

# HYPREPHERALD

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# OGONI CLEAN-UP: STAKEHOLDERS HAIL BUHARI SIX YEARS ON



PRESIDENT MUHAMMADU BUHARI

POTABLE WATER: HYPREP Holds Sustainability Workshop

Plan Your Work From Start To Finish; Dr Giadom Urges Contractors UNEP Officials Visit HYPREP Project Sites

HYPREP HERALD NOT TO BE SOLD

### THE PC'S DESK



There have been several water schemes dotting the landscape in Ogonland, most of which are moribund. The seeming lack of a sustainabilit y plan was

partly responsible for the failure of these earlier water projects. In order to make the upcoming water projects sustainable, the Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Hassan Abdullahi during his maiden visit to Ogoniland, promised to connect Ogoniland to the national grid and by so doing provide the power source to the water stations. Thus, the provision of water to the communities which is a cardinal recommendation of the UNEP report, would be achieved.

Furthermore, the availability of electric power in Ogoniland is the catalyst for economic growth and development; which is the needed panacea to youth unemployment and the general bring. poverty experienced in the land.

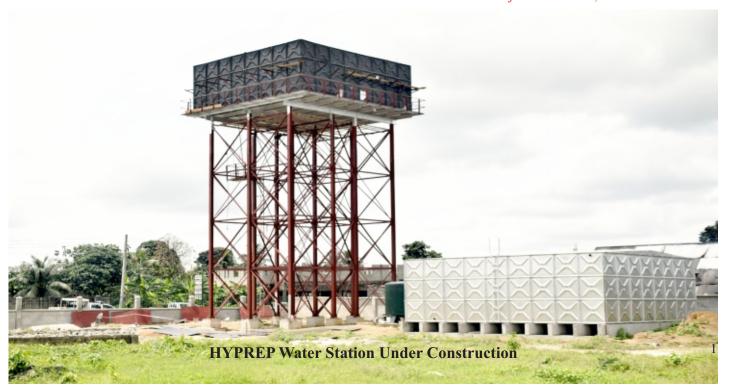
The Honourable Minister had therefore directed the Project Coordination Office to see to it that all preliminary activities and preparations for the commencement of power project is carried out in earnest. In this regard the Project Office is working ceaselessly to make this vision a reality. The project shall require the installation of transmission and distribution lines, power sub-stations and injection stations to be situated in the six kingdoms of Ogoniland. The project has the potential of generating employment for myriads of Ogoni people, especially electrical engineers and technicians.

Achieving success on the power project will demand the support and collaboration of all Ogoni people who are expected to create a conducive working environment for the technical team, allow safe right of way for the lines, provide lands for the building of sub-stations, and protect the facilities that shall be so installed from vandals. And while all those preparations take place, the people, especially the business community in Ogoniland, need to plan by identifying and developing the kind of business that will create a sustainable livelihood for themselves and their dependents. Only when that is done can we truly say that we are ready for the eventual transformation that the HYPREP Power Programme will

We are mindful of the fact that there is a price to pay, and it is not beyond our means. As with other development programmes, the power infrastructure comes at a huge cost and therefore, their security will be a collective responsibility of all Ogoni people and this is why we call for your collaboration and support for the overall achievement of our common goal - steady power supply to Ogoniland for sustainable development.

We would not fail to thank the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari for matching words with action by flagging off the clean-up of Ogoniland- the electioneering promise he made in 2015. That singular action has continued to open more vistas of hope and opportunities for Ogoniland and her people economically, socially, and otherwise. As the Ogoni adage goes, 'let the baby snail call its mother snail.' That is the case with the President Buhari's gift to the Ogoni people. It has continued to add more projects to itself. The Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr, Mohammed Abdullahi would have written his name in gold as the man who brought steady power supply to Ogoniland for which we owe him a depth of gratitude upon its completion. We look forward to the day in the near future when these efforts will be crowned with success.

Dr. Ferdinand Dumbari Giadom Project Coordinator, HYPREP



# In this ISSUE

This third issue of the HYPREP Herald is a commemorative edition of the official flag off of the Ogoniland clean-up project by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2016 at the Patrick Waterside in Bodo, Gokana Local Government Area. That day was historic in many ways. It marked a good departure from the ugly past of politicians making promises during electioneering campaigns that they will not fulfill. The flag off that day was a fulfilment of President Buhari's promise to the Ogoni people that if he won the 2015 Presidential election, he was going to implement the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on Ogoniland. The day also revived in the Ogoni people a sense of belonging to the Nigerian Federation as a hitherto abandoned report submitted to the Federal Government in 2011 was brought out for implementation.

Six years down the line, significant work has been done on the Ogoniland clean-up,

so much so that the earlier misgivings about the project-that it was a flash in the pan has fizzled out, giving way for people, Ogoni's- inclusive bidding for contracts on the project. The Ogoni's are ever grateful to President Muhammadu Buhari for keeping his words.

The clean-up of Ogoniland is not all about remediation. There are several components including one that recommends for the provision of potable water for the communities. Six water contracts were awarded in Phase one. In order to ensure that the water that HYPREP is providing does not go the way of similar projects in the past, the Project Coordinator, Dr Ferdinand Giadom organized Sustainability Workshop for the communities and HYPREP, where experts in the industry were invited to proffer solutions to the challenge of non-functional water facilities in Ogoniland. The outcome of that workshop is featured prominently in this issue of the Newsletter.

The Nigerian team that worked with UNEP during the Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland from 2009 to 2011, converged on Port Harcourt to celebrate their colleague, Dr Ferdinand Giadom on his appointment as the Project Coordinator of HYPREP. Dr.

Giadom was a Scientific Officer during the Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland by UNEP. The report of the celebration is included in this edition.

We introduced a segment, Facts About HYPREP, in fulfilment of our promise to constantly improve our content. This month, the World Environment Day is marked around the globe and to spice up the celebration, we had organized an essay competition for students on internship in HYPREP to write on the theme of the celebration, 'Only One Earth'. The winner is Miss Cecilia Mogba a student of the Department of Animal and Environmental Biology, University of Port Harcourt and her article is featured. Still on the World Environment Day, a sonnet; on some of the challenges that the environment faces, is added for your reading The UNEP Team led by pleasure. Apoorva Bose was in the Project Coordination Office to conduct some trainings for staff of the Project and were taken on field trip to HYPREP sites.

It is our hope that you will find an interesting reading out of this and avail us of any useful feedback that will enable us to serve you better.

