



NIGER DELTA REGION OF NIGERIA

# ONLAG CITIZEN REPORT CARD

ON GOVERNANCE, GENDER AND LIVELIHOODS  
IN THE NIGER DELTA



 Oxfam Novib

Produced by Niger Delta Professionals for Development  
with support from Oxfam Novib, Netherlands

# ONLAG CITIZEN REPORT CARD ON GOVERNANCE, GENDER AND LIVELIHOODS IN THE NIGER DELTA

From 20 Oxfam Novib Livelihood and Governance Programme (ONLAG)  
Communities in the Niger Delta

May 2012

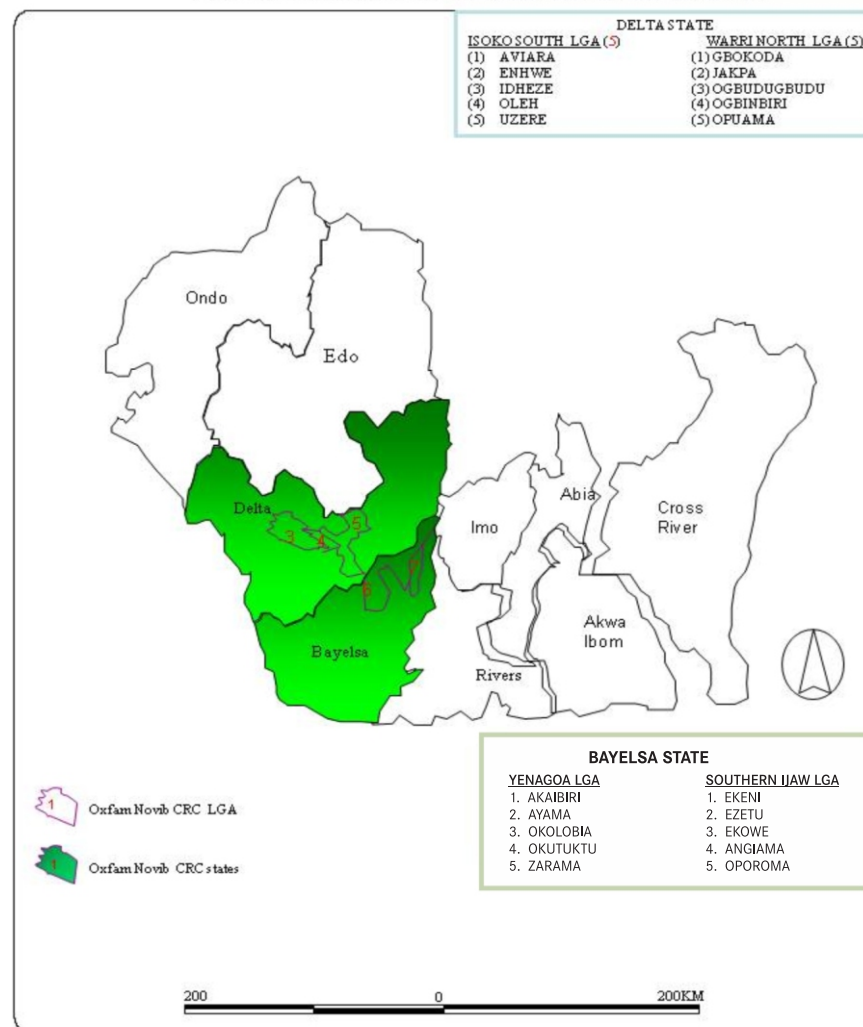
Niger Delta Professionals for Development (NIDPRODEV)  
Effurn Warri, Delta State, Nigeria

Sponsored by Oxfam Novib

## Disclaimer

The contents of this publication reflect information gathered from Focus Group and Key Informant Participants in 20 communities (the names of the participating communities are contained herein in this report) and do not reflect the views of Niger Delta Professionals for Development NIDPRODEV nor Oxfam Novib.

