



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

# HYPREP HERALD

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## HYPREP TRAINS OVER 2500 WORKERS FOR SHORELINE CLEAN-UP



**IMO Levels 1&2 Trainees**

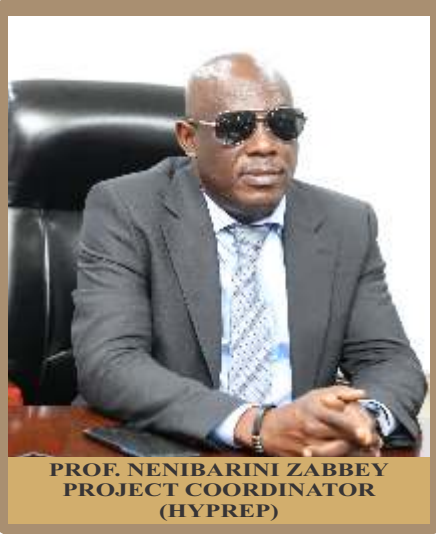
PROJECT COORDINATOR, PROF. ZABBEY HOLDS CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH CRITICAL MANGROVE STAKEHOLDERS

UNEP IN LESSONS LEARNED SESSION WITH HYPREP UNITS

HYPREP IS COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF OGONILAND - PROF. ZABBEY

**HYPREP  
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# THE PC'S DESK



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

Flowing from HYPREP Governing Council's approval of the report of the Governing Council's Ad hoc Committee on verification of public health facility strengthening in Ogoniland, we have commenced the strengthening of health care facilities in Eleme, Gokana, Tai, and Khana Local Government Areas. The health facilities are the Eleme General Hospital, Eleme, Terabo General Hospital, Gokana, Bori General Hospital, Khana, and Kpите Primary HealthCare Center, Tai LGA.

We have started the installation of the procured medical equipment in Nchia General Hospital, Terabo General Hospital, Bori General Hospital, and Kpите Primary Healthcare Centre. The medical equipment is in the thematic areas of (1) Radiology/Life Support and Power Equipment, and some of them are Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Ventilator, 12 Channel Digital Electrocardiograph (ECG) Machine with touch screen, etc. (2) Theatre Equipment - Anesthetic Machine with Double Vaporizer, Pulse Oximeter/Patient Monitor, Digital Blood Pressure BP Test Monitor Sphygmomanometer, etc. (3) Surgical Instrument – General Surgical Instrument,

Gynecological and Caesarean Section Instrument, Laparotomy Sets, etc. (4) Chemical Pathology - Immuno Assay Hormone Analyzer (Automatic Hormone Fluorescence Immunoassay), Electrophoresis Machine, Incubator, etc. (5) Microbiology – Hot Air Oven, Water Distiller, Analytical weighing Scale, etc. (6) Installation of a 30KVA Solar System.

These medical equipment and others not listed here due to limited space will significantly boost healthcare delivery in Ogoniland. It is a deliberate move to empower medical personnel working in these hospitals to deliver their services and enable the population to access quality healthcare. Upon the installation and calibration of the medical equipment, which is 95% completed, HYPREP will commission them for public use before Christmas. In the past, the Project has organized free medical outreaches in four local government areas of Ogoni, and the testimonies are still told to this day by beneficiaries, especially those who had lived with terrible medical conditions until the HYPREP remedial intervention. Hundreds of Ogonis benefited from those outreaches and have been calling for a repeat, and in response to their calls, we are strengthening public medical facilities in the area. However, we need to adopt the mitigatory approach of coming in at some point and rendering free medical services and going away, as there are more sustained ways of addressing the health needs of the people. We are now providing the necessary equipment and consumables in the designated facilities identified so that patients can walk in and be attended to by the service providers. It is a more sustainable and effective way of addressing the health challenges in the area.

HYPREP is building a cottage hospital in Buan and a 100-bed specialist hospital in Kpите. These hospitals will be installed with state-of-the-art medical equipment to help sustain Ogoniland and Rivers State healthcare delivery. They are currently at various stages of construction. The specialist hospital has special units such as oncology and infectious diseases.

HYPREP, in partnership with the African Centre of Excellence for Public Health and Toxicological Research (ACE – PUTOR), University of Port Harcourt and the Institute of Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT), University of Ibadan has developed a comprehensive Public Health and Toxicological Research Proposal aimed at establishing a community-based cohort within Ogoniland for longitudinal evaluation of the health effects of long-term hydrocarbon exposure such as the development of pre-malignant hematological changes, neurological, metabolic, liver, and kidney function changes among other variety of health impacts. Plans are underway to conduct the research collaboratively with the World Health Organization (WHO).

As we strive to implement the recommendations of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on Ogoniland to the letter, we expect stakeholders, particularly the Ogoni youths, to join hands with HYPREP to make the project's mandate a reality. We urge the Ogoni youths, the primary beneficiaries of the Ogoni cleanup, to own the project and maximize the benefit of the cleanup value chain. They should jettison distractions and misinformation flung at the Project Coordination Office. Be assured that my eyes are on the ball. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2024 in advance!!



# In this Issue

Season's greetings to you. For us at HYPREP, the year 2023 was packed with project activities that touched on the lives of the Ogoni people. Beginning with the inauguration of the mega projects of Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration, the Ogoni Specialist Hospital and the Ogoni Power Project to the several projects like the commissioning of the Barako Water Station, the commencement of the construction of the Batch 2 Water Project, the deployment of five hundred environmental vanguards to project sites in Ogoni, the take-off of the pilot mangrove revegetation project in Bomu, the kick-off of remediation of the Medium Risk Sites, the training of five thousand Ogoni people in different skill sets to the recent training of over two thousand five hundred community workers in International Maritime Organization (IMO) levels 1 and 2 who will participate in the clean-up of the shorelines; year 2023 was remarkable as it witnessed a quantum leap in project implementation.

In this edition, the last for the year, we bring you the report of the training of over two thousand five hundred community workers who will assist remediation contractors in the clean-up of the shorelines in the initial seven coastal communities in Gokana Local Government Area. It is arguably the largest clean-up project in this part of the world and will leave behind a legacy of remediation technology transfer to the Ogoni people. Sequel to the training of over two thousand five hundred workers is the report on a mangrove stakeholder meeting held in Bomu to properly integrate the locals who are the custodians of the mangrove forest in the area to enable them carry on with the revegetation and management of the mangroves even after HYPREP has completed its operations. The meeting afforded

them the opportunity to know that they have a stake and say in the on-going mangrove restoration project. At a similar event to present certificates to trainees in mangrove nursing and revegetation, stake holding was also the plank of the message delivered to these new recruits into the business of mangrove management and sustainability.

