

THE DOCTRINE OF PACORDI



AND OTHER OIL THEFT MITIGATION MECHANISMS FOR NIGERIA

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FYNEFACE DUMNAMENE FYNEFACE

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YOUTHS AND ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVOCACY CENTRE (YEAC-NIGERIA)

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We wish to acknowledge the West African Advisory Board of the Global Greengrants Fund (GGF) Chaired by Rev. Nnnimmo Basse for finding the potency in our proposal and doctrine of “Presidential Artisanal Crude Oil Refining Development Initiative-PACORDI” to address issues associated with youths, artisanal crude oil refining, environmental pollution and related issues in the Niger Delta and for recommending the proposal to the Global Greengrants Fund United States of America for funding to the tune of \$3,500 with a letter of congratulations in support of the advocacy for its establishment by the Federal Government of Nigeria.

We also wish to thank the youths who are involved in pipeline vandalism, crude oil theft and artisanal crude oil refining in the Niger Delta that have stopped the act through our advocacy and looking forward to alternative livelihood opportunity through PACORDI when established by the Federal Government.

We also thank our local and international development partners and prospective founders of this initiative and other related thematic advocacy areas including Lush Charity Pot, the Resilience Fund, etc.

We thank the Board of Trustees (BoT) of the Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria and United Kingdom) for the supports to the management and staff.

PREFACE

The PRESIDENTIAL ARTISANAL CRUDE OIL REFINING DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE–PACORDI for artisanal crude oil refiners in the Niger Delta was conceived and coined by the Executive Director, Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria) and National Facilitator, Project with Artisanal Crude Oil Refiners (PACOR) for Modular Refineries in the Niger Delta, Fyनेface Dumnamene Fyनेface on July 27, 2020 and talked about on WISH, 96.5FM, Port Harcourt same day. The idea came to Mr. Fyनेface after carefully studying the “Presidential Artisanal Gold Mining Development Initiative (PAGMI)” established by the presidency and launched by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR on July 6, 2020. Like PAGMI, established for artisanal gold miners in parts of the North and West, PACORDI is proposed and presented to the Federal Government for establish as a corresponding initiative for artisanal crude oil refiners in the Niger Delta.

YEAC-Nigeria being an advocacy nongovernmental organization, developing this initiative to the fullest in August 2020, there was a need for intensive and sustained advocacy to create awareness about PACORDI and present it to the Federal Government for consideration and establishment. So, to achieve these, funds were needed. However, while awaiting possible funding opportunity, the media advocacy with PACORDI continued during the Executive Director's regular weekly live appearances on radio and television. The PACORDI initiative was thereafter presented to the West African Advisory Board of the Global Greengrants Fund (GGF) for considering and approval for funding support and on September 14, 2020, the good news for PACORDI's funding with \$3,500 was conveyed in an email to the Executive Director, Fyनेface Dumnamene Fyनेface by Rev. Dr. Nnimmo Bassey, the Board Chairman and Director, Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF). On October 15, Global Greengrants Fund, USA wrote formally to

Advocacy Centre, congratulating the organization on the Award and that \$3,500 has been paid to the organization's account provided for the project implementation. This kick-started the process media advocacy and awareness creation on PACORDI and related issues with live appearance on 93.7FM, Port Harcourt in October, training of ex-artisanal refiners in November and December 2020 respectively. The advocacy continued and in March 2021 and 2022 formed the basis for federal government's organized National Summits for the integration of artisanal and modular refineries operations in Nigeria into the national economy with Fyeface Dumnamene Fyeface invited by the office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Niger Delta Affairs to speak about PACORDI and works with artisanal crude oil refiners including modular refineries at the event.

It is against these backgrounds that we further present PACORDI to the federal government for establishment to accomplish the objectives contained in this material. We urge you to join the advocacy for the establishment of PACORDI and support for other oil theft Mitigation Mechanisms contained in this publication for environmental sustainability in the Niger Delta.