MAP SHOWING THE STUDY AREA-NIGER DELTA



## LIST OF ACRONYMS

vi

## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

xii

## BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION . . . . . 1

STATES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS AND COMMUNITIES	1
LGA to LGA Comparison of Livelihood Systems	3
PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPANTS WHO CAN READ A BOOK	4
PERCENTAGE OF PARTICIPANTS WHO SLEPT UNDER A MOSQUITO NET A NIGHT BEFORE	5
PERCENTAGE OF COMMUNITIES WHERE FREE MOSQUITO NET WERE DISTRIBUTED LAST YEAR BY GOVERNMENT	6
BAYELSA STATE	7
DELTA STATE	16

## GENDER AND GOOD GOVERNANCE . . . . . 25

Overview	26
Availability and Transparency of Federal, State and Local Government Budget Information for Community Development	28
Gender and Development Decision Making	30
Gender Participation in 15 GMoU Communities Decision Making Processes.	31
Gender and Representation in Community Project Management	33
Gender and Representation	34
Accountability of Locally Elected officials through Constituency interaction	35
Awareness of Channels for Constituency (Citizen) Assistance	38
Quality of Relationships between Communities and Government	39
Quality of Relationships Between Communities and Oil Companies	42
Community Governance	44
Strategies for Improving Women's Participation in Community Governance	46
Citizens 'Perceptions on Women's Inclusion in Governance	47

<b>EDUCATION</b> .....	<b>53</b>
Overview	55
Summary of Those Who Can Read a Book Out Loud to Another (by LGA to LGA)	58
Summary of Communities That Have a Government-Run Primary School	60
Percentage of communities surveyed where primary school teachers come to school regularly	61
Percentage of communities surveyed in which primary school has a library	62
Percentage of communities surveyed in which primary school has a toilet for children	63
Percentage of communities surveyed in which primary school has a desk and a chair for each child	64
Percentage of communities surveyed that has teacher's quarters	65
Percentage of communities surveyed where parents pay school levy for primary school	67
EDUCATION	68
BY STATE, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA AND COMMUNITY	68
BAYELSA STATE	69
DELTA STATE	78
 <b>HEALTH</b> .....	 <b>89</b>
Overview	91
Communities With Some Form Of Health Facility	93
Functionality of Community Health Facilities based on	94
Health centre in use	94
Health facilities with drugs	94
Health facilities with equipments	94
Medical Personnel	96
Summary of Immunization of Children	97
Summary of Free Mosquito Net Distribution	99
Summary of HIV/AIDS Awareness	100
COMMUNITY HEALTH INFORMATION	101
BAYELSA STATE	102
DELTA STATE	107

## **PUBLIC ELECTRICITY, DRINKING WATER AND SEWAGE . . . . . 112**

Overview	114
LGA-to-LGA Comparison of Communities with Public Electricity Equipment in Place	116
Community Perception of “ Safe” Drinking Water	120
Sewage (Human Waste) During Rainy Season	120
Community Level Information by State:	123
BAYELSA STATE	123
DELTA STATE	127

## **INFRASTRUCTURE/ DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS . . . . . 131**

Overview	133
Graphic Illustrations of Summary	135
Project Sponsored By State Government	137
Projects Sponsored By Local Government Areas	138
Projects Sponsored By Oil Companies	139
Projects Sponsored by Federal Government	140
Projects Sponsored by State Government	147
Projects Sponsored By Local Government	160
Projects Sponsored by Oil Companies	165
Projects Sponsored or Co-sponsored by International Organizations	172
Projects Sponsored or Co-sponsored by Community Effort	176

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIDS	-	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
CBO	-	Community Based Organization
CDC	-	Community Development Committee
CDCAC	-	Community Development Committee Advisory Council
CRC	-	Citizens Report Card
CDB	-	Cluster Development Board
CNL	-	Chevron Nigeria Limited
CT	-	Community Trust
FG	-	Focus Group
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
GMoU	-	Global Memorandum of Understanding
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	-	Information Communication Technology
KII	-	Key Informant Interview
LGA	-	Local Government Area
ONLAG	-	Oxfam Novib Livelihood and Governance
NDDC	-	Niger Delta Development Commission
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
NIDPRODEV	-	Niger Delta Professionals for Development
OM	-	Older Men
OW	-	Older Women
RDC	-	Regional Development Council
STD	-	Sexually Transmitted Disease
SPDC	-	Shell Petroleum Development Company
WSN	-	Women Support Network
YM	-	Younger Men
YW	-	Younger Women

---

The Project was funded by Oxfam Novib as part of a five year ONLAG project contract agreement between NIDPRODEV and Oxfam Novib, been implemented in 20 communities in the Niger Delta

Produced by  
**Niger Delta Professionals For Development (NIDPRODEV)**

Copyright© 2012 by NIDPRODEV

All rights reserved  
No portion of this report may be used without the written permission of the publisher, with the exception of a brief excerpts in magazines, articles, reviews, workshops etc.

