

MaiRuwa

2012

 **WaterAid**

**Small town water schemes
commissioned in Enugu and
Jigawa states**

Major Campaigns:
World Water Day
Global Handwashing day
World Toilet Day



It feels good to be writing this introduction to Mai Ruwa which is making a comeback after some time away. I am pleased to have joined WaterAid Nigeria (or WANG as we call ourselves) at this critical time. With support from an excellent team of committed and expert staff and inspired by the vision of a world where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation, WANG has together with the cooperation of various stakeholders contributed to improving access to water, sanitation and hygiene for the poorest in our country.

However, Nigeria still faces a crisis. Current estimates show that 42 per cent of the population still lack access to safe water and 68 per cent lack access to improved sanitation. We must therefore accelerate our work and encourage others to do the same to ensure we end WASH poverty. Over the past few years, we have been working with the European Commission on two programmes across four states to increase access to safe water and improved sanitation and raise the capacity of local communities and partners to demand their rights to these services.

In 2012, WANG launched partnerships with two new donors. The first, funded by HSBC for five years will bring safe water and improved sanitation to over a million people in three states, tackle water risks in river basins and raise awareness about the global water crisis. The other programme – Sustainable Total Sanitation in Nigeria (STS-Nig) – funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) for four years, will help improve our approach to sanitation across Local Government Authorities in another three states reaching over 600,000 people with access to sustainable, improved sanitation.

Our current Country Strategy places emphasis on advocacy and influencing. We will market our approaches and models so that they can be replicated and scaled up across the country and help achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and increased access to safe water.

With these and the support we will provide to the local, national, regional and global **Keep Your Promises** campaign, which calls on governments to keep their promises on water and sanitation, and with continued support from our partners, we are looking forward to achieving more over the next few years.

Mai Ruwa – our newsletter will continue to be a platform for us to share our journey towards ending the WASH crisis as we remain committed to the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene to the people of Nigeria. Enjoy the contributions and please join us to build a strong foundation for lasting change in our country.

Dr Michael Ojo



Our vision is of a world where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation.

Editorial Team: Dr Michael Ojo, Tolani Busari, Oluseyi Abdulmalik
Cover Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Taye Balogun



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Annual partner round table stresses demand-driven service delivery and sanitation promotion

by Omolade Olalekan



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Wale Elekolosi

Partners at the 2012 APRT

WaterAid Nigeria and its partners will work to ensure that all water and sanitation (WASH) interventions in communities in 2012/2013 are demand-driven, and that sanitation promotion receives greater attention. These commitments were made at the 2012 annual partner roundtable held in Abuja on 23 - 24 May 2012.

The meeting, whose main objective was to assess the performance of the partnership in the period 2011-2012 and give feedback for a more effective partnership in the year 2012/2013, was attended by implementing partners from WaterAid's six focal states in Nigeria.

The roundtable was the first time the new Country Representative of WaterAid Nigeria, Dr Michael Ojo, was meeting the partners together. Dr Ojo expressed delight at the opportunity to meet with partners and highlighted some of the challenges and successes of the period.

He also spoke of the current strategy and the approach that will be used in the coming year to cushion the challenges for an effective partnership and service delivery in the WASH sector.

Partners at the meeting highlighted the importance of reporting and documentation of

activities, particularly financial reporting and the need to strengthen the partnership between civil society organisations (CSOs) and local government authorities (LGAs) for better service delivery. Partners also agreed on:

- The need to build a system of cost-sharing by communities and LGAs to ensure the sustainability of WASH projects.
- The need for partners to influence government, particularly at the LGA level, to increase political will for effective sector financing and the release of counterpart funds.
- The need for a reinvigorated monitoring and evaluation of projects with a new tool developed for the purpose.

Technical sessions and presentations from the implementing partners sought to, amongst other things, find ways of improving service delivery and ensuring sustainability.

The forum ended with partners committing to strengthening existing relationships for effective service delivery in 2012/2013 by improving and building capacity on new approaches and tools.

WaterAid advocates integration of WASH into HIV/AIDS programming in Nigeria

by Omolade Olalekan



Photo: WaterAid/Anna Kari

A person living with HIV taking her medication. Clean water, improved sanitation and hygiene are particularly important for people living with HIV/AIDS because their compromised immune system makes them more susceptible to opportunistic infections.

As part of European Commission funded projects, WaterAid Nigeria (WANG) has begun a process of advocating the integration of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and HIV/AIDS programming in the country. This is in recognition of the linkages between WASH and HIV/AIDS, aimed at assessing the linkages between WASH and HIV programming, and the WASH needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

WaterAid commissioned the study to identify opportunities for integration and recommend policy and operational strategies for integration at the federal level and in two of its focal states—

Bauchi and Plateau.