Fyeface Dumnamene Fyeface,
Executive Director, YEAC-Nigeria

INTRODUCTION BACKGROUNDS, CONTEXT OF THE PROPOSAL OF PACORDI AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Presidential Artisanal Crude Oil Refining Development Initiative (PACORDI) is proposed to serve oil bearing, oil host communities, oil-producing states and anywhere else where artisanal crude oil refining activities are ongoing in Nigeria. These could be states like Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Imo, Ondo, Rivers State, Imo any other States deemed necessary by the Government for PACORDI to be established across Nigeria but they must bear in mind that it must be area where artisanal refining had been going on to stop it. Thus, the aim of PACORDI is to transition and replace the illegal crude oil theft, artisanal refining activities and associated environmental pollution with a process (PACORDI) that legalizing, formalizes and integrates these activities into the national economy by having the youths involved buy the crude oil, refine, sell, pay tax and employ others in a more environmental-friendly manner.

The background to this PACORDI initiative and similar government policy can be found in the Presidential Artisanal Gold Mining Development Initiative (PAGMI). It is unfortunate to note and say that youths who found gold and crude oil under their soil would go about stealing, mining and refining it illegally. That is to say; as youths in the 'Gold States' got involved in illegal mining of the gold found under their soil, so do youths in the 'Oil States' also started tapping and refining crude oil found under their soil. Both activities (artisanal gold mining and artisanal crude oil stealing /refining) are illegal activities with great consequences on the environment, health, oil company profits, government revenue, image of the country, etc. So, as gold is found in communities in Kebbi, Kaduna, Zamfara, Niger, Osun States, etc. where the Presidential Artisanal Gold Mining Development Initiative (PAGMI) is established to serve; so is crude oil found in states like Abia, Akwa-Ibom, Bayelsa, Imo, Ondo, Rivers State, Imo, etc. where Presidential Artisanal Crude Oil Refining Development Initiative (PACORDI) is proposed to serve. Thus, this proposal argues that if steps have been taken to legalize one (illegal gold mining activities with PAGMI); steps should also be taken to legalize the other (illegal artisanal crude oil

refining in the Niger Delta with PACORDI) because both activities are the same and hold the same potentials for the country in terms of benefits as contained herein when also legalized and integrated into the national economy.

In terms of the quality of products (PMS, AGO and DPK) refined by artisanal refiners in the Niger Delta, a 2020 report titled “Dirty Fuel” by Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN) found out that petrol (PMS) produced by artisanal refiners in the Niger Delta has less sulfur contents than those imported into the country; the same way government saw that gold produced by illegal refiners in parts of the North and Western Nigeria could stand the quality standard of the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) if guided through PAGMI. Besides, the fact that products from the illegal refineries are finding ready markets and people are buying them to power their households, industries and businesses is an indication that it is not as bad and would continue to thrive if we don't stop it.

Also, considering that government was moved to legalize illegal gold mining because of the massive illegal export of the gold from the country among others, it is also on record that illegally-refined petroleum products and crude oil alike are exported out of this country and billions of dollars earned by non-state actors and lost to the Nigerian state, the same way federal government saw that between 2012 and 2018 alone, 97 tons of gold valued at over \$3billion was illegally smuggled out of Nigeria. So, in the case of crude and considering the quantity stolen daily, crude oil worth over \$100millionis been smuggled out of Nigeria daily and in billions of dollars overtime with the government losing more resources than what is lost to gold smuggling with the environment suffering more under illegal crude oil refineries. Thus, there is the need for the Federal Government to immediately establish the “Presidential Artisanal Crude Oil Refining Development Initiative-PACORDI” as a corresponding initiative for those involved in artisanal crude oil refining in the Niger Delta to address the crisis in the oil and gas sector which has reduced export of crude oil below one million barrel per day (as at the time of this publication).

WHICH STATES SHOULD BENEFIT FROM PACORDI?

All the oil producing states in the Niger Delta and Nigeria in general including Abia, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Akwa-Ibom, Kogi, Lagos, Ondo, Rivers, etc.

WHAT WILL PACORDI ACHIEVE?