**Published in Nigeria by:**



**N I D P R O D E V**

**Supported by:**



**Oxfam Novib**

---

Plot 211 PTI Road, Fashion En-Vogue Building Effurun- Warri, Delta State  
+234- 802-327-0549, 805851-1591  
[www.nidprodev.org](http://www.nidprodev.org)    [office@nidprodev.org](mailto:office@nidprodev.org)



## FOREWORD

Niger Delta Professionals for Development (NIDPRODEV) has been implementing high impact community level interventions in Niger Delta communities for over a decade. Through this, we realize that the issues prevalent in the communities where we work require engagement by multiple stakeholders. Government and international development partners have not properly engaged the region due to a series of factors including limited transparency and accountability in governance, lack of public information on community concerns about public services and on the status of development projects.

This Citizen Report Card (CRC) will allow community voices to reach the public domain nationally and internationally. The CRC findings will be used to educate diverse stakeholders on issues plaguing Niger Delta communities, encourage civic engagement, stimulate national and international dialogue on the region, and guide development interventions with community residents at the helm. Through this, improvements will be recorded in governance, transparency, accountability and service delivery within the 20 surveyed communities and subsequently throughout the Niger Delta region of Nigeria.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

NIDPRODEV is grateful to the groups that made the publication of this report possible. We would like to thank the community residents that took time from their livelihood efforts to participate in the focus group discussions. It is the responses of community residents that not only made this report possible, but also drives us as an organization to continue to implement initiatives that will improve their lives.

NIDPRODEV is grateful to those who assisted our team with directions, local language interpretation, and support that allowed us to easily access the communities in the initial stages of the implementation of this project.

NIDPRODEV would also like to express deep appreciation to Oxfam Novib for its funding and support that allowed for the implementation of the Livelihood and Governance Programme in the Niger Delta (ONLAG) and for this report to be completed and published. NIDPRODEV has enjoyed a fruitful and collaborative donor-grantee relationship with Oxfam Novib and is truly grateful for this

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

With funding from Oxfam Novib, Niger Delta Professionals for Development (NIDPRODEV) is implementing a five-year project entitled Oxfam Novib Livelihood and Governance in the Niger Delta (ONLAG). This project takes a two-pronged approach to community development by strengthening both the livelihoods and leadership capabilities of beneficiaries. Implemented in 20 communities of the Niger Delta, this project consciously focuses its activities on women, who comprise 75% of beneficiaries. The overall objective of the project is to: develop sustainable means of livelihood for at least 6,480 women and youth; achieve greater transparency and accountability of government, oil industries and other stakeholders in four Local Government Areas (LGA) – (Isoko South, Southern Ijaw, Warri North and Yenagoa LGAs) and two States (Delta and Bayelsa States); and to achieve 30% women's participation in local governance structures.

Our work has revealed the tremendous impact where women are engaged and centralized in the development process. ONLAG has recorded incredible gains and we seek to maximize these through the publication of this report. The survey reveals that in all four LGAs women's participation in Community Development Committees or Community Trusts is below 10%, indicating that men have monopolized decision making power in all 20 project communities.

While ONLAG is making positive changes in the lives of beneficiaries, there remains a tremendous amount of work toward achieving transformative development in the project communities. It is the overarching goal of development that is the impetus behind this Citizen Report Card from 20 Niger Delta communities.

From February through March 2012, three teams of NIDPRODEV programme officers carried out 80 focus group discussions, in 20 communities, four Local Government Areas (LGA) and two states of the Niger Delta. Of the communities surveyed, 95% identify themselves as oil producing and 65% are part of a Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) or Chevron Nigeria Limited (CNL) sponsored Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMoU) for community development. In reference to terrain, 55% are riverine, 30% are rural, 10% are located near a city and 5% are urban.

This report reflects the perspectives of 1, 491 focus group participants including 925 women and 566 men. Findings from the FGDs and key informant interviews form the basis of this Citizen Report Card on Governance, Gender and Livelihoods from 20 Niger Delta Communities.