## POETRY CORNER FEVERISH EARTH

By: Kpoobari Nafo

Mother earth is down with fiery fever
Convulsing from changing climate cold
A torn ozone that makes the globe warmer.
Hissing greenhouse gases leak uncontrolled
Melting glaciers nudge ocean in motion slow
Thawing ice in pan of pollution fries
Out of polar Greenland goes running snow
To far Kyoto-land on clean fuel searches
In seeking to lower earth's temperature
Caused by constant press of fossil fuel pump
And cities blinded by over exposure
Our earth's other children in the process slump.
Monkeys are fewer, they can be counted
For more trees are cut than they are planted.

### **Editorial Crew Members**

Dr. Ferdinand Giadom Publisher-in-Chief

Kpoobari Nafo Editor

Jimmy Okoroh Online Editor

Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh Head Reportorial

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Apoorva Bose Technical Advisor

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# **Project News** Ogoni Clean-up: Stakeholders Hail Buhari Six Years On

This June marks the sixth anniversary of the flag-off of the Ogoni clean-up project by the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency Muhammadu Buhari. In this special report on the commemoration of the day, Prince KaBari OP-AGARA, Akeevor VII, a journalist and Country Director, Friends of Ogoni Trust (FOOT) International, Former Head of Advocacy & Strategy, Centre for Ogoni Studies traces the events before, during and after the flag-off, how HYPREP has fared within the period and the avowed commitment of the Ogoni people to the success of the Project.

The Ogoni people of Rivers State, in Nigeria's Niger Delta Region, whose voices and issues have been at the frontlines of national and international discuss for the past three decades are immensely thankful to the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, His Excellency, Muhammadu Buhari, GCFR, for his keen interest and unflinching commitment to the environmental restoration, peace and sustainable development of Ogoniland, from 2016 to date.

President Buhari, had in January 2015, made a brief campaign stop-over at Gbene Gininwa Hall, Saakpenwa, Headquarters of Tai Local Government Area, Ogoniland, where His Majesty, King Godwin Ndonake Kenneth Gininwa, JP, OFR, Gbenemene Tai and President Supreme Council of Ogoni Traditional Rulers, presented him with a copy of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Report on the Environmental Assessment of Ogoniland. The Report was first published and presented to the Federal Government of Nigeria, on August 4, 2011. President Buhari had at that campaign stopover in Ogoniland promised

the people that he would implement the UNEP Report on Ogoniland if elected president.

The flag-off of the Ogoniland Clean-up exercise by the President, represented by his Deputy, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, GCON, on June 2, 2016, was a FULFILLMENT OF THAT PROMISE. Today, the Ogoni people recall with nostalgia, the colourful flag-off of the Oil Spill Clean-up of Ogoniland, at the Patrick waterside, Bodo in Gokana Local Government Area, Ogoniland and the President's steadfastness in implementing the UNEP Report.

During the event, the Vice President, who read the President's address said, "I recall the time as a Military Head of State, when I visited Bodo Town in Ogoniland (at the instance of Chief Patrick Tekuru Probonu in 1984). During that visit, I commissioned a large fishpond and planted a tree as a sign of government's concern for the

environment... Unfortunately, since then, the degradation of land, water and air has done huge damage to the fragile ecosystem of the Niger Delta, especially Ogoniland."

He also said "The UNEP report was submitted to my predecessor while still in office in 2011, but the implementation was not accorded the necessary support it required. The people of Ogoniland continued to suffer from pollution of air, land and water."

He declared that "WE ARE DETERMINED TO RIGHT THE WRONGS OF THE PAST, WHERE THE PEOPLE OF THIS LAND WERE TREATED UNFAIRLY AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT UNDULY DEGRADED."

Osinbajo stated that "Today, we are in Ogoniland, in the heart of the Niger Delta to fulfil our promise to you and to bring justice and succour to our people. The clean-up of this land will require change on the part of all those who deal with the



Prof. Yemi Osinbajo Flags off Ogoni Cleanup Project in 2016 flanked by former Minister of Environment, Amina Mohammed, Rivers State Gov., Barr. Nyesom Wike and Former Imo State Gov., Rochas Okorocha at Bodo, Gokana LGA

Niger Delta environment, particularly the oil companies and our communities... We are therefore laying a solid foundation today for the restoration of the fragile ecosystem of Ogoniland and the rest of the Niger Delta."

Noting that "the first step begins with a solid foundation, which would be brought about through consultation, transparency, accountability, investing in the people and the environment... (because) "our lives to a great extent depend on the quality of our environment."

In October 2006, former President Olusegun Obasanjo invited the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), to undertake an environmental assessment of Ogoniland, in an attempt to move away from years of stalemate between the Nigerian Government, International Oil Companies and the Ogoni people to action.

The assessment was done between 2009 and 2011. After the release of the UNEP Report on August 4, 2011, the oil companies admitted liability for damage caused to the Ogoniland environment and agreed to a commitment to clean up.

In demonstration of his commitment to the implementation of the UNEP Report on Ogoniland, President Buhari inaugurated the first Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) Governing Council and Board of Trustees on August 4, 2016, to manage, approve, supervise, and monitor all projects/contracts for the cleanup and remediation of Ogoniland as well as the implementation of other aspects of the Report. For this, Ogoni people are grateful. Her Excellency, Dr. Amina J. Mohammed (Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations and former Minister for Environment), was consistently on ground, traversing communities, forests, creeks/rivers, night and day, engaging critical Ogoni people to ensure the success of the project.

However, the project could not sail as projected after her departure to the UN, due to systemic bottlenecks and Ogoni expectation issues. Thus, the first HYPREP Governing Council/Board of Trustees could not bring the Clean-up project up to speed and set timelines for its deliverables.

With renewed vigour, the former Minister for Environment, Dr. Mohammad

Abubakar and his Counterpart for State, Barr. Sharon Ikeazor sought and secured the approval of the President to rejig the Clean-up project for optimal delivery and for the provision of potable water and sustainable livelihood interventions for the people. This resulted in some adjustments that culminated into the inauguration of the second Governing Council and Board of Trustees (for Ogoni Trust Fund) on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2021 by President Buhari who was represented the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Mr. Boss Mustapha.

The President in his address to the newly inaugurated Council and Board said, "after taking office as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, and in fulfilment of my campaign promise, I flagged-off the Project for the remediation of hydrocarbon impacted sites in Ogoniland and provision of potable water and alternative livelihoods to impacted communities on 2nd June, 2016 and have been monitoring implementation progress over the years." However, he regretted some "lost time" so far, as a result of some challenges

### **CHIEFS AND PEOPLE OF OGONI**



King G.N.K. Gininwa Presenting a copy of UNEP report to President Muhammadu Buhari, while Senator Magnus Abe watches on.

encountered along the line of implementation, because "some milestones and timelines could not be accomplished circumstantially ...we are nevertheless determined to recover lost grounds and achieve our goals through deliberate efforts to reinvigorate our processes and the machinery of delivery."

