



Niger Delta Renaissance

Building Sustainable Partnerships for Peace, Social Inclusion and Accelerated Development in the Niger Delta

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Outline

1

- Background

2

- Stakeholders and Goals

3

- Intervention Models

4

- Partnerships for Development

Background

- Preamble
- Progressive Government Efforts to Address the Challenges
- Yar'Adua Government Strategic Resolve and the Role of the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs

Preamble

- The history of the current tension in the Niger Delta has its roots in the discovery and exploitation of Oil and Gas in the area over the last four decades.
- The importance of restoring peace to the Niger Delta cannot be over-emphasised given the proportion of the National income generated from the drilling activities in the area

Progressive Government Efforts to Address the Challenges

The Oil Mineral Producing Area Development
Commission (OMPADEC) and

the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC),
established in 1992 and 2000 respectively,

together represent past governments' efforts to
intervene in the Niger Delta.

Government's Strategic Resolve and Role of the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs

- The Present Government in recognition of the gravity of the situation has declared the development of the Niger Delta as a National Priority
- Indeed the Government's 7-point agenda includes the Niger Delta
- To underscore the foregoing, the government has established a Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs.

Stakeholders and Goals

- Stakeholder Forum /Steering Committee.
- Establish Realistic Goals: Lasting Peace; Value Re-orientation; Social Inclusion; Participatory Dialogue and Engagement; Robust Infrastructure, Human Capacity, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development.

Stakeholder Forum/Steering Committee

- Desperate need for a standing and representative stakeholder Forum/Steering Committee for promoting, consolidating and managing Consensus Building
- The committee should comprise the people of the Niger Delta, Government, Civil Society, Private Sector (primarily, Oil and Gas), International Development Community, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), etc.

Establish Realistic Goals 1

- Create the right environment to promote Peace
- Actively promote Participatory Dialogue and Engagement
- Provide incentives to catalyse Value Re-orientation

Establish Realistic Goals 2

- Social Inclusion must be the guiding principle for good governance
- Provide Robust enabling Infrastructure (ICT and Traditional Infrastructure).
- Promote good Healthcare and Develop Human Capacity for the digital era

Establish Realistic Goals 3

- Aggressively promote Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development in alignment with local, national, regional and global development goals.
- Build partnerships for sustainable development crafted in line with the goals of the New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD), World Summit on the information Society (WSIS), and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).
- Most of all, ensure responsible environmental management by the Oil and Gas operators in the prevention and handling of Oil Spillage and associated hazards in the business of Oil exploration and production.

Goals Re-enforcement from UNDP Niger Delta HDR 2006 Proposal⁴-1

Agenda One:

Promote peace as the foundation for development.

No meaningful development is sustainable without peace..

Agenda Two:

Make local governance effective and responsive to the needs of the people.

Governance is crucial to achieving sustainable developmental outcomes.

Agenda Three:

Improve and diversify the economy.

The Niger Delta region offers enormous latitude for growth in both human development and economic activity, given the reservoir of immense resources.

Goals Re-enforcement from UNDP Niger Delta HDR 2006 Proposal⁴-2

Agenda Four:

Promote social inclusion and improved access to social services.

Marginal Living is synonymous with life in the Niger Delta. Social Exclusion fans unrest.

Agenda Five:

Promote environmental sustainability to preserve the means of people's sustainable livelihoods.

Environmental Laws and standards to conserve natural resources, especially protection from pollution resulting from oil spillage and gas flares.

Goals Re-enforcement from UNDP Niger Delta HDR 2006 Proposal⁴-3

Agenda Six:

Take an integrated approach to HIV&AIDS.

Quality of Healthcare and Awareness campaigns about the dangers posed by the spread of HIV/AIDS must be given top priority

Agenda Seven:

Build sustainable partnerships for the advancement of human development.

An all-inclusive stakeholder approach for dialogue, engagement, consensus building, needs analysis, needs prioritization, and a sustainable development agenda.

Intervention Models

- ▣ eGovernment and eGovernance (Backbone Infrastructure, Services and e-Participation) Models (United Nations University International Institute for Software Technology-Centre for Electronic Governance)
- ▣ Global University System/Peace Gaming/Energy Modeling/Process Simulation Training for Human Capacity Building
- ▣ Universal Peace Federation Training Program in Peace-building
- ▣ Social Enterprise Models for Grassroots Development supported by Corporate Social Responsibility Initiatives and Microfinance Banks.

eGovernment and eGovernance 1

- ▣ eGovernment Program Planning and Implementation: Participatory/Interactive Government Leads to Good Governance (UNU-IIST, Centre for Electronic Governance)
- ▣ Robust Backbone Infrastructure ensures high bandwidth availability and reliability. Mixed Infrastructure deployment (including Wireless Broadband).
- ▣ Universal Access/Ubiquitous Services ensure widespread penetration, equity and fairness in service delivery.
- ▣ ICT/eGovernment Entrepreneurship Opportunities; ICT as a credible economic sector (Software-India, Hardware-Korea and Japan).

eGovernment and eGovernance 2

- Knowledge Management (within government and across industry) as an Economic Development Strategy.
- Information and Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D); ICT as a catalyst for development
- eGovernment Partnerships for Accelerated Development.

Global University System GUS/ Nigeria 1

- Global University System/GUS
 - E-Learning
 - E-Health
- Globally Collaborative Environmental Peace Gaming/GCEPG
 - Peace Modeling and Simulation
 - Energy Modeling and Simulation

Global University System GUS/Nigeria 2

- Energy Modeling using the Millennium Institute T21 System based on Vensim Tools
- Chemical Engineering Process Simulation Training for Human Capacity Building in the Niger Delta
- Applying Systems Dynamics for Teaching Project Management and Economics.