The Citizen Report Card provides systemic opinions of community residents or users of public services. The CRC is a useful tool that serves multiple purposes:

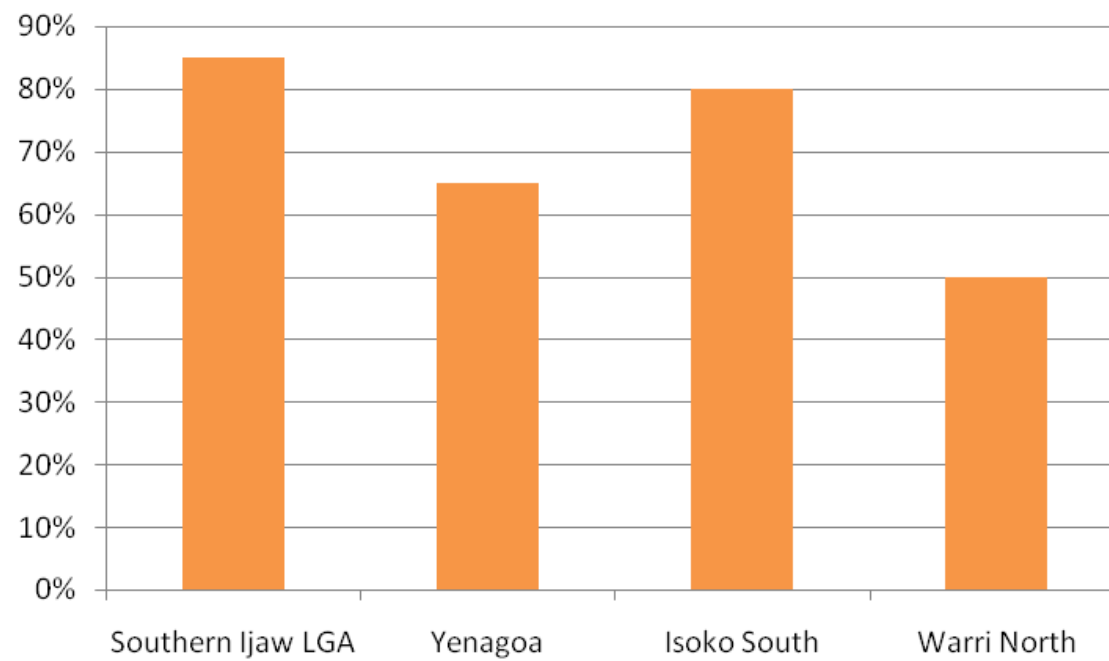
- CRC findings provide community residents with tools to monitor and hold public agencies and government accountable. Moreover, it enhances social capital by rallying community residents around issues of common concern.
- CRC findings provide rare qualitative data on the living conditions of residents of rural and riverine communities, communities that have been isolated and marginalized in development decisions.
- CRC findings provide community-level data and information that is instructive in informing the development decisions, strategic direction and allocation of funding for Niger Delta communities by elected government officials and public servants, international donors, non-governmental organizations, civil society actors, and community members.
- The CRC measures the performance of government, international oil companies and private contractors in the delivery of public services. Further, it provides a basis for interaction among these groups, and between these groups and community residents resulting in enhanced administrative planning and coordination to ensure that appropriate and functional development projects are being implemented.
- The CRC amplifies the voices of community residents and brings these voices to a wider national, regional and international audience. Through this, community residents, rightfully, become placed at the center of the policy discourse on decisions that affect their lives, livelihoods and communities.

## SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS

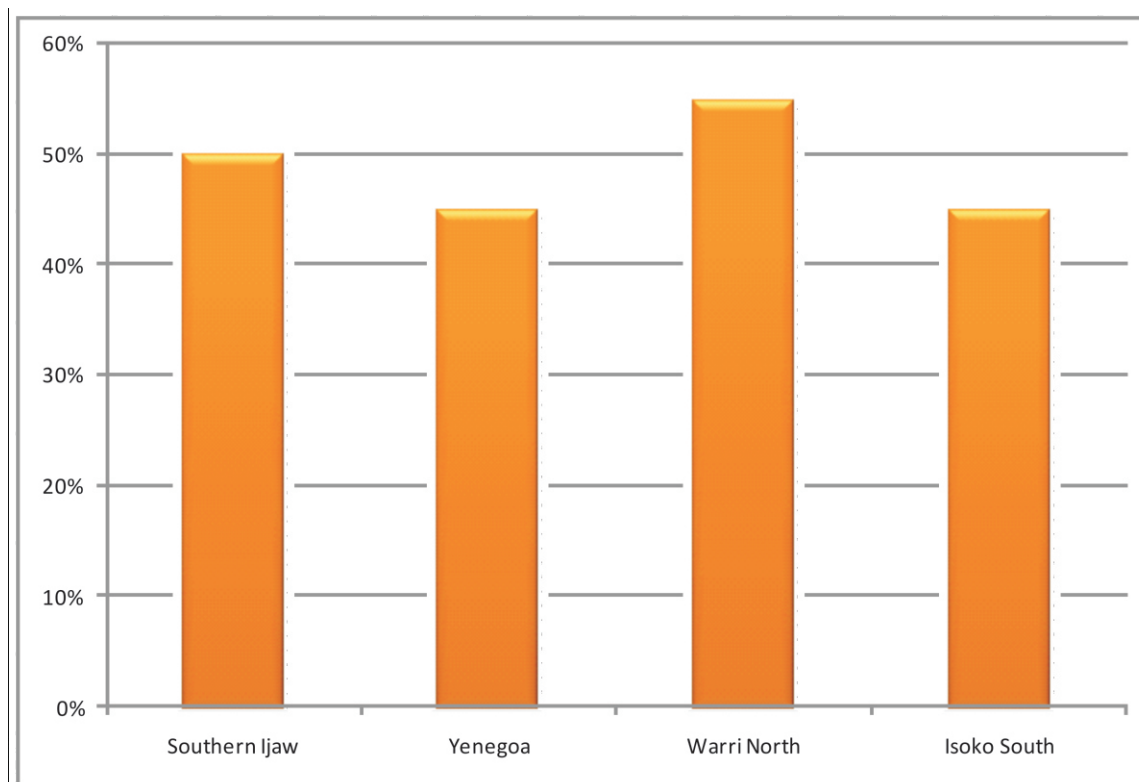
- **Gender and Governance:** The findings on gender and governance demonstrate that in 20 communities, women's participation in decision making is low. In Isoko South LGA respondents stated that women hold 5% of executive positions in the Community Development Council, in Southern Ijaw LGA 0%, in Warri North LGA 6% and in Yenagoa LGA 10%. The lack of women's participation in decision making at the community level is compounded by negative attitudes concerning women in leadership; only 37% of FG's believe that women should play a bigger role in community decision making despite the fact that 74 of the 80 focus groups state that women and men have the same ability to lead. While focus groups were not in support of the idea of women in community level governance, 95% agreed that women should be included in government decision making and only 24% of FG's were able to identify a woman in government. Respondents identified both leadership training and education as necessary in enhancing women's leadership skills.
- **Education:** The survey revealed that 19 of the 20 communities have primary schools and 16 of the 20 communities have secondary schools. In total, 44% of all primary schools and 56% of secondary schools do not have desks and chairs for students. Schools lacked other basic amenities, for example 95% of respondents in Warri North LGA stated that their communities' primary school does not have a toilet for children, 85% in Southern Ijaw LGA, 60% in Yenagoa LGA and 70% in Isoko South LGA.
- **Health:** Respondents revealed that only 10 of the 20 communities surveyed have functional health facilities. The survey also delved into issues related to HIV/AIDS, 25-40% of participants in each LGA have some misconceptions about the causes of HIV/AIDS. Finally, in one of the few positive highlights related to service delivery, participants in all the communities surveyed stated that their children received immunization over the past year.
- **Public Electricity, Drinking Water and Sewage:** Concerning public electricity, 30% of communities surveyed in Southern Ijaw LGA stated that they do have any source of public electricity, and 40% of respondents in Warri North LGA said the same. In reference to water and sewage, 50% of respondents stated that their drinking water is not safe and 70% stated that human waste floats back into their communities during the rainy season.

