



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
**HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT**  
HYPREP..Remediating the Environment and Restoring Livelihoods

# HYPREP HERALD

JULY 2022 VOL.1 No.4

## HYPREP COMPLETES REMEDIATION OF 46 LOTS



REMEDIATED LAND

We Shall Be Holistic In Addressing The  
Livelihood Needs Of Ogoni People  
- Dr. Giadom

HYPREP Set To Build Legacy  
Hospital In Ogoniland

Remediation of Complex Sites  
Starts Soon

HYPREP  
HERALD  
**NOT  
TO BE  
SOLD**



# THE PC'S DESK



DR. FERDINAND DUMBARI GIADOM  
Project Coordinator

When we announced our intention to connect Ogoniland to the national grid at a town hall meeting, the Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi had with the Ogoni people in Bori in April this year, it sounded too good to be true to some who took the proposal for one of those empty political talks that were never intended to be implemented except to haul in political patronage; but we stand by our pronouncement to see to it that the dream is translated into reality. Initial engineering drawings for the Ogoni Power Project have been sketched and discussions initiated with the Federal Ministry of Power on the commencement of the project. This month, officials of the

Ministry are due in Ogoni for the revalidation of the design, which is a follow up to the meeting between the Ministries of, Power and Environment on the take-off of the project.

Upon the eventual completion of the Power Project, it will change the economic fortunes of Ogoni forever. Expectedly the socio-economic life of the people will greatly improve from the growth and development that will emanate therefrom. It is therefore imperative on the part of the Ogoni people, especially the youths to support the Federal Government in this regard to actualize this legacy project. For a start, there are immediate benefits of employment generation that will come from the construction works, and the social stability that the engagement of hitherto idle youths will bring to bear on the society. Consequently, crime rate will drop, and the youths will aspire to productive ventures. This is aside the push for skill acquisition that constant power supply catalyzes. The other benefits will be the sustainable operation of the potable water scheme that HYPREP is providing in Ogoni and the energization of the economic hub that we are creating for our

alternative livelihood programme.

To prepare the mind of the youths to receive these projects and programmes that we are working on, we had to convoke a summit for them last month, where issues of re-pollution arising from illegal bunkering and artisanal oil refining, cultism, unemployment, etc. were discussed with a view to finding solution to them. The interactive session will be continuous and at every level of youth engagement.

The work of orientating the youths is easier at a more tender age. This explains why we inaugurated environment clubs in some secondary schools in Ogoniland at this year's World Environment Day Celebration held in Bori, Khana Local Government Area. This is to instill in them the culture of protecting the environment from harmful practices and procedures and to make them advocates for same.

Overall, the Ogoni people will be better for it from the on-going remediation work in their land and life at all levels will be gradually restored where hope had been lost.



Dr Giadom Addressing Ogoni Youths

# In this Issue

The last issue which was a commemorative edition of the sixth anniversary of the flag-off of the Ogoni clean-up project chronicled the events before, (the 2015 presidential campaign promise of Muhammadu Buhari), during (the activities of that day) and after (the set-up of HYPREP and the start of the clean-up proper) the flag-off that was performed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari who was represented by his Deputy, Professor Yemi Osinbajo. In this issue being the fourth edition of the HYPREP Herald we bring you the harvest of that flag-off – the completion of active remediation of forty-six Lots spread across the four Local Government Areas of Ogoniland (Eleme, Tai, Gokana and Khana). Though the completion of the Lots, which are the first two remediation contracts awarded in 2019 and 2020, is coming slightly behind timeline, it is a cheering news for all lovers of the environment who had eagerly and excitedly looked forward to this day. The completion is a clear testimony to the fact that HYPREP is on course to deliver on its mandate of

remediating the environment, restoring the livelihoods of impacted communities and other deliverables recommended in the UNEP Report (provision of potable water, conduct of health impact study).

In preparation for the conduct of the health impact study of persons exposed to hydrocarbon pollution, the Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom convened a strategy session with members of the Ogoni Doctors Forum on the planned take-off of the assessment. The report of that discussion is featured in this issue.

There was another engagement – the interactive session with Ogoni youths who are majorly the beneficiaries of the alternative livelihood training for ex-artisanal refiners. The forum which was massively attended by the youths was as engaging as it was rewarding. You will equally find the report in this edition of the HYPREP Herald.

We had given you a fore taste of the World Environment Day Celebration in the last edition with an essay on the 2022 theme, 'Only One Earth' but in this issue we bring you the full report of how HYPREP celebrated the day in Ogoni with a public lecture on the importance of the environment, which was delivered by

renowned scholar and energy expert, Professor Chidi Ibe. The Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom used the occasion to launch the environment club in three secondary schools in Ogoni.

The Rivers State University played a key role in the 2009 to 2011 environmental assessment of Ogoniland by providing technical support and in recognition of that community service, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor, Professor Nlerum Okogbule to again seek the collaboration of the University in the conduct of the Health Impact Study and setting up of the Centre of Excellence in Environmental Restoration. Details of the visit and other stories are given in this edition.

We introduced a segment, 'Facts About HYPREP' in the last edition and it is continued in this issue. Also in this edition, we present the combined work of three of our Technical Assistants on, Ecological Footprints from Ogoni Environmental Remediation Project. The poetry corner features a free verse on the little things that kill the environment, and it is our hope that you will find this edition an interesting package as always. We would be glad to get your feedback on better ways of serving you. Our contact is at the back page.

