

# NEWSLETTER

UNDP Nigeria



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.



Issue 2 May - Jul 2019

@UNDPNigeria | www.ng.undp.org

## UNDP Launches Regional Stabilization Facility for Lake Chad

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) today launched the Regional Stabilization Facility for Lake Chad, an ambitious multi-million dollar fund to scale up the range of stabilization intervention in areas of Lake Chad Basin.

The four Lake Chad Basin countries have warmly welcomed this joint initiative, as part of their own ongoing efforts to secure and stabilize the region.

The Facility will start operating on 1 September for 2 years in the eight affected regions of the

4 riparian countries (Cameroun, Chad, Niger, and Nigeria) and will serve as a rapid response mechanism to help the local authorities curtail the ability of Boko Haram insurgency by restoring and extending effective civilian security; improve the delivery of basic services and livelihoods.

The official presentation of the Facility was one of the high points of the 2nd Meeting of the Lake Chad Governors' Forum which opened today in Niamey, under aegis of the Lake Chad Basin Commission with the support of the African Union. >> [Read more](#)

## Nigerian firm wins global award for local innovative environmental solution

The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and partners have announced the winners of the 10th Equator Prize, recognizing 22 local and indigenous communities from across the world showcasing innovative, nature-based solutions for tackling climate change, environment, and poverty challenges.

The winners will be honoured at a celebratory gala on 24 September in New York.

Nigeria's own, food wrap company, Environmental Management and Development Trust (EMADET) is among the 22

outstanding winners. The company promotes the production of leaf to wrap local foods consequently reducing the growing trend of using plastic-based materials for packaging. EMADET supports a dynamic network of women promoting cacao agroforestry and the production of the so-called miracle fruit as a plastic alternative for local markets in southwestern Nigeria.

This is the first time the Equator Prize has been awarded to groups from Guinea-Bissau, as well as to indigenous communities in Australia and the United States. >> [Read more](#)

### In this issue



Nigeria examines 2019 elections, discusses enhanced women participation in future polls



UNDP, others engage States on ending violence against women and girls



UNDP support to returning farmers in Borno and Adamawa States to boost agriculture output



## Spotlight Initiative – UNDP, others engage States on ending violence against women and girls

The Spotlight Initiative aims at realising a Nigeria where all women and girls, particularly the most vulnerable, live a life free from violence and harmful practices. Addressing the linkages between sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices with related aspects of sexual and reproductive health and rights.



The European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) in Nigeria recently concluded a series of inception workshops on the Spotlight Initiative focused on eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls in Nigeria. The workshops took place in four locations across the country including Sokoto, Cross River, Lagos and Adamawa State.

UNDP in Nigeria in collaboration with UN Women Nigeria, UNFPA Nigeria, UNICEF Nigeria and UNESCO Regional Office Abuja are working with the European Union in Nigeria, Government and Civil Society partners on this Initiative.

Through a comprehensive approach, the

Spotlight Initiative aims at realising a Nigeria where all women and girls, particularly the most vulnerable, live a life free from violence and harmful practices. Addressing the linkages between sexual and gender-based violence and harmful practices with related aspects of sexual and reproductive health and rights as a cross-cutting theme will require consented efforts from a broad range of stakeholders, from individuals all the way to community and national government leaders.

The engagements in the States brought together stakeholders and partners who were provided with critical information about the initiative, its goals and implementation modality. >> [Read more](#)

### UNDP trains vigilantes and Civilian Joint Task Force members in human rights and leadership

UNDP recently trained the Civilian Joint Taskforce (CJTF) and vigilante groups who are involved in the fight against the Boko Haram insurgency. The training which focused mainly on human rights and leadership held for two weeks in Jos, Plateau State and drew participants from the three states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa.

Over 500 former fighters participated in this training that was conducted to provide a basic level of civic understanding and build capacity in critical skills that will allow members of CJTF and vigilante groups to improve their civil and social engagements and to function better in civilian life.

