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OPP: HYPREP TAKES DELIVERY OF 4 60MVA TRANSFORMERS, 12 TRUCKS OF ACCESSORIES



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**HYPREP
HERALD
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THE PC'S DESK



**PROF. NENIBARINI ZABBEY
PROJECT COORDINATOR
(HYPREP)**

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) is constructing the Ogoni Power Project (OPP). We decided to use this last edition of the monthly HYPREP Herald to inform stakeholders about the status of the OPP, given the project's strategic importance to the sustainability of the Ogoni cleanup infrastructure interventions and to the stimulation of economic prosperity in the region.

The OPP is intended to connect Ogoni communities directly to the national grid. This will improve the electricity supply, enhancing people's living conditions. It will stimulate and sustain small and medium-scale businesses and attract industrial investment. Steady electricity is one of the sustainability drivers of HYPREP's various infrastructure initiatives. These include the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration, the 100-bed Ogoni Specialist Hospital, the 40-bed Buan Cottage Hospital, and the numerous water facilities.

It is also an operational enabler for the various health facilities in the

region that HYPREP has strengthened, as well as for other government and privately owned development initiatives in the area, such as the Ken Saro-Wiwa Polytechnic and the newly established Federal University of Environment and Technology.

Investing in improved electricity supply will reduce the burden of high power costs on families and support artisans in their businesses. This will make them self-reliant and productive as well as employers of labour. Recall that HYPREP had trained 5000 Ogoni youth and women in 21 skill areas and distributed start-up kits to them. Some of the skill sets require electricity. These include fashion design, fish farming, catering, argon welding and metal fabrication, hairdressing, photography, and video editing.

In April this year, the HYPREP Project Coordination Office (PCO) took delivery of 25 containers of conductors, optical ground wire, and disconnecter materials, including electrical fittings and equipment for the OPP. Thereafter, we received another batch of ten containers (40ft each) of offshore power equipment, which included capacitor voltage transformers (CVT), current transformers (CT), and power transformers (PT). Then, we informed stakeholders that more equipment would arrive following our factory acceptance test (FAT) in China and India, where the equipment and other accessories are manufactured.

In keeping with that promise, two weeks ago, we took delivery of the latest set of electrical equipment: four 60MVA transformers for the Bodo and Wiiyaakara transmission substations, and twelve (12) additional trucks

containing power accessories.

Upon completion of the transmission phase, the distribution phase will commence, after which improved electricity will be available in the Ogoni communities. The immediate benefits of the power project are already being felt through job creation for individuals engaged in the project and through the development of human capital that will enable them to work in areas where similar jobs are in demand. A week ago, a five-day capacity workshop was organised for HYPREP personnel on the power project, as well as a couple of community representatives.

The wayleave compensation for property owners along the right-of-way for the transmission lines has been paid in Khana, and that of Gokana is ongoing, to be followed by Tai and Eleme Local Government Areas. Civil works at both sub-stations in Wiiyaakara and Bodo have progressed appreciably. Now, construction of the gantry foundation is ongoing at the Bodo and Wiiyaakara substations. Similarly, the geotechnical survey on angle and suspension towers between Bodo and Wiiyaakara has been completed. The line runs through Gbe, Bomu, Lewe, Nwe-ol, Uegwere Bo-ue, Zaakpon, and Betem.

In the coming weeks, the towers will be built along the transmission line right-of-way. The Ogoni Power Project is one of HYPREP's projects that will be an end and a means to many ends, catalyzing the productive ventures it will drive.

Meanwhile, the Ogoni Power distribution study is taking off. The study will map the distribution

network across Ogoni communities. It will provide precise data on the scope of work (e.g., distribution lines, transformer count, costs, etc.) for the distribution phase of the power project. Concurrent construction of the transmission with the distribution

study will save time and fast-track the process of connecting Ogoni communities to the national grid.

We are on a transformative journey. And we count on the support of all stakeholders.

On behalf of the management and

staff of the PCO, I wish my good people of Ogoni and all stakeholders of the Ogoni clean-up project a blissful, joyous Christmas and a prosperous 2026.

“Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.”

In This Issue

The Ogoni Power Project took delivery of four 60MVA transformers and twelve truck loads of accessories manufactured abroad and shipped in through the Lagos Ports. It is the lead story of this edition and shows a significant milestone in the effort by the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project to connect Ogoni directly to the national grid with the aim of ensuring steady power supply for the socioeconomic development of the area. To ensure seamless installation of components of the power project, the Technical Support Unit of HYPREP organised a five-day workshop for the human capital development of personnel on the project.

The recommendation of the United Nations Environment Programme that Ogoni be declared a Ramsar site is being followed up by HYPREP and in this regard the Project had contacted the Ramsar Office in Nigeria to begin the process of recognising Ogoni wetlands as Ramsar site of international importance. The first step of scoping those potential wetlands of international importance had been done and we bring you the report of the exercise led by the focal person at the Federal Ministry of Environment and

the National Focal Point for Ramsar Site Convention on Wetlands, Nigeria, Labaran Ahmed.

The success story of HYPREP has continued to elicit commendation from stakeholders who are pleased with the achievements of the Project and want the tempo sustained for full delivery of the mandate of HYPREP to the people of Ogoni. We put together the comments of dignitaries who spoke on the sideline of the inauguration of the Bane water project.

Officials of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) were part of the Nigerian delegation to COP30 held in Belem, Brazil, where the Project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey presented to the global community the efforts HYPREP is making in climate change mitigation by way of shoreline clean-up and mangrove restoration.

In swift response to the unfortunate incident of the collapse of the overhead water tank at the Gwara water station, the Project Coordinator had inaugurated an independent technical committee comprising members of the Nigeria Society of Engineers, the Rivers State branch Chairman of the Nigeria Institute of Structural Engineers and other professionals in the build industry to investigate the possible causes of the ugly occurrence and come up with recommendations that will forestall a recurrence. The committee has since swung into action and their report being awaited.

The process for the selection of eligible candidates for the 2025 edition of the HYPREP postgraduate scholarship is on. The Project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey was at the venue of the certificate verification exercise for the selection of beneficiaries for the postgraduate scholarship programme.