He stressed that in addition to their "roles and responsibilities, as stated in the HYPREP Gazette of 2016, I expect you to proffer solutions to the challenges of community disruption due to land disputes, leadership tussles and unnecessary pressure on the contractors."

He charged them to see their "appointment as a patriotic national duty and a clarion call to service" adding that they shall "be required to promote transparency, propriety and integrity in the operation of HYPREP to ensure optimal and satisfactory delivery of the required services."

In the same vein, President Buhari on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 also approved the appointment of Dr. Ferdinand Dumbari Giadom, a former Senior Technical Assistant on the UNEP Team that assessed Ogoni environment as the second substantive Project Coordinator of HYPREP and the redeployment of Barr. Mohammed Hassan Abdullahi, as the substantive Minister for Environment from the Ministry of Science and Technology on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2022.

The Ogoni Clean-up Project is the first fruit of the Ogoni struggle, and it is expected to birth a new dawn, set the records straight, bring respite to Ogoni people and end the protracted struggle. The following are some issues for the Ogoni People, HYPREP and other Stakeholders. The Ogoni people are:

- 1. Ready to provide necessary support including security collaboration for the Clean-up exercise to succeed.
- The Ogoni environment should be cleaned and made fit for purpose using the Best Available Technology (BAT).

- 3. They are willing to collaborate and provide support to ensure that the 'Gold Standard' in environmental restoration is achieved.
- They are eager to maximize the opportunities consequent upon the clean-up, remediation and restoration projects for the mutual benefit of all.
- They are aware of the consequences of the delay and failure to clean-up the land like food shortage, poor health and short life expectancy and are willing to cooperate to avert it.
- 6. They are already reconciling their ideological differences in other to facilitate a smooth completion of the clean-up processes.
- 7. They are aware that the money assigned for the clean-up and restoration of the environment is not to be shared; so, the component of alternative livelihood training should be pursued with vigour by HYPREP.
- 8. They are eager to build capacity during the clean-up projects.
- They are willing to collaborate with Government, stakeholders, and other well-meaning international organisations to prevent further degradation of the Ogoni environment and safeguard against future despoliation.

There is hope in the horizon for Ogoniland with the advent of the new Minister for Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi, the Governing Council, the Board of Trustees, and the newly appointed Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom. The Ogoni people are willing to support them to succeed.



The Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi has said the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on Ogoniland will be implemented in a way that factors in the full participation of the Ogoni people.

The Honourable Minister stated this in Port Harcourt in his keynote address at a two-day Potable Water Sustainability Workshop organized by the Project Office of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP).

Barr. Abdullahi was appointed the Honourable Minister of Environment by President Muhammadu Buhari in April 2022 and had since put in place measures to fast track the implementation of the Ogoniland clean-up project as well as held a town hall meeting with stakeholders to give the people a sense of ownership of the project.

The Honourable Minister who was represented by the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom, stressed the importance that the President Buhari's administration accords the Ogoniland clean-up project.

While welcoming guests to the workshop with the theme, "Sustainable Potable Water Supply to Ogoni Communities, Challenges, and Solutions", the Project Coordinator, Dr Ferdinand Giadom, stated that the essence of the workshop was to integrate a sustainability plan into the provision of potable water for Ogoni communities to guard against the experience of the past where commissioned water projects soon ran dry due to lack of sustainability plan.

"Ogoni is not a virgin land when it comes to water schemes as the place is replete with all kinds of water facilities ranging from mono-pumps, neighbourhood water scheme to even the urban type with city wide reticulation, provided at various times by different donors and Government Agencies. What however is lacking is a sustainability plan that had rendered all such efforts at providing potable water for the people moribund. Hence, the communities are left with no option than

# **Potable Water: HYPREP Holds Sustainability Workshop**

to resort to self-help even when their skies are decorated by large overhead water towers and their neighbourhoods dotted with never flowing water taps."

Dr. Giadom assured that HYPREP is keen on providing an enduring and safe drinking water that its model can be bequeathed to the rest of the Niger Delta.

In his words, "we convoked this workshop together to harvest your rich wealth of experience in the water sector on how to run an enduring regional water scheme in Ogoni that meets international benchmark and so, fit for purpose. A water scheme that will train local hands to maintain to standard the facilities that we are installing. A water scheme that the people can call their own in every sense of the word for its protection and profitability. A water scheme that its model can be replicated in other communities of the Niger Delta. This water scheme we believe will put a final stop to the problem of water shortage in Ogoniland. To achieve these goals and more is the reason we have called you to this workshop to avail us your expertise in putting together a sustainability pack that will automate the taps to run continuously. Providing water of the right quality that meets the World Health Organization standards for drinking water."

In his goodwill message, the Manager of the Ogoni Restoration Project, Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), Dr. Vincent Nwabueze expressed delight over the workshop, saying that a lot of water schemes were installed in Ogoniland but could not see the light of day and stated that the SPDC continues to show solidarity to the agenda of ensuring that every individual in Ogoni has access to good drinking water. On his part, a Senior Project Advisor for UNEP, Professor Barineme Beke Fakae disclosed that the role of UNEP on the Ogoni clean-up project is to build the capacity of HYPREP to achieve its mandate.

To effectively articulate the recommendations and gains of the workshop, the Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom inaugurated a Water Committee to develop a Strategy Framework for Sustainable Water Scheme for Ogoniland. Members of the Committee are Prof. Johnson Otun, Prof. Enuvie Akpokodje, Representatives of Civil Society Organizations, representatives of benefiting communities, Central Representatives Advisory Committee (CRAC), UNEP and HYPREP.

Highlight of the workshop was a field visit to some on-going water projects across the four Local Government Areas of Ogonilaand. In particular, the water station at Alesa Eleme where the project has been completed and water is being supplied to the town and the adjourning communities.



HYPREP Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom

# **Experts Make Recommendations For Sustainable Potable Water In Ogoni**

Professor of Engineering and Environmental Geology, Enuvie Akpokodje has made a strong case for collaboration between the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) and Ogoni communities in the former's effort at providing sustainable potable water in the area.

Professor Akpokodje made the case in a keynote paper he presented at the HYPREP Potable Water Sustainability Workshop held in Port Harcourt.

He said HYPREP's focus should be more on the sustainability of the water project than mere finishing and handing over to the communities.

The Geology Professor advised HYPREP to always include the host communities in the decision-making process of the project that guarantees, "transparency, inclusiveness, and respect for each other."

