



Federal Republic of Nigeria



CHAPTER 7



Statutory and Administrative Framework

“...There is need for a clearing house during the planning and budgeting stages, to ensure that stakeholders are aware of what others are doing, or are planning to do...”

-President Olusegun Obasanjo (2001)

Chapter 7

Administrative Framework for Plan Implementation

7 Introduction

The most successful institutions are known to be those that are given time to evolve and the opportunity to enhance their capacity to deliver through a large measure of consistency in their structure, organisation and administration. The management of change is always a demanding task and it will not be any easier to transform the Niger Delta Region from its present state to the state envisioned in the Master Plan document. This task will most certainly become more complex and difficult if the institutional structures that should support and facilitate the process of democratisation and socio-economic transformation at the Regional, State and Local levels are subjected to unnecessary and frequent change.

The core principle underpinning the institutional framework for implementing the Niger Delta Regional Development Master Plan, therefore, is that there should be no fundamental changes in the present role of the NDDC as coordinator and facilitator of development programmes and projects recommended in the plan.

It needs to be re-stated that the leadership of the NDDC must uphold the principles of transparency and accountability and must encourage the full participation of stakeholders in strategic decision-making processes in line with their concerns, interests and well-being.

The complementary and facilitative role of the NDDC as regards the responsibilities of States and Local Governments would be strengthened if communication between these tiers of government, the non-governmental sector, and the NDDC's headquarters and liaison offices is improved. This should take the form of joint working groups whose remit would cover advice on the design of programmes and projects for the individual State and its Local Governments, harmonisation of budgets, plans, projects and programmes, as well as liaison with State and Local Forums for Sustainable Development (the Partners for Sustainable Development PSD network).





7.1 Stakeholder Collaboration and Partnering

In order to facilitate collaboration and partnering among stakeholders in the region, a Regional Partners for Sustainable Development (PSD) Forum should be supported. Organisational structures should be introduced as follows. Below the Regional Forum nine (9) State level forums should also be established to bring together the key stakeholders from the public, private and NGO sectors within each state. Their role would be to act as independent sounding boards for the sustainable development programmes and projects to be implemented in the States, to promote public awareness, sustainable

development, good practice, cooperation and partnering among stakeholders.

Partners for Sustainable Development Forums at the local level should similarly be established to support the State Forums i.e. one Local PSDF in each Senatorial District. The forums would bring their interests and views to bear on the NDDC and other public agencies through continuous review, monitoring and evaluation of progress on implementation of the Master Plan. The administrative structures proposed for driving and managing implementation of the NDRDMP are described in Table 7.1.

The basic principles of this approach are:

-  Regional development institutions established in line with existing laws and regulations
-  The top-down approach is combined with the bottom-up approach through Regional, State and Local Partnerships for Sustainable Development Forums
-  Participation at all levels is integrated in sharing information and responsibilities in planning, budgeting and promotion of programmes and projects
-  The leading role of the NDDC as a federal institution is integrated with an upgrading of the roles of the States and the LGAs, plus the communities and the business sector in the planning and implementation process

7.2 Planning and Development Legislation

While many of the proposed institutional changes should not require any change to existing legislation, most observers recognise that Nigeria's planning and development law and regulations are in need of modification in the light of changing circumstances and policy changes emerging in other subject areas, such as urban development, housing and the NEEDS, SEEDS and LEEDS initiatives. CEEDS (Community Economic Empowerment and Development Strategy) are also envisaged for each community in the region.



From the perspective of the NDDC one of the most pressing changes required to existing planning law is the need to provide a clear framework and up to date definition of statutory framework for regional planning and other spatial development plans. This should define the relationship between national, regional, state and local levels of planning and the responsibilities of each tier of government or regional agency. To be effective the policies and proposals contained in regional plans, such as the Niger Delta Master Plan, must serve as a statutory framework for State and Local Government policies, which would need in turn to

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be consistent with the regional plan.

The primary object of any change in planning and development legislation should therefore be two-fold:

-  to establish a statutory framework that is respected and enforceable, and
-  to maintain a balance between the degree of statutory intervention or regulation and the need for simple,

speedy, and non-bureaucratic procedures that does not unnecessarily burden individuals or organisations with red-tape.