## POETRY CORNER

### THE LITTLE THINGS THAT KILL

By: Sadiq Daneji

They told me about,  
The little things we do  
The solitary plastic bags  
Thrown carelessly by the roadside  
Then another, and another  
Till they block the World's nose  
And she can't breathe anymore

They told me about,  
The day, the world's heartbeat  
Slowed down, it started  
With a gust of smoke  
Now, it is toxins, crammed  
Through her throat.  
She is choking  
Yet we think she is joking  
They told me about the water and the fish

For this story will be incomplete  
If we don't see the seabed set on ocean floor  
A house smeared with chemicals and grease  
The migrant fish in protest wail  
What they did to deserve this

They told me about you, and I  
About our crimes and grimes  
in all that we do  
But they forgot to tell me  
About the little things  
We always forget to do  
To reuse, refuse, reduce  
To remediate and renew  
To listen to Earth speak  
And respond with kindness  
Because someday, if we fail to reflect  
The carcasses of the little things that kill  
May grow bigger than the Earth herself.

## Editorial Crew Members

Dr. Ferdinand Giadom	Publisher-in-Chief
Kpoobari Nafo	Editor
Jimmy Okoroh	Online Editor
Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh	Head Reportorial
Faith Deekor	Reporter
Imeh Ofem	Reporter
Tombari Naadue	Camera
Mike Cowing	Technical Advisor
Apoorva Bose	Technical Advisor
Sweet Okundaye	Legal Adviser



## Project News

### HYPREP Completes Remediation Of 46 Lots

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has completed active clean-up of forty-six lots across the four Local Government Areas of Ogoniland.

The forty-six lots are in phase 1, batches 1 and 2 of the fifty remediation contracts awarded separately in 2019 and 2020. Sixteen (16) of the forty-six completed lots have been certified clean by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) after series of sample collection and laboratory test, while the remaining thirty (30) lots are at different stages of NOSDRA certification and close out.

The scope of work and processes involved in the remediation of the forty-six lots include, excavation and treatment of impacted soil, quality assurance and control, monitoring of treated soil volumes, backfilling of excavated pits with treated soil, general leveling and landscaping of the site.

In 2019, the Project awarded the first

batch of twenty-one lots to remediation contractors for clean-up, but the work was largely delayed due to weather conditions and community dispute over some of the lands to be remediated while the other twenty-nine lots were awarded in 2020 to consolidate on the success recorded in the award of the first batch of remediation contracts.

Contamination in these two batches of Lots is mainly in the soil and they are categorized under simple sites in the clean-up of Ogoniland.

The next phase of remediation will be the clean-up of complex sites where both soil and ground water are contaminated, and they are mostly in built up areas and the shorelines that require advanced technologies to deal with. Upon the successful clean-up of the shorelines, it would be followed by mangrove restoration.

Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom stated that the completion of active remediation of the forty-six Lots is a pointer to the fact that

HYPREP is out to deliver on its mandate.

“This demonstrates the commitment of HYPREP to implementing the recommendations of the UNEP report and then the project plans that will help the delivery of contaminated sites. The plan was that we should start with category B sites, which are the less complex sites, less impact, less risk sites, as a process of under-studying the complexities of the contaminated sites and managing the remediation project. And so having done that, we have visually more or less come to a point where we have done a significant percentage of the less complex sites and having gathered experience that we have from these sites, we are now fully armed to go into the more complex, high-risk sites that are closer to communities.”

Dr. Giadom revealed that characterization and delineation of complex and semi complex sites which is the next phase of remediation have started.

“Again, we have started a process of assessing, evaluating, and scoping of shoreline inter-tidal remediation sites and so all these other complex sites, semi medium risk sites are sites that we will



Completed Remediation Lot



begin to look at from the beginning of July and the communities will begin to see HYPREP remediation activities come closer to them. They will see that their shoreline will begin to be addressed and then they will see the return of mangrove as we also begin the process of re-vegetation and planting of mangroves in areas that are ready to receive.”

“Having done the SCAT survey in certain areas, we have added the five areas where the degree of oiling can tolerate re-vegetation. These areas, we will deploy a special type of remediation known as Phyto remediation. Here we use flora, different kinds of flora which are plants that help disintegrate these complex organic molecules because the enzymes that are released by the root system of these mangroves actually breakdown these complex hydrocarbon molecules into simpler forms. That is the essence of phyto remediation. With this and many more we will begin to make sure that the project go to deliver on the key mandate and recommendations of the UNEP report.”

He said the project is putting in place measures that will guard against delay in meeting timelines having learned from the lapses observed in the first two remediation contracts. In his words.

“One of the drawbacks of the previous project that made it lapsed beyond the time allotted for it, was that the technologies used were not designed to be whether compliant and so some of the activities could not be carried out at certain time of the year but what we are doing now is that we have taken that on board and we are designing a system that will be deployed all year round.”

The HYPREP Project Coordinator stated categorically that the next phase of clean-up which is the remediation of complex sites will be contracted to companies of proven track records so as to deliver the project on time, on target and on cost.

“There is no other way because if you task people who are incompetent, if you task people who are inexperienced, if you task people who do not have the right technologies, if you task people who do not have the right financial capabilities to

carry out this task, from the day you task them, you expect them to fail and so we do not want to start a process that you will not conclude. We do not want to start a process that will not deliver on the key mandate.

Therefore, complex sites even as we speak are being remediated around the world, there are people who have the technologies, who have the knowledge, who have the experience, the equipment to carry out these activities.”

“However, the fact that we are going to put these sites at the responsibility of companies of proven track records of having done or handled projects of this sort, we will design the contract in such a way that there will be sub-contracts within the main contracts that will enable the participation of the Ogoni people, Ogoni contractors, other people from the Niger Delta, other people across the country. So, it is going to be an integrated system of contracting but the entire remediation of the complex sites will be placed at the reserve of people with proven track record.”