In his intervention, a Water Engineer and Governance expert, Prof. Johnson Otun, recommended the "for us, by us" (FUBU) approach to give a sense of shared ownership to the people which will ultimately results in the protection and sustainability of the water project. He also suggested that HYPREP puts in place a community-based management system for effective sustainability of the facilities.

On the observations he made about the water project, Prof. Johnson Otun appreciated HYPREP for following the right path in addressing the critical issue of water supply in Ogoniland. "HYPREP is on the right path. The work is good and will be completed for the good of the Ogoni people." Otun however noted some technical issues which he said have been communicated to the contractors for review.

In the same vein, Mr. Joseph Iyaye, a consultant for the Bonny Utility Company that supplies water to communities in Bonny Kingdom stated that the sustainability of the Ogoni Water Scheme would be greatly enhanced if the people support the work of HYPREP.

Former President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP) and

former member of the Governing Council of HYPREP, Legborsi Pyagbara urged HYPREP to consider exploring alternative sources of energy to power the water project for its sustainability and advised the people of Ogoni to take ownership of the project and support HYPREP.

# Benefiting Communities Commend HYPREP On Potable Water Scheme

Ogoni communities have expressed appreciation to the Federal Government of Nigeria under President Muhammadu Buhari in the on-going effort at providing potable water for them.

This was the consensus position of benefitting communities of the six water contracts in phase one of the provision of potable water in Ogoniland being embarked upon by the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP).

Gbenemene TuaTua Tai and Paramount Ruler of Kpite Community, His Royal Highness, Chief Samuel Nnee commended the Management of HYPREP on the implementation of the recommendation by UNEP to provide potable water for the people and promised his community's support for HYPREP since as he put it, "water is life, and we will do all we can to support HYPREP."

Also, the Paramount Ruler of Barako Community, Mene Kadilo Kabari expressed appreciation to HYPREP for the water project, affirming that HYPREP is constructing a brand-new water project in his community, and it is now at the stage of reticulating the entire community.

The Paramount Ruler of Alesa Community, HRH Chief J. D. Nkpe whose community is now enjoying potable water courtesy of HYPREP is pleased with the performance of the Project. "We are happy with HYPREP because the work they are doing is of international standard."



Prof. Enuvie Akpokodje Delivering Keynote Paper at the Workshop



Dr. Vincent Nwabueze Manager Ogoni Restoration Project, SPDC Addressing Participants at the Workshop

Communique Issued At The End Of A Two-day Workshop On Sustainable Potable Water Supply To Ogoni Communities: Challenges And Solutions Held In Port Harcourt From 17<sup>th</sup> To 18<sup>th</sup> May,2022.

### **Preamble**

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) held a two-day Potable Water Sustainability Workshop in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The two-day event which commenced on Tuesday May 17th with an opening ceremony and technical session in Port Harcourt was rounded off with an on-the-spot field visit to ongoing HYPREP Water Project Sites across the four Local Government Areas of Ogoniland on Wednesday May 18th 2022. The workshop being the first of this magnitude gathered stakeholders from the academia, industry, civil society and indeed the host communities to brainstorm and come out with practicable steps to reposition HYPREP's Potable Water Projects for longterm sustainability.

Clear objectives of the two-day workshop were the development and implementation of effective strategies and policies for Ogoni Water Scheme Management and coming out with proactive steps that clearly defines HYPREP's Exit Strategy on completion of Contractual Sustainability Plans in existing contracts, provide Scientific knowledge and information on new approaches including the exploitation of renewable energy sources, proffer solutions to cross-cutting challenges faced so far in the execution of construction works and tools for Sustainable Water Management.

The Workshop had in attendance dignitaries from the Federal Ministry of Environment, Shell Petroleum Development Cooperation (SPDC), Stakeholder Democracy Network (SDN), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Society for Women & Youth Affairs (SWAYA), Bonny Utility Company, Amnesty International, CRACHYPREP's Central Representative Advisory Committee (CRAC), HYPREP's Project Coordination Office, etc.

### **Opening Remarks**

The Opening Ceremony for the Sustainability Workshop was chaired by the Honorable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi ably represented by the Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand D. Giadom. In delivering his welcome address, the Project Coordinator stated that the provision of potable water to impacted communities in Ogoniland, which is a key recommendation in the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report is still a major deliverable of HYPREP. He expressed hopes that the Water Sustainability Workshop would provide all stakeholders the opportunity to garner knowledge on the management and operations of all ongoing HYPREP's water construction schemes, explore alternative sources of energy in sustaining these water schemes and harness training opportunities for engaging the local community and further strengthen community ownership of the projects. He expressed the hope and promise of the Honourable Minister of Environment to linking Ogoni communities to the national grid which goes beyond the UNEP Recommendations and further contributing to increased socio-economic development of Ogoni communities.

Goodwill messages were delivered by Amnesty International Nigeria – Ms. Cecilia Aransiola, King Samuel Nnee - representing the Central Representative Advisory Committee (CRAC), Mr. Jesse Martins Manufor for Stakeholders Democracy Network (SDN), Dr. Vincent Nwabueze – Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), Prof. Barineme B. Fakae – United Nations Environment Programme, Prof. Ben Naanen for Ogoni Stakeholders, Mrs. Stella Amanyie for Society for Women & Youth Affairs (SWAYA).

### **Technical Presentations**

The first presentation was delivered by the Head, Potable Water Provision Unit of HYPREP – Mr. Melubari Nwidadah who enumerated the current situation and status quo of **HYPREP's Water Projects in Ogoniland.** He enumerated the water infrastructure in the first phase of water contracts which were awarded in June 2021. Their completion statuses, reticulation coverage, etc.

From the first presentation, community representatives of Barako, Korokoro, Nonwa, Kpean, Alesa, Ogale, Bera, etc., confirmed reported progress of work and expressed their commitment to supporting the contractors to deliver on their contracts.

The second presentation was delivered by Enuvie Akpokodje, a professor of Environmental & Engineering Geology on Sustainability of HYPREP Community Water Project. He made clear the importance of collaboration, shared risks, resources and benefits and the collective participation of all stakeholders. He stressed that strong and effective participation and buy in of the community should be encouraged. He advised the contractors not to be in a hurry to complete their works but should rather be committed to efforts geared towards long-term sustainability of the water projects.

The third presentation was taken by Prof. Johnson Otun, A professor of Water Engineering/ Sustainability & Governance Policy Development **Expert on Sustainable Water Supply** to Ogoni Communities: Challenges & **Solutions.** He stressed the need for a sustainable design which covers partnership, capacity development, independent operation of services and systems, transfer, and programmed phase out. Professor Otun recommended a Community Based Management System (CBMS) for the sustainable implementation of water schemes in Ogoniland.

