

P4P NETWORK NEWSLETTER

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Issue #6



Welcome to the October Edition of the Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta Newsletter!



As always, we thank you for your unwavering support and engagement in our mission. Together, we continue to break new ground in promoting peace across the Niger Delta.

Let's keep moving forward, one peaceful step at a time.

Peace! Yes!

P4P NETWORK PAYS COURTESY VISIT TO ASARI-TORU LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHAIRMAN

Dear Peacebuilders,

After a brief hiatus, we are thrilled to be back with our monthly newsletter, stronger and more dedicated than ever to advancing peace in the Niger Delta. October's edition is packed with exciting updates that reflect the incredible momentum our network has gained in recent months.

In this issue, we shine a spotlight on our **General Meeting** of Principal Officials, where key leaders of the P4P network came together to strategize and strengthen our commitment to peacebuilding. We also feature **high-level advocacy** efforts led by various state chapters, each working tirelessly to advance peace initiatives in their communities.

One of the highlights of this issue is the courtesy visit to the **Asari-Toru Local Government Chairman**, a significant step towards building alliances with local authorities. And of course, we bring you inspiring reports from state chapters who marked the **International Peace Day** with impactful activities, reminding us all of the importance of unity and dialogue in creating lasting peace.

On August 29, 2024, our network paid a significant courtesy visit to the Chairman of Asari-Toru Local Government, **Rt. Hon. Orolosama Peter Amachree**, in Rivers State. The visit, led by the National Coordinator, **High Chief Akomolafe** and National PRO **Livingstone Membere**, marked a strategic effort to foster collaboration and introduce the P4P Network's peacebuilding initiatives in the local government.

The delegation engaged in productive dialogue with the Chairman, aiming to secure his support and buy-in for the network's ongoing activities in Asari-Toru. **Rt. Hon. Orolosama Peter Amachree** warmly welcomed the team and expressed his full support for P4P's mission of fostering peace, not only within his local government but across Rivers State.

This meeting marks another important milestone in our continued efforts to build partnerships with key stakeholders, ensuring that P4P's interventions resonate at the local level, where they can make the greatest impact. With the Chairman's endorsement, the P4P Network is poised to strengthen its presence and effectiveness in Asari-Toru, advancing the cause of peace in one of Rivers State's most vibrant localities.



PEACE! YES!

SPOTLIGHT ON STATE CHAPTER ADVOCACY VISITS

In this month's edition, we are proud to highlight the tireless advocacy efforts of our state chapters as they continue to champion peace across the Niger Delta. From engaging with local authorities to forging alliances with security agencies and traditional leaders, our chapters have been at the forefront of critical conversations.

In this special column, we bring you updates on these impactful visits, where our teams have successfully secured commitments to support P4P's mission of preventing violence and promoting peaceful resolutions in their respective regions. These efforts are crucial steps toward creating lasting peace at the grassroots level.

ABIA STATE P4P TAKES A STAND AGAINST ORGAN HARVESTING AND RITUAL KILLINGS IN UKWA WEST

In continuation of efforts to combat organ harvesting and ritual killings, the Abia State Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently visited His Royal Majesty Eze Dimgba Olotuma at his palace in Obehie community, Ukwa West Local Government Area. Led by Pastor Torty Theophilus, the P4P team sought the royal father's support in addressing one of the state's most pressing security issues—ritual killings and organ harvesting, which have become alarmingly widespread.

Pastor Theophilus highlighted the team's efforts to raise awareness and mobilize communities to stand against these heinous crimes. He noted that **Obehie community** was specifically chosen for the campaign due to a report from a survivor of an attempted ritual killing, underscoring the urgency of the initiative in this area.

In response, **Eze Dimgba Olotuma** commended the P4P team for their timely intervention and expressed his full support for the campaign. He pledged that his community would work closely with P4P to ensure that Obehie becomes a haven of peace and security for all its residents. The Eze also reaffirmed the community's commitment to partnering with P4P in maintaining peace and safeguarding its people.

This visit is a significant milestone in P4P's campaign to protect vulnerable communities and build a safer, more peaceful Abia State.



BAYELSA STATE P4P ADVOCATES FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN FARMERS AND HERDERS

In commitment to strengthening peaceful coexistence between farmers and herders in Bayelsa State, the Partners for Peace (P4P) Bayelsa State Chapter has embarked on a series of advocacy visits to critical stakeholders. These efforts are part of a broader intervention aimed at reducing tensions and promoting harmony in communities where both groups operate.

Led by **Mienye Seikepaye**, Coordinator of the Bayelsa State Chapter, the **Project Implementation Committee** visited key groups, including the **Cattle Breeders and Traders Association**, the **Farmers Association of Bayelsa State**, and the **National Vice President of the Ijaw National Congress, Alabo Nengi James**. The team also engaged with the **Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Bayelsa State Command**, as well as the **Muslim Association** in Igbogene and **Nyambiri (Zarama) community** in Yenagoa Local Government Area.