Completed Remediation Lot With Grass Sprouting



## Status of work done on Phase 1 Batch 1 Remediation Lots

S/NO	LOT NO.	CONTRACTOR	SITE NAME	STATUS	
1	001	Nautilus Nigeria Engineering Construction Ltd	Okenta Alode, Eleme LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
2	002	Basic Nigeria Technology	Oboolo Egbu, Eleme LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
3	003	Pacrim Engineering Ltd	Nkeleoken Alode Eleme LGA	Awaiting NOSDRA Close -out sampling results	
4	004	Rdk Environmental Ecosolutions Ltd		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
5	005	Earthpro Unique Integrated		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
6	006	Environmental Resources Managers Ltd		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
7	007	Avondale Supplies & Services Ltd		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
8	008	Giolee Global Resources Ltd		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
9	009	Odun Environmental Ltd		Sanaako Mogho Gokana LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.
10	010	Rey & Reina International Ltd		Debon Mogho/Bodo Gokana LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close-out/Certification Processes successfully.
11	011	Mosvinny Nigeria Ltd	Completed Remediation Works and Awaiting NOSDRA Closeout Sampling		
12	012	Shamsa Resources & Services Ltd	Awaiting NOSDRA Close -out sampling results		
13	013	Centennial Investment & Devt Ltd	Nweekol Zorbuike K-Dere, Gokana LGA	Completed Remediation Works and Awaiting NOSDRA Closeout Sampling	
14	014	Navante Oil & Gas Company Ltd		Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
15	015	Secura Investment Ltd	Wiiiborsi, Kpean, Khana LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
16	016	Newline W.A Ltd	Buemene Korokoro Well 05, Tai LGA	Completed Active Remediation Works. Awaiting NOSDRA Closeout Sampling	
17	017	Tip Tree Nigeria Ltd	Bara Akpor, Botem, Tai LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
18	018	Louizioni Ferreti Ent. Ltd	Buemene Korokoro Well 09, Tai LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
19	019	Asonic Associates Ltd	Buemene Korokoro Well 08, Tai LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Processes successfully.	
20	020	Amazing Environmental		Awaiting NOSDRA Close -out sampling results	
21	021	Newpal Nigeria Ltd	Aabue/Ueken Well 06 Tai LGA	Completed remediation works and NOSDRA Close-out/Certification Processes successfully.	



## Status of work done on Phase 1 Batch 2 Remediation Lots

S/NO	LOT NO.	CONTRACTOR	SITE NAME	STATUS
1	022	Vitruvian Global Resources	B-Dere/Gio, Gokana LGA	Completed Remediation Works, awaiting NOSDRA Close -out / Certification Sampling
2	023	Cascade Engr Systems Ltd		Completed Remediation Works, awaiting NOSDRA Close -out/Certification Sampling Result
3	024	Levene Energy Dev Ltd		Awaiting laboratory results from NOSDRA re-sampling after correction of exceedances from initial NOSDRA Close-out results.
4	025	Subadom Global Resources Ltd		Completed Active remediation works. Awaiting NOSDRA Close-Out sampling
5	026	Earthquest Int'l Ltd		Awaiting laboratory results from NOSDRA re-sampling after correction of exceedances from initial NOSDRA Close-out results
6	027	Marm Consulting Services Ltd	Bara Alue, Kira, Tai LGA	Completed Remediation Works, awaiting NOSDRA Close-out / Certification
7	028	Emamed Nig Ltd		Completed Active remediation Works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Closeout/Certification Sampling
8	029	Weafri Well Services	Aabue Korokoro Flowstation, Tai LGA	Completed active Remediation Works. awaiting results NOSDRA Close -out/ Certification
9	030	Elizax Bleet Nig Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
10	031	Oilserv Ltd	B-Dere/Gio, Gokana LGA	Completed active remediation works. Awaiting NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
11	032	Mosito Environmental Ltd		Excavation and treatment of impacted soil in progress.
12	033	Christohouston Energy Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
13	034	Dlk Oil & Gas Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
14	042	Kanny Koy Ltd	Buemene Korokoro Well 04, Tai LGA	Awaiting results from NOSDRA re -sampling after correction of exceedances from initial NOSDRA Close-out results.
15	043	Otaoilf Services Ltd	Aleto Ngofa, Aleto, Eleme LGA	Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
16	044	M/S Harrisco Int'l Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
17	045	Chavyn Nig Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close-out/certification sampling
18	046	Andelsta Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling
19	047	Lapideo Multi Services Ltd	Okuluebu Ogale Eleme LGA	Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close -out/certification sampling



S/NO	LOT NO.	CONTRACTOR	SITE NAME	STATUS
19	047	Lapideo Multi Services Ltd	Okuluebu Ogale Eleme LGA	Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
20	048	Slot Eng Nig Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
21	049	Environ Consult & Remedial Service Ltd		Excavation Completed, treatment of impacted soil ongoing.
22	050	Klartek Nig Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
23	051	Erotina Nig Ltd		Excavation Completed, treatment of impacted soil ongoing.
24	052	Montego Upstream Services Ltd		Excavation and treatment of impacted soil in progress
25	053	Atlas- Ray & Sons Coy Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
26	054	Brant Technologies Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
27	055	Adg Int'l Resources Ltd		Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close - out/certification sampling
28	056	Awa Engr Coy Ltd		New Elelenwo Manifold, Akpajo, Eleme, LGA
29	057	Integrated Chemical Works Ltd	Completed active remediation works. Awaiting results from NOSDRA Close-out/certification sampling	



## We Shall Be Holistic In Addressing The Livelihood Needs Of Ogoni People - Dr. Giadom

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation Project HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom has said that his administration will be holistic in addressing the livelihood needs of the Ogoni people.