The Project Coordinator, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey at a recent event briefed Ogoni stakeholders on the status of the clean-up project, achievements and challenges and solicited their support for the project to succeed. As the year gets to an end, it provided an opportunity for the project to reflect on its performance and set goals for the new year. That was the rationale behind the end of year retreat held for Heads of Unit and Team Leads of the Project. We have the report for you in this edition. The stocktaking exercise extended to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) that has provided technical support for the project right from inception. UNEP held a lesson learned session for Units of HYPREP with a view to better inform the UN System on how well to support the project especially as HYPREP moves to construct mega projects in Ogoni. The session was revealing and rewarding for both organizations.

The procurement process for goods and services for the project progressed to the financial stage and we have the report in this edition.

As HYPREP continues to cover remarkable milestones in project delivery, so have institutions continued to recognize the efforts of the helmsman of the project, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey. The West African Society of Toxicology is among several organizations that recently conferred on Professor Zabbey an award of excellence in service delivery. The award was presented to him at the Rivers State University in Port Harcourt. And as HYPREP is being appreciated for work well done, so, also has the Project encouraged the younger generation to imbibe the right attitude towards the environment. To this end, HYPREP organized an environmental quiz for nine secondary schools in Ogoniland where it has established its environment clubs. The winning school is the Birabi Memorial Grammar School, Bori that was presented with a gold trophy and a cash reward of one million naira.

We added a snippet column to give you tidbits on project activities and events. The poem corner is maintained for your reading pleasure, and it is our belief that you will find this edition as informative as always. Wishing you, a merry Christmas, and a prosperous new year ahead!

## Editorial Crew

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## Project News

# HYPREP TRAINS OVER 2500 WORKERS FOR SHORELINE CLEAN-UP

In preparation for the commencement of shoreline remediation and mangrove restoration in Ogoniland, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) has begun the training of over two thousand five hundred (2500) community workers from host communities along the shorelines of Ogoniland in International Maritime Organization (IMO) levels 1 and 2. Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey embarked on a working visit to Government Secondary School, Kpor - venue of the training.

Professor Zabbey stated that the training was a key component of the shoreline remediation project and an asset to the community workers as it will arm them with the necessary skills for similar work elsewhere.

“The aim is to ready the youths, not only for the clean-up of the shoreline areas of Ogoniland but also to prepare them for the clean-up of the Niger Delta and the country at large.”

He assured that the quality of training being given is in compliance with the standards of the International Maritime Organization (IMO).

“Globally, for you to qualify to work in a wetland and the shoreline, you need International Maritime Organization, (IMO) levels 1 and 2 and that is what this training is all about, and because it is an international training, we engaged qualified trainers that have the IMO accreditation to conduct this training.”

The HYPREP Project Coordinator disclosed that the training curriculum entails effective oil spill response and environmental management and will adequately prepare the trainees to work in the intertidal area and that successful trainees will be awarded IMO levels 1 and 2 certificates at the end of the two weeks training.

While congratulating trainees on the successful completion of their medical fitness and swim test exercises, the Project Coordinator urged them to take every aspect of the training seriously and participate actively in the classroom and the demonstration components of the training and maintained that only when they are certified okay at the end of the hands-on training will they be deployed to the project sites to work with contractors on the thirty-four (34) shoreline clean-up sites and nine (9) mangrove sites.

“I want to urge you to take the training very seriously, you have to participate actively in every bit of this training from the classroom to the components in the field, by the time you finish this training stage and you are deployed to the field to support our 34 shoreline contractors, then you will further deepen your understanding and experience in shoreline clean up so that when you combine the experience you have acquired and the certificate that you would be awarded, it will prepare you for not just our clean up but for the cleanup of this entire country.”

The Project Coordinator added that HYPREP activities are people-centered, and it will stick to

international best practices, globally recognized standards, and uphold gender equality in the distribution of job opportunities which is the reason for the increased number of women on project sites.

“The clean-up is sustainable; it's going to be people-centred and that's why we have men and women here. We are promoting women's participation, and social inclusion and we are adopting international best practices in our clean-up of Ogoniland. We are also currently training 5,000 youths in different skill areas to empower them to earn their livelihood and be productive because one of the key objectives of HYPREP is to promote and restore sustainable livelihood.”

“The Ogoni clean-up is following international best practices and recognized standards globally. Even if it is a lengthy process, we must stick to the standards. As a Professor of Biomonitoring and Restoration Ecology, I belong to the Society for Ecological Restoration, so I must ensure that the protocols of our society are implemented to the letter.”

Professor Zabbey also visited the Ken Saro-Wiwa Polytechnic, Bori where he met with the Rector, Dr. Ledum Gwarah. He urged the Management of



**IMO Training in Session**



the institution to utilize the opportunities arising from HYPREP project sites in Ogoniland to give the students practical skills in engineering, geosciences, environmental sciences, civil works, etc.

The HYPREP Project Coordinator later led the Rector of the Ken Saro-Wiwa Polytechnic and members of his management team on a guided tour of the Centre of Excellence in Environmental Restoration, Wiyaakara that HYPREP is building. The centre is a driving distance of about five minutes from the Ken Saro-Wiwa Polytechnic.



HYPREP PC, Prof. Zabbey 6<sup>th</sup> from left with Rector Kenpoly Dr. Gwarah 5<sup>th</sup> from left and Management Staff, Kenpoly

## PROJECT COORDINATOR, PROF. ZABBEY HOLDS CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH CRITICAL MANGROVE STAKEHOLDERS

As part of activities for the smooth take-off of the pilot mangrove restoration project in Bomu, Gokana Local Government Area, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has met with key stakeholders in the mangrove value chain to foster their inclusiveness and participation in HYPREP's sustainable mangrove restoration project.

The meeting was convened to get inputs from the stakeholders drawn from the seven (7) shoreline communities of (Bodo, Bomu, Goi, B-Dere, K-Dere, Kpor, and Gbe) in Gokana Local Government Area, to know their expectations of HYPREP's mangrove restoration project.