In this edition we celebrate the representative of Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited on the Ogoni clean-up Project, Engr. Ekiyokenegha Clark who has completed his five-year stay at the Project Coordination Office. A send forth was organized for him by his colleagues at the Ogoni Restoration Project at Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited. HYPREP Herald wishes Engr. Clark the best on his new assignment.

And on a sad note, the mother of the Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Abbas Lawal, Hajjiya Dayyaba has passed on having completed her assignment on earth. HYPREP Project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey was among sympathisers who were present to commiserate with the Honourable Minister. May Allah grant the bereaved family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

We wish you a merry Christmas in advance.

News

OPP: HYPREP TAKES DELIVERY OF 4 60MVA TRANSFORMERS, 12 TRUCKS OF ACCESSORIES

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has recorded another significant milestone in the construction of the 132KVA Ogoni Power Project (OPP), following the receipt of four 60MVA transformers for the Wiiyaakara and Bodo transmission sub-stations, and twelve (12) additional trucks containing power accessories.

Earlier this year, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey, Project Coordinator of HYPREP led a Factory Assessment Test (FAT) team to China. A similar visit to India was conducted by other staff of HYPREP along side

the power consultant.

Currently, civil works are ongoing at the transmission sub-stations in Wiiyaakara and Bodo in Khana and Gokana Local Government Areas respectively. Dr. Joseph Aadum, the Technical Assistant (TA) on Power to the Project Coordinator explained that staff quarters and transformer foundations are ready, while the gantry foundation is about 40% complete. Also, the foundation for the third line of gantry is ongoing.

A total of 27 gantries will be constructed for the 132KV transmission-incomer, and 18 at the 33KV-outgoing. Similarly, in

Wiiyaakara, the transformer foundations are under construction.

The power project components include transmission - construction of substations, installation and pre-commissioning (testing).

The Right of Way of the power project passes through twenty-four (24) communities in Eleme, Tai, Gokana and Khana Local Government Areas. At present, payment for the wayleave is ongoing. Khana has been paid, and Gokana is ongoing. This will be followed by Tai and Eleme Local Government Areas.

Phase 1 of the Project is the construction of towers on the Right of



Power Accessories being Off-loaded at Wiiyaakara Sub-Station



Two of the Four 60MVA Transformers

Way. Phase 2 will be the distribution of power to Ogoni communities.

Instructively, the Ogoni Power Project, one of HYPREP's flagship projects is a game changer. Aside the fact that it will connect Ogoni to the national grid and enable reliable and stable power supply, it will sustain the various HYPREP Projects like the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration (CEER), Ogoni Specialist Hospital, Buan Cottage Hospital, Water Projects, and revamp the socio-economic paradigm of Ogoni, strengthening local businesses and placing the region as a destination of choice for investment.

The Ogoni Power Project is one of the key value additions by HYPREP as it implements the recommendations of the UNEP Report on Ogoni Environment.

HYPREP BUILDS WORKERS' TECHNICAL CAPACITY ON OGONI POWER PROJECT

As the Phase 1 of the Ogoni Power Project progresses with the delivery of four 60 MVA transformers and other transmission facilities for the Wiyaaakara and Bodo substations, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project is not resting on its oars to ensure smooth completion of the electricity project in record time.

The latest of HYPREP's action on the Power Project transmission and substation construction was the five-day capacity building programme for its technical support personnel held in Port Harcourt.



HYPREP, Director Technical Services, Prof. Damian-Paul Aguiyi (4th) with other Officials at the Five-Day Power Workshop on Ogoni Power Project



Participants at the Five Day Capacity Building Workshop on Ogoni Power Project

The essence of the training was to enhance the skills and capacity of the technical personnel as it relates to handling the Ogoni Power Project.

This is even as the Project remains firmly committed to driving community growth and promoting sustainable development in its efforts to actualize the expectations of Ogoni communities.

Speaking at the technical training event, the lead facilitator of the training, Engr. Bamidele Shittu described the exercise as timely, noting that it would meaningfully equip participants with the knowledge required for the Ogoni Power Project.

Another facilitator, Surveyor Joseph Amaglo said the programme is designed to help participants better

understand the processes involved in the transmission project and its facility lines.

On his part, the Head of the Technical Support Unit of HYPREP, Mr. Onis Emem said the training would enhance the value and efficiency of the Project's personnel, stressing that it forms part of continuous efforts to improve the project delivery process.

Also speaking, the Technical Assistant to the Project Coordinator on Power Projects, Dr. Joseph Aadum emphasized the need to support the growth and development of Ogoni through skill acquisition and technical exposure of its youths to operations in the power sector.

He explained that the training

became necessary because of the enormous benefits of the project to the people.

“The Power project will improve the livelihood of the people by boosting economic activities, micro business, provide electricity to the various HYPREP projects in Ogoni, and generate employment through micro business,” he said.

Dr. Aadum said the power project will enhance socio economic activities in Ogoni and its environs when completed.

One of the participants at the training, Engr. Lekie Nkpa commended HYPREP on the initiative, noting that it has broadened their understanding of the project and improved their capacity.

OGONI POWER PROJECT, ON COURSE - TECHNICAL ADVISER

The construction of the Ogoni Power Project is on course with each component of the project being delivered according to timeline and specifications.

Dr. Joseph Aadum, Technical Adviser to the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey stated this in an exclusive interview with the *HYPREP Herald*.

He said the construction of 62km, 132KV Double Circuit Transmission Substations at Wiiyaakara in Khana and Bodo in Gokana is going according to plan to connect Ogoni to the national grid for uninterrupted power supply to the area.

The Technical Adviser to the Project Coordinator stated that amongst other things, the Ogoni Power Project will improve the livelihood of the people by boosting economic activities.

Dr, Aadum further stated that upon completion, the Power Project will provide electricity to the various HYPREP projects in Ogoni. These include the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration, CEER, the Buan Cottage hospital and the various water stations in Ogoni. The other benefit of the water project, he explained is employment generation through micro businesses.

Giving an update on the progress of the project, the Technical Adviser to the Project Coordinator disclosed that at the Bodo sub-station, staff quarters are at 85% completion stage, while two 60MVA transformer foundations are 100% completed. He said work is



Power Equipment at the Wiiyaakara Sub-Station

in progress on the 132KV gantry foundations which is at 45% completion stage.

