

UNDP Nigeria NEWSLETTER

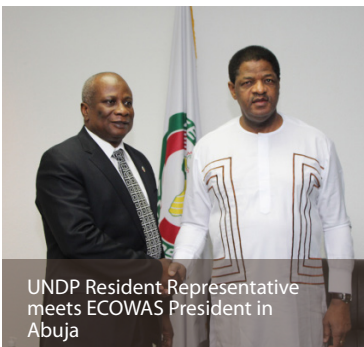
Issue 3/ March 2017

@UNDPNigeria | www.ng.undp.org

In this issue



UN Security Council adopts first Resolution on Boko Hara after visiting Nigeria



UNDP Resident Representative meets ECOWAS President in Abuja



UNDP and Youth in Taramba partner to fight corruption

Edward advocates for State-level SDGs Marshall Plans

UNDP Nigeria Resident Representative, Edward Kallon, reaffirmed commitment of the Country Office towards supporting States in their quest to achieving development aspirations.

During his 3-State mission to Kaduna, Kano and Katsina, Edward used engagements with State Authorities to advocate for the development and implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based Development Plans at State-level as a framework for achieving sub-national social and economic progress.

"I have always advocated for State-level SDGs-

based 'Marshall Plans' to implement the recently launched Economic Recovery and Growth Plan to achieve broad-based sustainable and inclusive economic growth," he stated during his address to the Executive Council of Kaduna State Government.

Edward emphasized that using SDGs as a framework for planning and implementing development interventions, States stood to benefit as SDGs were all-encompassing and sought to address long-term social and economic development goals in a sustainable manner. *[continued on page 3]*

Nigeria scales up efforts towards ridding the country of Ozone Depleting Substances

After successfully meeting the target for the Management Plan for phasing out of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), Nigeria will commence the second phase. During the first phase, Nigeria had committed to the completion of the 2013 consumption freeze and 2015 10% reduction target.

This came to light when stakeholders representing the Refrigeration & Air Conditioner (RAC) sector which includes the

Federal Ministry of Environment, National Agency for Food Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), National Association of Refrigeration & Air-conditioning Practitioners (NARAP), Vitapur, PZ, UNIDO and UNDP met in Lagos for consultations on field data estimates for the preparation of Phase II of the project and remaining activities under Phase I.

The meeting identified solutions to data collection bottlenecks faced *[cont'd on page 2]*

Today's IDPs will be tomorrow's Auto-Mechanic experts - thanks to UNDP

Continuing with interventions aimed at meeting early recovery needs of populations affected by the crisis in the North-East, UNDP is building on activities focusing on empowering Internally Displaced People (IDPs) with skills that would enable them to have sources of livelihoods - following the seven yearlong insurgency in North-East Nigeria, Millions have been displaced and livelihoods disrupted.

Through our Livelihoods project, 80 IDPs drawn from Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe States have been enrolled in an Auto-mechanic training programme in Kaduna. The programme hosted at the Peugeot Nigeria Limited (PAN) Learning Centre is benefitting successful applicants from a

two-week orientation programme at the Citizenship and Leadership Training Centre located in Jos, Plateau State. About 100 IDPs applied and following assessments in physical fitness, leadership and civic responsibilities, conflict prevention and peaceful co-existence including mediation, as well as, entrepreneurship skill, 80 candidates were selected for one a year training programme.

This is the second group of IDPs from the North East that UNDP, with support from the Government of Norway, is benefiting from this initiative. The first group commenced their training midway through 2016.

Currently, there are close to 160 IDPs

undergoing training at the PAN Learning Centre under the UNDP Livelihoods Support Scheme in the North-East.

At the end of the training, the IDPs will have been empowered in various auto-mechanic skills including mechatronics, spraying and painting, panel beatings, among others.

Those who will successfully complete the training will be assisted with startup equipment to enable them to establish their own businesses in the trade. The training institute will also be on hand to assist those seeking employment opportunities by linking them up with potential employers.

Nigeria scales up efforts aimed at ridding the country of Ozone Depleting Substances *[cont'd from page 1]*

during the first phase of the project.