The WANG advocacy will, amongst other things, seek to:

1. Integrate comprehensive WASH with relevant sections of the HIV/AIDS policy and vice versa.
2. Establish formal collaboration mechanisms between WASH and HIV actors at all levels; integrate WASH actors into relevant HIV technical working groups, and establish WASH-HIV integration committees or working groups into meetings funded by WASH and HIV programmes.
3. Integrate WASH into HIV

operational plans, standard operating procedures (SOPs), and implementation guides and vice versa.

4. Utilise the same community-based organisations to implement WASH and HIV programmes wherever possible.
5. Include HIV/AIDS data—HIV prevalence, population of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHA), population of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) etc—as part of the criteria for choosing WASH intervention communities.
6. Introduce relevant WASH indicators into the HIV/AIDS programme and vice versa.
7. Integrate WASH into HIV pre- and post-test counselling and into counselling provided in HIV clinics.
8. Introduce WASH into home-based care (HBC) with team members conducting WASH assessments during home visits.
9. Make hygiene promoters and WASH committees undertake to help sick PLHA access safe drinking water and perform sanitation and hygiene tasks.

WASH interventions seek to improve access to safe drinking water, sanitary disposal of body waste and hygienic practices which improve health. WASH is particularly important for people living with HIV/AIDS because their compromised immune system makes them more

susceptible to opportunistic infections. Diarrhoea is the leading opportunistic infection affecting PLHA. Studies have shown that HIV-positive infants are 11 times more likely to die from diarrhoea than HIV-negative ones, and that up to 90 percent of PLHA will develop diarrhoea during their lifetime. Water, sanitation, and hygiene practices are crucial for maintaining health, and are particularly important in programmes to reduce the impact of HIV and AIDS. Yet, for the most part, WASH is not included in the national policies and programmes for Human HIV.

“We shall not finally defeat AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, or any other infectious diseases that plague the developing world until we have won the battle for safe drinking water, sanitation and basic health care”

Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General

WaterAid Nigeria study charts course for decentralisation to LGAs

by Omolade Olalekan

A new study by WaterAid Nigeria has called on advocates of decentralisation of authority to local governments (LGs) in Nigeria to engage with the on-going constitution review process. This is to ensure LGAs get their dues as the third tier of government, particularly in respect to getting a direct flow of resources from the federation account.

This is one of the recommendations of a study commis-

sation of roles and responsibilities in the WASH sector as provided in the 2004 National Water and Sanitation Policy. The LMDGI is also WaterAid's strategic approach to ensuring that decentralisation works at LGA level.

A major objective of the LMDGI is the development of LGA local development plans (LDPs) to provide required support to achieve the WASH related MDGs.



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Taye Balogun

Efforts to decentralise governance in Nigeria are aimed at improving service delivery.

sioned by WaterAid Nigeria through the European Commission funded project 'EU water facility' to assess the scope of the implementation of the Local Millennium Development Goals Initiative (LMDGI), a strategy for achieving the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) targets of the millennium development goals (MDGs). One of the bedrocks of the initiative is the decentrali-

The study also assessed the impact of the LMDGI on LGA autonomy and the ability to finance WASH services.

Other assessments of the study looked at how the LMDGI process had improved planning; monitoring and evaluation; resource management; maintenance of LGA autonomy; management capabilities in communities; implementation of reporting mechanisms; and the management of challenges.

The study found that the LMDGI process was not fully implemented, and the LDPs not as widely disseminated or marketed as required in some LGAs.

However, it did find that there were improvements in the capacity of LGAs using the LMDGI to plan and implement sustainable WASH service delivery.

All the states visited in the course of the study had water and sanitation policies that supported decentralisation. In addition, LGAs supported by WaterAid had developed LPDs in the form of a medium-term sector strategy to support the decentralisation process.

Following the study, WaterAid began providing strategic support for decentralisation in some LGAs in Enugu and Jigawa states with the support of the European Union Water Facility.

High level of acceptance attends pilot use of rope pump technology in Nigeria by Dayo Olugboye

The rope pump, which WaterAid Nigeria introduced in 2009 to improve access to safe water from open wells, has been applauded in several communities in Nigeria where it has been field-tested.

Reports and evidence from pilot sites indicate high levels of acceptance from appreciative community members who say the rope pump has drastically reduced the drudgery of fetching water from open wells.

The rope pump has been piloted in Bauchi, Enugu, Plateau, and Zamfara states as well as in the Federal Capital Territory. Some of the communities have expressed hope that the use of the pump will be scaled up soon.

In September, members of the National Technical Core Group (NTCG), during a meeting in Jos, Plateau State, undertook a field trip to Yankot community in Langtang North Local Government Area of Plateau State, where a pump is in use. The NTCG received feedback on the pump and, in particular, on improvements to the technology since its introduction in 2009.