Jobs Creation: PACORDI will result in the creation of over 1million direct formalized jobs and over 10million indirectly jobs leading to poverty alleviation for more than 20million households in the Niger Delta and across the country.

Wealth Creation: Under PACORDI, artisanal crude oil refining activities will earn more from higher productivity, better recovery rates, mechanization of operations and better access to reliable geological information. Formalizing artisanal crude oil refining through PACORDI will have significant spillover effects in the local economies as businesses will grow to cater to the increasing consumption needs of their products by industries, motorists and households.

Reduced Importation of petroleum products: With our conventional refineries working below 60% of its capacity according to NNPC, the creation of PACORDI to legalize and formalize artisanal crude oil refining in addition to Modular Refineries also being demanded for youths involved in artisanal refining in the Niger Delta, issues of scarcity and importation of petroleum products would be a thing of the past in Nigeria. Billions of dollars would also be saved and corruption in the subsidy payment process eradicated in the country.

Identity Management: PACORDI will boost national identity management through the biometric registration of thousands of artisanal crude oil refiners in the Niger Delta. Already, Advocacy Centre

is registering artisanal crude oil refiners in the Niger Delta for Modular Refinery Licenses and capturing their biometric for PACORDI would no longer be difficult as the process is already ongoing. PACORDI will also help to bring artisanal crude oil refiners into the formal financial sector and grant them access to funds and loans from banks to support their operations.

Productivity and Capacity-Building: PACORDI will boost productivity and output in the artisanal crude oil refining sector to compliment the output of conventional refineries when fixed and all operational including production that would come from the Dangote refineries and other private modular refineries in Nigeria. Through PACORDI, safer, more efficient and environmental-friendly processing equipment and technologies would be developed and deployed across artisanal refining locations in the Niger Delta. Agreements would also be reached with relevant companies and laboratories that would ensure the testing of the refined petroleum products to meet required standards.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): PACORDI will also bring about FDI, investment and diaspora remittances home for investment in the oil and gas sector. Brain-drain will also be discouraged and capital flight curtailed with jobs created and the availability of more funds to invest in the oil and gas sector through pocket-friendly investment in the PACORDI initiative.

Revenue Generation: PACORDI would enable the government generate more revenue and the oil companies make more profits from the sale of crude oil to artisanal refiners. The Federal Government would realize billions of Naira in revenues, taxes, royalties, licensing fees and charges from the integration of artisanal crude oil refining activities into the national economy and its implementation by PACORDI. This will help the government have more money to provide social amenities and capital projects for the fast growing population in the country.

Products Reserves: PACORDI will allow the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC Ltd) and other independent marketers to purchase locally produced PMS, DPK and AGO in Naira, making the Naira stronger, save and boost the nation's foreign reserves that was hitherto spent on petroleum products importation.

Health, Safety and Environmental Benefits: The poor health, environment and safety standards associated with artisanal crude oil refining activities cannot be over-emphasized. Niger Delta environment is almost dead from oil pollution with the known archaic methods of artisanal crude oil refining practices that contribute to pollution, soot and poor human rights records with associated environmental rights violations. Thus, a more refined artisanal refining activity guided and regulated as postulated by PACORDI like the PAGMI will save our environment and health of the people while contributing to the fight against climate change and energy transition in the country.

Security: It is obvious that the current state of illegal and unregulated artisanal crude oil stealing, lifting and refining activities contribute to insecurity in the Niger Delta and by extension, Nigeria as those involved in it arm themselves with small arms and light weapons to protect their illegal business. Thus, this self-arming and protection during illegal artisanal refining activities fuel insecurity and instability in the oil and gas sector in the region with intelligent reports confirming a connection between oil bunkering and proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the Niger Delta. Thus, the establishment of PACORDI that legalizes, formalizes and regulates artisanal crude oil refining activities would address these challenges and minimize security threats and pirate activities in the oil producing areas and communities.

With PACORDI, government would understand and regulate the flow of resources and be able to track markets for their products and movement of funds across the sector and country as the current state of non-establishment of PACORDI is making excess funds to find their ways into the hands of non-state actors who use same to finance terrorism

and other clandestine activities that threaten national peace and security. PACORDI will ensure transparency, accountability, discourage acts of criminality and improve security in the region among many other benefits of the initiative.

