

P4P NEWSLETTER

VOICES FOR PEACE: PARTNERSHIPS, PROGRESS, AND PURPOSE

June 2025



**Dear peacebuilders,
Welcome to the June edition of the P4P
Newsletter!**

This month, we are bringing you powerful stories of connection, collaboration, and courage from across the network. Every update reveals real people doing the real work of building peace, not in theory, but on the ground, where it matters most.

We begin with an inspiring advocacy visit by the P4P Secretariat to the Kebetkache Women Development & Resource Centre, opening doors for deeper collaboration on women-led peace initiatives.

Over in Imo State, our spotlight shines bright. The chapter joined forces with the Igbo National Council, the National Peace Committee Imo, and other key stakeholders to host a Town Hall Meeting on Peace and Security, bringing people together to talk honestly about the issues that affect their daily lives.

In this edition

Strengthening Partnerships for Peace: Our Visit to Kebetkache Women's Development Centre

Spotlight: Imo State Chapter Partners in High-Level Town Hall Meeting on Insecurity in the South East

Cross River Chapter Strengthens Peace Ties with UNICAL

A Milestone Visit from The Fund for Peace

And in Cross River State, a promising new relationship is forming. The University of Calabar welcomed our chapter team for a strategic conversation about partnership and peacebuilding.

It's been a busy, beautiful month. We hope this edition leaves you inspired by what's possible when communities lead the way.

Taritein Boco
Programs Team Lead



Strengthening Partnerships for Peace: Our Visit to Kebetkache Women Development Centre

In our continued effort to deepen collaboration and promote peace across the Niger Delta, the secretariat recently paid an advocacy visit to **Kebetkache Women Development & Resource Centre in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.**

The visit provided an opportunity for us to connect on shared values and explore practical ways to mainstream peacebuilding into community and environmental development efforts.

During the meeting, the P4P team, led by our **Program's Team Lead (PTL), Mr. Taritein Boco**, alongside **Ambassador Prince Ebilade** and **Elizabeth Aduku**, engaged with the Executive Director of Kebetkache, **Chief (Dr.) Emem Okon**, in a high-impact conversation about the role of civil society in sustaining peace at the grassroots and facilitating economic opportunities, particularly for community women.

The PTL noted that while Kebetkache is widely recognized for its impactful work in climate resilience, environmental justice, and women's rights, **P4P** is known for its wide community reach through peace actors across the Niger Delta, ensuring peaceable livelihoods are sustained through voices, collective action, and a vibrant network of over 11,200 volunteers of self-identified agents of peace driving social cohesion, inclusive development, and lasting change."

The conversation highlighted the strength both organisations bring and the importance of integrating peacebuilding into every development intervention, especially at a time when tensions may appear quiet on the surface but unresolved issues linger.

Dr. Emem noted the potential for emerging conflict, particularly around **Host Community Development Trusts (HCDTs)** and natural resource governance, making the case for **proactive peace advocacy** and stronger collaboration among CSOs. She welcomed **P4P's** offer to support their ongoing work by providing peacebuilding training for HCDT members and expressed keen interest in working together on future initiatives.

We look forward to building with Kebetkache and other organisations that believe that peace must be at the heart of development.



PEACE! YES!

A MILESTONE VISIT FROM THE FUND FOR PEACE



Looking Ahead: Building Stronger Partnerships

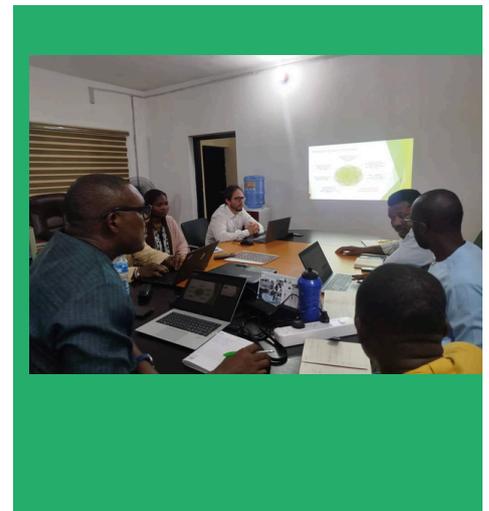
The Fund for Peace's visit marked a significant step toward deeper collaboration. We are excited about the potential for future partnerships that will amplify our efforts to create a more peaceful and prosperous Niger Delta. Stay with us as we work together to turn these discussions into actionable outcomes!