The fourth presentation was made by Mr. Joseph Iyaye, A consultant with the Bonny Utility Company (BUC) who emphasized the need for collaboration between HYPREP and the host communities. In addition, he made a case for the training of locals in the operation and maintenance of the water facilities. Iyaye argued that for sustainability to be achieved, the consumers would necessarily need to pay for the water so that the proceeds could be ploughed back into the maintenance of the facilities.

On the sideline, A presentation was

made by Mr. Pawan, the Managing Director of COBEF International Ltd, one of HYPREP's Potable Water Project Contractors on windmill installation as an alternative source of power supply. A case study of an ongoing pilot windmill installation in Bodo City was cited. He extended an invitation to participants at the workshop to visit the pilot site to see first-hand, their approach to exploiting other renewable energy sources to provide water for the people of Ogoniland.

Several reflections were made by a former member of HYPREP's Governing Council and President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), Mr. Legborsi Pyagbara and other dignitaries present.

### Recommendations

Discussions on the presentations made and the reflections from certain stakeholders were noted and recommendations on five thematic areas highlighted as presented below:

### A. Power

- Connection of Ogoni Communities to the National grid,
- Creation of alternative sources of power (windmill, solar, etc.) to run the schemes spread over the four Local Government Areas of Ogoniland,
- Adoption of a hybrid power system that will include power generating sets, public electricity and/or renewable energy sources.

### **B.** Administrative & Governance Structures

- Appointment of a General Manager that will oversee each community/small town water supply scheme,
- Employment of operational workers from the communities to work in the facilities,
- Employment and training of technically skilled personnel from within the communities to run the potable water schemes.

### C. Funding

- Setting up of a User Management Committee that will oversee the entire sustainability programme per community/small town,
- Setting up of a stable, credible Management Structure that can draw funding from State, Federal, multilateral and donor agencies,
- Proposal of a flat rate levy for consumers across the communities to assist in the maintenance of the water facilities,
- Proposal that the HYPREP Sustainability funding transition from contractor to communities be extended from the present three-year arrangement to five or six years.

### D. Security

- HYPREP to embark on proper sensitization of the communities and inclusion of women as front runners for such sensitization programmes,

- Setting up of community vigilantes in Ogoni communities where water facilities are sited. The Vigilante group should comprise of the Community's Paramount ruler, CDC trustees, youth leaders, etc.
- Integration of HYPREP's security component in all Small Town/Community User Management Boards/Committees,
- Incorporation of Government & Community- assisted security systems.

### E. Community Participation

- Promotion of efforts that would further consolidate the inclusion of community members in the ownership of all projects within their communities.

A high-powered Ogoni Water Strategy Framework Drafting Committee was set up to fashion out water strategies for sustainable potable water provision/supply across Ogoni communities. The Committee comprise water experts, community representatives, civil society groups and other Ogoni Stakeholders.

At the end of the session for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022, a schedule of the field visits for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 was reeled out to participants. The participants from the host communities were asked to gather at the indicated HYPREP Water Project Sites in their respective Local Government Area to receive the workshop resource persons and dignitaries.



Water Strategy Framework Drafting Committee



Dr. Giadom Addressing Participants at the Potable Water Sustainability Workshop

Plan Your Work From Start To Finish; Dr Giadom Urges Contractors

The Project Coordinator, Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation Project (HYPREP), Dr. Ferdinand Giadom has charged contractors handling both soil remediation and water contracts to plan their works from start to finish and adhere to the work plans.

Dr. Giadom gave the charge during a Performance Review Meeting held with contractors at the Project Coordination Office (PCO) in Port Harcourt. The Project Coordinator expressed displeasure over the performance of some of the soil remediation and water contractors, which he attributed to lack of commitment on the part of the affected contractors to deliver on their contracts.

Against the backdrop of contractors' claims of delays occasioned by lack of funds, the Project Coordinator said that records show that HYPREP pays contractors based on milestones achieved. "Once a milestone is completed and verified, there is a guarantee that payment will be made to the contractor". He urged the contractors to engage in proper project planning because their failures rub off on HYPREP. "If the projects are failing, HYPREP is failing" he averred.

Commenting on the water works, the Project Coordinator enjoined the contractors to ensure that the pH of the water supplied to the communities are stable, consistent and meets the World Health Organization (WHO) standards for potable water. "The end point is delivering water of the right quality to the final consumer" he posited. On the issue of variations raised by the contractors, the PC stated that variations will only be considered when the contractors complete everything within their scope of work and show commitment in terms of documentation. He advised the contractors to make claims that can stand at any arbitration. He also implored the remediation contractors to complete their works on or before the end of June 2022.

Dr. Giadom charged the security unit of HYPREP to close out the security gaps



Dr. Giadom Addressing Contractors at the Project Review Meeting



Cross Section of Remediation and Water Contractors at the Project Review Meeting

around project sites so that work can be done speedily and without hiccups as some contractors alleged that the security peculiarities of some areas affected the pace of work in those areas.

In his intervention, Engr. Clark Ekiyokenegha, the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) Representative on the Project, urged the contractors to take their work seriously because the score card for what they do is universal. He said that contractors should come with a detailed presentation on when the work will be completed in the next meeting and stated that HYPREP does not reward incompetence and bad performance, advising the contractors to always revert to HYPREP when they face challenges.

He reiterated that SPDC, as a partner of HYPREP, is supporting HYPREP to succeed and will also be supporting the contractors to succeed. "Whatever challenges you have, our doors are open, whatever help and support you need, we are ready to provide" he stated.

Similarly, Professor Philip Shekwolo enjoined the contractors to always show professionalism and build confidence while delivering their jobs. He stated that going forward, the project will no longer condone any further delays in the completion of projects and will sanction defaulters accordingly.

The contractors took turns to give their scorecards. Most of the remediation contractors assured of completing works before the end of June 2022. The water contractors stated that significant milestones have been recorded in their contracts and reticulations are currently ongoing across communities in Ogoniland.

The monthly performance review meeting with contractors is to look at the performance of the contractors within the period under review and ensure that contractors adhere to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of their contracts.

# UNEP OGONILAND ASSESSMENT STAFF HONOUR DR. GIADOM

The Nigerian team that worked for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the assessment of the Ogoni environment has honoured one of its own, Dr. Ferdinand Dumbari Giadom on his appointment as the substantive Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution and Remediation Project (HYPREP).

Dr. Giadom was one of the Technical Assistants who worked for UNEP from 2009 to 2011 in the environmental assessment of Ogoniland that culminated in the famous UNEP Report that was submitted to the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2011 and the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) Is now implementing.