According to Mr Solomon Bature, proprietor of SOLBATEC, a private engineering firm engaged in the production of the rope pump, one major improvement is the use of the Rubex 60 mm rope to replace the original polymer rope.

The improvements, which are mostly technical, are said to have improved the sustainable use of the pump without increasing its cost significantly.

The Jos meeting discussed progress in the development of the rope pump technology and an action plan to achieve a standardised rope pump that is easy to scale up nationally.

The rope pump was introduced in 2009 in collaboration with the National Water Resources Institute (NWRI), Kaduna, through a technology adaptation process in which WaterAid Nigeria facilitated the training of partners in Burkina Faso and Ghana. On their return

to Nigeria, some of the trainees were constituted into the NTCG on rope pump development in Nigeria.



WaterAid in Nigeria's Technical Support Manager with community members at a well during the installation of groundwater monitoring equipment and rope pump monitoring.

Post-implementation monitoring survey (PIMS)

by Kitchinme Bawa and Chris Brown

WaterAid Nigeria embarked on a post-implementation monitoring survey in order to establish an inventory of water supply and sanitation facilities in the organisation's six focal states. These facilities were funded directly by WaterAid through hardware support and a community mobilization process. The process focused on three key years of implementation: 2007, 2009 and 2011 in order to create a 1, 3 and 5-year baseline inventory, which can be used to analyse the effectiveness of WANG policies and implementation approaches.

The importance of post-intervention monitoring formed the foundation for the PIMS methodology, which represents the formulation of water and sanitation infrastructure surveys that collect data on a range of core 'red flag' indicators. The aim is to create a baseline of information that is easy to collect, analyse, update and can be used for effective and informed decision-making at the district, regional and country levels.

Data was collected by a team comprising WaterAid Nigeria staff and local government partners in the six states through randomly sampled rapid household surveys in each of the communities surveyed (five per community in rural communities, and a representative sample of 10 per cent



of households in small town implementations).

The exercise was divided into two regional processes with each region consisting of 14 data collectors divided into state teams that were managed by the WaterAid programme managers who led their teams in the field, taking part in the data collection as well as providing technical and logistical support and feedback to the project management team.

A total of 1973 surveys were carried out including 269 water infrastructure surveys, 93 sanitation infrastructure surveys and 1611 rapid household surveys. In spite of a number of technical challenges, the PIMS process was a successful capacity-building exercise for all involved, and will serve to add value to WaterAid's work in Nigeria.

CSO partners, government collaborate to transform Bauchi State water supply sector

by Saheed Mustafa

Principal officers of the Bauchi State House of Assembly, members of the State House Committee on Water Resources, and other water and sanitation stakeholders in the state attended a retreat aimed at ensuring a better understanding of issues contained in the draft bill of the Bauchi State water law.

The two-day retreat, held in Abuja in December 2012, is part of on-

going efforts to ensure that the lawmakers expeditiously pass the bill for the reformation of the state's urban water supply sector.

The retreat was co-funded by the Women Empowerment Initiative Nigeria (WEIN) through WaterAid Nigeria's Governance Transparency Fund (GTF) programme, a project that sets out to engage in urban reforms in Plateau and

‘Access to WASH’ goes on radio by Saheed Mustafa

The Lagos State Chapter of the WASH Media Network has launched ‘Access to WASH’, a 30-minute radio programme highlighting urban WASH issues primarily in Lagos State.

Scheduled to run for 24 weeks, the programme is an outcome of a workshop organised by the Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN), with support from WaterAid Nigeria in February 2012.



WASH journalists at Makoko, a slum in Lagos, gathering material for the radio programme.

The goal of the three-day workshop for CSO partners was to strengthen their capacity to engage with decision-makers and promote pro-poor approaches in urban reform.

Aired once a week on Radio 1 choice fm 103.5 Lagos, the programme provides a platform for dialogue between decision-makers and the people, and seeks to inform the public about issues in the urban WASH sector, and strengthen their capacity to demand their rights.

The programme uses different programming formats, including features and interviews with key sector players such as government officials, CSO members, other stakeholders, and members of the public.

The programme is funded by UKaid’s Governance and Transparency Fund programme through the WaterAid/NEWSAN partnership.



Bauchi states.

The goal of the reform in Bauchi State is to strengthen the capacity of the state water board to become more efficient and improve its water supply services. This will increase access to safe water for urban dwellers, including the urban poor

When the bill is passed into law, it will mandate the state water utility to change its name to Bauchi State Water and Sewerage Corporation and grant it the autonomy it needs to operate cost-recovery options for efficient service delivery.

Prior to the retreat, WEIN had signed a memorandum of understanding with Sustainable Water and Sanitation for Africa to advocate pro-poor approaches in the on-going reforms in some states in the country.