For the Wiiyaakara sub-station, Dr. Aadum stated that the staff quarters' construction is at 75% completion stage, while the 2 60MVA transformer foundations are at 45% completion level, and other works ongoing.

The procurement of transmission line/switch yard equipment, both onshore and offshore components is at

60%. The transmission line Right of Way (ROW) compensation payment for Gokana is in progress, while Khana Local Government Area payment is up to 80% completed. He explained that Tai and Eleme payments have been approved by management.

He stated that the tower spotting is completed, geotechnical soil investigation on the transmission line ongoing, while tower foundation awaits soil test results.



Transformers being Off-loaded at Wiiyaakara Sub-Station

HYPREP LEADS PROCESS FOR OGOINI WETLANDS DESIGNATION AS 'RAMSAR SITE'

In its drive to realize the recommendation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the global declaration of Ogoni wetlands as 'Ramsar Site', the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has commenced the initial and required scoping exercise of the numerous wetlands in Ogoni communities.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in its environmental assessment of Ogoniland had recommended that its wetlands be designated as a "Ramsar Site" of international importance, considering the nature and importance of its ecosystems.

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project in implementing the recommendations of the UNEP report has through the Project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey had discussions with a focal person at the Federal Ministry of Environment and the National Focal Point for Ramsar Site Convention on Wetlands, Nigeria, Labaran Ahmed, on modalities for the designation of Ogoniland as a Ramsar Site of international importance.

To kick start the process, Labaran Ahmed, with designated staff from the Shoreline Clean-up and Mangrove Restoration Sub-unit of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, embarked on a scoping exercise of some wetland communities in Ogoniland, which is



Environment Minister, Balarabe Abbas Lawal and the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, Dr. Musonda Mumba after Discussing Proposal to Declare Ogoni mangroves as Ramsar site, at the CITES COP20, held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

the recommended preliminary step in the designation process for Ramsar Site.

The wetlands scoped by the team include Bodo shoreline, Kegbara Dere coastline and Bomu wetlands.

Explaining the modalities, the focal person from the Federal Ministry of Environment, Labaran Ahmed said to designate a "Ramsar Site" of International importance, first, scoping has to be done, followed by delineation, and then identification of the site, emphasizing that the site must comply with some criteria of the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.

Ahmed said of the about nine (9) criteria, Ogoniland meets more than

five (5) conditions, adding that even meeting one criterion is viable to be declared a Ramsar site. "Ogoniland is qualified to be a Ramsar site of international importance. I studied it myself and found out it is good to go. So, once you do the scoping, you delineate and then write to the Convention that you are interested in doing this, then they will now open a Portal for your data collection, you fill up the questionnaire, then you upload into the portal of the Convention," he clarified.

Explaining the process further, he stated that on completion of the above actions, the Science and Technology Committee in the Secretariat will then review the submission and actions, and formerly qualify the site as a



The “Ramsa Site” Scoping Team at Bomu Mangrove Restoration Site

Ramsar Site of international importance, certifying it with the issuance of a certificate bearing an identity number, recognizing the site as Ogoni Wetlands of International importance, which will be gazetted as a global icon.

Ahmed hinted that the reason for declaring Ogoniland a Ramsar Site is to conserve the bio-diversity, enhance the livelihood of Ogoni people, and to give the area a global face; that is, to be a Ramsar site of international importance to attract eco-tourism that will be beneficial to the state, the community, and the environment, adding that Nigeria, as signatory to the Beyond National Jurisdiction (BNJ) Protocol, and the global demand for the conservation of at least 30% of the lands, water or terrestrial make the process to be possible.

“Ogoniland falls within the water or the marine belt, which we are targeting to at least conserve a certain percentage to meet up with the demand of the BNJ Protocol.

“I think, that is the major cardinal issue: Eco-tourism, global face,

conservation of bio-diversity within the Ogoni wetlands, and then, to enhance the livelihood of the Ogoni people; because it is a value chain from policy to livelihoods, which I pray, at the end of the day, we will achieve that cardinal objective, and Ogoni will be the eighteenth Ramsar site so far,” he said.

HYPREP Director, Technical Services, Prof. Paul-Damian Aguiyi in an interaction with Ahmed, expressed the readiness of HYPREP to ensure the completion of the process of declaring Ogoni a Ramsar Site.

Prof. Aguiyi said all data and features required for Ogoni to be certified as Ramsar site are ready, and that it is a priority for HYPREP to have Ogoni wetlands globally recognized as a Ramsar site.

“This is a box we want to tick. HYPREP is ready, and we will do it,” he assured.

It would be recalled that Ramsar Site evolved as an International Treaty, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

Organization (UNESCO), with a mission to promote global wetland conservation. That is, to ensure the “conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation.”

Ramsar Sites are wetlands of international importance, designated under the Ramsar Convention, an inter-governmental treaty for conserving wetlands, crucial for biodiversity and sustainable use.

“These sites meet specific criteria, such as supporting rare species, unique wetland types, or significant waterbird populations (e.g., 20,000+ waterbirds or 1% of a species' population), and are added to the List of Wetlands of International Importance, obligating governments to protect their ecological character.

Meanwhile, the obligation is that designation grants international recognition and requires the host country to maintain the site's ecological character and promote wise use.

The Honourable Minister of Environment and Chairman, Governing Council of HYPREP, Balarabe Abbas Lawal, had written to the RAMSAR Secretariat to designate the Ogoni mangrove wetland as a RAMSAR Site. He further amplified the government of Nigeria's position on the designation in a meeting with the Ramsar Convention Secretary General, Dr. Musonda Mumba, during the just concluded CITES COP 20, held in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS HAIL HYPREP ON MILESTONE ACHIEVEMENTS

Validations by strategic stakeholders of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) continue to increase as more programmes and facilities are initiated and completed in Ogoni communities.

It was a joyous moment at the commissioning ceremony of HYPREP reticulated potable water project in Bane - the hometown of the legendary environmental rights crusader, Ken Saro-Wiwa, as key stakeholders took turns to applaud the Project Coordinator and the entire HYPREP team on visible achievements made so far in the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) report on Ogoniland.

