to provide hands-on guidance in developing a Sustainable Project Management Manual/Guideline to serve as a reference tool for the HCDDTs. The manual will enable them to initiate, execute, and monitor community development projects more effectively and in alignment with compliance standards and best practices, thereby enhancing economic growth and livelihoods in the Niger Delta region.

Formed CA (Corporate Affairs, formerly PGPA)–PIND Strategic Alignment: As part of the Capacity Building Team's coordination function, the team facilitated the CA (Corporate Affairs, formerly PGPA)–PIND Strategic Alignment Meeting held on September 12 and 16, 2025, at PIND's Warri EDC. The meeting aimed to strengthen collaboration, close existing gaps, and establish a unified framework for supporting the HCDDTs. Key outcomes included the adoption of a two-tier collaboration structure comprising a Steering Committee and a Collaboration Team to enhance coordination and accountability. Both parties agreed to consolidate all HCDDT-related capacity-building initiatives under the Capacity Building Program and to harmonize all HCDDT-related strategies and planning timelines with the HCDDTs' Community

Development Plans. It was also agreed that the collaboration’s annual work plans would evolve into a five-year joint work plan across relevant PIND program areas.

Other outcomes focused on strengthening HCDDT communications and reporting through standardized templates and digital tools, harmonizing M&E mechanisms for joint reporting to Chevron’s Social Investment Repository, and addressing governance and policy gaps related to HCDDT leadership transitions. The meeting reinforced a joint commitment to structured engagement, knowledge sharing, and coherent program delivery between CA and PIND to strengthen HCDDT functionality and sustainability.

Carried out a rapid Assessments of the HCDDTs: As part of the Capacity Building Nexus support, the team carried out a rapid assessment alongside the Peacebuilding Program to generate data and insights to guide the prioritization of communities for joint peacebuilding and economic development interventions. Specifically, it sought to identify target communities based on conflict risk factors and program opportunities while deepening understanding of the history, causes, and dynamics of local conflicts. It also examined how these conflicts affect livelihoods, agricultural productivity, and overall economic resilience. Ultimately, the findings will provide actionable recommendations to inform context-specific, conflict-sensitive, and integrated interventions that strengthen peace and economic stability across targeted communities

CABAPABLE Organizations providing Community services in the Niger Delta

The Three CAPABLE organizations reported in the previous quarter, continued to deliver various services which were started in the previous quarters: these are Newland Pathway Integrated Consult, Women United for Economic Empowerment (WUEE), and the Family Welfare Foundation Bayelsa (FAWEF).

6.1.2 Advocacy

In Q3 2025, Advocacy efforts address constraints to peace and economic growth across the Niger Delta. The quarter demonstrated significant progress in promoting the PIND models, influencing State policy development and implementation, and engaging multi-stakeholders on Chapter 3 of the Petroleum Industry Act, despite a dynamic and increasingly challenging political, economic, and security climate. Key activities in Q3 centered on promoting PIND’s development models to state governments and private sector actors, strengthening strategic partnerships, and supporting program areas in advocacy-related activities. Initiatives also continued to track the impacts of PIND-influenced policies which were facilitated to support the development of an alternate 10-year plan, inspired by the 30-year Growth and Development Strategy (GDS), for Cross River; Long-term Development Plan in Abia; the access to land policy in Delta and Ondo states, and support on illegal and multiple taxation, promote tax harmonization, and advance the implementation of the National Tax Law.

Advocacy initiatives also continued to track the impacts of PIND-influenced policies and, Enhancing PIND’s thought leadership on the PIA by leveraging the Bridges projects. This approach ensures impactful outcomes and learning as the Bridges project approaches closeout.

6.1.3 Policy Influencing & Tracking

TWG on Multiple Taxation: The Technical Working Group (TWG) on Tax Reforms continued its assessment of the tax policy landscape across focal Niger Delta states, with notable progress in Abia and Delta States. Reforms under review include the adoption of a presumptive turnover tax regime for small businesses, the consolidation of local government taxes into a single demand notice, the automation of tax collections, and the introduction of electronic receipts to enhance transparency. Abia State introduced a Treasury Single Account (TSA) to curb multiple taxation and improve revenue management enforcement.

Delta/Ondo State Agricultural Policy: As part of PIND’s efforts to monitor the implementation of the access to land policy in Delta and Ondo states, PIND convened a meeting with the Delta State Ministry of Agriculture, including the director of the FADAMA project, representatives of the DELCO Coop and the state government to facilitate the implementation of the YCAP now WISE project leveraging our access to land intervention in the state. Access to land was identified as a

significant constraint to the implementation of the WISE project, considering that it targets young women cassava farmers, who are most vulnerable and have limited access to land. The policy is due for a review, having been in existence for several years.