On June 26, 2025, the Partners for Peace (P4P) Secretariat in Port Harcourt was honoured to host **Nate Haken**, Vice President of Research and Innovation at The Fund for Peace, joined by **PIND's Peacebuilding Manager, Dr. David Udofia**, and **Peacebuilding Coordinator, Chief Lawal Africas**. The Team Lead, **Mr. Taritein Boco**, extended a warm welcome, setting the stage for a productive and inspiring meeting focused on advancing peacebuilding in the Niger Delta.

Strategic Discussions and Shared Visions

The visit provided an opportunity to showcase P4P's operational perspectives, strategic plan, and systemic impact. Mr. Boco walked our guests through our strategic roadmap, while Prince Ebilade highlighted P4P's transformative contributions to peace and stability in the Niger Delta. Nate Haken shared The Fund for Peace's mission, which, for over six decades, has driven global conflict prevention through innovative tools like the Fragile States Index, aligning closely with P4P's goals of fostering sustainable security and community development.

The meeting sparked engaging discussions on funding strategies to sustain and expand our work. Nate offered valuable suggestions to enhance our impact and broaden our reach, while Dr. Udofia and Chief Africas provided critical insights to shape P4P's new strategic phase. Their contributions enriched the dialogue, paving the way for innovative approaches to peacebuilding and business development.



PEACE! YES!



Spotlight: Imo State Chapter Partners in High-Level Town Hall on Insecurity in the South East

In response to the deepening insecurity across the Southeast, the Imo State Chapter of P4P, in partnership with the Igbo National Council, National Peace Committee (NPC), Ohaneze Youth Council, and Imo State Sustainable Actions for Leadership, participated in a critical town hall meeting themed “Insecurity in South East Nigeria: Its Implications for Peace, Political and Economic Development of Communities in the Region.”

The meeting, held in Owerri, brought together stakeholders from civil society, youth groups, traditional institutions, and the security sector in what was essentially a fact-finding engagement, a space to listen, share, and understand the root causes of the region’s escalating insecurity.

Discussions revealed pressing concerns, including :

- The high rate of youth unemployment creates a fertile ground for recruitment into violent activities.
- The political exploitation of young people, often used as thugs by the elite during elections;
- A disturbing rise in kidnapping for ransom, leaving communities in fear and economic distress;
- Invasion by suspected Fulani herdsmen, sparking communal tensions and displacements;
- Organ harvesting, cult clashes, and a breakdown in community leadership structures.

Participants acknowledged the urgent need for coordinated action and community-driven responses. The town hall ended with a call for a follow-up strategic meeting that would focus on developing concrete structures to checkmate and mitigate these threats.

The meeting reinforced the power of dialogue in confronting hard truths and laid the groundwork for stronger partnerships in the ongoing quest for peace and security in Imo State and beyond.

Cross River Chapter Strengthens Peace Ties with UNICAL

It was a refreshing moment of connection and purpose as the Cross River State Chapter of P4P paid a courtesy visit to the Department of Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University of Calabar (UNICAL).

During the visit, the university, through its Head of Department, Professor George Atelhe, expressed strong interest in partnering with P4P to promote peace education, youth engagement, and community resilience. He described P4P as a key player in grassroots peacebuilding and welcomed the idea of future collaborations around seminars, workshops, and student-led initiatives.



Speaking for the chapter, Mr. Paul Eteng, State Coordinator, shared P4P’s vision of working more closely with academic institutions to build a new generation of peace champions across the state.

With both sides aligned on the need for long-term partnership, this meeting laid the groundwork for what promises to be a meaningful alliance, one rooted in dialogue, shared learning, and actions for peace.