The various speakers at the event were also thankful to the Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Abbas Lawal for being much concerned and intentional about the success of the Project, especially using his good office as Chairman of the Governing Council of HYPREP to ensure smooth relationship between the various governance structures of the Project.

In his speech, the Board of Trustees Chairman of the Ogoni Trust Fund, Hon. Emmanuel Deeyah said he is delighted to be appointed to serve on a Board that will put smiles on the faces of the Ogoni people through prudent approval and disbursement of funds for project implementation.

He hinted that he is proud of the



Senator Abe

Project because the deliverables can be seen, felt, and of significant impact on the lives of the people, adding that the overall success of the Project is of utmost concern to him and members of the Board.

The BoT chairman used the opportunity to assure the Ogoni people that the Government is ready to contribute its counterpart funds to the Project, appealing to communities to take ownership of projects and facilities sited in them.

Also speaking, the Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Environment, Mahmud Kambari said the Ministry is proud of what the Minister of Environment, Balarabe Lawal is doing in Ogoni through HYPREP, assuring that the Ministry will continue to do its best for the

success of the Project.

Kambari, while flagging off the Educational Support Programme on distribution of school kits to over six hundred Primary School pupils, commended the Project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey on his ingenuity, capacity and commitment in the discharge of his responsibilities, stressing that the Project has witnessed appreciable milestone achievements.

On his part, the Managing Director of Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited, Engr. Tony Attah commended HYPREP on achieving what he described as great outcome on the Project, saying the company is truly happy about the success story of HYPREP in Ogoni.

Attah, represented by the company's

General Manager, Relations and Sustainable Development, Igo Weli, said lives have been positively touched, and communities are getting better with the provision of social amenities, including water, public health service delivery, livelihood programmes and scholarships to deserving persons, land remediation, and the construction of a befitting research institute - the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Remediation, as well as the Power project in Ogoni.

The Renaissance top executive officer reaffirmed the company's shared commitment to building prosperous communities. "Renaissance is proud of the journey for Ogoni development, and we reassure you of our commitment to public-private and people partnership."

He further appealed to the community people to own the project by making good use of it and protecting it from vandalism.

Similarly, the former Minister of State for Commerce, Hon. Kenneth Kobani, in his goodwill message, commended the Honourable Minister, Lawal, saying he has braced the trail and done the Ogoni people proud, affirming that the completion percentages of the projects are real.

According to Hon. Kobani, "positive things are happening from the Ogoni struggle. The dividends are coming out. I have come to put a seal, an approval on the Project's success, because the blind can see, and the deaf can hear that the people are getting something positive from what we

negotiated and are doing on the Project."

In the same vein, the Chairman, National Agency for the Great Green Wall, Sen. Magnus Abe said he can also confirm that something positive has come to Ogoni through HYPREP.

He pointed out that he is equally proud and happy to hear the verifiable success story of the Project. "I have seen water, Centre of Excellence, remediated land, and livelihood programmes initiated. So, I thank the President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, the Honourable Minister, Renaissance Energy, and the Project Coordinator for making things work.

"My charge is for HYPREP to do more, and use the money for Ogoni development, and to urge our good people to show tolerance and support the Project Coordinator on the implementation of the Project," Abe said.

Also speaking, the member representing Khana/Gokana Federal constituency in the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon. Dumnamene Dekor, said the Ogoni cleanup is on course, and that the impacts are enormous.

Rt. Hon. Dekor, who is the Chairman, Committee on Host Communities, congratulated HYPREP on achieving great milestones, asserting that the project is real and working.

He called on the people to protect the water facilities, and particularly commended the Minister and the Project Coordinator on ensuring transparency in the implementation of the Project.

HYPREP also received commendation from the former Commissioner for Environment, Rivers State, Prof. Roselyn Konya, who expressed gratitude to the former President, Muhammadu Buhari, for kick starting the implementation of the UNEP report on Ogoni cleanup.

Prof. Konya extolled the Project Coordinator, Prof. Zabbey and the Minister of Environment, Lawal for implementing the Project with all components fully delivered, adding that Prof. Zabbey has demonstrated competence and openness in the discharge of his responsibilities.

"Former President Buhari did well. We must commend him on actualizing the cleanup. Remediating the polluted environment is to save life. Environment is my food, and I'm happy about that because everybody now wants to do something on the Environment. We must commend the Project Coordinator because when you are given an assignment, do it well. He is doing good work, and we will continue to encourage him," she said.

The Permanent Secretary, Rivers State Ministry of Water Resources and Rural Development, Engr. Nwizug Gonee Gordon expressed satisfaction with the pace and quality of work done by HYPREP. He congratulated the Ogoni people on standing resiliently on their struggle.

He noted that the completion of various HYPREP projects shows dedication and passion by the Project Coordinator and his team, stressing that achievement is a product of dedicated service which has been the

hallmark of the cleanup project.

Engr. Gordon stated that provision of water and other social amenities to the communities by HYPREP is in compliance with Sustainable Development Goal - 6.

The Chairman of Khana Local Government Council, Dr. Bariere Thomas thanked HYPREP for embarking on the construction of meaningful projects in the area, stating that securing the several facilities in

the communities is key, and urged the people and relevant government agencies to prioritize the issue of maintenance and security of the numerous projects.

COP30: HYPREP SHOWCASES ITS MANGROVE RESTORATION EFFORTS TOWARDS CLIMATE MITIGATION

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey has reiterated the role mangrove ecosystems play in carbon sequestration, opportunities for carbon credits and sustainable financing, equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms that ensure communities derive value from restoration efforts, and the importance of stakeholder inclusion, community capacity building, and local ownership for long-term conservation benefits.

Prof. Zabbey stated this when he featured as a distinguished panellist at the Restoration Day event at the just concluded COP30 held in Belem, Brazil.

The forum on “Scaling Restoration as a High-Integrity Nature-Based Solution: From Policy to Finance and Action” is a side event of Conference of the Parties (COP30), convened by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, and the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration (GPFLR).

