



## Welcome to the latest edition of the Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta Newsletter!



Join us as we celebrate the strides we've made together towards building peace, resilient communities, and creating sustainable change. Each story in this newsletter showcases the impact of collective efforts in promoting peace and development in the Niger Delta.

As we continue on this journey together, let us draw inspiration from the stories of resilience and hope shared within these pages. Together, we can create a brighter future for all those living in the Niger Delta and beyond.

### ENHANCING P4P ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERS CAPACITIES FOR INDUSTRY BEST PRACTICES.

On March 11th and 12th 2024, Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta (P4P) organized a comprehensive two-day virtual capacity-building training for the esteemed organization members of the network.

The training, meticulously designed to empower our organization members with essential skills and knowledge, covered a wide array of topics crucial for effective organizational management and peacebuilding initiatives. Participants were equipped with insights into **financial management, strategic communications, report writing, project management, and project monitoring and evaluation.**

The response to the training was overwhelmingly positive, with 66 individuals representing their respective organizations in attendance on day one, and 57 participants joining us on day two. This robust turnout showcases the dedication and commitment of our members to enhancing their capacities and contributing to sustainable peace in the Niger Delta.

Throughout the training sessions, participants engaged in lively discussions, shared best practices, and gained practical tools and techniques to strengthen their organizations' effectiveness and impact. Expert facilitators provided invaluable insights and guidance, ensuring that participants left the training equipped with actionable strategies to drive positive change in their organizations.

The knowledge and skills acquired during these two days will undoubtedly empower our organization members to navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and drive meaningful transformation in their respective spheres of influence.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all participants and facilitators who contributed to the success of this training. Your dedication and enthusiasm inspire us all to strive for excellence in our peacebuilding endeavors.

Moving forward, let us continue to harness the power of education, collaboration, and innovation as we work together to build a peaceful and prosperous Niger Delta for generations to come.

**PEACE! YES!**

# P4P IMO SUB-CHAPTER PROMOTING PEACE

## NNERIM NDUGBA AND UMUCHOKO EZISU NDUGBA SAY YES TO PEACE!



Boundary inspection



Boundary inspection



Boundary inspection



The two communities in a session

In the heart of Imo State, nestled between the ancient communities of Nnerim Ndugba and Umuchoko Ezisu Ndugba, a tale of reconciliation and unity unfolds. For years, these sister communities grappled with a lingering land boundary dispute, threatening the fabric of their shared heritage.

But amidst the discord, a beam of hope emerged in the form of the Imo State Partners for Peace (P4P) sub-chapter mediation and peacebuilding intervention. With the spirit of collaboration and dialogue as their compass, community leaders embarked on a journey towards reconciliation.

The intervention begins with a series of strategic steps. Stakeholders mapping and advocacy visits paved the way for meaningful dialogue, bringing together key figures from both communities and relevant authorities. Through these efforts, the foundation for peaceful resolution was laid, grounded in mutual understanding and respect.

As the days passed, the dispute began to shift. The Multi-stakeholders Peacebuilding Training Workshop organized became a forum for shared insights and revelations, as community members delved deep into the complexities of the issue. Boundaries were inspected, stories were shared, and hopes were ignited for a brighter future.

Yet, challenges loomed on the horizon. Differences in perspective regarding the ownership of shares in the Town School Nnerim threatened to derail progress. Despite these hurdles, the commitment of community leaders and stakeholders remained steadfast, fueled by a collective vision of peace and prosperity.

In the midst of negotiations, voices of reason emerged. The President General of Nnerim Ndugba and leaders from Umuchoko Ezisu Ndugba voiced their desire for peaceful co-existence, highlighting the shared heritage that bound their communities together. Though differences remained, the seeds of reconciliation had been planted.

As the chapter draws to a close, optimism fills the air. Both communities stood on the brink of a historic moment, poised to sign a Peace Accord that will chart a new course for their shared future. With each step towards reconciliation, the bonds of brotherhood grow stronger, paving the way for a brighter tomorrow.

### EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: CROSS RIVER P4P SUB-CHAPTER TAKES A STAND AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

In a proactive move to address the issue of drug abuse, the Cross River P4P sub-chapters spearheaded a change-oriented project titled "**Community Stakeholders Engagement Against Drug Abuse.**" Targeting key communities including Uyanga, Idomi, and Ibom in Cross Rivers LGAs, the initiative sought to raise awareness and mobilize stakeholders in the fight against substance abuse.