Dr. Giadom stated this in Port Harcourt during a stakeholder engagement session with the youths of Ogoni.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Giadom said HYPREP will be training more than two hundred (200) Ogoni youths in several vocations to make them self-reliant. "The training, which is part of HYPREP's livelihood restoration programme will see the training of youths in diverse fields like aviation, who will work in the airline industry."

"We want to train a hundred aviators, by this I mean those who will work in the airline industries. We are going to start with the training of air hostesses, air ticketing officers and air traffic controllers. Aside this, we want to also train one hundred seamen and seafarers, who will be trained for twelve months on sea time".

Dr. Ferdinand said that as part of the Livelihood intervention programme, HYPREP will visit Ogoni communities to identify small businesses that will be given support through revolving fund and assured that the Livelihood programme will be all-encompassing.

He noted that "the number of youth groups requiring attention for livelihood is huge. In whatever we are going to do, it is going to be holistic. We are not going to focus on certain groups, but we are going to spread our arms as wide as possible to make sure that we address the livelihood needs of the Ogoni youths."

The HYPREP boss informed that fifty lots of the simple sites have been remediated thus far and some certified by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) and that HYPREP has started the processes that will lead to the remediation of complex sites.

On the connection of Ogoni to the national grid, Dr. Giadom assured that the project would be carried out before the expiration of

President Muhammadu Buhari's administration.

"Ogoni power project is my flagship project. Linking Ogoni communities to the national grid will improve Ogoni economy as many people will go into business. As I speak to you today, the Honourable Minister of Environment has spoken to his counterpart in the Ministry of Power about this. Consequently, the engineering design for this power project is already ongoing and very soon, a team of engineers will be on ground to begin the project" he affirmed.

The Project Coordinator stated that his administration will honour the memories of the departed Heroes of Ogoni by making sure that the project succeeds.

Dr. Giadom said that the interactive session was aimed at getting feedback from the youths, who are the main beneficiaries of the programmes of HYPREP. "There is need to hear your views concerning challenges, especially in areas the Project is not doing well with the intent to proffer solutions that

would move the Project forward". He enjoined the youths of Ogoni to support and embrace the Project for it to achieve set goals and objectives.

Responding to questions during the interactive session, Dr. Giadom assured that HYPREP will fast track the livelihood needs assessment programme. He also informed that the second phase of the water project will capture more communities that were not captured in the first phase.

He disclosed that the engagement of five thousand Ogoni youths for community surveillance has been approved and reaffirmed the commitment of HYPREP to implementing the UNEP Report. The Project Coordinator assured youths that the interactive session will not be a one-off programme as he will continue to engage with them to ensure that they have their say in the Project.

Present at the meeting were Ogoni youths from different walks of life and Management and staff of HYPREP.



Dr. Giadom Addressing Youths Of Ogoni



Cross Section of Youths at the Interactive Session



## HYPREP Set To Build Legacy Hospital In Ogoniland

In addition to dealing with matters of environmental restoration and the creation of alternative livelihoods for the people of Ogoni, a health impact study was one of the key deliverables recommended by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in its report on Ogoniland that was submitted to the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2011. The UNEP Report recommended that everyone who has consumed water from contaminated sources should be requested to undertake a comprehensive medical examination by physicians knowledgeable about the possible adverse health effects of the hydrocarbon detected and a focused medical study be initiated to track the health of the Ogoni community over their lifetime to ensure any possible health impacts are identified early enough and acted upon.

In line with that mandate and in an effort at strengthening the health system in Ogoniland, the second Governing Council of HYPREP at one of its meetings approved the strengthening of four (4) healthcare facilities as well as the construction of a Specialist Hospital in Ogoniland. The intervention is in furtherance of the Project's commitment to embark on legacy projects that have direct impact on the people.

Pursuant to this, the Coordination Office of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), convened a stakeholder engagement session with the Ogoni Doctors Forum (ODF) to develop a framework for the establishment of a standard hospital in Ogoniland and strengthen the General Hospitals at Terabor, Nchia and Bori, aimed at addressing the healthcare gap in Ogoniland.

The Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom, who chaired the meeting, said the plan to build a legacy hospital in Ogoniland is going the extra mile in implementing the UNEP Report as HYPREP is determined to improve the living condition of the people and posited that the legacy hospital as an initiative will have direct positive impact on the people of Ogoniland, who he noted have been exposed to contaminants either through the food chain, drinking water or the air.

Dr. Giadom stated that in providing the deliverables of the Project, his target would not be focused solely on “impacted communities” since the project arose out of an “Ogoni struggle” and not “impacted communities' struggle”. He charged the Ogoni Doctors to think wholistically. “Look at impact of hydrocarbon as a broad spectrum, from the low end, which is just

irritability, hormonal imbalances, to the high end, where we can talk about cancer”.

Dr. Naziga Francis the Project Manager, Rivers State Agency for the Control of AIDS, in his intervention opined that HYPREP should set up a community health insurance system, provide initial seed grants, and put equipment in the already outlined facilities to enable the people of Ogoni access medical care in their catchment Local Government Areas.

Another participant at the forum, Dr. Akpobari said that the Legacy Hospital will serve as a hub and largely take care of the health needs of the Ogoni people. He further stated that there is the need to sensitize the people of Ogoni on the importance of visiting medical facilities for routine check-ups.

In his contribution, Dr. William Mube made a case for the establishment of a central tertiary health facility or referral centre in Ogoni that should house different specialties and urged the Project to collaborate with government and other agencies to attract more development to the area. He noted that the Ogoni Doctors will make it a point of duty to render community services regularly as a way of supporting the Project.