At the event, Dr. Mrs Chinwe Ezekiel a former UNEP Staff said that she met Dr. Ferdinand Giadom as a Technical Assistant (TA), in October 2009 when UNEP put together a team of Nigerians to work on the Ogoniland Assessment Project. She is glad that the project they worked on several years ago has rewarded one of them. "Hard work pays", she said.

Similarly, Mrs. Christie Gbaraba a former UNEP staff stated that Dr. Giadom is a kind, accessible and easy-going person and encouraged everyone to be diligent in the discharge of their responsibility.

A friend of the HYPREP Project Coordinator, Mr. Sylvester Akere in his goodwill message said Dr. Giadom is a highly disciplined person and an intellectual, noting that his disciplined lifestyle dates to his early days as a Seminarian and a Cadet at the Nigerian Defense Academy (NDA). Mr. Akere disclosed that Dr. Giadom has also made a huge impact on his immediate community, Bodo.

In the same vein, Mr. John Menegbo stated that the newly appointed Project Coordinator of HYPREP is hardworking and studious and assured the people of Ogoni that Dr. Ferdinand will wholly implement the recommendations of the



UNEP Assessment Team Members with Dr. Giadom



HYPREP Staff with Dr. Giadom

UNEP Report. Mr. Akere used the occasion to thank the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President Muhammadu Buhari for appointing Dr. Giadom on grounds of competence.

Head of Procurement Unit HYPREP, Mr. Paul Owoicho described the Project Coordinator as a good leader who respects everybody and has instilled discipline in the workplace since he assumed office. He said he is convinced that the HYPREP helmsman will propel the project to greater heights. Corroborating, Mrs Josephine Nzidee, Head, Livelihood Unit of HYPREP said Dr. Ferdinand is a "field" man who knows all the contaminated sites in Ogoniland like the back of his hand and that the technical team of HYPREP have upped their game since Dr. Ferdinand came on board.

Dr. Ferdinand Giadom appreciated

everyone for coming out to honour him and promised to do his best as always in the task he has been given and enjoined everyone present to always strive and dare to achieve set goals. "Everywhere you find yourself, in everything you do, do your 'do' regardless of what the next person thinks. Do it like your life depends on it", he advised.

Dr. Giadom has over twenty years' experience in the conduct of impact assessment and baseline studies of Brownfields and Greenfields, with tested expertise in the development of Conceptual Site Models of various environments. He is also an expert in Remediation Project Management and was a Consultant with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the implementation of the UNEP Report on the Environmental assessment of Ogoniland before his appointment as the Project Coordinator of HYPREP

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that carried out the environmental audit of Ogoniland between 2009 and 2011 is currently providing technical support for the Project Coordination Office of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP). To get firsthand information on the project towards strengthening service delivery, officials of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) visited some water sites and Area offices in Ogoniland.

Communications Consultant to UNEP, Apoorva Bose and a Technical Expert to UNEP, Geraint Williams were conducted round ongoing water projects in Ogale and Ebubu in Eleme LGA and Bori in Khana LGA. At Ogale, Daniel Dekil, the site

# FACTS ABOUT HYPREP

### **ESTABLISHMENT**

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) was established by the Federal Government of Nigeria under the Federal Ministry of Environment in 2016 to among other things implement the United Nations Environment Programme Report on Ogoniland.

### **OBJECTIVES OF HYPREP**

HYPREP is established to achieve the under listed objectives in Ogoniland and other impacted Communities:

- 1. Determine the scope, modalities and means of remediation of soil and ground water contamination in impacted communities as may be approved by HYPREP Governing Council and remedy them.
- 2. Enhance local capacity for better environmental management and promote awareness of sound environmental management as well as ensure livelihoods and sustainable development.
- 3. Ensure security and promote peace building efforts in impacted communities.
- 4. Strengthen governance, transparency, and accountability in the region.

### **FUNCTIONS OF HYPREP**

### **UNEP Officials Visit HYPREP Project Sites**

supervisor explained that ground water samples have been collected and being analyzed in the laboratory.

Interacting with the team, a member of the Central Representatives Advisory Committee (CRAC) Dr. Abraham Olungwe, representing Eleme LGA noted that the host communities have been supportive. He stated that HYPREP recently held a water sustainability workshop to review the sustainability component of the water project.

Dr Olungwe also said that HYPREP is proposing to have a community-based management system, where the community will take ownership of the project upon completion and handover. The UNEP team also visited the HYPREP area office in Bori, Khana LGA, where they met with the Spokesperson of CRAC, HRH Mene Suanu Baridam. Addressing the visitors, the Traditional Ruler stated that HYPREP is a people-based project and as such it is incumbent on it to communicate with the grassroots through the area office.

Enuolare Mba-Nwigoh, Head, Stakeholders Engagement Unit, said going forward, most of the community issues being handled at the HYPREP Head Office will first be dealt with at the level of the area office and disclosed that plans are in top gear to get the area offices operational.



UNEP Officials/HYPREP Staff on Site Inspection

HYPREP shall perform the following functions:

- 1. Investigate, map and evaluate hydrocarbon polluted communities and sites in Nigeria referred to it by National Oil Spill Detection Response Agency (NOSDRA) or the Federal Ministry of Environment in collaboration with the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) and make recommendations to the Federal Government.
- 2. Implement the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on Environmental Restoration of Ogoniland (UNEP Report) as directed by the HYPREP Governing Council.
- 3. Initiate and develop work programmes aimed at restoring all hydrocarbon impacted communities and sites referred to HYPREP.

- 4. Undertake a comprehensive assessment and mapping of all environmental issues associated with hydrocarbon pollution, in collaboration with NOSDRA.
- 5. Provide guidance data to undertake remediation of contaminated soil and ground water in Ogoniland and such other impacted communities as may be referred to it
- 6. Technically evaluate alternative technologies to be employed to undertake remediation of contaminated soil and ground water.
- 7. Make recommendations for responding to future environmental contamination from hydrocarbons; and (h) ensure full environmental recovery and restoration of Ogoni ecosystem and ecosystem services for Ogoni people and other impacted communities.

# FEATURES Relevance Of Engineered Biocell To Soil Remediation

By: Baridakara Kanee, Pene Barikuma, Gboro Ledibabari and Gbiimadee Baribuma

Engineered Bio-cells use naturally occurring microbes to degrade fuels and oils into carbon dioxide and water. Under optimum nutrient, moisture, oxygen, and temperature conditions, native bacteria in the contaminated soil use the Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) as food source. Remediated soil can then be returned to the original excavated trench. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) produced during operation of the bio-cell are treated by using a granulated activated carbon (GAC) adsorption system. Biocells can treat soils contaminated with petroleum-based fuels and lubricants, including diesel fuel, jet fuel, and lubricating and hydraulic oils. The microbes use the contaminants as food source and thus destroy them. By carefully controlling air flow and moisture levels, the treatment time can be reduced.