Utilizing a multi-faceted approach, the project employed advocacy visits, community stakeholder engagement, dialogue meetings, and an awareness rally to conscientize the youth on the dangers of drug abuse. These strategic interventions aimed to empower communities with knowledge and resources to combat the scourge of substance misuse effectively.

With the active participation of 150 primary community stakeholders and over 50 secondary beneficiaries, the project made significant strides in engaging key stakeholders and fostering dialogue on this critical issue. By mobilizing community members and heightening synergy among diverse stakeholders, the initiative laid the groundwork for sustained efforts to address drug abuse and promote a healthier, peaceful and more resilient community.

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The impact of the project extended far beyond its immediate beneficiaries, resonating throughout Cross River communities and reinforcing the importance of collective action in tackling societal challenges. As the Cross River P4P sub-chapters continue their commitment to community empowerment and advocacy, their efforts serve as a beacon of hope for a brighter and drug and substance-free future in the community, state and region at large.

**PEACE! YES!**

## CHARTING A COURSE FOR PEACE: P4P'S NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES TAKES THE HELM



The new BoT members and P4p team



Peacebuilding manager & Network coord.



The new BoT chair's presentation



P4p National Coordinator's presentation

We are thrilled to share with you in this edition of our newsletter, a momentous occasion in our network's journey – the inauguration and inaugural meeting of our new Board of Trustees (BoT). Held on March 7, 2024, at the Bolton White Hotel in Abuja, this event marked a major breakthrough in our dedication to peacebuilding in the Niger Delta region.

The ceremony commenced with Africas Lawal, the PIND Network Coordinator, reading out the citations of the esteemed new BoT members, showcasing their dedication and expertise in the field of peacebuilding. Following this, Barrister Ifeoma G. Ukuchukwu, a prominent legal practitioner, administered the oath of office to the newly appointed BoT members, underscoring their solemn commitment to P4P's mission and vision.

High Chief Akomolafe Pius the P4P national coordinator, entrusted with the administrative duties of the BoT, skillfully steered the structuring and inaugural meeting, ensuring a smooth and orderly transition of leadership. Mr. Tunji Idowu, the esteemed Executive Director of PIND, emerged as the Chairman of the newly inaugurated BoT, bringing with him a wealth of experience and expertise in peacebuilding and development.

Dr. David Udofia, the Peacebuilding Manager at PIND, delivered a comprehensive presentation on the expected results from P4P in 2024, outlining the organization's strategic objectives and key milestones for the year ahead. High Chief Akomolafe Pius also provided an update on the sustainability and progress report of P4P, underscoring the organization's commitment to transparency and accountability.

In his address, Mr. Tunji Idowu offered a compelling historical background of the P4P network, highlighting the pivotal role of stakeholders in driving positive developmental trends in the Niger Delta. He issued a stirring call to action for the newly inaugurated board members, urging them to leverage their expertise and passion to advance the cause of peace and prosperity in the region.

As we embark on this new chapter, we are filled with optimism and determination to build a peaceful and impactful Niger Delta. Together, with the guidance of our esteemed Board of Trustees and the steadfast support of our network members, we will continue to strive for lasting peace and sustainable development in the Niger Delta region.

## PEACEBUILDING INITIATIVES FLOURISH IN ABIA STATE: A SUB-CHAPTER INTERVENTION

In a bid to foster harmony and build resilient communities, the Abia State sub-chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently executed a multifaceted project spanning various local government areas.

Titled "Capacity Building Training on Volunteerism and Conflict Management," the initiative aimed to equip residents of Bende, Isiala Ngwa North, Ugwunagbo, and Osisioma with essential skills for promoting peace within their communities. The training sessions, held across the designated local governments, provided participants with valuable insights into effective conflict resolution strategies and the importance of volunteerism in community development.

As a complementary component of the sub-chapter's intervention, a thought-provoking talk show centered on the role of teenagers in peacebuilding was organized for peace clubs across the state. This dynamic discussion, hosted at Government Girls Secondary School, Uzuakoli, witnessed active participation from three secondary schools, showcasing the adeptness of peace clubs in nurturing harmonious relationships among youth.