6.1.4 Key Advocacy Outputs in Q3 2025

a) Promotion of PIND Development Models

- **Abia State** (Ethnocentrique Limited): The YEP model was showcased as a best-practice framework within the State's Youth Development Intervention Framework (YDIF).
- **Delta State**: The Ministry for Budget and Planning and PIND jointly facilitated engagements with ministries that have now expressed interest in adopting YEP, A2E, and Access to Land models. The Commissioner for Economic Planning committed to developing a state Long Term Development Plan (LTDP) with PIND's support.
- **NUPRC**: Engagements transformed a previously precarious relationship into a formal partnership commitment from both sides, with NUPRC seeking to adopt PIND's approaches for community engagement under the PIA framework. PIND and the regulator are currently negotiating partnership in capacity building of HCDDTs.
- **Tax Reform Collaboration**: Strengthened partnerships with CISLAC and the Tax Justice & Governance Platform, enhancing joint advocacy on fiscal reforms and MSME-friendly taxation.

b) Program Support Outcomes

- Established strong linkages with key government agencies, including the Delta State Ministry of Youth, the Ministry of ICT, and the Delta State Job Creation Bureau.
- The Delta State Job Creation Bureau is committed to collaborating with YEP to scale youth-focused interventions.

c) Policy Influencing & Tracking Outcomes

- Completion of a documentary on multiple taxation and its impact on small businesses in the Niger Delta.
- Delta State has initiated a policy review and validation process to address land access constraints for young women farmers.
- Edo State engaged with PIND to leverage the Access to Land model in implementing the WISE project.
- Ondo State is implementing its agricultural policy with embedded Access to Land provisions; an official launch is planned.
- Abia State: LTDP moved to the review and revalidation phase, with the coordinating Ministry requesting PIND's technical support.

6.2.1 KM-Communications

In Q3 2025, the KM-Comms unit continued positioning PIND as a thought leader and impact-driven organization through integrated storytelling, strategic visibility, stakeholder engagement, and knowledge-sharing initiatives. The team aligned efforts with organizational priorities, ensuring support for key program activities, advancing internal learning and branding efforts, and increasing both digital and media presence.

Significant Achievements/Results

- In Q3 2025, the KM-Comms unit continued positioning PIND as a thought leader and impact-driven organization through integrated storytelling, strategic visibility, stakeholder engagement, and knowledge-sharing initiatives. The team aligned efforts with organizational priorities, ensuring support for key program activities, advancing internal learning and branding efforts, and increasing both digital and media presence.
- Collaborated with the Peacebuilding and Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) units through NDLINK to host an Intergenerational Dialogue marking the International Day of Peace, fostering exchange between veteran and emerging peacebuilders to co-create strategies for sustainable peace in the Niger Delta.
- Distributed seven press releases, earning 84 media mentions in leading national and regional outlets, including The Guardian, Punch, Vanguard, and ThisDay — 24 of which were earned mentions (unsolicited positive coverage of PIND's activities and partners' events).
- Partnered with Wikimedia Niger Delta through NDLINK to train 57 youths from Rivers State on digital storytelling and Wikipedia writing, empowering them to document authentic development stories from the region.
- Enhanced NDLINK's visibility by participating in the 14th Bridge Leadership Foundation event in Calabar, reinforcing its position as a hub for development conversations in the Niger Delta.
- Reached over 4,200 people through NDLINK's digital channels, further strengthening awareness and visibility of development activities across the region.

6.3.1 Q3 2025 GESI Key Achievements:

6.3.2 GESI Mainstreaming: During the reporting period, PIND's mainstreamed gender data recorded 45% of participants in its activities as women, exceeding the GESI target of 40%. Details by program area:

- **MSD:** As at Q3, a total of **89,325** farmers and MSMEs were reached, of which **41,089** were women, representing approximately **46%** female participation. 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 2025, over 16 partners reported a cumulative of 2,897 youths trained on applicable skills between January and June. Out of these, 1,274 (**44%**) were female.
- **Peace Building:** On the Peacebuilding program, a total of 44 participants, including 16 females (36.4%) and 35 youths (79.5%), took part in the IPDU activities.
- **The Project Support Services unit** awarded a total of 84 contracts (comprising service orders and purchase orders) during the period, with 22 awarded to female-led vendors, representing 26.2% of the total.

6.3.3 Women Empowerment in Agricultural Index (WEAI):

In Q3 2025, PIND assessed the empowerment level of women who participated in its programs using five domains around access and agency. WEAI tests how access to income affects women's freedom to participate in decision-making at home in managing assets, productive resources, use of income, freedom to join associations, speak in public, and ability to allocate time to productive and domestic tasks. The study shows that PIND's women beneficiaries score over 70% in all other domains. However, they scored 30% in having inputs in productive decisions, 38% in belonging to women's groups. In general, the results show that access to livelihood opportunities by women has increased their empowerment status to over **70%** close to the global standard of **80%**. The baseline score was **62.72%** in 2024. The benefiting women improved in all five dimensions including the agency in 2025. This outcome will shape how Service Providers advance agency-informed support to women and PWDs.

6.3.4 2025 International Youth Day

PIND marked the 2025 International Youth Day (IYD), themed **"Advancing Peace and Development in the Niger Delta Through Technology, Partnerships and Job Creation."** The highlight of the event was a one-day workshop held on August 12, 2025, in Asaba, Delta State, featuring the award of the **Youth Employment Program's Challenge Fund of ₦45million** to 65 prequalified youths trained on employable skills in 2024. PIND's Challenge Fund is an entrepreneurial starter-pack given to youths, post skills and entrepreneurial mentorship, through a preselection process to boost the economic growth of the Niger Deltans.