Stakeholders at the meeting also agreed that in the second phase, training and certification on safe handling of flammable refrigerants, commercialization of the HC Plant, sensitization on Ozone and climate-friendly alternatives, supply and distribution of additional RACM machines to beneficiaries in the RACM sector will be among the priorities

They also agreed to work towards achieving 35% reduction in HCFCs consumption by 2020 through strengthening of collaboration with chemical regulatory agencies.

The Director of Pollution Department of the Federal Ministry of Environment, represented by Mrs. O.O Agbenla, emphasized the need to deepen collaboration amongst relevant government agencies and other stakeholders in stopping illegal importation of ozone depleting substances (ODS) and implementation of the HPMP.

A special presentation was made by UNDP Egypt, represented by Amir Sabry. Egypt has a similar project developed using technology from Nigeria. The project has been completed and will soon be commercialized.



IDPs now learning auto-mechanic at PAN Learning Centre in Kaduna - Close to 160 IDPs undergoing training at the Centre under the UNDP Livelihoods Support Scheme in the North-East.

UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) explores avenues for operationalising partnership with Channels Television

In order to give more visibility to sustainability programmes targetted at communities, UNDP's Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) is exploring avenues for closer work relationship with local media in the Nigeria.

During the month, the GEF SGP team visited and met with Channels Television Chairman Mr. John Momoh. Led by the GEF SGP National Coordinator, Ms. Iboronke Olubamise, the team highlighted what the UNDP GEF SGP had achieved through its grassroot projects in Nigeria, including those focusing on Sustainable Energy for All, Food Security and Biodiversity, Environmental Policy Projects, amongst others.

Ms. Olubamise, further stated that GEF SGP had supported implementation of environment and livelihood projects in several communities in 25 states of the Federation

-however, due to limited publicity, not many people fully appreciated the Programme.

Lack of adequate publicity affects the Programme's ability to mobilise resources for its continuity. Ms. Olubamise emphasized that with enhanced visibility of the achievements being made by the Programme, more funding oportunities could open up and projects could be scaled up and/or replicated to benefit more Nigerians.

Mr. Momoh commended the efforts of UNDP's development interventions in Nigeria and stated that using the already existing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed with the UN System in Nigeria would be a good starting point in supporting the efforts of the GEF SGP.

Edward advocates for State-level SDGs Marshall Plans

During his visit to Kaduna, Kano and Katsina States, Edward was accompanied by Acting UNDP Country Director, Mandisa Mashologu, his Advisors and other senior members of staff from Abuja and within the respective States.



Edward Kallon, Mandisa Mashologu, together with other UN Colleagues join H.E Abdullahi Umar Ganduje (centre, in all-white), Executive Governor of Kano State.

[from front page]

SDG-based national and sectoral plans, he stated, can significantly contribute to national efforts aimed at addressing the current economic and humanitarian crises.

While in Kano State, Edward took time and visited two of the State's largest trading areas (markets) - Kano has a long history of trading dating back to the 16th century. Today, it remains the second largest industrial centre in Nigeria and the largest in Northern Nigeria with a number of industrial activities in tanning, textile, footwear, furniture, among others.

"I have seen great potential for the traders to

earn even more from their produce" Edward stated during a meeting with the Executive Governor of the State H.E Abdullahi Umar Ganduje.

He noted that there was a value-addition step missing in the production of most of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises' commodities. Edward pledged UNDP's support towards interventions that would enhance the value of the produce which will in turn bring revenue to the State.

Having visited both Kaduna and Kano before, Edward was however, visiting Katsina State for the first time since assuming office less than 5 months ago.

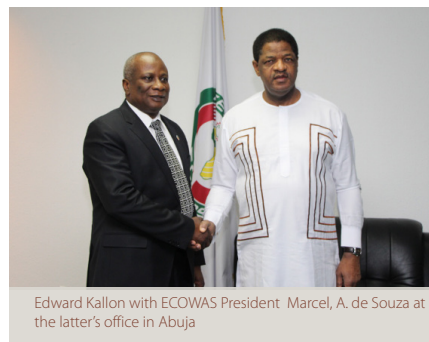
While in Katsina, Edward met with the Executive Governor, H.E Aminu Bello Masari and his Cabinet at Government House. During this engagement, Edward reiterated his call for SDG based development planning and budgeting as a vehicle for sustaining and scaling up progress being made by the State in different sectors.