WHO WILL BENEFIT FROM PACORDI?

Those who will benefit from the establishment of PACORDI will include but not limited to;

- Artisanal refiners
- Rural communities and local economies
- Registered buyers of artisanal refined products
- Local and International investors in artisanal crude oil refining
- NNPC, Oil Marketers,
- Central Bank of Nigeria that would have more foreign reserves
- Federal, State and Local Governments, etc.

CALL TO ACTION

**It is against these backgrounds that we demand and call
on the Federal Government to establish
“PRESIDENTIAL ARTISANAL CRUDE OIL REFINING
DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE–PACORDI”**

OTHER OIL THEFT MITIGATION MECHANISMS FOR NIGERIA

MODULAR REFINERIES AS OIL THEFT MITIGATION MECHANISM FOR NIGERIA: Since 2017 that President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR through Vice President, Prof. YemiOsinbajo made pronouncement on Modular Refineries during his tour of some States in the Niger Delta, Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria) took up the policy statement and started advocating and promoting Modular Refineries into reality among artisanal crude oil refiners and the government as an oil theft mitigation mechanism. As such, we started organizing the youths involved in the illegal act, advocating for them to

stop crude oil theft and artisanal refining, sensitizing them about the modular refineries proposed by the government for them to embrace it and training many of them across the Niger Delta on “**Guidelines for the establishment of Modular Refineries**”. We went beyond the advocacy to create a database such that on December 10, 2019, we foresightedly flagged-off and commenced the registration and creation of database of artisanal refiners and other youths as human rights defenders in the Niger Delta. To achieve this, we circulated free registration forms with customized serial numbers which they filled and returned to Advocacy Centre for computation. Besides, we also signed contract with MTN, Airtel, 9Mobile and Glo through a Lagos-Based Short SMS Code company, Supreme Shortcode for a secure online database that enabled them text “YEAC, full name, sex, age, name of community, highest academic qualification, LGA and State of residence” to “33811” to register. The data and information gathered from this process assisted us in the formation of Modular Refinery Multi-Purpose Cooperative Societies in many states across the Niger Delta as also directed by President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR represented by Minister of State for Environment, Sharon Ikeazor in 2020 during the commissioning of the Laboratory of the National Oil Spills and Response Agency (NOSDRA) in Port Harcourt, Rivers State.

In furtherance of this advocacy to transit the artisanal refiners to Modular Refineries which is legal and more environmental-friendly and while the Federal Government through its Ministries like the Ministry of Environment and Petroleum Resources were insisting that one modular refinery license would be issued per state, YEAC-Nigeria insisted on the issuance of three licenses per state based senatorial districts and went ahead to establish three Modular Refinery Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Ltd in each state to receive the licenses. So far, we have registered three Modular Refinery Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Ltd in each Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta and Akwa-Ibom States. In response to the advocacy and demand for three licenses per state, the Federal Government on January 9, 2022 announced the approval of 18 Modular Refinery licenses for artisanal refiners, three each for Akwa-Ibom, Delta, Edo, Cross River and Rivers States. So, as next steps and pathway towards

energy transition process in Nigeria, we are calling on the government to issue the licenses to the Modular Refinery Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society Ltd that we have set up for this purpose to mitigate crude oil theft and artisanal refineries in the Niger Delta and Nigeria.