The stakeholders comprised representatives within the mangrove value chain which include periwinkle pickers, mangrove harvesters, and fishermen and women.

Professor Zabbey delivering his opening remarks, described the meeting as a pre-condition for a successful mangrove restoration project.

“HYPREP is leading sustainable mangrove restoration in Ogoni, and we are starting our restoration in Bomu. We are going to do a pilot over

an area of four hundred and sixty (460) hectares, and in every sustainable mangrove restoration, the first step is for the initiator to speak with members of the community, especially those who depend on mangrove for their livelihood.”

“We are doing this because when we are done with the restoration, it will take many years to monitor the return of ecosystem goods and services by the mangrove we have planted and HYPREP's role in Ogoni is not indefinite, so it's the community people that will join us to plant the mangroves, join us in monitoring the performance of the mangroves even when we have left Ogoni.”

He noted that the expectations of the members of the value chain will be built into the objectives of HYPREP in

its planning, which will guide the project in measuring the success of the project's mangrove restoration programme.

Professor Zabbey submitted that HYPREP's stay in Ogoni is limited hence the need to include the community in the planning stage and added that members of the community who have been trained will participate in the planting and performance monitoring of the mangrove seedlings.

Participants at the meeting commended HYPREP on including them in the mangrove restoration programme right from the planning stage and promised to help the project to succeed in its goal of revegetating the damaged mangrove forest in Ogoniland.



HYPREP PC, Prof. Zabbey with Critical Mangrove Stakeholders

## **HYPREP WILL BEQUEATH ARTS AND SCIENCE OF MANGROVE RESTORATION TO Ogoni PEOPLE – PROF. ZABBEY**

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has said that the arts and science of mangrove nursing and planting is one legacy that the Project will bequeath to the Ogoni people as it commences the shoreline clean-up and mangrove revegetation project in the area.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) had in its report on the environmental assessment of Ogoniland submitted to the Government of Nigeria in 2011 recommended a clean-up of the intertidal areas of Ogoniland polluted by oil spills and a follow up of mangrove replanting to restore the once thriving vegetation. The report estimated that it will take between twenty-five to thirty years to fully restore the damaged mangrove forest in Ogoniland.

Accordingly, the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project had awarded contracts for the shoreline clean-up and trained some Ogoni people in the nursing and planting of mangroves.

At a certificate presentation ceremony to trainees from the Bomu community which plays host to the pilot mangrove revegetation project, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey urged the ninety beneficiaries of the training to take actions to protecting the mangrove ecosystem as Mangrove Nursery Vanguard, noting that the sustainability of the mangrove restoration and conservation efforts of HYPREP is largely dependent on community participation.

Professor Zabbey disclosed that HYPREP is adopting a wholistic approach in its mangrove replanting effort, with focus on restoration and conservation through sustainable harvesting, adding that HYPREP will embark on community sensitization to educate the locals on sustainable

mangrove harvesting so that the mangrove forest is not depleted from uncontrolled and commercial harvesting.

He said the Project will monitor and support trainees to train others in mangrove nursery and planting and also earn income by supplying seedlings to the shoreline remediation and mangrove replanting contractors.

The Phase 1 mangrove revegetation area in Bomu, Gokana Local Government Area covers about 635.6 hectares and over 3,000 mangrove seedlings would be planted and noted that the demand for mangrove seedlings would be high as the Project commences mangrove replanting, adding that it is a long-term investment that would attend to the mangrove needs of the shoreline project.

The HYPREP boss stated that with the training, trainees have garnered good knowledge of the arts and science of mangrove nurseries and should volunteer to take actions that will restore lost mangrove and protect existing ones. "Let me remind you that you have a duty to restore

mangrove wherever you find yourself and continue to protect the remnants of the mangrove stock in Ogoniland," he charged.

Representative of the Paramount Ruler of Bomu Community, Chief Akintola Aator, while commending HYPREP on the training, enjoined the trainees to make the best use of the knowledge gained from the training which he noted would greatly benefit them.

Professor Franklin Tanee, the facilitator also commended HYPREP and noted that the training has better positioned the trainees as mangrove vanguards judging from the enthusiasm they showed throughout the training and announced that some trainees have raised up to 50,000 seedlings.

High point of the event was the issuance of certificate of participation to the 90 trainees by the Project Coordinator. The event was attended by representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Management staff of HYPREP.



**Mangrove Nursing Trainees with Prof. Zabbey shortly after Receiving their Certificates**



# HYPREP IS COMMITTED TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF Ogoniland – PROF. ZABBEY

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has maintained that the several projects and programmes of HYPREP in Ogoniland are geared towards the sustainable ecosystem, peace and development of Ogoniland.

Professor Zabbey stated this in a project status update briefing he gave on the activities of HYPREP.

“It is our desire to see sustainable ecosystem, peace and development in Ogoniland. Since 2017 the Federal Government of Nigeria through HYPREP has been at the forefront of efforts to ensure that the people of Ogoniland live in a clean and economically viable environment. We believe that a clean environment is the gateway to the realization of other goals.”

On sustainable livelihood, the Professor Zabbey listed the training of five thousand (5000) Ogoni women and youths in thirty-eight different skill sets, training of one hundred

(100) youths each in the mega skill areas of aviation, mechatronics, seafaring and creative arts, the certification of the first set of thirty(30) youths in the aviation training, survey of small and medium scale businesses in Ogoniland and a three hundred thousand naira (N300,000) grants to each of the sixty Ogoni Small Scale Entrepreneurs to boost their businesses.

The HYPREP Project Coordinator stated that the commissioning of the Barako water station, one of the six water projects in the Phase 1 Water Scheme is a demonstration of HYPREP's commitment to providing potable water that meets World Health Organization (WHO) standards. The Barako Water Station is in addition to the earlier commissioned Alesa Water Station that is supplying water to the community and its environs. The four (4) other water stations in Bori, Kpean, Korokoro and Ebubu are nearing completion and ready for commissioning. He added that the construction of another fourteen (14) Water Schemes that would supply

water to 52 Ogoni communities is ongoing.

“It goes without saying that the construction of the fourteen water schemes will create job opportunities for the youths in these communities and thus reduce the burden of unemployment. During the construction works, plumbing and other relevant skills would be passed on to the locals who stand the chance of learning lifelong economic skills for their economic empowerment.”