The advocacy visits were met with overwhelming support, as all stakeholders expressed their commitment to fostering a more cooperative relationship between farmers and cattle breeders. These stakeholders pledged to work closely with P4P to promote mutual understanding and peaceful interactions while conducting their businesses.



PEACE! YES!

ONDO STATE P4P CHAPTER ADVOCATES FOR PEACEFUL GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS

As part of the ongoing commitment to promoting peace and preventing electoral violence, the Ondo State Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently embarked on a series of high-level advocacy visits ahead of their intervention in the forthcoming gubernatorial elections in the state. The visits, led by **National Coordinator High Chief Akomolafe** and **Ondo State Coordinator Stella Nathaniel**, aimed to introduce P4P's new intervention project focused on preventing electoral violence before, during, and after the elections.

The P4P delegation visited key stakeholders, including the **Divisional Police Officer (DPO) at Igbokoda Divisional Office**, the **Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) Ondo State Command**, the **National Orientation Agency (NOA) Ondo State Command**, as well as the **Iyalode and Yeye Oge of Igbokoda Kingdom**. Each institution and traditional leader received the P4P team warmly, showing strong support for the peace campaign.

Of particular note, the **NSCDC Commandant** pledged the command's full commitment to join forces with P4P in the fight against electoral violence. This includes curbing vote-buying, voter apathy, and engaging in voter education efforts. The promise of collaboration from the NSCDC and other institutions strengthens P4P's efforts to ensure a peaceful and transparent electoral process in Ondo State.

The consistent support from all the stakeholders visited reinforces the importance of this campaign and the collective resolve to safeguard peace during this critical period. With these endorsements, P4P Ondo State Chapter is better positioned to make a significant impact on electoral integrity and violence prevention as the elections approach.



Advocacy visit to the commandant, Ondo State NSCDC



Visit to the Iyalode and Yeye Oge of Igbokoda in Ilaje LGA



Advocacy Visit to the DCO of NPF Igbokoda



DELTA STATE P4P ADVOCATES FOR STRONGER POLICE-CITIZEN RELATIONS

In a continued effort to promote peace and improve the relationship between law enforcement and communities, the Delta State Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently paid an advocacy visit to the Ughelli Area Commander, ACP Ayodele Adeniyi. The visit was part of the chapter's campaign to promote a more collaborative and harmonious relationship between the Nigeria Police Force (NPF) and the citizens of Delta State.

During the visit, ACP Ayodele Adeniyi welcomed the P4P team and reiterated the police force's commitment to creating a safe and secure environment where citizens can carry out their daily activities without fear or intimidation. He emphasized that this goal can only be achieved through cooperation between the NPF and the community. Recognizing the importance of such efforts, ACP Adeniyi pledged the full support of the police force for the campaign, promising that the NPF will work alongside P4P to improve trust and engagement between law enforcement and the people of Delta State.

This advocacy visit marks another crucial step in P4P's mission to build stronger, safer communities through partnerships with key stakeholders, ensuring that peace and security remain at the forefront of local development efforts.



Advocacy visit to NPF Ugelli Area Commander



Advocacy visit to NPF Ugelli Area Commander





CROSS RIVER P4P ADVOCATES FOR COLLABORATION TO ADDRESS LOCAL CONFLICTS AND REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS (VAWG)

The Cross River Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) recently embarked on a series of advocacy visits to build partnerships and secure support for key projects. These visits, led by the Cross River P4P State Chapter and the Prevent Team, focused on resolving community conflicts and tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG).

The team visited the **Commissioner for Women’s Affairs**, engaging her on the crisis in **Ofatura and Ovonum**. Led by **Chief Alexander Irek**, the **Obubra Peace Committee** participated in the discussions to explore collaboration and conflict resolution strategies that would restore peace to the affected communities.

In a related effort, the P4P team also visited **Mr Darlington Edem**, the **Chief Press Secretary to the Governor of Cross River State**, as part of activities leading to the **Sensitization on the VAPP Law to Reduce VAWG in Ikoneto Community**, Odukpani LGA. The advocacy visit, including the **Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) Cross River Chapter**, was designed to inform Mr. Edem of the project and seek his buy-in as a government representative from Ikoneto. During the visit, the team urged the state government to take deliberate steps toward reducing the high rate of VAWG in the community.

These visits underscore the chapter’s commitment to working closely with government officials and community leaders to address critical issues affecting Cross River State, from community conflict resolution to ensuring the safety and well-being of women and girls.