- **Infrastructure and Development Projects:** A total of 78 abandoned, incomplete and substandard projects were identified in the 20 communities, 53% of these projects were sponsored by state government, 19% by oil companies, 18% by federal government and the remaining 10% were sponsored by local government, international organizations and community efforts. The tables below provide a snapshot into what the report offers, illustrating LGA by LGA comparisons of communities with health facilities, primary schools with desks and chairs for students and community constitutions that mandate women's participation in Community Development Committees (CDC) or Community Trusts (CT).

### Percentage of Communities Surveyed That Have a Health Facility

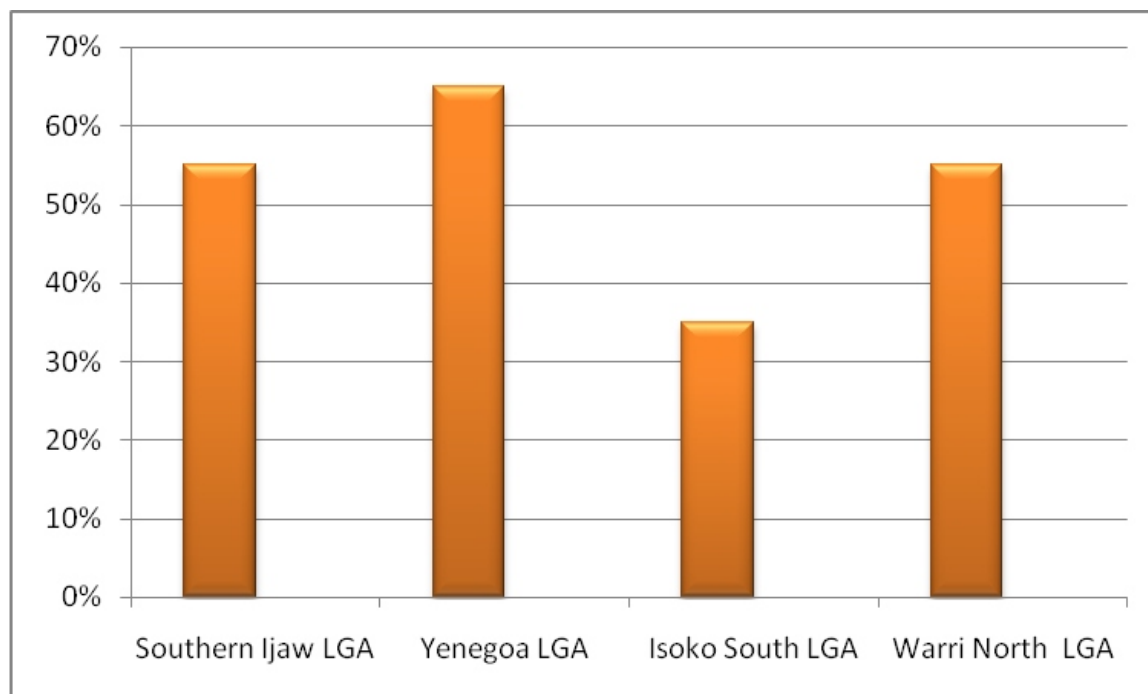


Percentage of communities surveyed in which the primary school has a desk and a chair for each child