On the progress made in environmental remediation, the Project Coordinator disclosed thus: “The Ogoni clean-up project has progressed consistently from the first contracts of twenty-one (21) lots in Phase 1 Batch 1 to twenty-nine (29) lots in Phase 1 Batch 2. We have closed out thirty-six (36) lots, while fourteen (14) lots are at different stages of completion. We have also awarded contracts for tier 2 assessment for other sites that gave us concerns which we allotted into 7 lots. In the Phase 2 remediation, the scope of work includes the preliminary works, site reassessment and characterization by the contractors. The main contract has two stages: the contractors will do distinct site characterization and remediation of both soil and groundwater which will culminate in the planting of mangroves being the natural flora in this area while taking into consideration their natural patterns.”

“The planting of mangroves which is a key component of our shoreline remediation works will furnish locals with mangrove nursing skills and the economic benefits that come with it. The Ogoni people are already being trained in the nursing of mangroves. We plan to restore three thousand (3,000) hectares of oil-degraded mangroves in Ogoniland. This will involve the planting of about 10 million mangrove seedlings, which



**Prof. Zabbey**

will be the world's largest restoration of oil-degraded mangroves. Much of the mangrove planting will be done following shoreline cleanup delineated into thirty-four (34) lots. The pilot planting on approximately 600 ha of shores in Bomu community has been awarded to nine contractors. The areas earmarked for immediate mangrove revegetation have been identified through site characterization using the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT).”

Professor Zabbey further revealed that the remediation project is going on simultaneously with the construction of the legacy projects of; the Centre of Excellence for Environmental Restoration (CEER), the Ogoni Specialist Hospital and the Ogoni Power Project, and that these projects will gradually turn Ogoniland into a construction site with the resultant positive effect on the local economy and income of households and added that these legacy projects will have far reaching benefits and address core concerns on health, sustainable livelihood, human capital development and environmental restoration. He noted that the Project has maintained effective supervision, monitoring and evaluation to ensure value for money.

The HYPREP helmsman however, expressed worries over the challenges bedeviling the smooth implementation of the projects and called for a more stakeholder collaboration in addressing them. He disclosed that HYPREP is institutionalizing the use of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in resolving community issues and will continue to engage communities through sensitization programmes, town hall meetings and interactive sessions, restating that HYPREP's mission statement is simple: that all Ogoni people regardless of their status, creed or location should be a part of the clean-up process and benefit accordingly.

## **PROJECT EXECUTION: PROF. ZABBEY URGES STAFF TO SHOW COMMITMENT**

As the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), intensifies the implementation of the various projects in remediation, livelihood, water and the other legacy projects, the Project Coordinator, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has called on staff of the project to be more dedicated to duty so as to deliver on the mandate of HYPREP to the satisfaction of stakeholders.

As expectations from stakeholders continue to mount on the Clean-up programme, Management, Team Leads and staff of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) have been reminded that there is a burden on them to be committed to the task of effectively delivering on the mandate of the Project as they are accountable to the Project, posterity, and God.

Professor Zabbey made the call at the 2023 HYPREP Strategy Retreat, with the theme: Effective Project Implementation in HYPREP, which was held the T-FAD Hotel & Resort, Wiiyaakara, Khana Local Government Area.

The HYPREP Project Coordinator noted that the retreat afforded the Project the opportunity to appraise its performance in terms of successes recorded and challenges, and highlighted key principles and structures needed for the implementation of an effective environmental remediation in Ogoniland which include comprehensive assessment, clear objectives and goals, stakeholder management, scientific expertise, technology and innovation. Other areas highlighted were regulatory compliance, sustainability and long-term planning, public awareness and education, accountability and evaluation.

“This is a gathering of dedicated professionals committed to the vital task of remediating hydrocarbon contamination and restoring livelihoods and ecological systems in

Ogoniland. We stand at the forefront of the national endeavour to decontaminate Ogoniland of hydrocarbons to pave the way for a cleaner, healthier future for the Ogoni people. This requires discipline and devotion. This retreat will provide us the opportunity to collectively reflect on the project we are implementing with renewed commitment. It is a forum for developing new skills, managing our well-being, initiating new problem-solving initiatives, and creating a controlled environment for us to look inwards for improvement.”

“As we embark on this journey together, let us remember the profound impact our work has on communities, ecosystems, and generations to come. Each one of us plays an indispensable role in this mission, and your dedication is the cornerstone for our collective success. Over the course of this retreat, we will not only deepen our knowledge and skills but also foster the bonds of collaboration and innovation that are essential for tackling the complex challenges of land remediation, managing the internal and external stakeholders we work with, and gaining a better understanding of the other ancillary roles that we undertake. Together, we will explore new strategies, share experiences, and inspire one another to reach greater heights.”

The Project Coordinator emphasized that HYPREP would aim for solutions that not only remove contaminants but also promote ecological restoration and ecosystem resilience as part of the long-term sustainability plan in its remediation efforts, noting that the Project must continue to educate the public about the importance of environmental remediation.

“Transparency and public support can help garner resources and ensure the success of these initiatives. With increased public understanding through education, awareness



creation, and sensitization, we would be able to reduce activities of artisanal refining, pipeline vandalism, and oil theft that jeopardize our remediation project and dent the effectiveness of our project implementation strategies.”

He further charged staff to work with renewed vigour, commitment and dedication while bringing to bear the lessons gleaned from the retreat and stressed the need for interactive planning involving both internal and external stakeholders and for staff to develop innovative strategies that will enable effective project implementation, adding that HYPREP would continue to be transparent in its operations and not be daunted by criticisms.

The Director of Technical Services, HYPREP, Professor Philip Shekwolo chronicled the achievements of the Project from inception and disclosed that 29 of the 65 documented sites have been remediated and certified by the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency.

The retreat featured team building and talk sessions as well as physical exercises and aerobics. It was rounded off with a gala night where staff took to the dance floor and unwound.

Some resolutions aimed at fast tracking the implementation of the various projects of HYPREP were reached at the retreat and they are:

- i. HYPREP will have detailed work plans and clear goals. RASCI will continue to be an in-house tool for effective Project Management and should be implemented by each relevant unit.
- ii. All units should ensure interface to deepen the output of projects for optimal results.
- iii. Inclusion of sustainable livelihood programmes should be components of each project of HYPREP in host communities.
- iv. A register of all livelihood



### **HYPREP Management and Staff at the 2023 Retreat**

- beneficiaries should be opened immediately.
- v. Baseline studies, Ecological Surveys and Biological Assessments would be required for comparison in new shoreline and creek hydrocarbon-impacted areas.
  - vi. All HYPREP Projects will involve: Multi-Disciplinary Teams to take care of Project complexities in line with best practice, Subject-Matter Experts and Technical and User Units from inception of the Project including initial sensitization of communities.