The Paramount Ruler of Barako town, Chief Kadilobari Kabari commended the Management of HYPREP on putting forward such a noble idea that promises to address the health challenges of the people and thanked the Governing Council of HYPREP for proposing the building of the Legacy Hospital in Ogoni. Mene Kabari said that the Ogoni people have confidence in the public health services of HYPREP as they always turn out en mass during HYPREP healthcare outreaches. He advised HYPREP to expedite action on the process so that the people of Ogoni can have access to better healthcare.

In his remarks, Elder Celestine Obani, a former Community Development Committee Chairman of Nonwa, Tai suggested the need for an increased health awareness campaign in Ogoniland.

Present at the session were members of the Ogoni Doctors' Forum (ODF), Community leaders and Management and staff of HYPREP.



Participants at the HYPREP/Ogoni Doctors Engagement Session

# Remediation of Complex Sites Starts Soon

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation Project (HYPREP), Dr. Ferdinand Giadom has announced that HYPREP has started characterization and delineation of complex sites otherwise known as high-risk sites in Ogoniland.

The Project Coordinator made this known at the celebration of the 2022 World Environment Day held in Bori, in Khana Local Government Area.

Dr. Giadom said that HYPREP's strategy in 2016 was to start remediation from low-risk sites, while working towards the high-risk sites. "We have started characterizing the high-risk sites known as the complex sites. The process of characterization is a process by which you determine the exact quantity and the exact position of contaminants. We are applying several technologies to doing this. As at today, we have started identifying some high-risk sites in Korokoro and we have begun the characterization."

The Project Coordinator also said that HYPREP has started the process of attending to the Livelihood needs of the people of Ogoni. This according to him, is to train and expose the people to sustainable skills that will earn them a living and improve their wellbeing. On the Livelihood training for the artisanal refiners, the Project Coordinator said that the Project is in the process of harmonizing the different opposing ideas and will be rolling out the programme soon.

Giadom assured that the provision of potable water to Ogoniland is a priority and said that of the first six (6) water contracts that were awarded 2021, one has been completed and water being supplied to the benefiting communities while the other five (5) are at advanced stages of completion.

The Project Coordinator further stated that in accordance with the recommendations of the UNEP Report on Public Health, HYPREP has begun the process of carrying out health audit in Ogoni to

ascertain the effects of prolonged exposure to hydrocarbon on the people. "So, UNEP recommended that HYPREP carries out public health studies which will go into public health registries, so that we can understand the trend of prevalent diseases in Ogoni communities". Dr. Giadom said that the Project is engaging the services of institutions of research both within and outside the country, as well as the Ogoni Doctors Forum (ODF) to accomplish the task.

Dr. Giadom also announced plans to

rehabilitate medical centres across the four Government Areas of Khana, Gokana, Eleme and Tai and the building of a legacy hospital.

"At present, we are in the process of acquiring land to start building a hospital in Tai Local Government Area" he said.

The PC announced that the designs for the Centre of Excellence, the legacy project of HYPREP is ready and will be presented to the Federal Executive Council (FEC) for approval in the coming days. He added that the groundbreaking process for the building of a World class Centre of Environmental Excellence will commence in the coming months.

On the flagship project of HYPREP, which is the linking of Ogoniland to the national grid, Dr. Giadom disclosed that



Dr. Giadom at the World Environment Day Celebration in Bori



From L - R: Kpoobari Nafu, Ekiyokenegha Clark, Dumle Maol, Dr. Bariere Thomas, HRH Suanu Baridam, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom, King G.N.K Gininwa, Prof. Chidi Ibe, HRH Stephen Kpea, Deebari Gbaranor



the Ministry of Power has commenced the process of digitalizing the areas the right of way of transmission lines and other facilities would be established and appealed to the people of Ogoni to support HYPREP and take ownership of the project as he noted that the power project will bring massive job creation and economic activities in Ogoniland.

“With power, our economy can only grow in leaps and bounds. It is because of this that we decided not to celebrate the World Environment Day in Port Harcourt, but to bring it to the traditional headquarters of Ogoniland, so that the stories that we have is brought closer home to the Ogoni people.”

In his remarks, Hon. Barr. Dumle Maol, Member representing Gokana State Constituency in the Rivers State House of Assembly and Chairman House Committee on Environment said that the theme for this year's World Environment Day Celebration, “Only One Earth” is omnibus. He enjoined the people of Ogoni to consciously take transformative actions that will restore, preserve, and protect the environment.

Barr. Maol disclosed that the Rivers State House of Assembly amended its extant Law for the sole purpose of protecting the environment. He called on the youths of Ogoni to protect the environment by shunning artisanal refining and supporting the HYPREP project.

In the same vein, the Executive Chairman of Khana LGA, Honourable Dr. Thomas Barieere said that HYPREP is the federal government's way of providing answers to the Ogoni people and the Niger Delta and enjoined HYPREP not to lose focus of its mandate. He also appealed to everyone to support HYPREP in their quest to return the Ogoni environment to its natural state. Representative of Civil Society Organizations, Chris Newson charged the people of Ogoni to engage with the activities of HYPREP in a straightforward way, so that the deliverables can be actualized.