NETWORK AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME IN NIGERIA AND THE GULF OF GUINEA (NAOCINAG) AS OIL THEFT MITIGATION MECHANISM:

Pipeline vandalism, crude oil theft, illegal bunkering, artisanal refining and associated environmental pollution are organized national and transnational crimes. Those who are involved in these criminal acts are committing crime against the people of the Niger Delta, Nigerians and Nigeria as a country and smiling to the bank. Besides, illegal bunkering of crude oil from Nigeria, pirate activities and associated smuggling of drugs, small arms and light weapons to and from other parts of the world through the Gulf of Guinea are other challenges that we face as a people. Thus, this network *galvanizes critical stakeholders and synergizes with existing systems and initiatives around these issues to generate real-time information and sharing with security operatives to take appropriate and timely action and measures to counter these organized crime in Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea as oil theft mitigation mechanism.* The platform brings together representatives of relevant government agencies, research institutions, civil society organizations, coastal community leaders, media organizations and security formations including the Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC), Navy, Customs, Immigration, Police, etc. in Nigeria and other countries in the Gulf of Guinea to discuss, share ideas and information that helps the government and security operatives to counter *transitional* organized crime in Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea.

NAOCINAG as an organized crime mitigation mechanism and regional *platform on the campaign and advocacy against organized crime*, the network also serves as a think-tank, knowledge and information facilitation and resource centre that members synergize and generate data and information, analyze it and share as intelligence to security operatives in Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea. The synergy through this network strengthens the resilience of security operatives and supports

their efforts in the fight against organized crime in Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea. This network is scheduled for a formally launch in first quarter 2023 as yet another Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre's (YEAC-Nigeria) contribution to strengthening community-based advocacy and campaign against both national and transnational organized crime in the Niger Delta region, Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea.

SOLAR MINI OFF-GRID ELECTRICITYPROJECT AS OIL THEFT MITIGATION MECHANISM FOR NIGERIA: This project is being facilitated for communities without electricity (CWE) in the Niger Delta by **Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria and United Kingdom)** as part of our programmes on the campaign against crude oil theft, artisanal refining, environmental pollution, soot emission and climate change among others.

This solar electricity project is aimed at reducing crude oil theft, artisanal refining, environmental pollution and soot through less-dependent on fossil fuel and to cut-off the supply chain of illegally-refined petroleum products and their uses in households especially in communities without electricity (CWE) and also create alternative livelihood opportunity for the youths. The project is also a part of our Just Energy Transition (JET), Clean and Renewable Energy programme which YEAC-Nigeria is using to also contribute to the fight against climate change and the National Energy Transition Plan as a pathway towards a greener and low carbon economy in Nigeria. YEAC-Nigeria and UK are working in collaboration with some local and international development partners on this Solar Mini off-Grid Electricity project and the construction of the first facility is ongoing in Umuolu Community, Ndokwa East Local Government Area, Delta State by NXT GRID B.V., Netherlands, and NXT Grid Nigeria Ltd on behalf of YEAC-Nigeria and UK and thereafter we, will proceed to another community.

APPENDIX

ABOUT FYNEFACE DUMNAMENE FYNEFACE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, YEAC-NIGERIA

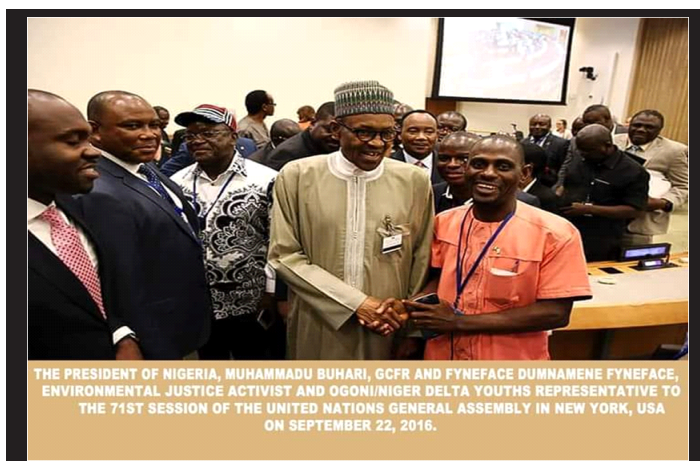


FYNEFACE DUMNAMENE FYNEFACE is the Executive Director of Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC-Nigeria) and National Facilitator, Project with Artisanal Crude Oil Refiners (PACOR) for Modular Refineries in the Niger Delta. As an Environmental Justice Activist and Human Rights Defender with over 12years' experience, Fyneface has authored/co-authored over ten different publications and reports, books and research papers on different subject-matters covering Climate Change, Artisanal Crude Oil Refining, Ogoni/Niger Delta Clean-up, Flooding, Photography, cultism, pirate activities, etc. He is also mobilizing and building a network of “One Million Youth Volunteers Network of Human Right Defenders and Promoters in the Niger Delta” for development activities in the region.