Prof. Zabbey who presented the



Prof. Zabbey at COP30 Belem, Brazil

progress of HYPREP's Mangrove Restoration Project in Ogoni, highlighted the role mangrove plays in the global effort to mitigate climate change and the benefits that local communities in Ogoni are beginning to get from HYPREP's shoreline clean-up and mangrove restoration project by way of ecosystem goods and services.

As a flagship event of the COP30 Action Agenda, the Restoration Day

brought together government leaders, international organizations, financial institutions, civil societies, and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to spotlight ecosystem restoration as a central pillar of global climate and biodiversity action.

The event underscores landscape restoration as a high-integrity, scalable, and investable Nature-Based Solution, connecting policy, finance, and implementation to accelerate

delivery towards 2030 targets.

At another event of the COP30, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey accompanied the Honourable Minister of Regional Development and member of the

HYPREP Governing Council, Engr. Abubakar Momoh to launch the Ministry's Integrated Climate Action Plan (ICLAP MRD) at the Nigeria Pavilion.

The contributions of Prof. Zabbey

at COP30 reinforce HYPREP's vision of integrating environmental restoration with community empowerment and internationally aligned climate action.

HYPREP HOSTS SIDE EVENT ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS AT COP30 IN BELEM, BRAZIL

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) hosted an engaging side event at COP 30 in the Nigeria Pavilion entitled “Nature-Based Solutions and Carbon Project Development in Nigeria: Lessons and Opportunities from the Mountains, Forests and Mangroves.”

The session brought together distinguished panelists, including Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey of HYPREP, Dr Oliver Owen of Oxford University and Tony Horsfall of the Nigeria Carbon Association. The panel discussions provided thoughtful insights into the role of ecological restoration and carbon project development in advancing Nigeria's climate ambitions. During the discussion, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Prof. Zabbey, presented an in-depth account of the progress recorded in the ongoing mangrove restoration programme in Ogoni.

He highlighted the project's significance as one of Nigeria's leading nature-based solutions for climate mitigation, explaining that it is making measurable contributions to the national pledge to restore 13,000 hectares of mangroves as pledged in the country's latest Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 3.0). With over 1.5 million seedlings



HYPREP Coordinator, Prof. Zabbey with other Panelists at COP30 in Belem, Brazil

already planted, HYPREP's intervention represents a notable share of this national target and exemplifies how well-designed restoration initiatives can deliver both climate and ecological benefits. Recall that HYPREP has delineated over 3,000 ha of oil-degraded mangroves for restoration.

Prof. Zabbey further emphasized the centrality of capacity development and community inclusion in ensuring the sustainability of restoration efforts. He noted that HYPREP has trained 90 Mangrove Vanguard, who have subsequently trained 305 members of their households, each now managing their mangrove nurseries. This approach not only strengthens local stewardship but also provides an alternative source of

livelihood, reduces pressure on the environment, and supports long-term sustainability. He further spoke about the signs of ecological recovery already being recorded, with biodiversity gradually returning as restored mangrove habitats take shape.

The session offered a comprehensive narrative of the opportunities and complexities surrounding nature-based solutions in Nigeria. It reaffirmed that with the right blend of scientific guidance, policy coherence and community engagement, ecological restoration can deliver profound climate, livelihood and environmental gains. HYPREP's ongoing work in Ogoni stands as a compelling example of this potential.

GWARA WATER INCIDENT: HYPREP INAUGURATES INDEPENDENT TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Further to the need for an expanded technical investigation into the collapse of the over-head tank at the Gwara water station, the Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Prof Nenibarini Zabbey has inaugurated a high-powered Independent Technical Sub-committee to unravel the causes of the incident and make recommendations for the prevention of a recurrence.

Members of the Committee include:

1. Engr. Belema Ekine, FNSE (Chairman, Nigeria Society of Engineers, Rivers State Branch)
2. Engr. Power Maeba (Former Rivers State Director of Works)
3. Engr. Obomanu Finisidi (Chairman, Nigeria Institute of Structural Engineers)
4. Engr. Akobo Z.S. Iboroma FNSE (former Chairman, Nigeria Society of Engineers, Rivers State Branch and a veteran lecturer of Structural Engineering).

Inaugurating the Sub-committee at the Project Coordination Office in Port Harcourt, Prof. Zabbey tasked it with undertaking a comprehensive on-site assessment of the structurally failed overhead tank and associated structures, documenting the extent of damage and any safety or environmental concerns.

Similarly, the constitution of the Committee, which is part of the



Prof. Zabbey Interacting with Members of the Technical Committee on Gwara Water Incident in his Office

recommendations of the Interim Committee set up by the Project Coordinator on Wednesday, November 5, is guided by other Terms of Reference, viz:

i. Determine the technical, structural, and material features of the failed tank, including evaluation of design specifications, quality of materials used, workmanship, and compliance with engineering standards.

ii. Review the supervision mechanisms and quality assurance procedures adopted during design, construction, and installation phases of the facility.

iii. Identify any acts of negligence, sabotage, professional misconduct, or lapses in procedure by contractors, supervision consultants, site supervisors and/or third-party

interference that may have contributed to the incident.

iv. Provide actionable recommendations for restoration of the facility and water supply to the communities, future prevention strategies, and institutional measures to strengthen water project supervision, as well as HSE compliance.

Consequently, the Committee is expected to complete its assignment within two (2) weeks from today and submit to the Project Coordinator a detailed report which will include findings and recommendations to enable further necessary management action.

Responding, Engr Akobo Iboroma appreciated the Project Coordinator for engaging the professional bodies and assured of professional and unbiased assessment of the incident.

Earlier, the Hydrocarbon Pollution



HYPREP Legal Adviser, Ichibor Gowon Addressing Gwara Council of Chiefs/CDC

Remediation project has visited the Gwara Community to formally inform the community on steps taken to restore water supply as soon as possible.

The team led by HYPREP Legal Adviser and Vice Chairman of the

Investigative Committee on the Gwara Water Incident, Ichibor Gowon was received by the Gwara Council of Chiefs and Elders at the palace of HRH Mene Victor Zegene III.

The Gwara community, speaking through the Chairman, Community

Development Committee (CDC), Dae Steven Deegbara assured of the community's support to HYPREP to see to the speedy restoration of water supply in the area.