On Stakeholders Engagement, it was resolved at the retreat that a comprehensive stakeholder mapping and engagement covering internal and external stakeholders, while

community sensitization should be enhanced, and community content clearly stated from Project conceptualization stage.

Moreso, it was resolved that as a project-centred organization, HYPREP will continue to encourage in-house expertise in project management through training and certification and work in collaboration with the communities and non-governmental organizations to create public awareness on its activities.

The annual retreat of the Project is a rejigging session and has continued to pay-off in terms of staff renewed commitment and focus on the task of implementing the mandate of the Project while exploring more innovative and result oriented approaches to achieving corporate goals.

## **UNEP IN LESSONS LEARNED SESSION WITH HYPREP UNITS**

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) is satisfied that its sustainable livelihood training programme is making positive impacts on the Ogoni population and the economy of the area.

Director, Technical Services, HYPREP, Professor Philip Shekwolo gave the hint at a lesson learned session organized by the United

Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to evaluate the performance of the project for the period that the UN body has provided technical support for the Ogoni clean-up project.

Professor Shekwolo stated that HYPREP deliberately increased the scope of the livelihood programme to cover as many segments of the youth population as possible to forestall

new recruitment into artisanal oil refining.

“There has been quite some progress in livelihood. As we know, it is the aspect that touches the lives of the Ogoni people directly and so, we had to expand it deliberately from just limiting livelihoods to former artisanal refiners to other people who are also good but potentially exposed to becoming artisanal refiners. So, if we don't stop them in good time, they will be baptized, of course. So, that's why it is expanding and so we just have to explain that, and it is also expanding because we also saw that there was need to have a sustainable way of livelihood and that is why the Power Project came in, to sustain the gains from the livelihood trainings.”

He said the choice of skill set in the ongoing livelihood training for five thousand Ogonis was not forced on them as beneficiaries were given free hands to choose the area of training they want and disclosed that several hectares of land have been donated in support of the training.

“So, we want people to show the areas of interest they want to acquire skills and I think that is the lesson that we have learned. Agro business is to me very key. We have very fertile lands in Ogoni, you don't need fertilizers to grow your crops there. Most of the areas they farm, crops grow without fertilizer. So that is an opportunity. We have been given a land by His Royal Majesty, King Suanu Baridam. Vast land for agriculture. We also have land in Korokoro, in Kpitem, that can be used for agro business. So, we have these opportunities, and the government of President Tinubu is focused on food security. So, we can key into it and see how we can showcase that we are training young people and women to promote food security in Ogoniland.”

Chief Technical Advisor, Resilience to Disasters and Conflicts Global Support Branch of UNEP, Mike Cowing called on the Livelihood Unit of HYPREP to remain strong and consistent in delivering the various



## **HYPREP and UNEP Staff at the Lessons learned Session**

trainings it has mapped out for the Ogoni population.

“It is probably one of the most politicized units in terms of external pressure. So, we're aware that the unit has been subjected to a lot of external pressure, whether it's from politicians or people in the community making their demands on what they want. So, I think they've stood up to that extremely well and I think the Livelihood Unit is a glowing example of the sort of support that we in UNEP wanted to see. I think Livelihoods Unit has benefited particularly from the presence of Professor Kakulu.”

Senior National Project Advisor to UNEP and Team Lead UNEP National Office, Professor Iyenemi Kakulu gave a clue to the essence of the lessons learned session organized by UNEP for Units in HYPREP.

“A lesson's learned activity is similar to a stocktaking exercise where successes and failures of a project are presented, discussed, and decisions taken on required improvements. It is usually done in collaboration with key stakeholders in project implementation. It serves as an objective assessment of a project's implementation. A lesson learned report will contain recommendations

for the continuation of best practices as well as the likely changes that must be made to prevent recurrence of failures.”

Professor Kakulu stated that 'UNEP has generally provided capacity building support to project team members within their respective units. In some cases, UNEP has also provided mentorship to these units' and reminded the Project Coordination Office that the task before it 'is huge and requires commitment from all team members to ensure a steady and organized progress.'

Representative of the Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), Ekiyokenegha Clark used the occasion to commend the Communications Unit of HYPREP on the sustained production of the Project newsletter – the HYPREP Herald which he said has greatly informed stakeholders on the operations and achievements of the project.

“The newsletter is one of the best things HYPREP has done and I thank the Communications team for continually pushing that. I wish the communications team was still saddled with the responsibility of producing the technical report. I am



very sure they would have managed to squeeze lime, not water this time; out of stone because they did such a sterling job in the past. So, I think your plan to structure the team in terms of strengths of people is fantastic, continue on that path. Harness the talents of the people in the team. Communication is another team that also, must have competent people. You cannot bring freshers and new people to the team. They must be astute people and you already have astute people in all your areas, so I think it is just a matter of how you harness your talents and collaborate internally to make things work. Have a broad-based plan and implementation plan that is visible to HYPREP and to the world.”

Present at the session were the Senior Technical Advisor to UNEP, Professor Barineme Fakae, Heads of Unit and Team Leads of HYPREP.

## HYPREP OPENS TECHNICAL BIDS FOR PROCUREMENT/ INSTALLATION OF DATA CENTER EQUIPMENT, OTHERS

The Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project HYPREP has opened technical bids for the procurement and installation of data center equipment, data management and repository project, amongst others.

In his opening remark at the event, the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey who was represented by the Director, Technical Services, Professor Philip Shekwolo commended the bidders on their cooperation and assured them that the project would not renege on its pledge to ensure a fair and transparent process.

At the commencement of the exercise, the bids submitted were sorted, marked, and observed as certified true copies of what the prospective

companies submitted.

The bids are in two categories - the procurement and installation of data center equipment, procurement of data management and repository project, procurement of desktop computers, procurement of laptop computers and procurement of field data capturing device, personal protective equipment, field equipment and accessories, photocopiers and work safety materials for SCAT(A&B).