The event also featured panel discussions, and various activities aimed at inspiring and empowering young people. The workshop also fostered multi-stakeholder collaboration among youth, government, private sector, and civil society actors to amplify youth voices, promote sustainable employment, and contribute meaningfully to peace and development in the region.

6.4.0 Q3 2025 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 2025 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 2025 M & E progress report.
- Carried out data quality assurances of program deliveries and their outputs and managed the Intervention Control Framework to ensure compliance with the DCED Standard of Results Measurement.
- Tracked and quality-assured program outputs, outcomes and impact to ensure plausibility along the objective hierarchy through outcome monitoring, and produced Q3 2025 Progress report.

- Conducted Q3 Programs and Projects sub-committee level of technical reviews of programs and projects – *action items from the meeting were used to improve program/project implementation.*
- Facilitated the PIND Mid-year **Review and Reflections**, and ensured implementation of feedback from technical reviews, and launched the PIND ArcGis platform for improved reporting using georeferenced program footprints.

6.5.0 Business Development and Sustainability (BDS)

In 2025, 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 teams in Q3 2025 to advance fundraising efforts with the following:

- Followed up with the Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc (OOPC) on their 2026 CSR program. The MoU between PIND and OOPC was modified, while also developing a project-specific agreement with OOPC to be signed on October 30, 2025. An agreement with OKomu Oil Plc for a **₦1billion (\$654,000 at ₦1,530)** to implement a series of interventions in 2026, to boost its CSR. The MoU has been modified, and the final budget has been agreed. The project agreement will be signed on 30th October, 2025
- PIND had an engagement with the **Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission (NUPRC)** for a partnership and has developed a draft MoU, which the NUPRC is reviewing. PIND and NUPRC have agreed to collaborate strategically in implementing and strengthening the Host Community Development Trust (HCDT) framework under the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA).
- The BDS and the Advocacy teams jointly have commenced analysis of **the Community Development Plans (CDPs)** of some HCDTs to explore opportunities for partnership with PIND for sustainable development projects. The **Nigerian Upstream Petroleum Regulatory Commission NUPRC** has established **150 HCDTs**, and PIND has developed a strategy for engaging with them. As a result, BDS had engagement meetings with four HCDTs, including KEFESSO, Ugboland, Rivers 3, and Agoos HCDTs to explore options for PIND’s technical support in advancing community development.
- Engaged WILMAR International and the Nigerian Agriculture Development Fund (NADF) – PIND has engaged the NADF for a co-financing of Continuum Capital to the tune of N5.4B to unlock the stalled Wilmar/PZ Wilmar transaction on a 26,000-hectare fully integrated Oil Palm Plantation. Draft MoU developed with NADF and there is ongoing discussion to agree on the funding model.

7.0 Program Management - Governance and Accountability:

In Q3 2025, PIND held separate meetings for its sub-committees on Projects and Programs, Audit and Compliance, Business Development and Sustainability, Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), and Advocacy and Partnerships. These meetings are vital for PIND’s internal governance and accountability, enabling feedback from the board to optimize program implementation.

PIND held its **2025 Mid-year Technical Review of its Economic Development and Peace Building programs** to evaluate the implementation of phase IV in 2025. This process enabled learning and reflections that will improve program delivery mechanisms through feedback loops and process alignments. Also, the PIND-NDPI **Grant Monitoring Committee** meeting held its Q3 monitoring meeting to review program implementations and operating performance in the previous quarter (April to June, 2025). The Grant Monitoring Committee will meet quarterly, with the next session scheduled for Q4 2025.

PIND welcomed and onboarded the new Executive Director of the Niger Delta Partnerships Initiative (NDPI), **Dennis Flemming**. The onboarding of the new Executive Director marks a strategic development for the continuity of PIND’s program delivery in synergy with the NDPI.

7.1 Organizational Sustainability

Implementation of the **Mastercard Foundation-funded Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE)** program, the EU-funded project - **Community-centered Approach to Transforming Criminality and Violence in the Niger Delta** continued in Q3 2025. Also, an agreement with OKomu Oil Plc for a **₦1billion (\$654,000 at ₦1,530)** to implement a series of interventions in 2026, to boost its CSR has been reached. The MoU has been modified, and the final budget has been agreed. The project agreement will be signed on 30th October, 2025. This was sequel to a comprehensive needs assessment (CNA) conducted by PIND in the OKomu host communities in Edo State. This CNA will inform interventions to manage conflict and promote sustainable development using PIND’s models and infrastructure.

PIND has employed and fully onboarded the Manager of **Continuum Capital (CC) - Impact Investment** vehicle to advance its activities. **Continuum Capital (CC)** is a PIND’s impact investment vehicle, established to drive large-scale investments into the Niger Delta for widespread impact. It is separate from the existing Sombreiro Kapital (SK), which is a special purpose vehicle providing access to finance for PIND program beneficiaries through loan guarantees.

7.2.0 Organizational effectiveness, health, safety, and security

PIND continued investing in employee well-being and workplace safety. In Q3 2025, the Operations unit provided seamless services to consultants and stakeholders, enabling effective project delivery.