Thereafter, the Bauchi State Ministry of Water Resources developed an institutional, legal and regulatory framework for the reform process with support from SUWASA.

Participants at the retreat included the Speaker of the Bauchi state House of Assembly, minority and majority leaders, members

of the House Committees, House Clerk, the Commissioner and Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water Resources, the Managing Director of the water board, other government officials, CSOs and the media.

WaterAid Nigeria holds workshop to review urban strategy

by Saheed Mustafa

The current population trend in Nigeria shows that more people are migrating to the urban areas causing rapid urbanisation. This in turn results in inadequate basic social infrastructure, including a lack of access to safe drinking water and improved sanitation.

In response to the urban population trend, WaterAid Nigeria, through the Governance and Transparency Fund (GTF) programme, organised a workshop facilitated with support from WaterAid UK's Technical Support Manager (Urban), Timeyin Uwejamomere, to review its urban strategy in Abuja. The workshop had in attendance key stakeholders including WANG traditional partners, CSOs, and government institutions from across the country.

The workshop provided the stakeholders the opportunity to contribute to the review of the WANG urban strategy spanning the remainder of the WANG Country Programme strategic period.

A review of the urban strategy will reflect current trends and challenges in the urban WASH sector in Nigeria. This will in turn provide the necessary guideline for the current and future work of WaterAid Nigeria and her partners. At the end of the two-day workshop, a draft strategy was developed.

Partners at the workshop developed activities based on the change objectives identified in the course of the discussions.



Participants at the workshop

Organisations such as Dadur-Bol Development Association, Women Empowerment Initiative in Nigeria, NEWSAN National, NEWSAN Ogun State, NEWSAN South East, the WASH Media Network and BENGONET all developed work plans for the implementation of the draft strategy, Nigeria Water Supply Association (NWSA) officials of the Ministry of Water Resources and Abuja Water Board representative.

The WaterAid/Governance and Transparency Fund programme is a DFID (UKaid)-funded programme managed by WaterAid Nigeria, and implemented by three partners—NEWSAN, WEIN and DBOLDA). The pro-

gramme is currently in its third year of implementation.

The GTF programme aims to strengthen the capacity of civil society and other non-state actors to participate in effective evidence-based dialogue with decision-makers in the water and sanitation sector, and build pressure to secure pro-poor service delivery. WaterAid Nigeria has identified the GTF programme as an opportunity to deepen its urban work in Nigeria.



Participants at the workshop

New Projects

Almost 500,000 people in three Nigerian states are to benefit from a \$25million grant given by international bank, Hong Kong Shanghai Banking corporation (HSBC) to WaterAid to provide water and sanitation access in six countries in Asia and Africa.

The HSBC Water Programme (HWP) will provide over 170,000 people with access to safe water and over 316,000 people with access to improved sanitation in Bauchi, Benue and Plateau States of Nigeria during the five-year period of the grant.

‘Water is essential not only to human health and happiness, but to the prosperity of individuals and the economic development of nations,’ said HSBC Group Chairman, Douglas Flint, at the launch of the HWP in June 2012.

The statement underlined both HSBC and WaterAid’s belief that access to water, sanitation and hygiene play a fundamental part in economic development and are an essential first step in enabling people overcome poverty.

Altogether, the programme will provide 1.1 million people with access to safe water, and 1.9 million people with access to sanitation in Nigeria, Ghana, Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan.

As part of preparations for the project’s take-off in Nigeria, WaterAid organized a three-day inception workshop from 17

HSBC Water Programme supports .5 million people in Nigeria

by Adejumoke Alagbe



Mary Acheo, a trader in Olo-Obande community, in Ado LGA, Benue State says clean water is important for her business. Her community will benefit from the HSBC water programme.

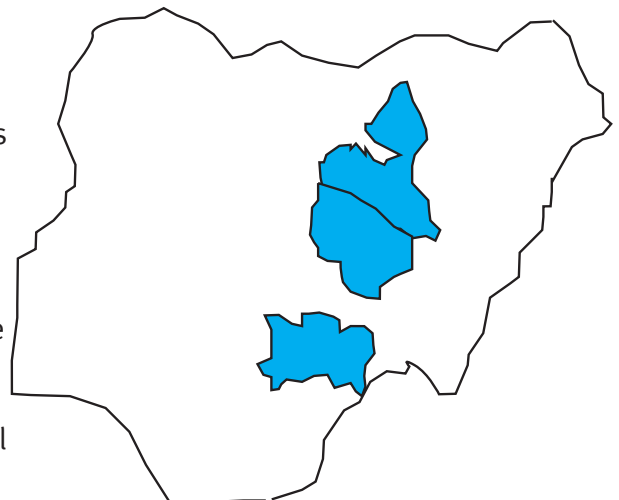
well as communicate to stakeholders the difference that organisations like HSBC and WaterAid are making to communities across Nigeria.