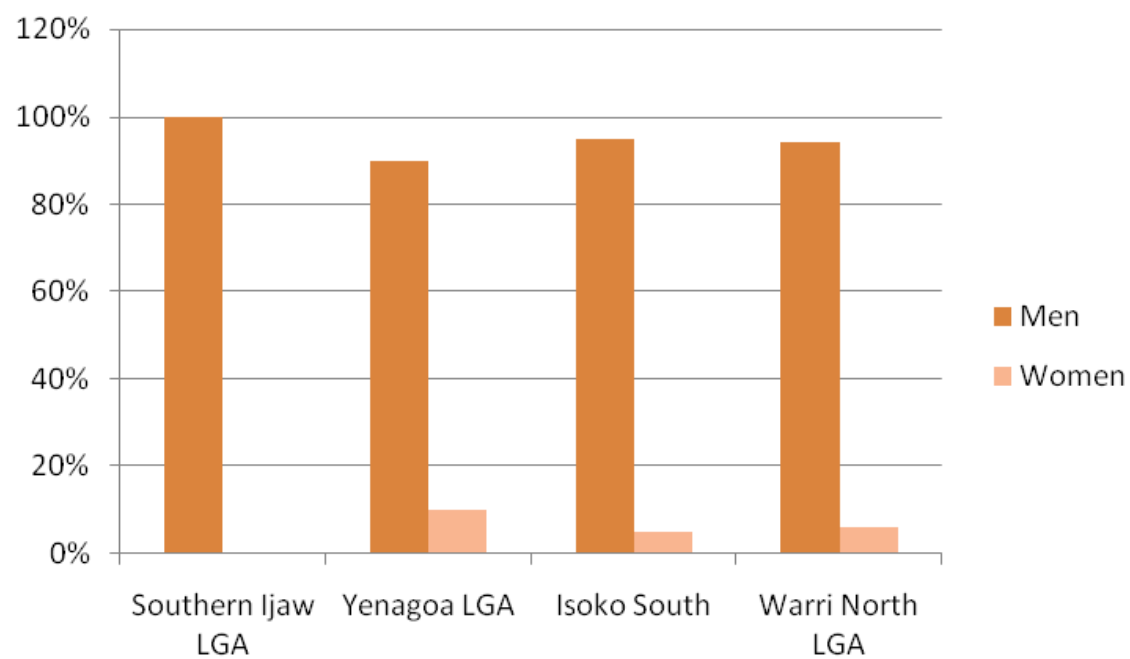




Percentage of Communities Surveyed where Community Constitution do not Mandate Women to have a Position in CDC/CT.



Percentage of Communities Surveyed Showing Male and Female Representation in the Community CDC



The CRC reveals that development interventions in the Niger Delta fail to meet the needs of community residents. It reveals poor planning and coordination and the failure to properly incorporate community residents in the development process. The report disturbingly reveals a lack of communication between community and government; elected representatives are failing to meet the needs of the people they were elected to serve. It also emphasizes that the principles of inclusion and equity – key elements of good governance – are not upheld as women are largely excluded from decision making.

Largely, community residents believe that government is responsible for addressing the development deficits endemic in their communities, and rightfully so, as it is the responsibility of a sovereign state to deliver education, health care, infrastructure, public services, good governance, and protection from violence and crime among others.

Each section of this report presents overviews of the various sectors surveyed and shows graphical representations of the state-to-state and local-government-to local-government comparisons while providing specific detail at the community level.

NIDPRODEV programme officers traveled back to the 20 communities surveyed to present and discuss the findings. Hard copies of the report were presented to community leaders, youth leaders, women leaders, executive members of Women Support Networks and Community Development Committee Advisory Council (CBO's established through the ONLAG project) during a town hall meeting. The full report can be accessed at [www.nidprodev.org](http://www.nidprodev.org).

## METHODOLOGY

Between February and March 2012, NIDPRODEV programme officers fluent in local languages and culture visited 20 communities, they sensitized community residents on the purpose and objectives of the survey and how the findings would be used. Community members who elected to participate in the survey were divided into four focus groups based on gender and age: Older Men, Younger Men, Older Women, and Younger Women. Individuals over the age of 40 were classified as Older.

During the focus group discussions, participants were provided with survey questions and were given the opportunity to discuss in a group. Once the group reached a consensus on their response, the NIDPRODEV programme officer repeated the answer and asked the group to confirm that the answer given is the one they wished to have recorded. For other questions that required individual participant responses, participants were asked to raise their hands to represent a response.

The report also includes qualitative responses from each Focus Group recorded by NIDPRODEV programme officers. The narrative responses are included as part of the “Overview” of each of the areas assessed in this report. These comments provide additional detail to support and reinforce the quantitative data provided and give a glimpse into the lives of the residents of the communities surveyed.

The demographic information contained in this report includes: (1) Ethnicity (2) Terrain (rural, riverine, urban or near a city), (3) Oil Producing or Not, (4) Part of Oil Company Development Agreement, Global Memorandum of Understanding (GMOU), (5) Livelihood (farming or fishing), (6) How Communities Access Information on Funds Allocated to Development (percentage), (7) How Development Decisions are Made (percent distribution), (8) Percentage of Women Represented in CDB or RDC, (9) Percentage of Women represented in CDC/CT and (10) Reading Ability (across gender and age).

Each section of this report follows this methodology, it is important to note that sections that have some deviation in methodology are explained in the overview of relevant sections.