Table 7.1: NDDC and Relationship with Stakeholders

Level	Proposed Administrative Structures	Core Activities / Responsibilities	Enabling Law(s) and / or Instrument	Links to National and Regional Bodies (Existing and proposed)
Regional	<p>The Directorate of Planning in the NDDC should be re-organised (in terms of structure, staff strength and equipment) to accommodate an MMSME Support Unit in addition to the existing functions.</p> <p>The Directorate of Planning should report directly to the Managing Director of the NDDC.</p> <p>Niger Delta Investment Promotion Agency to be established</p>	<p>Regional development planning.</p> <p>Provide guidelines, standards and Framework for the development of State and Local Government Development Plans.</p> <p>Custodial and supervisory role over the NDRDMP.</p> <p>Support co-ordination and monitoring of development plans, and programmes in the 9 States.</p> <p>Training and capacity building in relevant areas.</p> <p>Co-financing of projects.</p> <p>Facilitation, promotion and co-ordination of investment programmes in the region</p>	The NDDC Act.	<p>The Presidency Federal Republic of Nigeria.</p> <p>Local Agenda 21 network.</p> <p>Niger Delta Advisory Group.</p> <p>National Planning Commission</p> <p>Urban Development Commission</p> <p>Regional PSDF.</p> <p>International And Multilateral</p> <p>Development Institutions And Private Companies The World Bank, UNDP, EC, USAID, DFID, SPDC, etc.)</p>

Table 7.1 (contd.): NDDC and Relationship with Stakeholders

<p>State</p>	<p>Each of the nine States should establish a unit or department for development planning where one does not already exist. Existing units or departments may need to be re-engineered to perform the functions</p> <p>State Development Service should also be established in each State to steer the work of Business Development Units and Rural Development Services</p>	<p>Planning and implementation of detailed spatial and investment programmes and projects</p> <p>Preparation of State plans and SEEDS</p> <p>Assistance and information to NDDC, LGAs and Communities and Business Sector</p> <p>Promotion of systematic economic planning and development and assist the delivery of initiatives such as Growth Centre pilot projects</p>	<p>In accordance with statutory framework of NDDC Act and Local Government Acts</p>	<p>State Forum for Sustainable Development</p> <p>Niger Delta Advisory Group</p> <p>Youth Council for the NDR</p> <p>Women's Council for the NDR</p> <p>Economic Review Forums in each State</p>
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Table 7.1 (contd.): NDDC and Relationship with Stakeholders

Level	Proposed Administrative Structures	Core Activities / Responsibilities	Enabling Law(s) and Instrument	Links to National and Regional Bodies (Existing and proposed)
Local Govt.	<p>A unit or department for Community Development Planning should be established within the appropriate organ of the Local Government Council.</p> <p>The unit or department for development planning should report directly to the council chairman and chief executive.</p> <p>Urban Development Authority to be established for each growth centre</p>	<p>Generate local government and community development plans.</p> <p>Generate and maintain up to date statistics on all aspects of development within the local government area.</p> <p>Liaison with state planning departments and other development agencies.</p> <p>To plan and manage the development of growth centres and growth poles</p>	Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria	Local Forums for Sustainable Development

Table 7.1 (contd.): NDDC and Relationship with Stakeholders

<p>Community</p>	<p>Community Development</p> <p>Committees or</p> <p>Community Development Unions should be established where they do not exist presently.</p>	<p>Generate Community Development Planning with external assistance where necessary.</p>	<p>The local Government Bye laws</p> <p>CEEDS</p>	<p>LG Councils</p> <p>Development Institutions</p> <p>Government Institutions</p> <p>Private sector Organisations</p>
<p>Business Sector</p>	<p>Niger Delta Business Forum to be established</p>	<p>Co-ordination of corporate social responsibility and community development investment programmes</p>	<p>Fiscal and other statutory commercial laws and regulations governing business</p>	<p>NDDC</p> <p>Government Institutions</p> <p>Communities</p> <p>Development Institutions</p>