The bid opening was witnessed by members of the Civil Society Organizations including the Environmental Rights Action (ERA), Salvage Africa Advancement Initiative and the Cornerstone Liberty and Justice and had about one hundred and fifty bidders in attendance.

## WASOT CONFERS FELLOWSHIP AWARD ON PROF. ZABBEY, INDICATES INTEREST TO WORK WITH HYPREP

The West African Society of Toxicology (WASOT) has conferred on the Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP), Professor Nenibarini Zabbey an honorary Fellowship Award in recognition of his achievements in the areas of environmental remediation, shoreline clean-up and mangrove restoration.

The award was conferred on Professor Zabbey at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the West African Society of Toxicology (WASOT), held at the Rivers State University, Port Harcourt.

Chief host and Vice Chancellor of the Rivers State University, Professor Nlerum Okogbule, in his welcome address, urged participants to pay heed to the papers being presented at the conference as they would help in their understanding of the chemicals being released into the environment and how they affect human health.

“You know that in the Niger Delta, we have a lot of challenges with chemicals that are every day being

released into the atmosphere from fumes from illegal refineries and sometimes even arising from human activities. We need to understand how they relate to us and to the health of humans and that is the essence of this conference. We need to examine the papers that are presented here and see how we can chart a way forward for the development of not only Rivers State but also the West African sub-region.”

President of the West African Society of Toxicology, Professor I. K. E. Ekweozor indicated the organization's desire to have a working relationship with the Federal Ministry of Environment and the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project.

“Be rest assured that all of us who are members of WASOT will begin a new collaboration with the ministry of environment and with HYPREP. However, Professor Nenibarini



L-R: Prof. Ekweozor, Prof. Zabbey, Prof. Okogbule at the WASOT Int'l Conference

Zabbe, in recognition of his efforts in the area of environmental remediation, mangrove restoration and shoreline clean up, WASOT has found him fit to be conferred an honorary award of Fellow of West African Society of toxicology.”

The conference has as its theme, “Toxicology and Human Health Risk Assessment of some Chemical Substances in the Environment”, from which Professor Zabbe took the opportunity to talk about the impacts of hydrocarbon on human health as well as highlighting some of HYPREP's initiatives in managing the situation in Ogoniland.

He enlightened participants on the effects of introducing hydrocarbon into the air which ranges from acute mortality to chronic impairment of growth, reproduction, and behaviour of flora and fauna and explained that the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services erodes livelihoods and creates a sense of hopelessness and social tensions which has been the experience in the Niger Delta, especially in Ogoniland.

Professor Zabbe told the conference that HYPREP consulted several scientific reports by researchers, such as those reported by members of the West African Society of Toxicology (WASOT), in order to gain a thorough understanding of the scale of oil pollution, sources, behaviour, and the ecotoxicology effects of the contamination in Ogoniland and the Niger Delta as a whole. 'These works', he said, 'have helped HYPREP to plan sustainable remediation, livelihood, and public health intervention strategies.'

The HYPREP Project Coordinator noted that human exposure to hydrocarbons in the environment may have such negative effects ranging from neurological, cardiovascular, reproductive, gastrointestinal, and renal issues and made a strong case for the prioritization of remediation of hydrocarbon-impacted areas.

He reeled out some of the contributions and achievements of

HYPREP in the areas of land and shoreline remediation, mangrove restoration, health interventions, provision of potable drinking water and provision of sustainable livelihood trainings.

“There is ongoing active land remediation of 39 lots of medium-risk complex sites and shoreline cleanup of 34 across Ogoniland. Our remediation efforts are done with sound technologies and guided by fit-for-purpose standard operating procedures. So far, HYPREP has remedied 48 simple sites certified by the National Oil Spills Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA).

“HYPREP has commenced mangrove rehabilitation of shoreline areas where natural attenuation has reduced oil contamination to levels guaranteeing mangrove growth. The primary indicator of such areas is the presence of volunteer mangrove seedlings. To ensure the sustainability of our mangrove restoration efforts, we use a community-driven approach whereby the local communities are directly involved in and own the restorative process, having been empowered with the knowledge of the science and art of

mangrove restoration. We have trained 90 mangrove vanguards in mangrove restoration and supported them with grants to set up mangrove nurseries. They will supply the mangrove seedlings to the nine HYPREP mangrove planting contractors and participate in planting and monitoring the mangroves' performance. For the first time in Nigeria, we now have nurseries of white and black mangroves established by local community members.”

Professor Zabbe further outlined steps taken by HYPREP to ensure and assure public health in Ogoniland.

“HYPREP, with the help of the African Centre of Excellence for Public Health and Toxicological Research (ACE – PUTOR), University of Port Harcourt and the Institute of Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT), University of Ibadan has developed a Public Health and Toxicological Research Proposal aimed at establishing a community-based cohort within Ogoniland for longitudinal evaluation of the health effects of long-term hydrocarbon



**Participants at the WASOT Conference**



exposure such as the development of pre-malignant haematological changes, neurological, metabolic, liver, and kidney function changes among other variety of health impacts”

The Project is making efforts at strengthening existing public health facilities in Ogoniland to make access to medical care easy and affordable. In the words of Professor Zabbey:

“HYPREP is currently strengthening existing General Hospitals in Ogoniland with medical equipment such as X-ray, 4D ultrasound, ventilators, mammograms, patient monitors, anesthesia machines, electrocardiograph machines, stethoscope, manual/electric theatre tables, theatre wears/scrubs, hospital beds, surgical instruments, hormone analyzer, electrolyte analyzer, automatic chemistry analyzer, hematology analyzer, air conditioning, 30KVA of solar energy, etc. The health facilities are Bori, Eleme, Terabo General Hospitals and Kpitem Primary Health Center. HYPREP is also building a state-of-the-art 100-bed Specialist Hospital and a Cottage Hospital in Ogoniland. These hospitals will be installed with state-of-the-art medical equipment to help sustain healthcare delivery in Ogoniland and Rivers State. They are currently at various stages of construction.”

He explained HYPREP's plan to provide potable water to households in Ogoniland by rehabilitating existing water schemes and constructing new

water schemes covering 29 communities in Ogoniland. Professor Zabbey added that, 'the project's ongoing second phase of water projects, which began on June 07, 2023, comprises 14 water schemes that will reticulate potable water to 52 communities across the four Local Government Areas in Ogoniland.'

