

P4P NEWSLETTER

CLIMATE, COMMUNITY, AND PEACE: THE JULY STORY

July 2025



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

This month, we're excited to share some of the meaningful work happening across our network.

In Cross River State, our chapter teamed up with the University of Calabar to hold a peacebuilding training, helping young people and community members gain practical skills to promote peace. Our Secretariat team, led by the Team Lead, also visited the British High Commission in Port Harcourt to explore how we can work together to deepen peace efforts in the Niger Delta.

Meanwhile, we also took part in the Niger Delta Climate Change Conference 2025 in Port Harcourt, joining critical conversations on how environmental challenges and peacebuilding go hand in hand in shaping a safer, more resilient region.

And in Ondo State, the chapter joined forces with the Civil Society Coalition and the State Ministry of Women Affairs during the Southwest Constitutional Review.

In this edition

P4P Trains UNICAL Students on Practical Peacebuilding

Ondo State Chapter Champions Gender Inclusion and Security Reform at Constitution Review Hearing

P4P Visits British High Commission to Strengthen Peacebuilding Partnerships

P4P Joins the Conversation on Climate and Peace in the Niger Delta

Together, they called for more seats for women in politics and pushed for the creation of state policing to tackle insecurity in the region..

These are the kinds of steps, big and small, that keep our communities moving forward.

We hope you will take a moment to read more about what's happening and be reminded of the difference we can all make when we continue to show up for peace.

Let's keep going together!

Taritein Boco
Programs Team Lead



P4P Cross River Trains UNICAL Students on Practical Peacebuilding

The Cross River State chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently held a hands-on peacebuilding workshop for over 50 students of the Department of Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Calabar.

The training covered key areas like conflict analysis, nonviolent intervention, early warning systems, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), and Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEAL). Pre- and post-tests showed a clear improvement in the students' understanding of peacebuilding strategies.

Facilitators included Dr. Efiok-Ita Nyok, Dr. Moses Abang, Ambassador Ukorebi Esien, and Mr. Cletus Bassey, each bringing real-world insight into peace education, grassroots engagement, and conflict transformation.

The Head of Department, Prof. George Atelhe, praised the training as transformative. P4P State Coordinator, Mr. Paul Eteng, also commended the department for their collaboration and reaffirmed P4P's support for youth-focused peace initiatives.

The workshop ended with role plays, presentations, and a pledge by participants to promote peace wherever they are.

Ondo State Chapter Champions Gender Inclusion and Security Reform at Constitution Review Hearing

At the recently concluded South West Zonal Public Hearing on the review of the 1999 Constitution, the Ondo State Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) joined voices with the Ondo State Ministry of Women Affairs and the Civil Society Coalition to advocate for two major reforms: special seats for women in politics and the creation of state police.

Held in Akure on Friday, July 18, 2025, the public hearing brought together stakeholders from across Ondo, Ekiti, and Osun states.



Citizens, traditional rulers, professional bodies, and civil society organisations used the platform to share their views on how the constitution should evolve to better serve the people.

In a joint memorandum, P4P Ondo and its partners emphasised the urgent need to increase women's representation in governance by reserving special, non-contested seats for women at all levels: local, state, and federal. This move, they argued, is necessary to correct the long-standing gender imbalance in Nigerian politics and give women a stronger voice in decision-making.

The team also pushed for the formal establishment of state policing as a practical step to address the worsening insecurity in communities, including farmer-herder clashes, kidnapping, and armed violence. By allowing states to recruit and manage their own police, the proposal aims to make security more responsive, locally informed, and accountable to the people.

"No country can achieve true peace and development when its citizens live in fear," the coalition stated in their submission. "The time to restructure Nigeria's security system and empower women in politics is now." Ondo P4P remains committed to promoting community-led peacebuilding and inclusive governance, and will continue to advocate for reforms that reflect the voices and realities of the people on the ground.

PEACE! YES!