According to Dr Michael Ojo, WaterAid Nigeria’s Country Representative:

This is a big project and a very exciting partnership through which the lives of many poor and vulnerable people will be transformed. We hope that there will be a positive impact on economic development in communities and that this will be demonstrated particularly in the lives of children.

- 19 July 2012. The workshop set out to equip the WaterAid Nigeria team as well as its local government and civil society partners to implement the project in the country.

The project seeks to bring lasting change to people’s lives, demonstrate the economic and social impacts of water, as



Gates-funded sustainable total sanitation project takes off

by Mimi Ishan and Kitchinme Bawa

target communities.

About 120 sanitation stakeholders and organisations from across the country attended the project launch in

Abuja. They included representatives of all 10 project LGAs; the National Task Group on Sanitation; Enugu State Commissioner for Water Resources, Engr. Charles Ajah; LGA Chairmen; Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council WASH Ambassador, Engr Ebele Okeke; and Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Ambassador Godknows Igali.

Representatives of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UK Department for International Development (DFID), the National Water Resources Institute, the Governors Forum, and the Youth WASH Network also attended.

The STS project will ultimately encourage behaviour change and a shift towards more consistent achievement of open defecation free (ODF) status in target communities.



WaterAid Nigeria Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo, at the launch of the STS project along with the Ministry of Water Resources Permanent Secretary, Ambassador Godknows Igali and WSSCC WASH Ambassador, Engr. Ebele Okeke.

About 500 communities spread over three states and 10 LGAs across Nigeria are to benefit in the Sustainable Total Sanitation (STS) project funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).

The total sanitation project in Nigeria is being undertaken under the auspices of a grant awarded to WaterAid by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The contract, signed at the end of June 2012, will be carried out by WaterAid Nigeria from 2012 to 2016.

The intervention will be implemented in Jigawa, Ekiti and Enugu States, and will target 80 communities with an estimated population of 100,000 people in the first year alone.

Launched in Abuja on 11 October 2012, the four-year action research sanitation project which will cost about \$5.6 million, aims to increase sustainable sanitation access in the 500 communities using the improved community-led total sanitation (CLTS) approach.

In addition to improving access to sanitation in selected communities, the project will undertake formal research to provide additional evidence on some key questions and advocate policy and practice changes nationally and regionally.

The STS project will ultimately encourage behaviour change and a shift towards more consistent achievement of open defecation free (ODF) status in

WORLD WATER DAY

by Saheed Mustafa
& Oluseyi Abdulmalik

The federal ministries in charge of water resources, and agriculture and rural development have agreed to work together to ensure the sustainable management of Nigeria's water, land and related resources for optimum and equitable development.

The decision was announced at a symposium to commemorate the 2012 World Water Day jointly organised by the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, WaterAid Nigeria and other stakeholders.

Giving her World Water Day address, under the global theme Water and Food Security, Minister of Water Resources, Mrs Sarah Ochekepe, reiterated her ministry's determination to ensure that all Nigerians have access to safe water despite the uneven spatial and temporary distribution and the imbalance in demand and supply that pose considerable challenges to water resource planners and managers.

She thanked the numerous development and financial partners in Nigeria's WASH sector for their immense contributions.

In a goodwill message at the event, WaterAid Nigeria's then in-coming Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo, said that despite the investments and intervention programmes in the water sanitation and hygiene sector, it was shocking that diarrhoea was still the biggest killer of children in Africa.

"Diarrhoea kills more children than AIDS, malaria and measles combined," he said, urging government to take the lead in achieving the water and sanitation targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

"We hope to influence national political commitment to improved water, sanitation and hygiene practices. At WaterAid, we are using the opportunity of this year's World Water Day to raise awareness about the global and na-

tional water and sanitation crisis, encourage our leaders to act and, very importantly, to also influence Nigeria's participation at the Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting scheduled to hold in Washington in April 2012."

The Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Ambassador Godknows Igali, expressed the ministry's appreciation of the efforts of WaterAid Nigeria and the then Acting Country Representative, Timeyin Uwejamomere, to the WASH sector.

The WWD activities were Uwejamomere's last public events, and Ambassador Igali spoke glowingly of his contributions during his six-month stint, saying the occasion was an opportunity for the WASH sector to bid him farewell.

Country Representative of Food and Agriculture Organisation, Ms Louise Lobisa Setshwaelo also attended the symposium.