The Project Coordinator inaugurated the Environment Club in some select secondary schools in Ogoni. Dr. Giadom said the rationale for the club is to inculcate environment stewardship in institutions in Ogoni. “If we will have a sustainable earth, if we will have a

sustainable Ogoniland, it depends on the appeal to you to empty yourselves of all behaviour of the people that will live here you know, because from the course today and tomorrow. It is on this basis that content I have before me, this programme we decided as HYPREP to inaugurate and is very rich.”

reactivate environment consciousness in Dr. Giadom advised the drivers to always our institutions. Our high schools, care for other road users, anticipating what polytechnics and even universities”. the person behind and in front of them can Dr. Ferdinand said the Environment Club do. “A responsible driver which we want will be an integral part of they you to be takes all these into extracurricular activities that will happen consideration”. Additionally, the Project in the institutions where students will Coordinator charged the drivers to always learn and imbibe environmental be mentally alert and rest whenever they consciousness as a way of life. The P Have the opportunity and urged them to said that HYPREP will draw up a always be good ambassadors of the programme of action that will enable the Project. He advised them to always dress students to reduce, reuse and recycle their smartly, maintain their vehicles, discharge their duties professionally, stay within speed limits at designated places and be professional in their conduct and driving. He asked them to always log their milage at the start and end of the day and be punctual to work and stressed on the need for them to manage confidential information that they are privileged to hear while discharging their duties. The Project Coordinator assured them that their welfare is a priority to him. “You will receive what is due to you, when it is due to you”.

## HYPREP Organizes Defensive Driving Course For Its Drivers

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project in recognition of the place of safe driving to the overall delivery of its mandate has organized a six-day Defensive Driving Course to boost the capacity and enhance the effectiveness of drivers in its employ. While declaring the training open, the Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom said the Project considers its drivers as valuable assets in the overall operations of the Project and that informed putting together such a high-priced training tailored towards improving the life and efficiency of the drivers and enhance their capacity and skills in the discharge of their duties.

Dr Giadom urged the drivers to take the training seriously as huge resources (funds and time) have been deployed for the programme. In his words, “I will

their duties professionally, stay within speed limits at designated places and be professional in their conduct and driving. He asked them to always log their milage at the start and end of the day and be punctual to work and stressed on the need for them to manage confidential information that they are privileged to hear while discharging their duties. The Project Coordinator assured them that their welfare is a priority to him. “You will receive what is due to you, when it is due to you”.

The Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) officials took the drivers through lectures on professional driving, soft and hard skills, and a practical session. Medical checks were also conducted on the drivers by the Corps.

Mr Aniete Hanson a Lead consultant with the International Security Organisation (ISO-SEC) took the drivers on International Standards in Defensive Driving. At the end of the training, the drivers were issued professional certificates.



HYPREP Drivers in Training

# HYPREP To Partner RSU In Setting Up Centre Of Excellence, Other Projects

The United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP Report on Ogoniland recommends some key legacy projects like the Centre of Excellence in Environmental Restoration to be built in Ogoni to provide training and research in the field of Environmental Remediation.

To get the input of the academia, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) is seeking greater collaboration with the Rivers State University in the areas of technical support and capacity development to actualize and operate the centre. The Rivers State University then Rivers State University of Science and Technology was the institution that provided support base for the Ogoniland study between 2009 and 2011.

The proposed collaboration between HYPREP and the Rivers State University was sought when the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom paid a courtesy visit to the Vice Chancellor, Professor Nlerum Okogbule.

The Project Coordinator said the visit was aimed at soliciting the University's technical support in setting up the Centre of Excellence in Environmental Restoration (COEER), and the Public Health study.

“The overall objective of the visit is requesting for the university's collaboration because we realize that significant resources that the project needs are domiciled in the university in terms of human capital - experts and professionals from all walks of life and therefore, we are placing before the university that it should help in the provision of the initial human capital that will be required in setting up the Centre of Excellence.”

Dr. Giadom said that plans are at advanced stage towards commissioning the Public Health Focus Study, to determine the relationship between known diseases and chronic exposures to hydrocarbon. He disclosed that HYPREP has approached two institutes in Nigeria to commence the process and would be pleased to have the Principal Investigator for the study come from the Rivers State University Teaching Hospital.



Dr. Giadom with RSU VC, Prof. Nlerum Okogbule

Speaking on the Project's plan for the Centre of Excellence, the Project Coordinator disclosed that he intends to work with the University to convoke a special colloquium where experts will brainstorm on the best way to establishing a world class Centre of Environmental Excellence and Research and appealed to the University to collaborate with HYPREP and UNEP in revisiting the core issues raised in the UNEP report of 2011.

“And having been part of that process, I will say it is time that we reevaluate the recommendations in the report, given that it is more than a decade. Rivers State University, being a leading University of Science and Technology in the region, can take a lead in the research processes.”

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Nlerum Okogbule in his submission appreciated President Muhammadu Buhari for addressing the issue of contamination in Ogoniland and expressed confidence in Dr. Giadom, describing him as the 'son of the soil' who understands the pains and challenges of the people of Ogoni and assured the Project Coordinator of the support of the University for the project. In his words, “Rivers State University has competent hands to support such beneficial projects. We have competent persons that will tick all the boxes of your requirement.”

Professor Okogbule enjoined the Project Coordinator to involve the people of Ogoni in the decision-making process of

the Project.

“Within the purview of your assignment, see what you can do to ensure the Ogoni people have a sense of belonging. You are on the threshold of history and people will remember you for what you do. You will be recorded on the positive side of history.”

Meanwhile, before the visit to the University, the Directorate and staff of the Institute of Geosciences and Environmental Management, Rivers State University where Dr. Giadom graduated from had earlier paid him a courtesy call in his office.

Director of the Institute, Professor Akuro Gobo who led the delegation had charged Dr. Giadom to leave behind a worthy legacy following his appointment as the new helmsman of the Project.

Prof. Gobo said the Institute was proud of Dr. Giadom for being a worthy student at the Institute and urged him to embark on projects that will write his name in gold upon the completion of his tenure as Project Coordinator of HYPREP.

“May I on behalf of the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barr N.S. Okogbule and the Institute of Geosciences and Environmental Management congratulate you on your appointment as the Project Coordinator, HYPREP. The staff of the Institute are happy and grateful to God on your appointment being one of our own who graduated from the Institute with a merit degree in Environmental Management and Control. We are proud of you, sir.”