In a noteworthy gesture aimed at amplifying messages of peace within local communities in Abia state, aprons bearing peace-themed messages were distributed to market women in Ukwa West Local Government Area. These aprons serve as tangible symbols of unity and solidarity, reinforcing the importance of peaceful coexistence among community members.

The collective efforts of the Abia P4P sub-chapter highlight the commitment of grassroots organizations and community stakeholders to fostering peace and harmony within Abia State. As these initiatives continue to gain momentum, they hold the promise of a more positive and peaceful future for all residents of Abia state.



Market women unite for peace



Training participants



**EMPOWERING YOUTH: DELTA P4P SUB-CHAPTER'S EFFORTS TO COMBAT DRUG ABUSE.**

In a proactive endeavor to address the issue of drug abuse among teenagers, the Delta State sub-chapter of Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta (P4P) recently spearheaded a project titled "Mitigating drug abuse and misuse of substance by teenagers in Okpe, Uvwie, and Udu South LGAs of Delta State."

Employing a versatile approach, the sub-chapter employed various strategies to tackle this pervasive challenge. Advocacy to relevant stakeholders served as the cornerstone of their efforts, promoting meaningful involvement with key decision-makers and community leaders to garner support and raise awareness about the detrimental effects of drug abuse in the communities of intervention. Through targeted advocacy initiatives, the sub-chapter aimed to mobilize collective action and foster a united front against substance misuse within the communities.

In addition to advocacy endeavors, the sub-chapter prioritized awareness creation as a pivotal tool for disseminating vital information and empowering teenagers to make informed choices. Through community outreach programs, workshops, and informational campaigns, they sought to debunk myths surrounding drug abuse and equip teenagers with the knowledge and skills necessary to resist peer pressure and make positive lifestyle choices.

Furthermore, training sessions were conducted to provide teenagers with practical strategies for resisting substance abuse and developing healthy coping mechanisms. These sessions served as invaluable platforms for nurturing communications, sharing experiences, and instilling resilience among participants, thereby empowering them to navigate the challenges posed by substance misuse.

By leveraging advocacy, awareness creation, and targeted training sessions, the Delta P4P sub-chapter demonstrated its steadfast dedication to safeguarding the well-being of teenagers and promoting a culture of health and tenacity within the community. As they continue to collaborate with stakeholders and implement impactful initiatives, their efforts hold the promise of a peaceful and drug-free future for the youth of Delta State.



Training participants



Training participants

**BAYELSA P4P SUB-CHAPTER LEADS THE CHARGE FOR PEACE**

With a total number of 104 beneficiaries, the project strategically employed various approaches including advocacy visits, stakeholders' engagement, and comprehensive training sessions on conflict management and volunteering. These efforts were geared towards equipping community members with the necessary skills and knowledge to address conflicts effectively and promote a culture of peace within their respective communities.

The impact of the project reverberated across Bayelsa State, encouraging individuals to become agents of positive change and advocates for peace within their communities. As the sub-chapter continues its commitment to building a sustainable peace in Bayelsa, the ripple effects of their endeavors promise a brighter and more harmonious future for all.



At the sport for peace match



players in a group photo with P4P Team

Bayelsa P4P sub-chapter embarked on a change inducing odyssey through its project titled "Capacity-building Training for Subchapters and Peace-building through Sports." Covering key communities including Odi in Kolokuma/Opokuma LGA, Ikarama and Akumoni in Yenagoa LGA, and Igbogene in Nembe LGA, the initiative aimed to empower individuals and communities with the tools for conflict resolution and peace promotion.

Highlighting the significance of sports as a catalyst for peace, the Nembe sub-chapter organized a dynamic "Sport for Peace" event, engaging community members in a spirit of camaraderie and unity. This innovative approach not only fostered social cohesion but also served as a platform for promoting mutual understanding and reconciliation among diverse groups.



cross session of players



At the EWER training



**HARMONY UNLEASHED: P4P AKWA IBOM SUB-CHAPTER'S QUEST FOR PEACE.**

In a concerted effort to curb youth restiveness and combat cult activities, the Akwa Ibom State sub-chapter of Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta (P4P) recently embarked on a project titled "Reducing Youth Restiveness to Check Cult Activities." This groundbreaking initiative targeted the communities of Ndon Utim, Ikot Akpa Etok, and Ikot Essien Oku Iboku in Etinan, Ibesikpo Asutan, and Itu Local Government Areas (LGAs) of Akwa Ibom State, respectively.