Universal Peace Federation Training Program in Peace-building

 <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Teacher's Manual 9</p> <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Student Booklet 9 Discovering My Character</p> <p>9</p>	 <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Teacher's Manual 10</p> <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Student Booklet 10 Building Successful Relationships</p> <p>10</p>	 <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Teacher's Manual 11</p> <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Student Booklet 11 Developing Leadership Skills</p> <p>11</p>	 <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Teacher's Manual 12</p> <p>Discovering the <i>Real Me</i> Student Booklet 12 Preparing for Life in Society</p> <p>12</p>
<p><u>Learning to Be Good</u></p>	<p><u>Building Successful Relationships</u></p>	<p><u>Developing Leadership Skills</u></p>	<p><u>Preparing for Life in Society</u></p>

Social Enterprise Models for Grassroots Development

- Public Civil Society Partnership (PCSP)
- Public Community Based Organization Partnerships (PCBOP)
- Public Citizen Partnerships (PCP)
- Supported by the Micro-Finance Banks.

Partnerships for Development

- Global/Multilateral/Bilateral/Developmental/
Corporate Social Responsibility - Government
Partnerships
- National/Regional/ State/Local Government/
Ward/Civil Society/Community Based
Organization Partnerships
- Prescriptive Model for Selecting Partnership
Strategy

Global/Multilateral/Bilateral Partnerships;

- Global and Local Corporate Social Responsibility Partnerships and Initiatives (Zinox Technologies Limited, CISCO Networking Academy Program, Microsoft Training Partnerships, Oracle University, Global University System (GUS), etc)
- Partnerships involving the United Nations and its agencies, European Union, World Bank and its Agencies, International telecommunication Union, Commonwealth, World Summit on Information Society, New Partnerships for African Development (NEPAD), etc.
- Development Partnerships involving Country Agencies like USAID, DFID, CIDA, JICAD, KOICA, etc.
- International and local charities and NGOs.

National/Regional/ State/Local Government/ Ward/Community Partnerships

Stepwise Goals Diffusion and Alignment to

National Developmental Goals:

- NEEDS (National Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy)
- SEEDS (State Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy)
- LEEDS (Local Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy)
- OLOP (One Local Government One product)
- OWOP (One Ward One Product)
- OCOP (One Community One product)
- OVOP (One Village One Product)
- OHOP (One Household One Product)

Conclusion and Recommendations 1

- Partnerships in their variety of configurations can be good strategies to accelerate the development process. They must however be approached methodically.
- Overwhelming Political Will cannot be substituted by any other factor and the present government has left no one in doubt about its commitment to Niger Delta development.

Conclusion and Recommendations 2

- All stakeholders must be involved in the planning process
- Multilateral Agencies have a variety of support initiatives targeted at developing communities experiencing tension and unrest to restore peace in the areas
- E-Government can be pivotal in driving the entire development process and can be an opportunity to reach out to the otherwise forgotten grassroots communities through universal access and metamorphosis to e-governance.

Policy Considerations:

- o Legal (Act), Regulatory (Body/Commission) and Operational (Department/Unit) Frameworks should be in place to ensure the gains from public private partnerships for development.
- o Incentives and special concessions are perceived driving forces to motivate private sector involvement in PPPs
- o Joint Operational Structures may offer the best consensus for addressing potential disputes.
- o In the era of Globalization and more specifically the importance of the Niger Delta in the National Economy Equation, together re-enforce the need for continuous, all-inclusive Stakeholder Dialogue and engagement both

Reflections

- The Niger Delta is well overdue for special attention and the present government has demonstrated its commitment by declaring the Delta as a priority zone to ensure lasting peace and accelerated development in the area.
- The establishment of Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs is a clear testimony to government resolve to emancipate the people of the Niger Delta.
- The Niger Delta Master Plan needs to be updated but with full stakeholder involvement in the entire process.
- The mandatory contribution formula notwithstanding, there is need to incentivise the Oil and Gas Operators to evolve innovative forms of engagement with the local communities for sharing infrastructure and services to foster peace and harmony in the respective areas.
- Reflecting on the past turbulent experiences, it is obvious that the downtime in operations, and by induction substantial revenue losses, would have been contained if only there had been continuous peaceful dialogue and engagement between the parties.

Way Forward 1

- Select Strategic Partners
 - Consulting Partner/Program manager (Academia)
 - United Nations University-International Inst. Of Software Tech.
 - International Agency lead partner (Funding)
 - United Nations Development Program (UNDP)
 - Private Sector Lead Partner (CSR Consideration)
 - Zinox Technologies Limited (ICT lead Partner)
 - Shell Nigeria (Oil Industry Lead Partner)
 - Niger Delta Community representatives
 - Civil Society (NGOs, CBOs, etc.)
 - Rosemary Taribi Foundation (Coordinating Charity)

Way Forward 2

- Prioritize some potential Projects for immediate consideration such as:
 - Wireless Broadband/Mobile WiMAX (Wibro, Korea)
 - Multi-Purpose Tele-Centres (Zinox Virtual PCs)
- Organise Stakeholders Conferences/Workshops to:
 - To Build Consensus on Vision, Mission and Goals
 - To further identify and specify some “quick fixes” and high impact pilot projects for immediate deployment.
 - To identify potential partners for medium to long-term intervention initiatives.

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