The HYPREP boss hinted that the various activities of HYPREP in the different communities in Ogoniland involve a community-inclusive method that provides substantial direct employment in the region.

“One thousand two hundred and nineteen (1,219) community workers have been trained in remediation and currently work at the 39 remediation lots, while over 2000 community members have been medically and swim-tested and started their training for International Maritime Organization (IMO) 1 and 2 certifications. These community workers will work at our 34 shoreline cleanup sites and the nine mangrove planting lots. We have recruited and deployed 500 Environment Vanguard to survey HYPREP sites and facilities. HYPREP is training 5000 Ogoni youths and women in 20 different skill areas, which include website designing and development, digital marketing and mobile app development, argon welding/metal fabrication, data analytics, crane operations/loader, industrial firefighting, CCTV/solar installation, photography and video, onshore and offshore skill sets, etc. We have

creatively designed a fit-for-purpose supervision plan that we have deployed to monitor the training programmes going on concurrently.”

“Not long ago, we trained sixty (60) small and medium-scale community-based business owners from Ogoni's four Local Government Areas (Eleme, Tai, Gokana, Khana). Upon completing the training, we empowered the trainees with a grant of three hundred thousand naira (N300,000) each to boost their businesses. The Business Intervention Support Fund for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) is a deliberate initiative of the Project to facilitate the development of SMEs in Ogoniland towards a profitable business culture among the locals, which will alleviate widespread poverty in the area.”

Professor Zabbey expressed the need for HYPREP to collaborate with more researchers and institutions in the field of environmental remediation, shoreline cleanup, sustainable livelihood, public health, and toxicology to optimize deliverables and outcomes for the betterment of the people of Ogoniland, the Niger Delta, and Nigeria at large and thanked the West African Society of Toxicology for the honour done him and for given him the privilege of using their platform to share valuable insights into the health risks of hydrocarbon contamination as well as HYPREP's works and achievements in the ongoing environmental remediation of Ogoniland.

## **HYPREP ORGANIZES ENVIRONMENTAL QUIZ COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLS IN Ogoniland**

The Birabi Memorial Grammar School (BMGS), Bori has emerged the overall winner of the maiden edition of the Environmental Club Quiz Competition for Schools in Ogoniland organized by the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, (HYPREP).

The winner (BMGS) was awarded a gold trophy and a cash reward of one

million naira. The runner up position went to Community Secondary School, Ogale with a cash reward of six hundred thousand naira and a silver trophy and Community Secondary School, Mogho took third place, a bronze cup and four hundred-thousand-naira cash reward.

The remaining schools of; Community Secondary School

Ebubu, Government Secondary School Onne, Community Secondary School Koroma, Government Secondary School Kpitem, Ken Saro-Wiwa Polytechnic Secondary School, Community Secondary School Bori, Bodo City Girls Secondary School and Community Secondary School Barako all went home with consolation prizes of fifty thousand



## The Winning Schools Showcasing their Trophies

naira each with the exception of Community Secondary School Kira that declined participation in the competition.

Each of the four Local Government Areas of Eleme, Tai, Gokana and Khana had three representatives and the first competition was at the Local Government level with the four respective winners of Community Secondary School Ogale, Government Secondary School Kpite, Community Secondary School Mogho and Birabi Memorial Grammar School Bori competing in the finals held at the Birabi Memorial Grammar School, Bori.

Head, Sustainable Livelihoods Unit, HYPREP, Mrs. Josephine Nzidee who represented the Project Coordinator, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey welcomed the participating schools and their teachers to the competition and called on the Management of the schools to make the best use of the prizes by channeling them into projects that will benefit the schools and the students.

“The project Coordinator, Prof. Nenibarini Zabbey has asked me to welcome his children to the finals of this quiz competition for the

environmental clubs in Ogoniland. He has asked me to specially thank the Principal of Birabi Memorial Grammar School, Barrister Bob Agbozi for agreeing to host us today in the maiden edition of our environmental club quiz competition.”

“The School Management will further direct us on where to send the funds to. This applies to both the winning prizes and the consolation prizes. HYPREP also wants to state clearly that the funds that will be given to the schools, both the prize winners and the consolation prizes, should be used for a purpose that will be beneficial to the students of the school and especially, the Environmental Club members. The students that are representing the schools, all twelve of them should also be supported from the winning prize. Please note, that HYPREP will be doing a follow up on what we have just said today.”

The ensuing quiz session was charged, as each school tried their best to outsmart their opponents. At the end of the session, BMGS and CSS Ogale, tied with 25 points each which called for a tie breaker session. BMGS thereafter emerged the overall winner.

In her closing remarks, Mrs. Nzidee expressed satisfaction with the conduct and outcome of the competition.

“The environmental club was established by HYPREP in twelve secondary schools across the four Local Government Areas of Ogoniland. Three clubs were established in each Local Government Area and right from the day that we established them, we made the club members know that a day like this would come and so, we prepared a manual for this competition just to be sure that every school that participated in this competition were on the same page. Questions were asked from the manual and these manuals were given to the different schools over three months ago. I am not surprised by how the students have exhibited their intelligence. I want to say that I am a proud Ogoni woman to see that we have excellent, intelligent and resilient students in Ogoniland. I want to say congratulations to all the winners. The Project Coordinator thanks you for being part of the programme. Thank you and see you next year for another edition of the quiz competition.”

The Principal of BMGS, Barrister Bob Agbozi lauded HYPREP on efforts at inculcating the culture of environmental consciousness in the youths through its environmental club initiative. He suggested that HYPREP should set up centers in the pilot schools where students will be taught about the activities of the project and promised that the school management will fully utilize the cash reward, they have been given to advance the cause of the environment in the school.

Master Nathaniel Koalebari, one of the contestants from BMGS in an interview with HYPREP Herald was so elated that his school won the competition, stating that the win would greatly motivate them to support all environmental activities within and outside the school that will promote human and environmental well-being.



## Project Snippets

### HYPREP ADVISES REMEDIATION CONTRACTORS TO MAXIMIZE UPCOMING DRY SEASON

The Project Coordination Office of HYPREP has held a Project Performance Review Meeting with Medium Risk Sites (MRS) remediation contractors to get on-site progress report on their works.

Most contractors informed Management of HYPREP that their

site characterization results were out.

The Director, Technical Services, HYPREP, Professor Philip Shekwolo, advised the contractors to maximize the coming dry season to speed up their works to beat the agreed completion time stipulated in their contracts.