HYPREP WATER INCIDENTS: A RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK FROM CONCERNED PERSONS

By: Head Communications, Dr. Enuolare Mba-Nwigho

All your concerns and submissions are noted. They speak to your strong desire to see the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project succeed. You can be sure that we are not unmindful of your expectations on the Project.

These are trying times and challenges that we are committed to surmounting. Yet, it does not vitiate the fact that other projects are being implemented seamlessly, viz, the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration (CEER),

the soon-to-be-commissioned 40-bed Buan Cottage Hospital, the 100-bed Ogoni Specialist Hospital with an Oncology and Infectious Diseases Department, with state-of-the-art facilities, including the latest MRI machine - targeting access to quality health care for the people of Ogoni and beyond.

A 3-year Human Biomonitoring Study of Ogoni is underway. This December, HYPREP will launch its Free Medical Outreach, aiming to treat more than the over 8,000 people who attended last year. This is being

followed by the health strengthening of the Onne, Nonwa, Bodo and Taabaa public hospitals.

The Ogoni Power Project is on course. With 4 60MVA transformers and over 12 trucks of accessories delivered, we are edging in on delivering Phase 1 of the Project.

Construction work is ongoing at the Wiiyaakara and Bodo transmission substations. When completed, the project holds enormous potential to radically revamp the socioeconomic landscape of Ogoni, making it a destination of choice for industry

siting, increasing job creation, and sustaining HYPREP projects and other critical infrastructure. The Project is also providing an economic roadmap for the Ogoni economy through the ongoing Ogoni Socio-economic Study.

The Project is equally prioritising human capacity development in Ogoni through its various Livelihood Trainings, Workshops and Scholarship schemes. This year, each of the 500 Ogoni Postgraduate students in Master's and PhD programmes will be awarded scholarships worth N500,000 and N1,000,000 respectively. This is unprecedented.

Over 230 Ogoni youths have received Specialised Training in Seafaring, Creative Arts and Aviation. More of these high-demand skills are in the offing. They include GIS, Mechatronics, Full Stack Development, Underwater welding, among others. Again, this is not only a novel initiative, but it also holds the potential to give our youth a significant advantage. This is in addition to the over 5,000 Ogoni women and youths who have been trained in 20 skill sets.

Having nearly completed Phase 1 of the Mangrove Restoration Project, with over 1.4 million mangrove seedlings planted across 560 ha, HYPREP will commence Phase 2 in the coming weeks. This milestone is significant as we witness the recovery of biodiversity and the restoration of livelihoods along the Ogoni shoreline. Beyond this is the knowledge legacy

and science of mangrove planting and conservation that HYPREP is bequeathing to the communities. Before the project commenced, HYPREP had trained 90 community youths and women, who in turn trained over 350 other members, collectively nurturing more than 5 million seedlings. The seedlings were taken off by the contractors, thereby economically empowering local communities.

The Shoreline and soil/groundwater remediation are also ongoing. Next year, characterisation and remediation of the complex sites will commence. The same applies to the subsequent phases of shoreline and mangrove contracts. This means more job opportunities for our young people. This will add to the over 7,000 direct jobs HYPREP has created.

The water projects are also ongoing. HYPREP is committed to pursuing its target of providing potable water to communities in Ogoni.

HYPREP is simultaneously implementing all the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on the Ogoni Environment. The latest development is the commencement of the process to designate the region's wetland as a Ramsar site. This move will help conserve biodiversity, support livelihood, foster ecotourism, and earn global recognition for Ogoni. HYPREP is adding value and effectively implementing the UNEP recommendations in both spirit and

letter.

The Project is committed to peacebuilding in the region. This is why it is constantly engaging stakeholders and training community leaders in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), particularly in the light of the need to foster peace in the region, which is a necessary precursor to effective project implementation and development.

Consequently, the Project remains mindful of the high expectations from all stakeholders and remains committed to meeting them. Like every development project, counterpart 'funding' makes parties responsible for its successful implementation and sustainability. Against all odds, we urge our people to continue supporting the Ogoni Clean-up Project.

In closing, no ethnic nationality has the same opportunities and 'bounties' that Ogoni has. Let us make the most of this Special Purpose Vehicle-HYPREP to achieve our collective vision for the Ogoni that we can all be proud of.

LET'S SUPPORT HYPREP TO SUCCEED!



OUR POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP IS SEED FOR OGOINI DEVELOPMENT – *PROF. ZABBEY*

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey is optimistic that the postgraduate scholarship of the Project is geared towards producing academics who will drive Ogoni development as well as support quality research that will contribute to national development and transform families.

Prof. Zabbey stated this when he visited the venue of the Certificate Verification Exercise for selection of beneficiaries for the HYPREP Postgraduate Scholarship Programme.

For the 2025 edition of the programme, HYPREP upscaled the number of beneficiaries from three hundred (300) to five hundred (500). He called on all stakeholders on the

Ogoni Project to play their part in the socio-economic transformation of the area.

"On this transformative journey, always take steps to contribute your own lot, so that collectively we will make Ogoni proud. We will transform Ogoni; we will transform Nigeria.

"Such a journey requires the input of everyone. It requires your doggedness. It requires your contribution. It requires your steadfastness, collective movement. We have to hold our hands to get to the finish line."

Prof. Zabbey reassured candidates of a transparent selection process, insisting that only those who pass the exams and have the required certificates and status will be eligible for the scholarship.

Over eight hundred (800) candidates sat for the Computer Based

Test which was held on October 25, 2025. The initiative is part of HYPREP's sustainable human capital development effort in Ogoni in line with the President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's Renewed Hope Agenda under the supervision of the Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Abbas Lawal.

In another department, Prof Zabbey received the World Health Organization's International Agency on Research on Cancer-WHO-IARC.

The Agency which has been commissioned by HYPREP to carry out a 3-year Human Biomonitoring Study of Ogoni, briefed the Project Coordinator on its activities to herald the commencement of the study, which among others include engagement with stakeholders viz the Rivers State University and relevant Units of the Project.