Key achievements included:

- Enhanced IT management through continuous review and updates of PIND’s Integrated Platform (PIP).
- Optimal logistics support for project implementation and operations.
- Timely processing of utility bills, communication systems maintenance, stakeholder/vendor relations, and vehicle maintenance.
- Successful facilitation of internal and external events
- Onboarding of new staff and effective asset and facilities management.

8.0 Project Support Services (PSS):

The PSS department continued implementing policies and procedures to ensure transparency and compliance in PIND’s procurement and grant processes. Key achievements as at Q3 2025 are as follows:

- A total of 84 contracts: 18 service orders, 8 purchase orders, 44 grants and 14 memorandums of agreement.
- Enhanced organizational mobility with the deployment of 8 new official vehicles.
- Initiated process improvement discussions on procurement timelines to reduce delays with an IT demo presented for review and feedback and commenced discussions on the establishment of Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) for routinely purchased goods and services – The table below shows the contracts awarded in Q3 2025 in their types, total amount and by type of recipient

Table 1. Contracts awarded in Q3 2025 in their types, total amount and by type of recipient

Instruments	Q3 2025											
	Number (Q3 2025)	Number Processed to date (January - October 2025)	Value Committed(Q3) (NGN)	Total Amount committed to date (Jan-June 2025) (NGN)	Total Value Committed by Gender (Q3 2025)							
					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	-	8	-	1,879,695,507.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services Order	18	52	84,773,375.00	382,136,969.17	2	6,430,000.00	3	4,914,000.00	7	44,800,000.00	6	28,629,375.00
Purchase Order	8	20	724,842,335.21	782,404,375.21	-	-	-	-	1	6,000,000.00	7	718,842,335.21
Master Services Contract	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants	44	109	292,108,850.00	336,412,850.00	9	46,989,200.00	6	30,972,400.00	8	54,448,000.00	21	1,327,769,350.00
MOU	14	18	2,159,001,292.60	2,199,001,292.60	-	-	-	-	6	831,231,942.60	8	-
Total	88	208	3,260,725,852.81	5,579,650,993.98	11	53,419,200.00	9	35,886,400.00	22	936,479,942.60	42	2,234,940,310.21

9.0 Challenges and Lessons Learned

Challenges

9.1.0 Economic Development and Peace Building Programs:

9.1.1 Market System Development Program:

- Farmer skepticism persisted in some communities due to long-held preferences and past negative experiences with poor-quality products, leading to slow uptake of improved seed varieties and inputs.
- Counterfeit inputs continued to pose a threat to farmer productivity, particularly in Ondo and Bayelsa States, undermining trust in formal supply chains. Partners strengthened direct linkages between farmers and verified agro-dealers while sustaining awareness campaigns to promote product authenticity.
- Poor rural road conditions, flooding, and unpredictable rainfall also disrupted logistics, delayed training schedules, and damaged some demo plots, highlighting persistent vulnerabilities linked to climate variability and infrastructure deficits.

To mitigate these challenges, partners adopted adaptive measures such as community-based outreach through lead farmers, early-season activity scheduling, and the introduction of climate-resilient practices, including mulching, ridge planting, and the use of drought-tolerant varieties. Efforts to promote collective procurement, supplier-backed credit, and improved coordination with finance and procurement units helped sustain input delivery and field operations. Overall, these responses reflect growing partner capacity to navigate systemic constraints while maintaining steady progress toward a resilient, inclusive input market system in the Niger Delta.

9.1.2 Capacity Building (CB)

- **Lingering dependency and entitlement mindsets among some participants:** Some Trusts' expectation of PIND to cover all logistics and related costs of capacity building as opposed to taking financial responsibility for such operational activities as part of building self-reliance and accountability poses a challenge. This perception reflects a residual dependency culture rather than ownership of their institutional development processes. This was addressed through constructive dialogue and clarification fostering a shared understanding and reinforced shift toward greater ownership and sustainability in the HCDDTs' operations.

9.1.3 Youth Employment Program (YEP)

- **Cycle of Vocational Training:** Long engagement period of implementing partners hampers expected take-off time of the upgraded TVET centers, and consequently has reduced youths' enrolments for 2026. The YEP team is working with the engaged TVET centers for innovative/improved deployment of the 2026 training.

9.1.4 Access to energy (A2E)

- **Progress in HCDT Budget Approvals:** Several CNL-aligned HCDDTs are still in the process of securing final NUPRC approval for their five-year CDPs, which has naturally extended the timeline for project implementation. A2E, in collaboration with Chevron Corporate Affairs, is providing sustained technical and institutional support to align planning frameworks and ensure smooth progression toward implementation once approvals are finalized.
- For non-CNL HCDDTs, a key challenge was observed with **KEFESSO HCDT** in Bayelsa State, where a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for energy interventions across 11 communities has not yet been signed. Despite this, A2E continues to engage KEFESSO through strategic discussions and technical support, ensuring that momentum is maintained and opportunities for collaboration remain open. By providing continuous guidance and demonstrating the value proposition of renewable energy interventions, the program seeks to encourage eventual formalization of agreements and move towards implementation.
- A2E continued to navigate challenges that could affect the pace of energy access delivery in coastal and HCDT-aligned communities.