They adopted a comprehensive approach to address the root causes of youth restiveness and cultism within these communities. Advocacy visits to relevant stakeholders served as the initial step. This was followed by sensitization meetings where awareness about the adverse effects of youth restiveness and cult activities were raised. This empowered the participants with the knowledge needed to actively participate in prevention and intervention efforts.



Peace building workshop participants

In addition to advocacy and sensitization efforts, a peacebuilding workshop was organized to equip participants with conflict resolution skills, with emphasis on the importance of dialogue, cooperation, and mutual understanding in resolving disputes and preventing violence.

Dialogue meetings were convened to facilitate open and constructive discussions among community members, enabling them to address underlying grievances, build trust, and explore synergized solutions to common challenges. These dialogue meetings prepared the ground for cooperation and solidarity among community members.



Peace building workshop participants

As a proof of the impact of their efforts, 95 participants directly benefited from the project, experiencing tangible improvements in community cohesion, resilience, and peace.

Furthermore, the inauguration of two new sub-chapters in Ibiono Ibom and Ikono LGAs underscores the sub-chapter's commitment to expanding its reach and amplifying its impact across the state.

The Akwa Ibom State sub-chapter of P4P remains steadfast in its mission to promote peace, resilience, and social cohesion within communities across the state.

**EDO P4P SUB-CHAPTER CAMPAIGN SENSITIZATION PROJECT MAKES HEADLINES WITH SUCCESS STORIES.**



Peacebuilding workshop

In an effort to combat cult-related violence in Ovia North East, Esan West, Etsako West, Esan Central, and Orhionwon Local Government Areas, the Edo P4P Sub-Chapter executed a strategic project that has garnered significant success.

The project, which focused on advocacy visits, sensitization campaigns, stakeholders' dialogue meetings, and training on conflict management, peacebuilding, and early warning, early response mechanisms, has proven to be a game-changer in the fight against violence associated with cult activities.



Peacebuilding workshop

Through collaborative efforts with community members and key stakeholders, the Edo P4P Sub-Chapter has achieved tangible results in raising awareness, promoting dialogue, and equipping individuals with essential skills to address and prevent violence.

The project's success underscores the importance of collective action in tackling social challenges and building a resilient community. With positive outcomes evident in the targeted areas, the impact of the campaign is a proof of the dedication and commitment of all involved parties.

As the Edo P4P Sub-Chapter continues to make strides in promoting peace and conflict resolution, the community applauds their efforts and looks forward to a better future of peace and harmony.



Cross session of participants



**>>>P4P NEWSLETTER    EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES: ONDO P4P SUB-CHAPTER'S SUCCESS IN PROMOTING YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN CONFLICT MANAGEMENT**

The Ondo P4P Sub-Chapter carried out a change provoking project titled "Promoting Youth Engagement in Conflict Management Using the Early Warning and Peacebuilding Approach." Targeting key areas including Igbaoke, Akure South, Odigbo, Ese-Odo, and Idanre Local Government Areas, the intervention aimed to empower youth to actively participate in conflict resolution processes in their communities.



**EWER TRAINING SESSION IN OWO**

Through strategic interventions such as advocacy visits, awareness campaigns, training workshops, and community dialogues, the project sought to equip young people with the necessary skills and knowledge to identify early warning signs of conflict and effectively mitigate tensions within their communities. By engaging youth as key stakeholders in peacebuilding efforts, the project aimed to foster a culture of dialogue, cooperation, and resilience.



**PARTICIPANTS OF THE STAKEHOLDERS OPEN COMMUNITY MEETING ONDO STATE**

The project's impact was profound, with significant success stories emerging from each community. From increased youth participation in peacebuilding activities to enhanced community cohesion and collaboration, the initiative catalyzed positive change and strengthened social bonds across the region. Through grassroots engagement and community-led initiatives, the Ondo P4P Sub-Chapter demonstrated its commitment to building sustainable peace and promoting inclusive development.



**EWER TRAINING SESSION AT IDANRE**

**About P4P**

**P4P is a network dedicated to promoting peace in the Niger Delta. Join now and connect. It is only by linking hands that the vision of peaceable livelihoods in our communities will be realized. P4P provides a platform where people with different backgrounds and perspectives can come together, not to point fingers or take sides, but to understand and address the root causes of conflict and build peace.**

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**PEACE! YES!**