Prof. Zabbey Interacting with Potential Beneficiaries of HYPREP Post Graduate Scholarship Programme

PROF. ZABBEY EXTOLLS ENGR. CLARK ON COMMITMENT TO OGONI CLEANUP

Following the successful completion of the tenure of Engr. Ekiyokenegha Clark as the representative of the Renaissance Africa Energy Company/Joint Venture on the Ogoni Clean-up Project, a send-forth was held to celebrate his meritorious and impactful contributions to the programmes of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP).

HYPREP Coordinator, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey extolled Engr. Clark's commitment and dedication, noting that his ownership and contributions to the Project's achievements are indelible.

Engr. Clark's five-year stint on the Ogoni Cleanup Project gave him the opportunity to contribute significantly to the development of operational



L-R: Prof. Damian-Paul Aguiyi, Engr. Ekiyokenegha Clark and Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey at the Send forth of Engr. Clark

policy frameworks, protocols and field operations across the Project.

The send forth was organised by the Ogoni Restoration Project (ORP) of Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited and had in attendance the Director, Technical

Services of HYPREP, Professor Damian-Paul Aguiyi, management and staff members of HYPREP and Renaissance Africa Energy Company Limited.

OGONI CLEAN-UP: PROF. ZABBEY RECEIVES MORE LAURELS ON EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

In recognition and appreciation of the commitment of the Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey to the implementation of the Ogoni clean-up project, more organizations have continued to confer on him awards of excellence to spur him to contribute more to the development of Ogoni and restoration of the environment.

The latest recognition is an Award of Excellence presented to him by the West African Society for Pharmacology in appreciation of Prof Zabbey's outstanding leadership,



Prof. Zabbey Poses with the Award of Excellence by the West African Society for Pharmacology

environmental stewardship and unwavering commitment to advancing sustainable development and community Well-being.

The other is Prof Zabbey's conferment as an Honourary Member of the Philosophers Association of Nigeria.

Prof Zabbey has won several academic and social awards and research grants. He is the recipient of the ASLO 2022 Ruth Patrick Award “for research and engagement with a critical impact on the recovery of the Niger Delta ecosystem from oil spills and environmental justice for affected communities. He is the only African who has won the Ruth Patrick Award since it was instituted twenty-four years ago.

Zabbey is a Professor of



Prof. Zabbey Poses with the Award of Excellence by the Philosophers Association of Nigeria

Biomonitoring and Restoration Ecology and a Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP). He is a member of several professional bodies. He is a fellow of the Nigerian Environmental Society (FNES), a fellow of the Fisheries Society of Nigeria (Ffs), a fellow of the Freshwater Biological Association of

Nigeria (FFBAN), a fellow of the West Africa Society of Toxicology (FWASOT), a fellow of the Occupational Safety and Health Association (FOSHA), and a fellow of the Centre for Conflict and Security Studies (FCCSS) among others.

PROF. ZABBEY CONSOLES ENVIRONMENT MINISTER, LAWAL OVER PASSING OF MUM

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has joined other sympathisers to console the Honourable Minister of Environment and Chairman of the Governing Council of HYPREP, Balarabe Abbas Lawal over the passing of his dear mother, Hajjiya Dayyaba.

Prof. Zabbey who on behalf of himself, Management and Staff of HYPREP extended condolences to the Honourable Minister and the bereaved family, prayed Allah (SWT) to forgive her shortcomings, grant her Al-Jannatul Firdaus, shower her with mercy, and grant her loved ones the



Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey with other Sympathisers Console Hon. Minister of Environment, Lawal over Passage of Mum

fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

The HYPREP Coordinator had also joined other sympathisers in Zaria, Kaduna State to bid farewell to

late Hajjiya Dayyaba, mother of the Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Abbas Lawal.



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT (HYPREP)
Communications Unit**

PRESS STATEMENT

1. The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) is deeply concerned about the rupture of the ground tank at the Ebulu water facility. The unfortunate incident occurred at 10:36 am Saturday 22nd November, 2025.
2. On the directive of the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey, a team led by the Director of Technical Services (DTS), Professor Damian-Paul Aguiyi has visited the scene to assess the situation, and the water station has been cordoned off for public safety. We sincerely regret the inconveniences this has caused the Ebulu community. We also appeal to the good people of Ebulu and the public to remain calm as the Project is taking prompt steps to restore water to the community. At the same time, the cause of the incident is being investigated.
3. Consequently, the Project Coordinator has further directed the Chief Security Officer of HYPREP to immediately tighten security across all HYPREP's project sites to forestall interference with the facilities. Henceforth, non-project personnel and non-facility staff are not allowed into the 16 water facilities and any active HYPREP sites in Ogoniland.
4. Despite this setback, HYPREP reiterates its commitment to delivering sustainable cleanup in Ogoniland.

Signed
Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh
Head, Communications
22/11/2025

Nigeria Maritime University,
Okerekokoko, Warri South-west Delta State,
Nigeria.
November 21st, 2025.

The Project Coordinator,
HYPREP.

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

Dear Professor Nenibarini Zabbey,

I wish to formally express my sincere appreciation to you for granting me the opportunity to undertake my Industrial Training in this esteemed organization.

Although I did not have the privilege of working with you directly, I am truly grateful for the platform and environment your leadership has created one that encourages learning, professionalism, and the development of practical skills.

My experience here has allowed me to gain valuable technical knowledge, build my confidence, and better understand the demands of the field. I am deeply thankful for the support and structure your organization provides to interns, enabling us to grow and contribute meaningfully during our training period.

Thank you once again, for this opportunity. It has been an honour to learn under the umbrella of this organization, and the experience will remain a significant part of my academic and professional journey.