What then is an engineered bio-cell? It is a physical structure, constructed to contain impacted soil undergoing treatment (insitu) that is on site. It is braced by environmental specialists for the unique feature of being able to restrict migration of contaminants and for controlling moisture content in the soil.

There are design specifications and operating conditions for a bio-cell. These are:

- 1. Site clearing and land surface sloppy grading. The foundation should be sloped towards a Leachate sump so it can allow for substance flow under gravity.
- 2. Construction of bund wall to a height of 1.50m, using either sandbags or laterite.

- 3. Compacting of the bio-cell base to give it a stable surface that slops towards the sump.
- 4. Laying of high-density polyethylene liner (HDPE liner) of 150-200mm thickness to cover the bio-cell base and the bund wall. Keeping to the specified thickness of liner is important so it can withstand the harshness of the environment and the stress of earth-moving equipment, as well as preventing seep through by runoff and leachate.
- 5. Sealing all joining points of the HDPE Liner using the sealing machine. This is important as not to allow the leachate leak through and contaminate the bio-cell area.
- 6. Spreading of sharp sand on the HDPE Liner on the floor of the bio-cell to a thickness of 0.3-0.5m as a conducting layer.

A leachate collection system (sump) is installed to capture excess moisture in the Bio-cell, which is further managed using a "control valve."

Bio-cell technology provides an innovative method for treating soil contamination with high concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons. The technology involves loading petroleum-contaminated soils into an engineered bio-cell and stimulating aerobic microbial activity within the soils through aeration. Soil can be treated in batches, adding moisture and nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus to enhance microbial activity. The microbial activity degrades the petroleum-based constituents adsorbed by soil particles, thus reducing the concentrations of these contaminants. Remediated soil can then be returned to the original excavated trench.

The essence of engineered bio-cell is to reduce the concentration of petroleum

constituents in excavated soils using aerobic biodegradation.

Engineered Bio-cell offers the following benefits:

- 1. Engineered Bio-cell system is relatively easy to design and construct.
- 2. At most HYPREP sites, treatment of contaminated soil can be completed in a relatively short period of six to nine months, depending on the volume of soil to be treated.
- 3. Engineered Bio-cell may be cost-competitive with off-site disposal.
- 4. It is applicable to a wide range of site conditions and petroleum-based contamination.
- 5. Engineered Bio-cell helps to curtail secondary pollution, since all the activities are contained within a limited area.
- 6. It also helps for easy calculation of volume of impacted soil to be treated per batch.
- 7. Engineered Bio-cell controls moisture content in the soil.
- 8. It controls temperature of the impacted soil if a roof is set over it.
- 9. It helps to determine the quantity of nutrient to be applied per batch of treatment.

The innovation of engineered bio-cell has made all the difference in soil remediation. Engineered Bio-cell technology is proven to be environmentally friendly and offers an appreciable control over moisture content in the contaminated soil. The excess water is drained towards the leachate sump, where it is pumped back to the Bio-cell until the leachate water is converted to a harmless form before being discharged into the environment.

# **Only One Earth**

By: Cecilia Mogba



The 2022 theme for the World Environment Day celebration is Only One Earth. The theme is as comprehensive as it sounds. It means that we all must collectively resist our

thoughtless habits of squandering, exploiting our natural resources and generating mountains of toxic wastes and reflect on becoming better caretakers of our planet.

Earth, a special habitable planet, is our only place of residence as it provides us with food, shelter, protection, and other necessary resources. It is protected from harmful solar radiation by its magnetic field as it is at the right distance from the sun, and it is kept warm by an insulating atmosphere with the right chemical ingredients for life including water and carbon.

The present state of the Earth has become extremely challenging to the health and continual existence of itself and the several life forms living on it and it is as a result of the pollution, global warming, water pollution, deforestation and a host of other environmental problems plaguing the planet.

Air pollution is one of the major types of pollution that adversely impacts our environment and causes damage not only to human beings, but also to plants, animals and the environment at large. Smog popularly called ground level ozone occurs due to emissions from burning fossil fuels and soot also known as particulate matter resulting from coal burning, gas flaring, internal-combustion engines, etc, are prevalent forms of air pollution which can lead to several health conditions such as bronchitis, heart attacks and also trigger asthma. For example, in Port Harcourt, southern Nigeria smog and soot are highly prevalent due to gas flaring and artisanal refining.

Furthermore, greenhouse gases work by

trapping the heat of the earth in the atmosphere. These gases result in a warmer temperature. The various changes in the climate such as increasing sea levels, extreme weather, increasing spread of infectious ailments and heat-related deaths are due to greenhouse gases. Carbon dioxide is one of the commonest sources of emissions of greenhouse gas. The second most common cause for it is methane gas. Where carbon dioxide is produced due to burning of fossil fuels, production of methane is due to industrial and natural sources that include release of large amounts of gas at the time of gas and oil drilling. This has led to the deterioration of the environment and has also contributed to the depletion of the ozone layer.

Water pollution is another major form of pollution that is very destructive in nature. As we all know that natural source of water is getting depleted day by day and this has made water a rare commodity in some parts of the world. Unfortunately, even in these critical times, these remaining water sources are getting contaminated by impurities from several sources (like industrial waste, garbage disposal etc.), that make them inappropriate for human consumption. Direct sources, such as factories, waste management facilities, refineries, etc, that directly release waste and dangerous byproducts into the nearest water source without treating them and Indirect sources include pollutants that infuse in the water bodies via groundwater or soil or via the atmosphere through acidic rain are major factors that tarnish our Earth.

Land pollution can be caused by solid and liquid waste produced from domestic activities, industrial activities, deforestation and agricultural activities. Many of these could have negative effects on the environment. For Solid waste, some products are non-biodegradable and are hard to dispose of. Hence, interfering with the natural ecosystem formation. On the other hand, solid waste from agricultural activities, use of high amount of chemical products such as pesticides, insecticides, and fertilizers that are not only harmful to the food crop but also the soils which lead to other sources of pollution subsequently.

