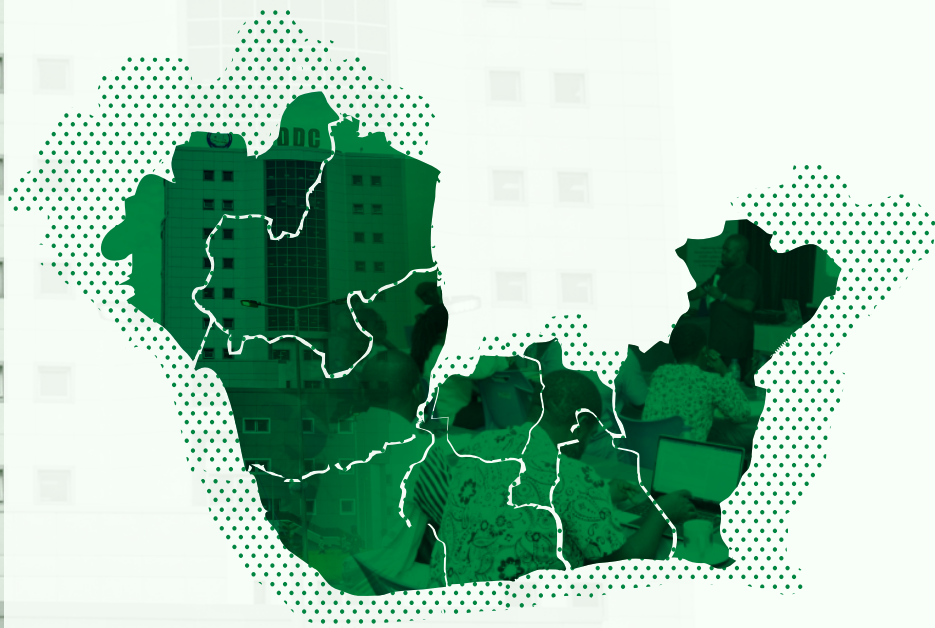




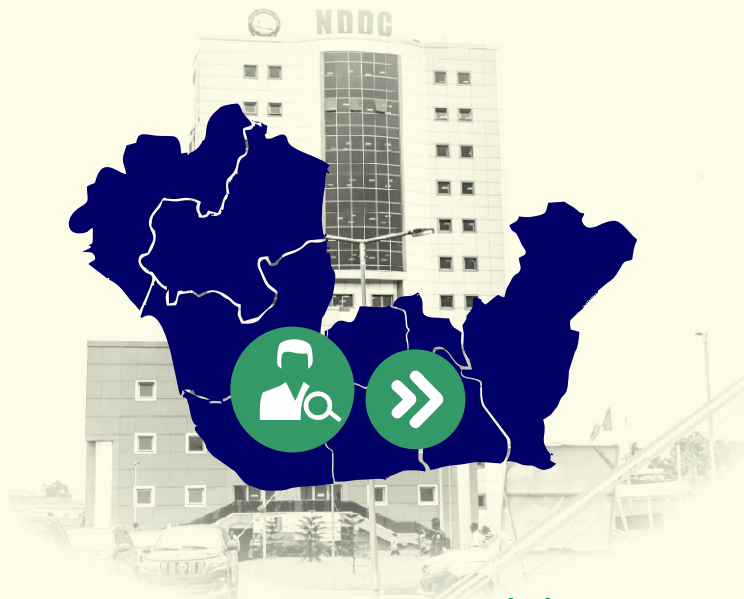
SOCIALACTION
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT INTEGRATED CENTRE

MacArthur
Foundation



"Transforming NDDC:

**A Call to Action
for Transparency and
Accountability**



Accountability in NDDC - DEFINING THE PATH FORWARD

Executive Summary:

The Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) has long been plagued by issues of financial misappropriation, contract racketeering, and project abandonment or non-execution. Recognizing this, Social Action has, over the past three years, been at the forefront of efforts to drive transparency and accountability within the NDDC. This brief outlines the existing gaps in these initiatives and presents a series of actionable recommendations for the current administration to consider urgently.

Identifying Key Gaps:

A thorough analysis of past initiatives to **reform the NDDC** reveals several critical gaps:



1. **Political Interference:** Inappropriate appointment of politicians to the Commission's Governing Board.
2. **Ineffective Supervision:** Oversight by the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs, which should instead come directly from the Presidency.
3. **Financial Mismanagement:** Multiple bank accounts complicating financial transparency.
4. **Lack of Collaboration:** Insufficient cooperation between the Advisory Council and the Governing Board.
5. **Weak Stakeholder Engagement:** Limited involvement of local communities and stakeholders in decision-making.
6. **Non-disclosure of Audit Reports:** Absence of political will to publicize the Forensic Audit Report.
7. **Inadequate Monitoring and Evaluation:** Poor tracking and assessment of project implementation and outcomes.
8. **Neglected Impact Assessments:** Lack of thorough evaluations to measure the real-world impact of projects.



Strategic Recommendations:

Based on these gaps, the following recommendations are proposed:



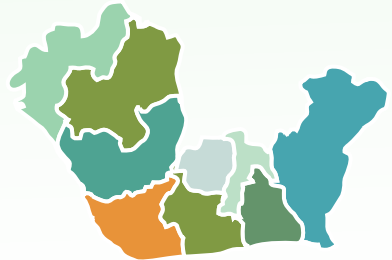
1. **Forming a Substantive Governing Board:** Swiftly appointing a new board, inclusive of civil society members with integrity and non-partisan individuals, to ensure strategic guidance and effective management.
2. **Financial Consolidation and Transparency:** Mandating the consolidation of bank accounts and implementing robust financial controls.
3. **Enhancing Stakeholder Participation:** Invigorating the involvement of communities, civil society, and other stakeholders in the NDDC's processes.
4. **Fostering Advisory and Board Collaboration:** Ensuring effective joint efforts between the Advisory Council and the Governing Board for better governance.
5. **Publishing the Forensic Audit Report:** Demonstrating political courage to disclose the audit findings and acting upon them.
6. **Robust Monitoring and Evaluation:** Establishing a multi-stakeholder partnership for continuous and independent monitoring of the NDDC's activities.
7. **Implementing Impact Assessments:** Regularly assessing the societal and environmental impacts of projects.
8. **Regular Independent Audits:** Engaging reputable firms for periodic, objective financial audits.

Conclusion:

Addressing these gaps requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders, including the government, civil society, and the communities of the Niger Delta. The recommendations outlined in this brief offer a roadmap for transforming the NDDC into

Be Part of the Change!"

- ◆ Stay Informed
- ◆ Raise Your Voice
- ◆ Demand Accountability



"For a Prosperous Niger Delta,
We Need a Transparent and Accountable NDDC!"

Join Us in the Fight for Transparency!

#ReformNDDC

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