'Diarrhoea kills more children than AIDS, malaria and measles combined'



The Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources; the Honourable Minister of Water Resources; WANG's CR and outgoing Acting CR and other officials watch an exhibition at the symposium organised to commemorate WWD

Miss WheelChair Nigeria calls for more inclusive approach to WASH service delivery in Nigeria

by Oluseyi Abdulmalik

The water and sanitation targets of the MDGs will never be equitably met in

disabilities (PWDs) in the design and construction of water and sanitation facilities in the country, Miss Jerry expressed dismay that maintaining basic hygiene remains a daily struggle for millions of PWDs because of the challenges they face in accessing water and sanitation facilities.

She therefore appealed to stakeholders to go beyond just providing water and sanitation

facilities in communities, to ensuring that these facilities are more inclusive for everyone, particularly those with special conditions.

The beauty queen also stressed the need to prioritise WASH issues at all levels in order to promote the health and economic well-being of Nigerians.

“The slow progress in this all-important sector holds back progress in other sectors such as health and education despite increased spending in those areas,” she explained, adding that the Nigerian Government and all WASH sector stakeholders need to intensify

efforts to get the nation back on track in terms of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Jerry’s advocacy started bearing fruit at Highland FM where the management committed to installing ramps in the premises to ensure that offices are more accessible to PWDs.

The station also agreed to collaborate to promote inclusive WASH in Plateau State and air radio jingles on WASH free of charge.

More than 63 million Nigerians live without access to safe water while 103 million live without access to adequate sanitation. PWDs are worse off because of the challenges they face in accessing water and sanitation facilities.



Grace Jerry is WaterAid Nigeria’s spokesperson for disability in WASH.

Nigeria unless the needs of persons with disabilities are included in sector plans, says Miss Wheelchair Nigeria, Grace Jerry.

Grace Jerry, who is also WaterAid Nigeria’s official spokesperson for disability in WASH, made the declaration during interviews on Nigeria Television Authority’s AM Express and Highland FM in Plateau State. The interviews were organised to commemorate the 2012 World Water Day.

Lamenting the increasing neglect of the voices and needs of persons with



‘maintaining basic hygiene remains a daily struggle for millions of PWDs’

Out-going WANG Acting Country Representative honoured

by Oluseyi Abdulmalik



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Saheed Mustafa

The Minister of Water Resources, Mrs Sarah Ocheke, presents a painting to out-going WaterAid Nigeria Acting Country Representative, Timeyin Uwejamomere. Left is the Permanent Secretary Ambassador Godknows Igali.

“This painting is to remind us all that water must be freely available to all.”

Those were some of the parting words uttered by the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, Ambassador Godknows Igali, after the Minister, Mrs Sarah Ocheke, presented WaterAid Nigeria Acting Country Representative, Timeyin Uwejamomere, with a farewell gift.

The gift—a painting by a young Nigerian artist—depicts a child drinking water from a tap.

Mr Uwejamomere was honoured during a courtesy call on the Minister by a delegation from WaterAid Nigeria after the 2012 World Water Day.

Presenting Dr Michael Ojo, the in-coming Country Representative, Mr Uwejamomere thanked the Minister for her support during the six months he led the WaterAid Nigeria team and expressed the hope that Dr Ojo would get the kind of support that he received.

He assured the Minister of WaterAid’s commitment to working in Nigeria to achieve the objective of water access for all.

Responding, Mrs Ocheke thanked WaterAid for its collaboration with the ministry to mark the year’s edition of the annual World Water Day, and for its on-going support to the WASH sector.

Welcoming Dr Ojo, the new WaterAid Nigeria Country Representative, she urged him to sustain the relationship with the ministry which, she said, needs partners like WaterAid to deliver on its mandate.

“This painting reminds us that water must be freely available to all”

WaterAid Nigeria joins hundreds in walk for water

by Saheed Mustafa and Oluseyi Abdulmalik

As part of activities commemorating this year's World Water Day, WaterAid Nigeria joined other water sector stakeholders in a 'walk for water'. The aim was to raise awareness of the continuing water and sanitation crisis.

Organised by the Federal Ministry of Water Resources in collaboration with WaterAid and other stakeholders, the walk was flagged off by Permanent Secretary of the ministry, Ambassador Godknows Igali.



The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources with WaterAid Nigeria's outgoing and new Country Representatives during this year's World Water Day walk, and launch of WaterAid's Water Works campaign in Nigeria.



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Saheed Mustafa

WaterAid Nigeria unveiled its Water Works campaign to spread the message and tell the leaders that access to safe water and improved sanitation works! Above, WaterAid Nigeria staff at the Nigerian Television Authority.

Volunteers from the Ministries in charge of Water Resources, Agriculture, WaterAid Nigeria, the Food and Agriculture Organisation, and the private sector took part in the 40-minute symbolic walk from the Ministry of Water Resources through the streets of Abuja.