All the States visited presented to the delegation issues that they sought support towards. These ranged from institutional capacity building interventions to strengthening of policies that would enhance their ability to deliver services and development to their people. Edward committed UNDP and the UN system to supporting the States. /END



With support from the GEF Small Grants Programme, Amina (above) and other women in Kuje village are making energy efficient cookstoves (below) which use 70% less firewood required for cooking.

Edward meets with ECOWAS President



Edward Kallon with ECOWAS President Marcel, A. de Souza at the latter's office in Abuja

In a bid to strengthen partnership between the UN System and the Regional Economic bloc, the Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS), UNDP Resident

who is also UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Edward Kallon, paid a courtesy call on the President of the regional body H.E Marcel, A. de Souza at his office in Abuja.

During the meeting, the two exchanged notes on a number of regional issues defining development within Member States.

UNDP Nigeria, working through National Commissions (NATCOMs), is implementing the European Union funded ECOWAS Regional Project on Small Arms and Light Weapons. The project, now in its third year of implementation seeks to address proliferation of small arms and light weapons in 7 countries including Nigeria.

UN Security Council adopts first Resolution on Boko Haram after visiting Nigeria



Less than a month after visiting Nigeria and the Lake Chad region, the UN Security Council adopted its first resolution addressing Boko Haram's presence in the region.



The Council, led by the President (month of March) Matthew Rycroft, visited Maiduguri and Abuja to have a firsthand experience with the crisis-affected populations and interact with national authorities in an effort to better appreciate the extent of the crisis in the North-East and gaps existing in the response.

In the Resolution, unanimously adopted, the

Council expressed concern about the protection needs of civilians affected by terrorism, including those resulting from sexual exploitation and abuse, extra-judicial killings and torture.

The Council also strongly condemned all terrorist attacks, violations of international humanitarian law and human rights abuses by Boko Haram. In terms of follow-up, the Council encouraged the Secretary-General to carry out a joint visit to the Lake Chad Basin region with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, the President of the World Bank Group and the President of the African Development Bank.

UNDP partners with Youth NGO in Taraba State to fight corruption



In a bid to complement national efforts aimed at fighting corruption, UNDP, in partnership with the Youth Progressive Association in Taraba (TYPA), a non-governmental not-for-profit youth-led organization based in the State launched a *Anti Corruption cluster Centre* in Jalingo, Taraba.

The Centre is being used for training of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Community Based Organisations representatives on transparency and accountability. This is key in the fight against corruption which continues to hamper effective delivery of services to millions in the State.

During the inauguration of Centre, conducted in collaboration with the Fiscal Responsibility Commission, Head of the Commission Benjamin Ibisu, stated that this was the "first time an organization in the State will partner with the commission to carry out activities that are in line with the duties of the commission."

The Commission has powers to request for

and obtain information relating to public revenue, expenditure and related matters from any person, department, public institution or body or arm of the government of the state. It also monitors and enforces the remittance of revenue by all corporations and government agencies into the consolidated revenue fund.

Mr. Ibisu promised to work tirelessly to make sure that the aims and objectives of the projects under TYPA were supported.

TYPA has also organized a Radio phone-in programme dubbed "*The Effect of Corruption in our Society*," which draws on the knowledge and experience of various stakeholders in the State to discuss general governance issues and citizen participation in ensuring the fight against corruption is won.

The programme has featured representatives of National Orientation Agency, CBOs, the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) and the Chief Executive Officer Youth Progressive Association in Taraba.

Government and UNDP launch Early Recovery Sector Working Group (ERSWG) in Maiduguri

The Government of Nigeria and UNDP launched the Early Recovery Sector Working Group (ERSWG) in Maiduguri, Borno State. UNDP, as the co-chair of the global early recovery cluster, is tasked with coordinating early recovery activities in North-East Nigeria.