Addressing the participants at the closing ceremony of the programme, UNDP Officer-in-Charge, Frederick Ampiah, stated that that Boko Haram has left the region and its people with huge negative impact, adding that UNDP was not about to relent in its efforts to ensure that the region is liberated. >> [Read more](#)

## UNDP support to returning farmers in Borno and Adamawa States to boost agriculture output

As part of its ongoing effort to support victims of Boko Haram insurgency in North-East Nigeria, UNDP has provided farmers with Agricultural inputs in Bazza Community, Michika, Local Government Area in Adamawa State. Bazza, a returning community was attacked by the insurgent group leading to mass exodus of families and disruption of economic activities – families were mostly engaging in farming as a source of livelihood.

During the same period, livestock was distributed in Askira-Uba and Hawul, Local Government Areas, in Borno State. After ten years of instability, Borno State remains the epicentre of the crisis that has led to the displacement of over 2 million people, majority of them across the North-East, while some have fled to other parts of the >> [Read more](#)





## UNDP project to enhance capacity of peacekeeping training centre in Nigeria



With the aim of strengthening the capacity of the Nigerian Army in its peacekeeping operations, the Government of Japan has provided support to the Nigerian Army Peacekeeping Centre, Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership & Peacekeeping Centre (MLAIKPC) through a project implemented by UNDP.

Established in 2003, the MLAIKPC undertakes and delivers research and training programmes that contribute to global peacekeeping operations. UNDP is working with the centre in an effort to facilitate transfer of skills and knowledge necessary to effective participation in peacekeeping operations. Nigeria remains one of the key contributors to UN and ECOWAS peacekeeping missions.

The support from the Government of Japan will enhance the centre's ability to deliver its courses to in a diverse aspects of peacekeeping operations. This includes, among others, protection of civilians and counter-terrorism as well as prevention of irregular migration. It will also potentially contribute to reduce violent extremism, crime and exclusion. Specifically, the crosscutting themes, such as, Gender, Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law, Rule of Law and other relevant frameworks that will help to create just and peaceful societies.

The funding support of over USD 300,000 the centre will also be able to undertake renovations its hostel, install and provide alternative sources of power, and upgrade its ICT infrastructure.

At the official launch of this project in Jaji, Kaduna State, the Commandant of the Centre, Major General Abubakar Tarfa in his remarks thanked the Government of Japan for the partnership which has continued to facilitate the centre's training >> [Read more](#)

## Nigeria examines 2019 elections, discusses enhanced women participation in future polls



UNDP Nigeria, together with the United Nations entity dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women (UN Women), the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and leading Nigerian women Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) recently organized the National Conference on Women Political Participation in Nigeria.

The conference which took place on the 27-28th June 2019 in Abuja brought together about 100 Nigerian female politicians including key stakeholders from across the country, leading Nigerian female civil society activists and opinion leaders.

The 2-day event was organised in order to conduct a postmortem of the 2019 polls that witnessed a decline in the number of women elected in the various legislative positions and also to develop a roadmap that would facilitate and enhance the participation of women future elections.

As part of UNDP's ongoing initiatives aimed at promoting the participation of Nigerian women in political and electoral processes in the country, in partnership with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), UNDP has been providing support towards the drafting of >> [Read more](#)

## UNDP project facilitates strengthening of groundnut and rice value chain in Nigeria



UNDP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in partnership with Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FMARD), convened stakeholders from the groundnut and rice industry in Nasarawa State and Abuja, for summits aimed at advancing inter-state food commodity value chains.

This initiative, undertaken in two different locations (Abuja and Nasarawa) is part of an ongoing programme focusing on fostering sustainability and resilience for food security in the Savannah zones of northern Nigeria. The events, facilitated by Women Farmers

Advancement Network (WOFAN) were attended by various actors along the value chains of both rice and groundnuts, state representatives, among others. The participants discussed various issues critical along the two crops' value chain; – they discussed challenges that farmers involved in the production of these crops face including financing, transportation, storage and pricing of the crops.