9.1.5 Advocacy:

- **Reconstitution of Regional Development Agencies:** The recent restructuring of regional intervention frameworks—marked by the dissolution of the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs and the establishment of the South-South Regional Development Commission initially disrupted aspects of the Niger Delta Regional Peacebuilding Strategy. However, this transition presents opportunities for relationship-building with the new Commission and renewed engagement with the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC). These efforts could strengthen regional collaboration and promote wider adoption of PIND models and initiatives.
- **NUPRC regulatory roadblocks:** NUPRC issued a cease-and-desist order, leading to a halt in the remaining Bridges project activities.
- **Policy uncertainty/Government Changes:** The state of emergency declared in Rivers State and the change in the Edo state government, leading to changes in the composition of political appointees and created uncertainties on a pathway for Government engagement and the implementation of programs in the states. Advocacy addressed these challenges by leveraging its network of champions to initiate engagements with new stakeholders to further PIND’s objectives.
- **Poor Infrastructure and Limited Mobility:** The deplorable state of roads and general infrastructure in the Niger Delta significantly hampers movement within and between communities. This restricts access to providing development and economic activities.

9.2.1 Lessons learned:

A2E: In Q3 2025, A2E observed that partner activities are increasingly contributing to the expansion of the decentralized renewable energy market beyond the Niger Delta, signaling a maturing and more dynamic energy ecosystem in Nigeria. A4&T, one of our longstanding partners, exemplifies this trend. Building on their experience with Energy Cabin deployments in coastal and last-mile communities, they have signed a multi-year agreement with the Adamawa State Government to extend Energy Cabin solutions outside the Niger Delta.

This milestone illustrates that scalable, market-driven energy solutions developed and refined in the Niger Delta are now gaining traction in other parts of the country. The experience underscores the value of structured technical support, hands-on mentoring, and early market engagement, which collectively build partner confidence and readiness to replicate successful models in new contexts.

Advocacy: Virtual Engagements: Virtual meetings can effectively substitute for physical visits, helping to overcome budgetary and logistical constraints while maintaining consistent communication with stakeholders.

PB: Following the ongoing understanding with OOPC and the interest of Wilmar, a key lesson learned is that PIND’s peacebuilding products, frameworks and models are sellable. PIND’s work presents opportunities to provide support and services to the private sector, through creating enabling environments for their businesses to thrive, and through strengthening the relationships between private investors and their host communities.

10. Summary of progress against 2025 targets as at Q3

Table 2: The summary below presents a view of progress against PIND’s 2025 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	2025 Target	Results as at Q3 2025		Rag
1. Number of targeted service providers reached and providing services across sectors (MSD), TVET centers/IPs (YEP) and energy providers (A2E)				%	
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	50	45	90%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	10	8	80%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	15	15	100%	
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)	100million	74.28million	74%	

	Access to Energy (A2E) (NGN)	2.5billion	202.5million	8%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	50million	20million	40%	
3. Service providers experiencing increased productivity/income - Service providers, reached through project facilitation, who experienced increased productivity/income					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	50	45	90%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	10	**	**	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	15	**	**	
4. Net jobs created by the Partners' businesses (Energy providers/IPs/Other partners)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	150	103	69%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	20	16	80%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	300	126	42%	
5. Percentage change in income of Partners (MSD/A2E/YEP)					
		10%	*2	*	
6. Number of targeted farmers and enterprises reached with improved products and services, introduced through project facilitation.					
		100,000	89,325 ³	89.3%	
7. 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)	56,000	42,876	77%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	500	322	64%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	1,900	1,522 ⁴	80%	
8. 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	70billion	48.57billion	69%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	1.5billion	1,3billion	86%	
9. 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)	13,750	7,029 ⁵	51%	
	Access to Energy (A2E)	1,000	968	97%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)	5,000	3,916	78%	
10. Net attributable income change [Naira value] - Aggregated change in cumulative income of farmers/Businesses (NGN) -MSD/YEP					
	Market System Development Program (MSD) (NGN)	42billion	29.36billion	70%	
	Access to Energy (A2E) (NGN)	1billion	998,76million	99.8%	
	Youth Employment Pathways (YEP) (NGN)	2billion	1.1billion	55%	
11. Percentage change in cumulative income of farmers/Businesses (NGN) -MSD/YEP (%)					
	Market System Development Program (MSD)	40%	29% ⁶	72%	
12. Change in Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index.					
	Percentage of GESI mainstreaming	40%	44.5%	111%	
	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) - Market System Development Program (MSD)	80%	70.50%	88%	
13	Number of households with access to energy solutions by the energy providers in the coastal/HCDTs and neighboring communities	4,000	3,575	89.3%	

² This will be reported at the end of Q4 2025, comprising MSD/A2E/YEP

³ 45 MSD Service providers reached an average of 1,985 farmers with cross-cutting improved business modules/models in 2025

⁴ Number of youths who established their enterprises in 2025

⁵ Farmers and Agro-businesses are still in operations. This will be assessed and updated in Q4 2025

⁶ The major contributor to this was animal businesses, crop farmers will be assessed in Q4