The ERSWG is a platform that allows organizations to harmonize their interventions in meeting early recovery needs of affected populations and communities in the region. These include, among others, assessments of needs, planning, and implementation of activities to restore livelihoods and to strengthen governance structures for enhanced provision of basic social services.

"No one organization can ensure that full recovery takes place on the basis of their intervention(s), alone," UNDP's Early Recovery Coordinator John Wiater said during the launch. The cluster is chaired by Prof. Babagana Umara, Commissioner of the Ministry for Reconciliation, Reconstruction and Resettlement, supported by Mr. Wiater.

The ERSWG lays the foundation for local ownership of the recovery process based on durable solutions that strengthen resilience, leading to a resumption of nationally-led development interventions.

15 organizations and other sector coordinators attended the group's first meeting.

Community needs include, among others: shelter/housing (rehabilitation and reconstruction); transitional food security assistance; livelihoods reactivation; community security and mine action interventions; rebuilding/repairing social infrastructure; and repair, rebuild, and reestablish essential services.

UNDP, ECOWAS partner in whistleblower protection sensitization



Mr. Segun Olusola, who represented UNDP Nigeria, shared Nigeria's experience on the norms and standards for the institutionalization of whistleblowing, as well as the realities, prospects and challenges being experienced in the implementation process in Nigeria. He also shared with participants, the elements of a whistleblower policy and the different levels at which it could be enacted, and the benefits, risk and challenges associated with its implementation.

UNDP partnered with ECOWAS the Commission on its advocacy and sensitization missions on *Whistleblowers' Protection Strategy* to Cotonou, Benin Republic and Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. The two missions were undertaken in February and March respectively.

In line with Article 5 of the Protocol on the Fight Against Corruption which requires that ECOWAS Member States adopt laws and other measures to ensure effective and adequate protection of persons who, acting in good faith, provide information on acts of corruption, the purpose of the meetings was to sensitize Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), media practitioners and operational staff of national anti-corruption institutions in the two countries on the ECOWAS Whistleblower Protection Strategy.

The engagements also acted as starting points for a process to enable CSOs to advocate for the enactment of a national policy framework on whistleblower protection which would strengthen the fight against corruption.

Participants (Photo above) discussed various approaches to enhancing effectiveness in national-level accountability goals including the need to ensure a balance between demands and supply sides of accountability mechanisms that vary from country to country. For example, in situations where institutional capacity of law enforcement agencies was weak, conducting corruption risk assessments and developing integrity plans could help in sustaining approaches to preventing corrupt practices, and building a culture of transparency, critical to the successful implementation of whistleblowers-related policies.

Experiences were also shared on effective approaches to ensure policies in place were implemented by anti-corruption agencies and other law enforcement wings of governments in the region to not only encourage whistleblowing, but protecting those 'blowing the whistle'.

In Benin Republic, goodwill messages were delivered by Mr Gilbert Poumangue representative of UNDP Benin Country Office.

The meeting ended up with a Communiqué in which participants agreed on the practical steps to be taken by CSOs to ensure the enactment of a national whistleblower protection strategy in Benin and Cote d'Ivoire. The Communiqué also committed UNDP Benin and Cote d'Ivoire in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission, to organize training programmes for CSOs and media practitioners on preventive measures, especially through the conduct of Corruption Risk Assessments to combat corruption.

The meetings were attended by a wide range of stakeholders drawn from Government Ministries and Departments in the two countries, CSOs, UNDP and the ECOWAS Commission, among others.



United Nations Development Programme - Nigeria
Plot 617/618 Diplomatic Drive
Central Business District
Abuja

www.ng.undp.org
[Facebook.com/UNDPNigeria](https://www.facebook.com/UNDPNigeria)
[Youtube.com/UNDPNigeria](https://www.youtube.com/UNDPNigeria)
Twitter - @UNDPNigeria

Contact: lucky.musonda@undp.org

Designer and Editor - Lucky Musonda

Photography - Segun Olusola, Lucky Musonda, Matthew Alao

Contributors - Segun Olusola, Jorg kuhnel, Nelson Abila, Yoshiaki Noguchi, Kehinde Osotimehin.

Editorial Team - Anthony Omata
- Kehinde Osotimehin