Fyneface had received professional training in journalism, environment, climate change mitigation, conflict resolution and peace-building mechanisms, etc. from both local and international organizations and institutions including International Center for journalists (ICFJ) USA, United Nations REDD⁺ Academy and International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP-2018) organized by the United States Department of State, etc. He had addressed many local and international conferences on many issues in the Niger Delta and Nigeria including at a Nigeria event at the 71st Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York where he addressed world leaders alongside President Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR and pushed for the immediate commencement of the Ogoni cleanup project among others with a view of extending it to other Niger Delta communities also polluted as soon as possible. He had also made presentation as guest speaker at San Francisco State University

(2016) USA; the Californian State Legislature (2016), USA; Standing Rock, South Dakota, USA (2018); Africa Regional Conference on Biodiversity, Kenya (2019) and thrice at the Nigeria's National Assembly in February and March (2020) at public hearings by House Committees on Environment and Crude Oil Theft in Nigeria. Based on the Presidential Artisanal Crude Oil Refining Development Initiative (PACORDI) he developed in 2020, he was invited to the national summits for the integration of Artisanal/Modular Petroleum Refineries Operations in Nigeria into the national economy by the Federal Government in March 2021 and March 2022 as one of the lead speakers at the event to find solution to the issues. Academically, Fyneface studied Educational Management and Political Science and holds a Postgraduate Diploma in International Affairs from the University of Port Harcourt in 2010 and 2014 respectively. In 2017, he was awarded a Master's Degree in Political Science, International Relations and Diplomacy by the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and had since then been serving as research consultants to many local and international organizations and Universities. Fyneface Dumnamene is well-known in the diplomatic community in Nigeria and works with foreign missions to facilitate development in Niger Delta communities and Nigeria in general.

He can be contacted by e-mail at: fyneface@centreadvocacy.org; fdfyneface@gmail.com





ADVOCACY CENTRE

Youths and Environmental Advocacy Centre (YEAC)
CAC/IT/NO. 102679

Established in 2017, YOUTHS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCACY CENTRE (also simply YEAC or ADVOCACY CENTRE or YEAC-NIGERIA) is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) incorporated in Nigeria with registration NO. CAC/IT/NO 102679. YEAC-Nigeria was established as a legacy and requirement for participation in the United States of America's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), a special professional exchange program titled “Strengthening Community-Based Advocacy Initiatives in the Niger Delta through Multi-Stakeholder Engagement” by the United States government through the Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs upon the nomination of its Executive Director, Fyनेface Dumnamene Fyनेface by the US Embassy and Consulate General in Nigeria.

The goal of the exchange was “to provide Niger Delta community leaders the opportunity to see how American communities have partnered with state and federal government, civil society, and oil companies to develop effective, non-violent ways to raise the profile of community priorities” and “As a result of this project, community leaders would return to Nigeria armed with concrete examples of community-based platforms that have addressed local priorities in a constructive and sustainable fashion. They would be empowered to organize their own platforms, and to implement negotiation strategies to enlist the help of state and federal government, civil society, and oil companies to achieve this aim.

It is against these backgrounds that ADVOCACY CENTRE carries out activities on different thematic areas including environment, livelihoods and indigenous rights; climate action and renewable energy; Human rights and peace-building; research, sensitization and empowerment; anti-corruption and good governance. YEAC uses a gender and human right-based approaches to ensure that its activities empower people and leave no one behind. YEAC works in collaboration with individuals, media organisations, government agencies, local and international development partners and institutions to strengthen community-based advocacy in the Niger Delta through multi-stakeholders' engagements with media and legislative activism for development. YEAC became an international NGO in July 2022 following its successful registration in the United Kingdom, England and Wales with international office in London.