14	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	1,000	1040	104%	
15	Number of persons with access to clean energy.	24,000	21,450	89.3%	
16	Financial benefits accruing to users of energy solutions (NGN) - Businesses and Households (A2E) (NGN)	1billion	998.76million	99.8%	
17	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)	5,000	2,897	58%	
18	Number of youths accessing employment and other income-earning opportunities after graduating from YEP program	5,000	1,552	54%	
19	Number of youths benefitting from PIND's Challenge Funds	65	65	100%	
Strategic Objective 2: Investment by donors/funders influenced by PIND in Niger Delta (\$50million)					
	Indicators	2025 Target	Results as at Q3 2025		
20. 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)		\$10million	\$633,590	6.3%	
A2E	Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the ND by Energy providers from external donors/funders - (USD)		\$398,000 ⁷		
YEP	Net Amount of funds/grants accessed with PIND's influence into the ND by YEP IPs from external donors/funders - (USD)		\$228,812.05 ⁸		
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)		\$6,778.00 ⁹		
21. Naira value of the demonstrable changes as a result of PIND-influenced Development Models, policies and initiatives in EDP and PB. (NGN) <i>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.</i>					
	Advocacy (Naira value - NGN)	100billion	-		
22. 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)	\$1.5million	- TBD in Q4		
23. 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)		4	- TBD in Q4		
24. 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	- TBD in Q4		
Strategic Objective 3: Integration of climate adaptation and mitigation initiatives to increase resilience in the Niger Delta. (Pilot)					
	Indicators	2025 Target	Results as at Q3 2025		

⁷ CLASP: Collaborative Labelling and Appliance Standards Program - An NGO promoting efficient appliances for people and the planet.
 ROGEAP: Regional Offgrid Electricity Access Project - An ECOWAS project that provides funding for certified off-grid and standalone solar systems to start-ups, established SMEs or large companies

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 through partnerships, knowledge sharing and innovation (\$98,000 - CLASP, \$150,000 – ROGEAP, \$150,000 – PREO, Equivalent of NGN577 million @N1,500)

⁸ **Youth Employment Program (YEP):** Within the period of our reporting, five implementing partners have attracted a total sum of **₦327,000,000.00 - [\$214,145.38]** investment into skills development into the Niger Delta

⁹ **Capacity Building:** Three Local CAPABLE trained organizations: *Newland Pathway Integrated Consult, Women United for Economic Empowerment (WUEE), and Family Welfare Foundation Bayelsa (FAWEF)* collectively accessed a total of **₦10,350,000 [\$6,778.00]** in funding

25. Quantity of Co2 equivalent emissions reduced (metric tons of CO2 equivalent (tCO2e) emissions) - <i>This is the cumulative amount of CO2 displaced from the deployment of renewable energy technologies for community and cluster businesses energy solutions</i>		20,000	540 metric tons of CO ₂ emissions ¹⁰	3%	
	A2E - Volume of reduction of GHG Emission from renewable energy		- TBD in Q4	-	
	A2E - Value of carbon credit generated from mangroves, plantations, etc.) MSD, A2E in (NGN)		- TBD in Q4	-	
	A2E- Sales of bio/organic products/ (NGN)		- TBD in Q4	-	
26. Number of MSMEs adopting climate smart technologies		2,000	- TBD in Q4	-	
Strategic Objective 4: HCDTs are co-investing in their priority projects to improve economic and peace agendas in their communities: <i>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.</i>					
	Indicators	2025 Target	Results as at Q3 2025		
27. Capacity Building - Networks and organizations in the HCDTs showing net change in capacity index to enhance implementation of PIA.		4	- TBD in Q4	-	
28. Capacity Building - Net change in capacity index of the HCDTs and others (OCA baseline of 0.5): Observable increase in the capacity of government and corporate partners to respond effectively to conflict dynamics, as evidenced by quarterly assessments and regional security reports.		1	- TBD in Q4	-	
29. Number of organizations, associations and networks accessing funds/grants with PIND assistance.		5	4 ¹¹	80%	
30. Capacity Building - Organizations providing improved services to the HCDTs		5	4	80%	
31. 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 \$50million target		200million	₦10,350,000 [\$6,778.00]	5.2%	
32. 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	1,000	614 ¹²	61%	
	YEP - Youths with applicable skills in the CNL HCDTs	500	- TBD in Q4		
33. Number of CNL HCDTs persons benefitting from Capacity Building (EDP and PB)		400	188	47%	
34. Number of youths benefitting from PIND's Challenge Funds in the HCDTs		20	- TBD in Q4	-	
35. P4P members trained in project management, proposal writing, and reporting with participants demonstrating enhanced skills for successful project completions in the HCDTs		10	- TBD in Q4	-	
36. CNL HCDTs with effective PB committee, and showing reduction in conflict risks		1	- TBD in Q4	-	
37. Rate of utilization of conflict data and insights by HCDTs, evidenced by policy or operational adjustments to increase adoption of community-specific, conflict-sensitive practices within HCDTs, shown by a reduction in local conflicts and enhanced community safety measures.		1	- TBD in Q4	-	
Strategic Objective 5: Reducing conflict and promoting peace: <i>Advance Research and Data-Driven Analysis for Informed Peacebuilding; ensuring a sustainable and effective deployment of P4P Network; cultivating linkage between Peace Building and Economic Development; delivering value to Chevron; and addressing regional conflict issues.</i>					

¹⁰ A total of **582.45kWp** of solar capacity was installed across six last-mile communities in Ondo, Edo, and Cross River States, replacing what would have otherwise been small, inefficient, and polluting generators. Based on average generator usage for similar rural settlements, powering this level of demand would have required over **200,000 liters of diesel annually**, resulting in approximately **540 metric tons** of CO₂ emissions each year.