WaterAid Nigeria used the opportunity to unveil and launch its new Water Works campaign, aimed at influencing a national political commitment to

improved WASH. The campaign called on the country's leaders to prioritise WASH in the nation's development agenda and encouraged political leaders to act to solve the WASH crisis.



WaterAid Nigeria's Water Works campaign called for taps and toilets to address the WASH crisis.



Did you know that?

- Millions of people in Nigeria and across the world have no access to safe water and toilets?
- Dianthoea caused by unsafe water & poor sanitation kills thousand of children every day in Nigeria?
- Many children spend hours fetching water instead of being at school?



To commemorate World Water Day in 2012, WaterAid has launched the Water Works campaign because we believe that governments can do so much more to help solve the global water and sanitation problem and save millions from a life of poverty and disease. In April 2012 world leaders are meeting in America to discuss action on water and sanitation. We would like you to join us and tell them that Water Works!



You can take action by:

- Drawing a picture
- Writing a short essay or a poem

Theme: Why Water Works for me

Your drawing/painting, essay or poem must show why or how water works in your life and how important water is to your everyday life.

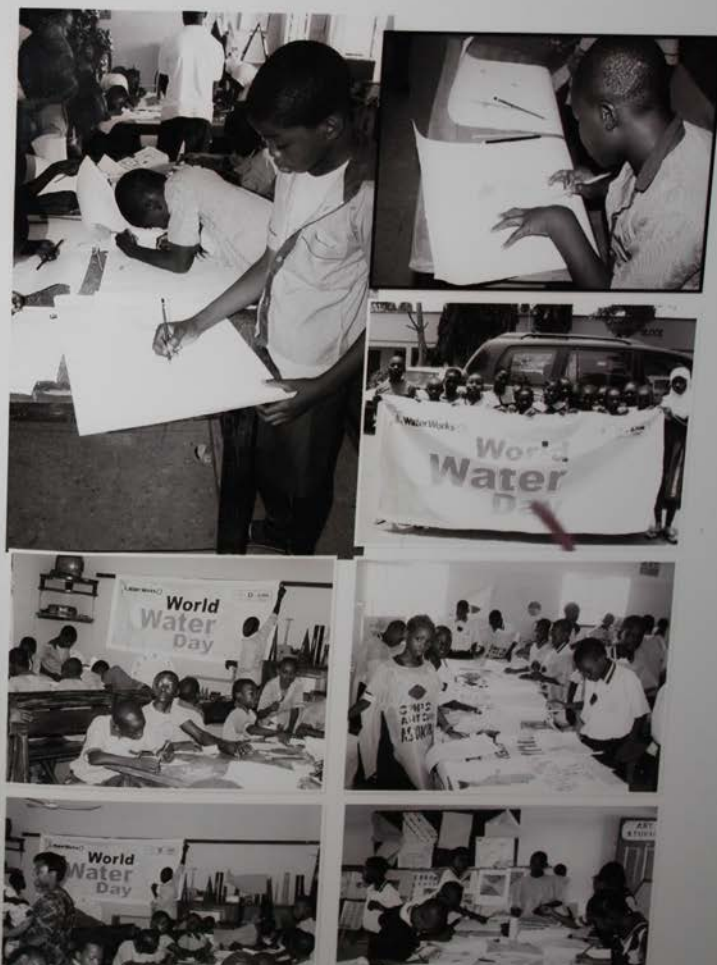
If you are writing a short essay or poem, it must not be more than 250 words.

Every action counts! We will gather all your actions and present them to world leaders before their meeting in April.

Together we will show them that **Water Works!**



Competition closes:



Children use arts and essays to demand that water works

by Oluseyi Abdulmalik

The Water Works campaign, launched by WaterAid Nigeria during the 2012 World Water Day, sought to highlight the crisis caused by inadequate attention on water and sanitation.

In his goodwill message, WaterAid Nigeria Country Representative, Dr. Michael Ojo, said that worldwide, thousands of children die every year due to a lack of access to safe water and sanitation.

“WaterAid Nigeria is using the opportunity of this year’s World Water Day to give some of these children a voice, and encourage our leaders to listen,” he said.

“Human beings need water, and so do animals, but it is not good for animals and humans to drink from the same place as it’s not safe. We ask government to give us good, clean water so that we will not fall ill,” said 11-year-old John Anthony from Model Science Primary School, Garki, Abuja.

The children presented the Minister of Water Resources, Mrs Sarah Ocheke, with a bound compilation of their exhibits.