He expressed the Institute's readiness to work with HYPREP in the delivery of its mandate to the people of Ogoni.

Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr Giadom who appreciated the lecturers who taught him at the Institute, promised to have a collaboration between the Institute and HYPREP to bring to bear on environmental remediation the necessary technical input needed to make the work comply with international best practices.

He promised to open the doors of HYPREP to students from the Institute for field experience in environmental remediation.

Highpoint of the visit was the presentation of an award of excellence to Dr Giadom.



# Facts About HYPREP

## Establishment Of HYPREP Governing Council

The Governing Council of HYPREP is one of the Governing Structures of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project and its members are appointed by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

### COMPOSITION

The HYPREP Governing Council consists of:

1. Minister of Environment as Chairperson
2. Minister of State for Petroleum Resources / Group Managing Director, Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC)
3. Minister of Budget and National Planning
4. Minister of Niger Delta Affairs
5. National Security Adviser
6. Managing Director of the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC)
7. One representative of the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria Limited, for the purpose of Ogoni land restoration, plus two alternates

8. One representative of the nine oil producing States on a rotational basis
9. One representative of a Non-Governmental Organization dealing with environmental issues
10. Two representatives of Ogoni community plus two alternates
11. Two representatives of other Niger Delta Communities plus two alternates
12. The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), as Observer
13. The Project Coordinator of HYPREP who serves as the Secretary to the Governing Council.
6. Carry out periodic assessment of the operations of HYPREP and submit reports to the Board of Trustees.
7. Review and approve Project Plan, budget provisions and Communication Plan for all phases of the execution of an approved Project.
8. Monitor fund utilization by HYPREP or the Project Coordination Office (PCO) to ensure completion of projects.
9. Approve HYPREP and, as applicable, Project Coordination Office's control framework and internal assurance plan.
10. Appoint external auditors to review HYPREP and, as applicable, Project Coordination Office's processes.
11. Develop appropriate governance framework agreement for the execution of an approved Project.
12. Establish for HYPREP an operational structure under the supervision of the Project Coordinator.
13. Approve all staff appointment as recommended by the Project Coordinator.
14. Perform such other functions as may be given to the HYPREP Governing Council by the Minister to achieve the objectives for which it was constituted.

## Powers And Functions Of HYPREP Governing Council

The HYPREP Governing Council is empowered to perform the following functions:

1. Manage and superintend the policies of HYPREP.
2. Provide the general policy guidelines relating to the functions of HYPREP.
3. Guide and steer HYPREP or the Project Coordination Office on the strategic processes required for the execution of approved Projects.
4. Promote transparency, propriety and integrity in the operation of HYPREP.
5. Ensure the protection of the interests of players, stakeholders and the public in HYPREP.



Dr. Giadom and Prof. Okogbule pose with Management and Staff of HYPREP and RSU

## Feature

# Ecological Footprints From Ogoni Environmental Remediation Project

By: Princewill S. Abbey, Joseph Udofia & Blessing Monsi

## INTRODUCTION

Remediation is the process of removing or reducing pollution that is threatening the health of humans and the environment. It is also the process of reversing, resuscitating, or remedying environmental damage; it can also be defined as the act of correcting an error. There are different types of remediation techniques namely: Physical, chemical, and biological remediation. The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) after engaging in extensive risk-based assessment to delineate spatial boundaries of reported impacted sites, largely encouraged the deployment of bioremediation technique to remediate the first set of impacted sites with low levels of risks to people and the environment in Ogoniland. This is largely due to the environmental friendliness, efficacy, and cost effectiveness of the bioremediation technique.

Bioremediation is a type of biological remediation technique which involves the use of consortia of microorganisms or microbial processes to degrade and detoxify environmental contaminants of concern.

This featured article explores and presents the ecological footprints associated with HYPREP activities in the remediation of hydrocarbon impacted sites in Ogoniland with experiences from its first phase of implementation.

## Ecological Footprints-concept

Ecological Footprint (EF) measures the demands made by a person or group of people on global natural resources. It estimates the biologically productive land and sea area needed to provide the renewable resources that a population consumes and to absorb the wastes it generates. More specifically, the ecological footprint measures the amount

of "biologically productive" land or water that enables the population to sustain itself.

The Ecological Footprint is the only metric that measures how much nature we have and how much nature we use.

On the demand side, the Ecological Footprint adds up all the productive areas for which a population, a person or a product competes. It measures the ecological assets that a given population or product requires to produce the natural resources it consumes (including plant-based food and fibre products, livestock and fish products, timber and other forest products, space for urban infrastructure) and to absorb its waste, especially carbon emissions.

## Ecological Footprints From Ogoni Remediation Project

### \* Remediation Of Impacted Lands That Had Been Polluted For A Long Period Of Time

The Federal Government of Nigeria in 2016 established the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) with the mandate to remediate hydrocarbon impacted sites in Ogoniland and restore the livelihood of Ogoni people, being Nigerian Government's commitment to the implementation of the recommendations of the Environmental Assessment Report on Ogoniland by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP Report, 2011).

Out of the sixty-nine (69) sites where UNEP undertook detailed investigation on contaminated soil and reported to be impacted by petroleum hydrocarbon, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has successfully completed the remediation of 21 of those sites. Some of the 21 lots have been certified by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) while others are awaiting NOSDRA closeout sampling and certification.

According to the UNEP Report, after remediation, it will take about twenty-five to thirty years for the ecosystem to be fully

restored.

### \* Training Of Community Workers In Basic Soil Remediation Techniques

Part of the recommendations of UNEP is that the remediation project in Ogoniland should enhance the capacity and skills of the Ogoni community, with opportunity for employment.