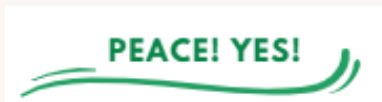
P4P EDO STATE CHAPTER SECURES KEY PARTNERSHIPS FOR ELECTORAL PEACE AND WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION INITIATIVES

In preparation for the Edo gubernatorial election, the Edo State Chapter of Partners for Peace (P4P) made significant strides through a series of advocacy visits aimed at building peace and increasing women’s participation in the electoral process.

The Edo State P4P Team conducted advocacy visits to the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and the Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ), seeking their support for the state’s project focused on ensuring a peaceful election. Both organizations warmly welcomed the initiative and pledged their full support, contributing to the success of the advocacy efforts.



Simultaneously, the Prevent Team of Edo State P4P engaged in advocacy efforts aimed at increasing women’s involvement in the electoral process. The team visited key bodies, including the National Association of Women Journalists (NAWOJ), the Commissioner for Social Development and Gender Issues, FIDA (International Federation of Women Lawyers), and the League of Women Voters. The Prevent Team’s project, titled “Increasing Women’s Participation in the Electoral Process,” gained the full endorsement of these organizations, who promised active collaboration to advance the initiative.



P4P AKWA IBOM ENGAGES KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN ADVOCACY VISITS TO PROMOTE PEACEBUILDING EFFORTS



Our Akwa Ibom State chapter has embarked on a series of advocacy visits to critical stakeholders as part of its ongoing peacebuilding initiative. These visits, held in the Mbo Local Government Area, aimed to gain the support of traditional rulers, village councils, and youth groups to ensure the success of P4P's conflict resolution and peacebuilding project in the region.

On September 23rd, 2024, the Project Implementation Committee (PIC) met with HRM Edidim Okon Abang, the Paramount Ruler of Mbo LGA, alongside the Village Council of Uko Nteghe and Enwang. During the meeting, the PIC presented the project's goals, methodology, and the benefits it would bring to the community, appealing to the Paramount Ruler and his cabinet members to create an enabling environment for the project's success. The Paramount Ruler expressed his appreciation for P4P's efforts and shared encouraging news about the gradual resolution of the land dispute between Uko Akpang Enwang and Uko Nteghe, which the Paramount Ruler and the Council of Chiefs had been working on.

At Uko Nteghe, the **Village Head** expressed gratitude for P4P's initiative and promised the council's full support. The **Youth President** also reaffirmed their backing of P4P's peacebuilding efforts, noting that since the last peacebuilding training organized by P4P, the community had seen positive changes, including a reduction in conflicts between the Uko Nteghe and Uko Akpang Enwang communities.

On September 26th, 2024, the PIC continued its advocacy visits, meeting with the **Village Council of Okpo Clan** and the **Village Head of Uko Akpang Enwang**. **Speaking on behalf of the Clan Head**, the Secretary of the Clan Council expressed the council's approval of the project and assured P4P of their full cooperation. The **Village Head of Uko Akpang Enwang** similarly pledged the community's commitment to supporting P4P's peacebuilding mission. All stakeholders appreciated P4P's initiative and committed to embracing the project's goals.

P4P IMO STATE CHAPTER ADVOCATES FOR SUPPORT TO MITIGATE SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN IKEDURU LGA

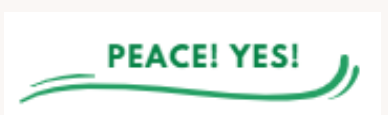


In its continued efforts to address the growing issue of substance abuse in Imo State, the Imo State Chapter has carried out a series of advocacy visits to key traditional and institutional leaders as part of its project titled: **Mitigating Substance Abuse in Ngugo, Avuvu, and Uzoagba Clans in Ikeduru Local Government Area**.

As part of the advocacy campaign, the P4P team visited **His Royal Highness, Eze Amb. Dr. Marcel Okwadikesinachi Egemonu**, the Ebi 1 of Ebikoro Autonomous Community, and **His Royal Highness, Eze Polycap Anugwo**, the Obaire 1 of Ngugo Obaire Autonomous Community.

The team also paid advocacy visits to the Owerri State Commandant of the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and the Imo State Command of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC). Both agencies recognized the importance of the project and pledged to work closely with P4P to combat the menace of substance abuse in Ikeduru LGA. The NDLEA expressed particular interest in collaborating with P4P on awareness campaigns and enforcement strategies to curb drug abuse, at the same time, the NSCDC assured the team of their readiness to provide necessary security support for the initiative.

These advocacy efforts have set the foundation for a multi-stakeholder approach to tackling substance abuse in Ngugo, Avuvu, and Uzoagba Clans, with the full backing of traditional rulers and security agencies. P4P Imo remains committed to driving this critical intervention forward and fostering healthier, drug-free communities.





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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