Infrastructure remains a key challenge in the cassava and rice value chains in Nigeria and continues to hinder progress in realizing the full potential that >> [Read more](#)



## UNDP's training programmes for Boko Haram conflict victims yielding positive results



As part of its continuing support towards helping victims of insurgency in communities in North-East Nigeria, UNDP has continued to provide vocational training opportunities to community members, mostly women and youth, all aimed at facilitating long-term self-reliance through sustainable sources of livelihood. This intervention will enable conflict affected families and individuals rebuild their lives.

The intervention is part of UNDP's early recovery response package for the victims of crisis in the North-East of Nigeria now in its 10th year. Even as relative peace returns to communities, the same lack basic infrastructure and families are yet to any level of self-reliance after being exposed to prolonged development deficits and a crisis that removed their meagre sources of livelihood.

The training programme are aimed at imparting skills in agriculture, tailoring, livestock production, nursery, machining and maintenance of cars, plumbing and pipe fitting, carpentry, home economics, welding and fabrication, computer craft, electrical installation and maintenance, furniture making, bricks/ block molding, among others.

As part of the programme, trainees who complete their courses and meet the necessary requirements on various vocational skills are provided with cash grants, with which they use to set up their own businesses – similar interventions in the past have witnessed significant changes in the lives of the beneficiaries who are now able to employ other youths in their communities and also now better able to fend for their families. >> [Read more](#)

## Nigeria participates in innovation think tank meeting for Africa

UNDP Nigeria joined other country offices from across the continent that gathered in Dakar, Senegal to share ideas and explore options for strengthening the organisation's position as a leader in delivering development solutions that are not only innovative but respond to the needs of countries' aspiration to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Last year, in line with the organisation's Strategic Plan (2018-2022), which places innovation at the centre of UNDP's work, the Administrator, Achim Steiner, launched a global network of "SDG Accelerator Labs", a vehicle through which UNDP would strengthen its thought leadership and innovativeness in not only designing and deploying new ideas for addressing development challenges, but also support individuals and communities that have already ... >> [Read more](#)



# More Nigerians are multidimensionally poor than a decade before 2017 - UNDP/OPHI



The traditional concept of poverty is outdated, according to a new report released today by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI). New data demonstrate more clearly than ever that labeling countries - or even households - as rich and poor is an oversimplification.

Findings from the 2019 global

Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) sheds light on disparities in how people experience poverty, revealing vast inequalities among countries and among the poor themselves.

"To fight poverty, one needs to know where poor people live. They are not evenly spread across a country, not even within a household," says Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator. "The 2019 global

Multidimensional Poverty Index provides the detailed information policy makers need to more effectively target their policies."

The MPI goes beyond income as the sole indicator for poverty, by exploring the ways in which people experience poverty in their health, education, and standard of living. >> [Read more](#)

## 100,000 young entrepreneurs to be supported through the Tony Elumelu Foundation

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the global development network of the United Nations, has partnered with the Tony Elumelu Foundation (TEF) — Africa's leading philanthropy committed to empowering entrepreneurs — to train, mentor and financially support 100,000 young entrepreneurs in Africa over 10 years towards the achievement of the Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

The TEF-UNDP Sahel Youth Entrepreneurship Programme, which is expected to mobilize support for businesses, aims to generate millions of new jobs and contribute at least \$10 billion in new annual revenues across Africa.

This was announced today at the 12th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union (AU), where TEF Founder, Tony Elumelu and UNDP Regional Director for Africa, Ahunna Eziakonwa joined African Presidents at the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Business Forum, where the agreement was signed. >> [Read more](#)

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

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

Contact: [lucky.musonda@undp.org](mailto:lucky.musonda@undp.org)

Editor/Designer - Lucky Musonda

Photography - Ibrinke Favour Olubamise, Rejoice Emmanuel, Lucky Musonda,

Contributors - Segun Olusola, Isaack Otieno, Onyinye Ndubuisi, Chaste Umeh, Yoshiaki Noguchi, Lucky Musonda & Rejoice Emmanuel

Editorial Team - Anthony Omata, Kehinde Osotimehin