With all these in mind, we can see that the habitable planet is now in shambles and utter chaos. Though there are some natural causes of pollution, the human induced causes are more persistent in nature and are the main reason behind environmental pollution, therefore, it is totally up to us - it's inhabitants, to save it. *Initiatives such as:* 

- Use of more ecofriendly sources of energy
   solar panels, windmills etc; stricter vehicle emission norms.
- Regulation of industrial pollution; efficient mechanism for the collection and disposal of waste.
- Better and efficient sewage management system; recycling of runoff water.
- Planting of trees in our homes and environments to help trap carbon and reduce air pollution.
- Proper collection of waste from urban areas and its proper disposal is also very much important for reducing environmental pollution. In the absence of proper collection and disposal mechanism, the waste from urban settlements reaches the environment and pollutes it. There is a need to properly collect the waste, segregate it as per its quality and then recycle it or incinerate it.
- Individuals should be educated on the dangers of pollution in our environment and laws should be made pertaining to pollution.

Even the simple initiatives like avoiding the use of plastics and plastic materials, recycling non-biodegradable materials, switching off lights and machines when not in use; and taking public transport instead of personal vehicle will considerably help reduce the environmental pollution by ensuring that lesser hazardous gases are emitted into the atmosphere.

In conclusion, there is no question that Earth has been a giving planet. Everything humans have needed to survive, and thrive, was provided by the natural world around us: food, water, medicine, materials for shelter, and even natural cycles such as climate and nutrients. The rise of technology and industry may have distanced us superficially from nature, but it has not changed our reliance on the natural world. For this reason, we as individuals of the earth ought to protect and care for it just as it does the same for us in return, for it is our 'Only One Earth.'



# FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT (HYPREP) COMUNICATIONS UNIT

### HYPREP NOT SPONSORING PROTESTS AGAINST APPOINTMENT OF ANY PROJECT PERSONNEL

The attention of the Management of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has been drawn to utterances in the media suggesting planned protests against persons engaged to work on the Project. We want to state categorically that the Management of HYPREP under the Project Coordinator, Dr. Ferdinand Dumbari Giadom has never at any time called, mobilized or incited anyone to protest against the leadership of the Federal Ministry of Environment or the Presidency over re-engagement of any project personnel.

On the contrary, the Project Coordinator, Dr Ferdinand Giadom uses this medium to appeal to all stakeholders and the Ogoni community to shelve any protest in the offing and engage the Project with the aim of addressing whatever grievances they may have against the leadership of the Project. This is necessary because the Ogoniland clean-up project must not be allowed to derail over matters that are peripheral to the overall picture of the HYPREP project and its deliverables to the Ogoni people.

The Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Hassan Abdullahi at his maiden townhall meeting with the people of Ogoniland in Bori on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2022 promised a robust and sustainable implementation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Report on Ogoniland and would therefore not undermine his commitment nor that of the Federal Government of Nigeria to the successful implementation of the Ogoniland clean-up. What we need as a people at this time is to support the President Muhammadu Buhari's administration achieve set goals and objectives for the Project.

The Honourable Minister of Environment, Barr. Mohammed Abdullahi and the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Dr. Ferdinand Giadom have within one month in office outlined laudable programmes and activities for the good of Ogoni as typified in the plan to connect Ogoniland to the national grid for sustainable water supply to communities, deliver the Centre of Excellence in Environmental Remediation and have also developed schemes for the stimulation of economic growth and a myriad of other project deliverables.

It is therefore the earnest expectation of the Project Coordinator, Dr. Giadom that the youths and other stakeholders in Ogoni should 'keep an eye' on the bigger picture which ultimately lies in the full implementation of the recommendations of the UNEP Report, which the administration of President Muhammadu Buhari has pledged its commitment.

Kpoobari Nafo Head, Communications

### **PICTURES OF THE MONTH**



Cross Section of Community Leaders at the Potable Water Sustainability Workshop



Paramount Ruler of Alesa, HRH J.D. Nkpe addressing the Press at Alesa Water Station.



From Right, Paramount Ruler of B-Dere, Chief Kadilobari Sooh and some Community Members



Workshop Participants Pose with Dr. Giadom in a Group Photograph



From Left to Right 1. Raphael Saue 2. Ekiyokenegha Clark 3. Dr. Ferdinand Giadom 4. Melubari Nwidadah



Site Visit by Participants of Potable Water Sustainability Workshop



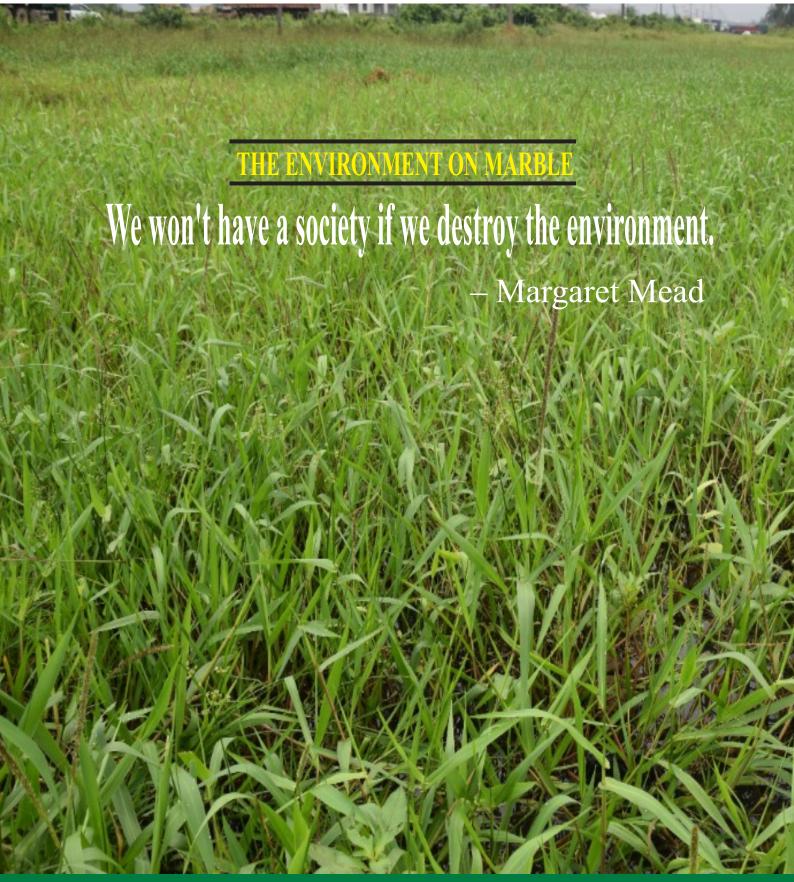
HRH Suanu Baridam addressing Visiting UNEP Officials/HYPREP Staff



From Right 1. HRH Magnus Adumene 2. HRH Fabian Gberesuu 3. Chief Dominic Tegbo



# 2022 World Environment Day Celebration Only One Earth Larth Cet's Oreserve A!



# ... for a cleaner and greener Ogoniland

A Publication of the Communications Unit of HYPREP

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