P4P Visits British High Commission to Strengthen Peacebuilding Partnerships



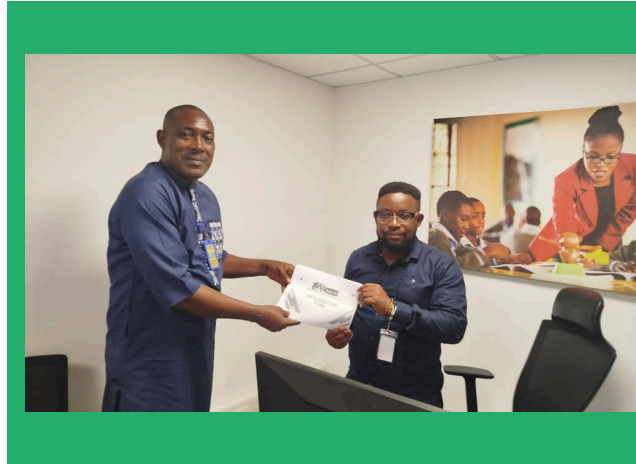
On July 10th, the P4P Secretariat team, led by the program's team lead, Mr. Taritein Boco, paid an advocacy visit to the British High Commission's South-South regional office in Port Harcourt.

The team was warmly received by Dr. Fortune Alfred, the Senior Political Advisor and Head of the Commission's South-South Office. The meeting provided an opportunity to introduce the work of Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta and explore possible areas of collaboration between both parties.

Mr. Boco opened the conversation by introducing the P4P team and the purpose of the visit, strengthening partnerships that can support peacebuilding efforts in the region. In response, Dr. Fortune welcomed the team and expressed the Commission's continued interest in initiatives that promote peace, stability, and inclusive development in the Niger Delta.

The discussion touched on P4P's extensive grassroots peacebuilding interventions, its unique nonviolent approach, and the structure of the network across the nine states of the region. Particular emphasis was placed on the Early Warning and Early Response (EWER) system, which the PTL described as a community-driven tool for anticipating and addressing conflict before it escalates.

The team emphasized the need for stronger collaboration and support to scale the impact of ongoing interventions. In response, Dr. Fortune encouraged the network to submit a formal proposal outlining specific areas of support and pledged to escalate the outcome of the meeting to the relevant desks within the Commission for possible follow-up. This visit marks another important step in P4P's efforts to build strategic alliances that can deepen peacebuilding efforts in the Niger Delta.



PEACE! YES!



P4P Joins the Conversation on Climate and Peace in the Niger Delta

Port Harcourt came alive this July as more than 300 voices from across the Niger Delta and beyond gathered at the Justice Mary Odili Judicial Institute for the Niger Delta Climate Change Conference 2025.

The five-day event, organized by **Lekeh Development Foundation** in partnership with **Kebetskachi Women Development Resource Centre**, brought together traditional rulers, youth, civil society actors, and international representatives to confront a pressing reality: environmental degradation is tearing at the fabric of life in the region.

Partners for Peace (P4P) was represented by our Program Team Lead, **Taritein Boco**, who joined participants in exploring how climate action, peacebuilding, and community resilience intersect.

The sessions went beyond speeches; they were a call to action. From Rev. Dr. Nnimmo Bassey of HOMEF to Ghana's Minister of State for Climate Change and Sustainability, Hon. Issifu Seidu, the message echoed across the hall: *"Silence is treason. Resistance is life."*

Discussions highlighted how oil spills, gas flaring, and neglected ecosystems are more than environmental crises, they are triggers for conflict, poverty, and displacement. When farmlands die and rivers are poisoned, communities are pushed to the edge, and the absence of peace becomes inevitable.

For P4P, participating in this conference reinforces our belief that **climate justice and peace are inseparable**. As we continue to advocate for community-led solutions, we remain committed to ensuring that the Niger Delta's response to climate change is rooted in healing of the land, the waters, and the people.

The journey is long, but the Niger Delta is rising: **hands in the soil, voices in the climate discourse, and hearts anchored in peace.**



PEACE! YES!