The Project Performance Review session is held monthly to get status report from contractors on their performance and challenges if any and solutions are proffered to them in the ongoing remediation works in Ogoniland.

### OGONI CLEAN-UP: ENVIRONMENT MINISTER MEETS CRITICAL STAKEHOLDERS ON PROJECT DELIVERY

The Honourable Minister of Environment, Balarabe Lawal has met with some critical stakeholders of the Ogoni clean-up project to discuss ways of fast tracking the project for maximal impact on the lives of the Ogoni people.

In the first meeting held with the Managing Director of the Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria (SPDC) and Country Chair of Shell Companies, Mr. Osagie Okunbor, discussion was focused on strategies for strengthening the project and optimizing impact.

The Shell Petroleum Development Company Joint Venture Partners are funders of the Ogoni clean-up project and expect prudent management of funds and quality delivery of the various projects and programmes being undertaken by HYPREP.

The Honourable Minister also met with the Management of China Civil



Hon. Minister of Environment, Balarabe Lawal 3rd from left with MD, SPDC, Osagie Okunbor, 2nd from left & HYPREP PC, Prof. Zabbey 4th from left

Engineering Construction Corporation Ltd (CCECC), led by the Managing Director, Jacques Liao.

Their discussion centred round issues relating to quality and timely construction of the Centre of Excellence for Environmental

Restoration, particularly community involvement and ownership and the welfare of the community workers on the project.

At both meetings held in Abuja was the Project Coordinator of HYPREP, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey.

### PROF. ZABBEY LAUNCHES FISH SURVEY IN BOMU

The Project Coordinator of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey has conducted an investigative study into the correlation between mangroves and fish attraction along the Ogoni Shorelines.

The study was carried out in the creeks of Bomu community where HYPREP is piloting its mangrove restoration

project.

The study is aimed at measuring the effectiveness of the HYPREP pilot mangrove rehabilitation project to attracting fish to the Ogoni shorelines. The primary objective of the fish study is to create empirical pre-restoration baseline data with which the post-mangrove planting fisheries data shall be compared. Fishery enhancement is one of the ecosystem services the

shoreline cleanup and mangrove restoration in Ogoniland will render.

The Bomu community committed to owning and protecting the shoreline remediation and mangrove restoration project on seeing the seriousness with which the Professor Zabbey has shown towards the remediation and restoration works of HYPREP in Ogoniland and promised to support him to succeed.



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

#8 Ken Saro-Wiwa Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State

**GOODWILL MESSAGE TO THE PROJECT COORDINATOR OF HYPREP ON HIS  
DECORATION AS FELLOW OF THE FISHERIES SOCIETY OF NIGERIA**

The Management and Staff of the Hydrocarbon Pollution Remediation Project (HYPREP) heartily felicitate with the Project Coordinator, Professor Nenibarini Zabbey on your decoration as a Fellow of the Fisheries Society of Nigeria (FISON).

Your decoration is indeed well deserved, considering the enormous contributions you have made in your painstaking research works as a highly reputable academic in the Fisheries Department, University of Port Harcourt. No doubt your invaluable pieces of intellectual treasures are helping to shape discourses and redefine the future of the industry, while earning you worthy recognitions from within and outside Nigeria, which your decoration as a Fellow of FISON is one.

Interestingly your appointment as the Project Coordinator of HYPREP is an opportunity that you are using to making massive contributions in the recovery of the ecosystem while maximizing the net environmental benefits of the clean-up of polluted shorelines and sustainable restoration and conservation of the mangroves in Ogoniland and indeed the Niger Delta.

The culmination of these innovative efforts will enhance the implementation of the Mangrove Planting and Conservation Template you have developed and eventually leave positive footprints on the biodiversity, blue economy, climate change mitigation and sustainable livelihood of the region.


It is therefore our earnest expectation that this new feat spurs you to staying committed to the restoration of the ecosystem, making it habitable for plants, animals and humans.

We also felicitate with you on your latest award and honour as a Fellow of the West African Society of Toxicology.

Congratulations, Sir!

Signed, Management





**Wishing you  
a merry  
Christmas! May the  
birth of the Saviour,  
Jesus Christ  
bring peace and  
joy to your heart  
and home this  
season and beyond!**

**Signed,  
Management!**



**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT  
HYDROCARBON POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROJECT (HYPREP)  
#8 Ken Saro-Wiwa Road, Port Harcourt, Rivers State**



# PICTURES OF THE MONTH



**HYPREP PC, Prof. Zabbey (L) and Dr. Gwarah (R) in the Latter's Office in Kenpoly**



**Prof. Zabbey leads Management of Kenpoly on Inspection of Centre of Excellence Site, Wiyiakara**



**Prof. Zabbey addressing the 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of WASOT**



**Prof. Zabbey Conducting Fish Survey at Bomu, Gokana LGA**



**Director, Technical Services, HYPREP, Prof. Shekwolo addressing Contractors**



**Cross Section of Participants at UNEP Lessons Learned Session**



**Trainees of IMO Levels 1&2**



**HYPREP Staff at the Burial of Colleague, Late Kenule Mato at Yeghe, Gokana LGA**



# Shun Illegal Oil Refining

## It Destroys Your Life And That of Others

### POETRY CORNER

#### NOT SADNESS BUT LAUGHTER By: Dumka Vincent

The sun beams today!  
Welcoming a new dawn!  
That gives birth to freshness,  
Calling trees to spring forth,  
Along the coast of this glory land.

And here we smile again,  
Embracing the beauty of the river  
The laughter of oil and man,  
Only when we laugh together,  
For geniality of a new breath,  
So, no sadness but laughter

Underneath the earth, the deep flows,  
Of a trailing black river,  
That leaves pollution on the surface,  
Footprints of crooked crude refineries,  
That yield fruits for few mouths,  
But fumes for all noses.

And before our eyes, protests swirl  
Like angry waves beating the shore,  
And in the ensuing chaos,  
The land turns into a pool of sadness.

In the present state, we don't exist,  
And were never born,  
But out of tranquility we can rethink our existence  
That ushers us into harmony with nature.



**THE ENVIRONMENT ON MARBLE**

**“The more humans fill the world, the more we empty it.”**

**- Carl Safina**

**Remediated Land**

**Photo:HYPREP**

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

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