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) in the course of its remediation activities also carried out trainings for the community workers who worked with the remediation contractors on the various remediation sites.

So far over 1,000 community workers have been trained in Basic Techniques and Processes involved in the remediation of hydrocarbon impacted soils. This is part of building the local capacity of Ogoni youths in environmental remediation skills.

### \* Restoration Of Peace In Communities With Polluted Farmlands

The Ogoni people have been aggrieved for a long period over the devastation of their farmlands by crude oil pollution; however, with the commencement of remediation by HYPREP the hope of the people is being restored. The people can now heave a sigh of relief as they know that their land will be restored to its original state. This is largely due to the series of peace building initiatives, awareness creation, continuous sensitization, engagement and involvement of the Ogoni people and relevant stakeholders in the activities and programmes of HYPREP.

### \* Green And Healthy Vegetation For Grazing Of Livestock

Oil spills adversely affect the vegetation in an ecosystem; the surviving plants are stressed which is evidenced by stunted growth and chlorosis.

Upon completion of remediation, the depleted nutrients in the soil will be



replenished and the vegetation will blossom and photosynthesis will take place more often. This in turn will provide food for livestock.

**\* Return Of Keystone Species And Other Indigenous Species To The Ecosystem**

Keystone species are indigenous organisms that help define an entire ecosystem, without them the ecosystem would be drastically different or cease to exist. They are plants, animals and microorganisms. Keystone species hold together the complex web of relationship in an ecosystem. Due to the pollution, susceptible keystone species died off, while some migrated to a less polluted ecosystem.

As the ecosystem is undergoing healing due to remediation, keystone species will gradually return to their natural habitat because the environment is going back to its original state which is also the real habitat for those species.

➤ In the mangrove and estuaries, indigenous species of mangroves will thrive again. Different species of fishes and shell fishes and migratory birds will return and breed in this environment.

➤ In floodplains, biodiversity will be at its peak, the floodplain can be used for rice farms, irrigation etc., since the environment is clean.

➤ Farmlands, the microfauna and macrofauna that help in nutrient cycle will return, plants can grow well and secrete enough chlorophyll for photosynthesis. Other vertebrates that feed on vegetations will also return.

**\* Clean-Up Of Impacted Shorelines As Well As Mangrove Restoration and Re-Vegetation**

As part of its activities, HYPREP has commenced the assessment of all hydrocarbon impacted shorelines and devastated mangroves across Ogoniland with a view to remediate the impacted shorelines and wetlands as well as embark on the replanting of the devastated mangroves. So far, over 400 hectares of impacted shorelines and wetlands have been assessed in Gokana Local Government Area by the HYPREP SCAT team, and more areas will be assessed in no distant time.

**CONCLUSION**

According to Global Footprint Network, specific country's ecological footprint relies on regional data on resource consumption - such as energy, water, land use, logging, fishing, etc. An ecological footprint calculator usually measures the amount of biologically productive land and sea area an individual, group of individuals, or activity needs to provide for their consumption.

As the environmental remediation of Ogoniland progresses, the generated data on ecological footprint being computed and well archived will serve as a major contributor to Nigeria's ecological footprint computation and documentation.



Excavation of Impacted Site in Progress



Backfilling of Remediated Soil in Progress



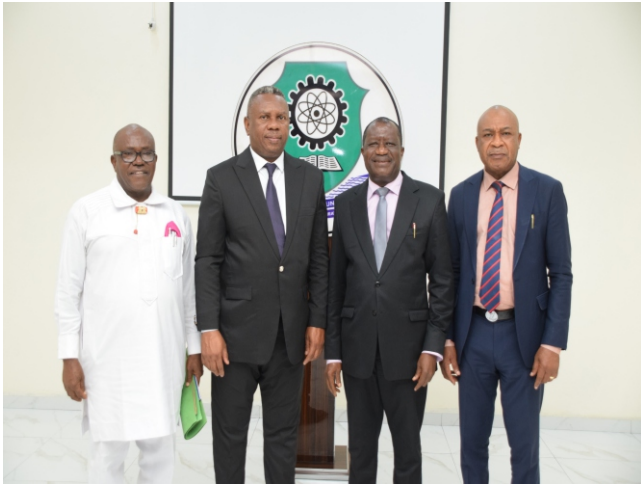
# Shun Illegal Oil Refining

It Destroys Your Life And That of Others





# PICTURES OF THE MONTH



L - R: Prof. Akuro Gobo, Dr. Giadom, Prof. Okogbule & Dr. Sydney Enyinda



L - R: Mr. Benjamin Oyinloye, Dr. Giadom, Prof. Shekwolo



Participants at the HYPREP Youth Forum



Participants at the HYPREP Youth Forum



Dr. Giadom Celebrating His Birthday



Participants at the World Environment Day Celebration



Management & Staff of HYPREP Celebrating with Dr. Giadom on His Birthday



Management & Staff of HYPREP Celebrating with Dr. Giadom on His Birthday



# PICTURES OF THE MONTH



Staff of Communications Unit & ICT Unit of HYPREP



Staff of Stakeholder Engagement Unit of HYPREP



Dr. Giadom Addressing Youths Of Ogoni



A Youth Leader Addressing the Forum



Students of CSS Bori at the World Environment Day Celebration



Students of BMGS Bori at the World Environment Day Celebration



L - R: Kpoobari Nafu, Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh, Prof. Philip Shekwolo, Barr. Sweet Okundaye, Mr. Benjamin Oyinloye, Mr. Paul Ugbaha



Management & Staff of HYPREP at the World Environment Day Celebration



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## THE ENVIRONMENT ON MARBLE

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What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?

— Henry David Thoreau



**... for a cleaner and greener Ogoniland**

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