¹¹ **Capacity Building:** Three Local CAPABLE trained organizations: *Newland Pathway Integrated Consult, Women United for Economic Empowerment (WUEE), and Family Welfare Foundation Bayelsa (FAWEF)* collectively accessed a total of **₦10,350,000 [\$6,778.00]** in funding

¹² PIND, in collaboration with Marich Agro, a Business Development service provider, supported 614 nano and micro businesses, inclusive of fisherfolks and processors, across 2 cooperatives (*Osan Oritse Business Women and Men MPCs and Gods Favour Fisheries/Business Men MPCs*) in **Ugborodo Community** with linkages to Unity Bank, a financial institution for financial linkages.

Indicators	2025 Target	Results as at Q3 2025		
38. Percentage of population reporting improved safety among local residents in the Niger - Delta - evidenced by persons reporting improved safety in their communities	1.25 million	594,837 ¹³	48%	
39. 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.	3	3	100%	
40. Autonomous peacebuilding project execution by P4P, evidenced by the submission of independent project proposals, signed agreement and successful management of grants.	9	To be measured in Q4		
41. P4P members trained in project management, proposal writing, and reporting with participants demonstrating enhanced skills for successful project completions.	20	12	60%	
42. Stakeholders utilizing PIND's peace data and analysis - Utilization rate of EWER data and alerts by stakeholders, evidenced by subscribers.	100	57	57%	
43. Quarterly update from P4P detailing progress on independent projects activities, and regular peace outlook updates showing:	4	3	75%	
i) New P4P members registered recorded/trained quarterly documented in the P4P quarterly reports	NA	25		
ii) Quality actions taken by the P4P members reported quarterly in P4Pnetwork quarterly report	NA	7		
44. 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	5	100%	
45. Briefs/Trackers and Research Products published	44	37 ¹⁴	84%	
46. 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.	4	1 (CNA for OOPC)	-	
47. Documented cases of improved economic stability linked to peacebuilding interventions, tracked semi-annually.	2	- TBD in Q4	-	
48. New business investments attracted to the ND due to increased safety.	20	5	25%	

11. Sombreiro Kapital (SK)

Sombreiro Kapital Ltd/Gte (SK) incorporated on July 27, 2018, was established to drive innovation in Agricultural Value Chain financing and MSMEs support in the renewable energy sector. Over the years SK has demonstrated various models to increase access to finance for target sectors and businesses in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria to stimulate the flow of finance (both on the demand/supply of capital) into Agric businesses focusing on smallholders' inclusivity. With a 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 PINDs target beneficiaries in the Niger Delta, develop and implement innovative financial products for PIND's Economic Development programs (MSD, YEP, and A2E).

¹³ Percentage of population reporting 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 reflected in an increasing number of trained peace actors and community members adopting constructive conflict resolution techniques

¹⁴ 13 in Q2 2025 in addition to 11 in Q1 2025

- Increase its capital to leverage more loans to its target beneficiaries, seeking new capital injection from PIND and external investors, including HCDTs.
- Test new financing models aligned with market and regulatory dynamics of the operating environment in target ED programs
- Expand financial services into Coastal communities and HCDT ecosystems by developing bespoke funding strategy with the HCDTs.

In 2025, the main focus for SK is to:

- **Develop and test innovative financial products for PIND ED programs (MSD, YEP, A2E)** with new financial institutions/partners for SK.
- **Integrate PIND technical Service Providers** and other economic actors into SK activities to develop pipeline and take financing opportunities to banks and for follow up loan monitoring and remediation, and also, amplifying successful Models through written case studies, workshops and events.
- **Attract More Capital into the SK** to increase the volume of Loans to MSMEs/Farmers and implement Loan products for HCDT communities - a funding strategy with the HCDTs.

Key Sombreiro Kapital (SK) Achievements in Q3 2025:

Within the landscape of smallholder- by inclusive finance, Sombreiro Kapital (SK) has distinguished itself as a catalyst for innovation; developing models that effectively integrate underserved Bottom of the Pyramid (BoP) population, who have often been overlooked in traditional intervention funding schemes.

In Q3 building on previous quarters, SK sustained strategic engagements with partners while refining and adapting its operational models in response to emerging environmental and market dynamics. The organization continued to explore new opportunities through lead firms, aimed at expanding its reach and integrating smallholders into structured groups and cooperatives as part of a holistic market strategy as follows:

- **Coastal Fisheries Support:** In collaboration with Marich Agro Services, SK advanced the coastal fisheries output marketing initiative, achieving significant traction in the development of off-take markets for coastal communities. This partnership established a functional structure for financial flows through lead firms—enhancing scale and efficiency within the coastal value chain. Through the emerging commodity trade platform, smallholder groups now have improved access to assured markets and operating cost facilitation. This milestone is expected to evolve into a broader market inclusion model as more coastal communities are integrated.
- **Engaged Wilmar Palm** to design and implement a financing model tailored for smallholder cooperatives within Wilmar’s operational areas. The model harmonizes the participation of multiple financial partners in a syndicated finance structure, enabling integrated access to finance for smallholder producers.
- SK presented its **finance model** for businesses to the **Nigeria Agricultural Development Fund (NADF)**. This effort forms part of an ongoing strategy to attract additional capital partners aligned with PIND’s objectives, aimed at deepening access to finance for beneficiaries across the Niger Delta region. In alignment with prior engagements, SK concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and implementation plan with Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc. The agreement marks a major milestone in promoting smallholder inclusion within Okomu’s supply chain and reinforces SK’s positioning as a key platform for agricultural finance innovation in the region.
- To deepen financial presence across **HCDTs and coastal communities**, SK successfully piloted outreach finance models tailored to regional opportunities. Both Ugboland and Egbema Opodis HCDTs have demonstrated strong commitment to partnering with SK in scaling financial access for coastal enterprises. Financial institutions and fintech providers have been earmarked as critical enablers for this initiative.
- Additionally, SK’s **collaboration with Dorbudee Consulting and WACCIMA** on the **Bol/FGN ₦75 billion MSMEs and Nano Credit Scheme** gained momentum during the quarter. The scheme approved **₦30 million** to five profiled MSMEs, with additional enterprises undergoing integration into the program. In partnership with Sterling Bank Plc, SK is also leveraging the bank’s collaboration with Bol to facilitate MSME financing. Through SK’s designated service provider, Anchor & Bold, qualified SMEs are being profiled and supported to access credit under the scheme further expanding SK’s reach within the MSME financing ecosystem.

The following represents SK outputs for Q3 2025:

- During the reporting period, **100** farmers were supported to receive loans by SK, bringing the cumulative total to 550; **225 (42%) females** surpassing the 2025 target of **500** farmers.

- The volume of loans facilitated (₦) (Seed Capital) was **₦2,400,000**, bringing the net amount to **₦93,400,000** for the first six months of this year, **93.4%** of 2025 target of **₦100 million**. Additionally, the indirect leveraged loan accessed through SK linkages was **₦180,000,000**.

These achievements contribute to fostering a more resilient and adaptive financial ecosystem aligned with sustainable systems change.

12. Third-Party Projects:

Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE) - Mastercard Foundation Cassava Youth Agripreneur Program

The Cassava Youth Agripreneur Program (now known as Women in Sourcing and Enterprise (WISE) is an intervention in 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 approach that boosts production for both the food and industrial markets and attract 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 approach will focus on providing key support, aligning relationships, and offering incentives needed to optimize productivity and efficiency in the value chain.

This will lead to profitable cassava farming businesses and, creation of dignified and fulfilling jobs. WISE aims to support cassava youth outgrower farmers (YOF) (**80% 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 the global market. The intervention will incentivize investment to reinvent the potential opportunities in cassava value chain in Nigeria and create institutional changes that will sustainably drive the impact of these interventions.

A total of **80,000 youth** participants between the age of **15-35 years** will be onboarded in the program, 80% of whom will be young women. These are youth out grower farmers that will be integrated into the supply chains of cassava SME processors. In addition, 1250 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 of and reporting on the project.

WISE Key Achievements as at Q3 2025

During the third quarter of 2025, PIND made significant progress in advancing the implementation of the WISE program in the Edo/delta cluster, focused on empowering young women through SME growth and local sourcing in the cassava value chain. Key achievements this quarter include;

- The PIND Program Management Team – comprising the Executive Director, Program Director, and Economic Development Manager – participated in the WISE Program Steering Committee Meeting held at the PIND Abuja office. The meeting, attended by representatives from IDH and the Mastercard Foundation, focused on reviewing program progress and addressing key issues related to SME contracting and the onboarding of youth outgrower farmers.
- There was successful signing of memorandum of agreement (MoA) with four SME partners – Briel Jaco Food, Ebedebiri Starch Company, Royal Winosa and Von Food and Farms – for the onboarding of 12,500 youth outgrower farmers (YOF) in the life of the WISE program.
- There was a successful signing of memoranda of agreement (MoA) with Umudike Seeds and National Agricultural Seed Council (NASc), finalization of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with NRCRI for the development of a Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) manual and training of extension officers, and completion of SME contracting for four out of seven partners engaged by PIND.
- A major milestone was the convening of the inception workshop that brought all seven SME partners together to align on program goals, implementation modalities, and gender and youth inclusion strategies.
- 40 percent of the 12,500 YOF that the four SME partners contracted are expected to onboard in 2025 (i.e. 5,200

YOF) are currently being identified and onboarded with support from Thrive Agric's digital farm management system.

- In order to meet up with the contracting of 10 SME partners that PIND will be working with in the life of the program, the PIND team is currently engaging five additional SMEs. These pipeline SMEs are: Arila, Adventium Songhai, Asanita Agricultural Processing Company, Bethan Industries and Cassadel Cassava Starch Company. While, the team is still engaging Green Hills and Agric Products and Mantna Foods Company to sign their MoA.
- The PIND program team conducted a visit to the four SME partners contracted along with Hello Tractor for land identification and allocation. Hello Tractor carried out booking of land for mechanization service provision. Following this visit, plans were underway for contract agreements between Hello Tractor and the four SME partners for land ploughing operations.



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