Yours faithfully,

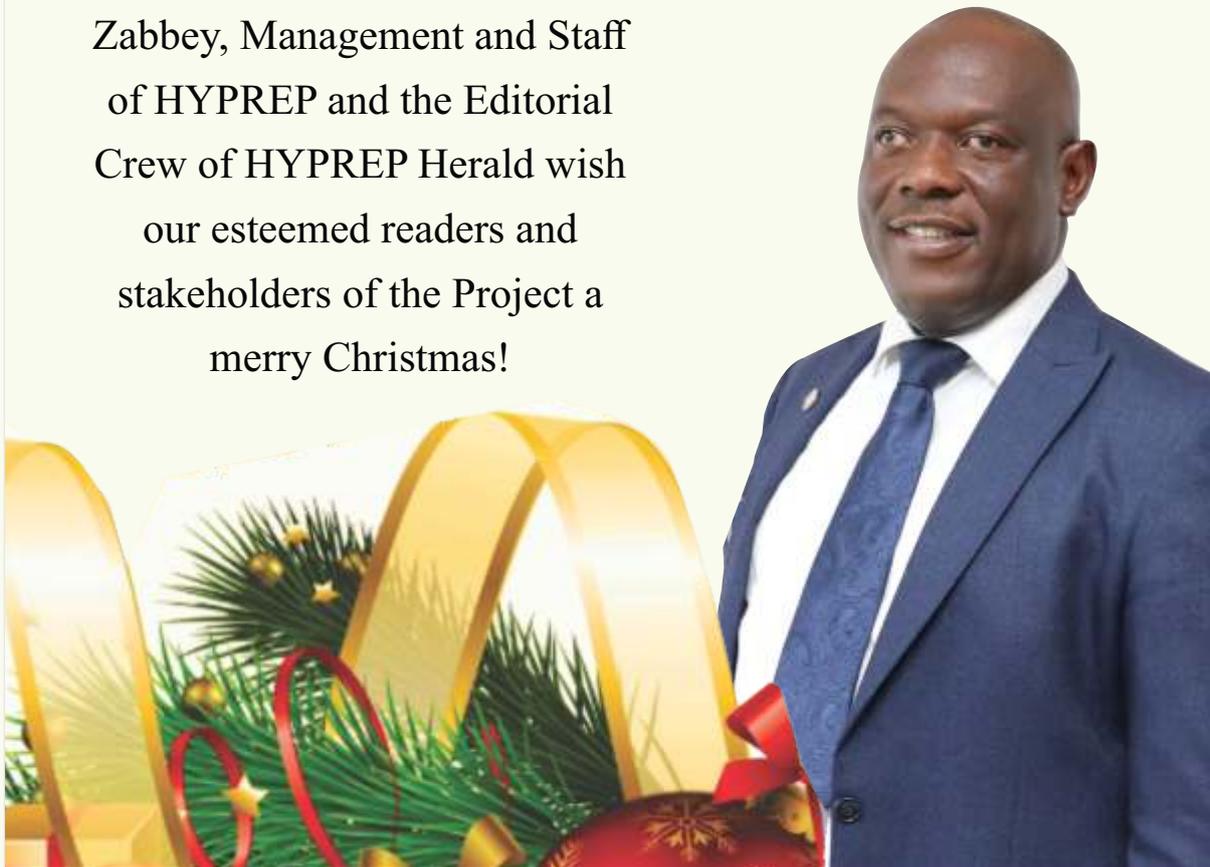
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**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT
(HYPREP)**

MERRY
Christmas

The Project Coordinator of
HYPREP, Prof. Nenibarini
Zabbey, Management and Staff
of HYPREP and the Editorial
Crew of HYPREP Herald wish
our esteemed readers and
stakeholders of the Project a
merry Christmas!



PICTURES OF THE MONTH



L-R: Hon. Minister, Regional Development, Abubakar Momoh, Prof. Zabbey and a Participant at COP30, Belem, Brazil



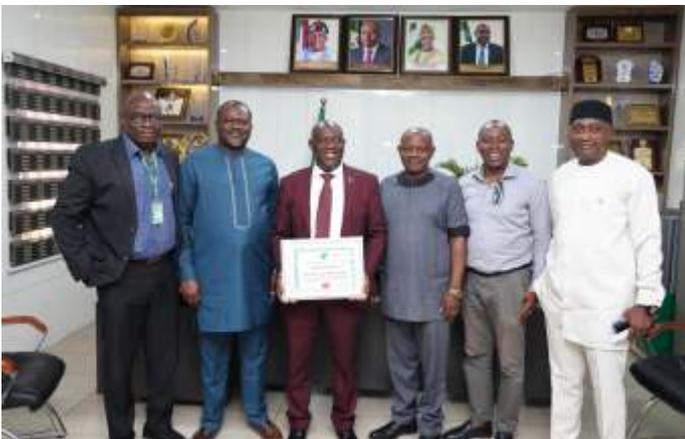
Prof. Zabbey and some Nigerian Participants at COP30, Belem, Brazil



Prof. Zabbey with Members of WHO-IARC Team



Prof. Zabbey (middle) with HYPREP Chief Security Officer, AIG Emmanuel Effiom (left) and some Members of the Technical C'ttee on Gwara Water Incident



Prof. Zabbey Poses with an Award of Excellence



Prof. Zabbey in a Handshake with Engr. Clark



Participants at the Capacity Building Workshop on Ogoni Power Project



Visit of National Focal Person on Ramsa Site, Labaran Ahmed (5th) to HYPREP Office

OGONI CLEAN-UP ...HYPREP SPEARHEADING MANGROVE RESTORATION

POETRY CORNER

OGONI WETLANDS

Beneath the dawn's soft amber glow,
The Ogoni wetlands breathe and rise;
Their silver creeks in gentle flow
Mirror stories etched in skies.

Mangroves lean like ancient keepers,
Roots clasped deep in tidal lore;
They whisper secrets to the sweepers
Winds that hum along the shore.

Hérons drift through veils of morning,
Frogs awake in woven reeds;
Life unfurls without a warning,
Bold and lush in all its deeds.

Yet still the wetlands dream of healing,
Clearer streams and quieter pain;
Where earth and water, once revealing,
Mend their bond and bloom again.

Editorial Crew

Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey	Publisher-in-Chief
Kpoobari Nafu	Editor
Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh	Head Reportorial
Sunday Zorva	Senior Correspondent
Faith Deekor	Reporter
Imeh Ofem	Reporter
Clara Azubuike	Reporter
Confidence Boms	Reporter (Intern)
Tombari Naadue	Camera
Godwin Norbana	Camera
Lekue Akpo	Camera

Photo:HYPREP



THE ENVIRONMENT ON MARBLE

“No occupation is so delightful to me as the culture of the earth, and no culture comparable to that of a garden.”

– Thomas Jefferson

PHOTO:HYPREP

... for a cleaner and greener Ogoniland

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