“This represents the voices of our children demanding safe water and improved sanitation,” said the Minister represented by the former Director of Water Quality and Sanitation, Federal Ministry of Water Re-

**‘Water o water
You are life; you are
hope
You are life; you are
health
Water o water, do not
let me down!’**

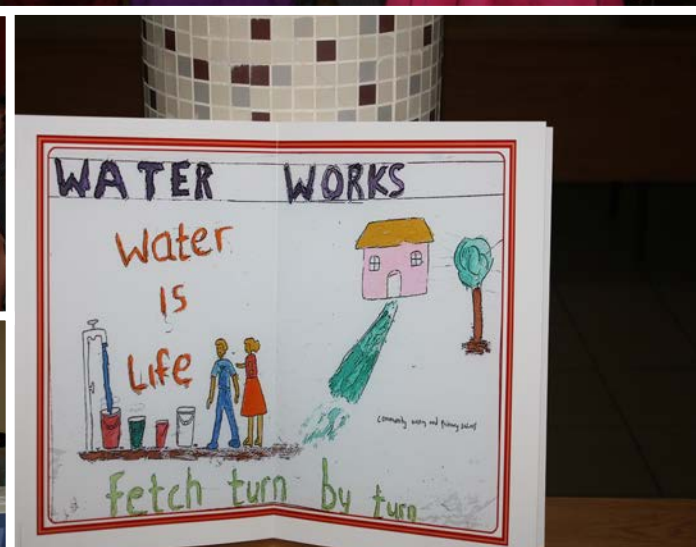
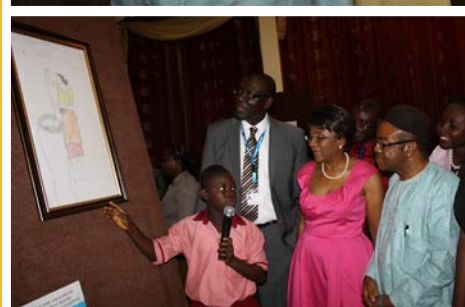
An excerpt from a poem by Sandra Eje, an 11 year-old pupil from LEA Primary School, Kubwa II, FCT. The poem was recited at WaterAid Nigeria’s arts and essay exhibition, held to commemorate the 2012 World Water Day in Nigeria.

sources.. “This is going with us to Washington D.C. for the Sanitation and Water for All High Level Meeting.”

The exhibition was attended by the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)

WASH Ambassador, Engr. Ebele Okeke; heads and representatives of development agencies; civil society members; other students from participating schools and their teachers; as well as the media.

The Water Works campaign, launched by WaterAid Nigeria during the 2012 World Water Day, sought to highlight the crisis caused by inadequate attention on water and sanitation.



Photos: WaterAid Nigeria/Oluseyi Abdulmalik, Wale Elekolusi

Business community, celebrities commit to WASH on 2012 Global Handwashing Day

by Adejumo Alagbe

Some notable Nollywood personalities and members of Nigeria's business community made varying levels of commitment to support the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cause at WaterAid Nigeria's commemoration of the 2012 Global Handwashing Day (GHWD).

WaterAid Nigeria (WANG) organised a 'Global Handwashing Day with the Private Sector' event in Lagos on the fifth anniversary of GHWD, a campaign launched in 2007 to promote good hygiene and hand-washing with soap or ash. Members of Nigeria's private sector represented at the event included Access Bank, Zenith Bank, Unilever, Contec Global, and GT Bank.

Notable personalities from Nollywood, Nigeria's entertainment industry, and the media included Tina Mba, Bimbo Manuel, Femi Brainard; Dan Chris Ebie and Mike Nliam.

The celebrities committed to support WaterAid's efforts towards access to safe water, improved sanitation, and hygiene through messages in their movies and on their social media networks, while the private sector companies committed to further engagements that are expected

to inform corporate social responsibility interventions, and lead to potential partnership decisions.

The event provided a platform for the guests to gain insights into WaterAid's work in

GLOBAL
HAND DAY
WASHING



Guests at the event washed their hands in a show of solidarity commemorating Global Handwashing Day and promoting good hygiene practices.



WaterAid Nigeria Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo, speaks with poplar Nollywood actor, Femi Brainard, at the Global Handwashing Day event.

Handwashing with soap or ash is one of the most effective and inexpensive ways to prevent communicable infections, particularly diarrhoeal diseases such as cholera, typhoid, pneumonia and intestinal worms.

Every year, the diarrhoeal diseases are together responsible for the death of more than

3.5million children under the age of 5 years.

Nigeria and to discuss ways to advocate improved national commitment to WASH issues.



Leaders urged to keep promise on sanitation

by Saheed Mustafa

The water, sanitation and hygiene crisis that robs Nigeria of 1.3 per cent of its GDP yearly can be resolved if national and local governments would keep their word to provide their people with access to safe water and sanitation.”

Country Representative of WaterAid Nigeria, Dr Michael Ojo, made the declaration during a press briefing to commemorate the 2012 World Toilet Day on 19 November 2012.

“Decision makers have made promises locally, nationally, regionally and globally to provide safe water and sanitation, and now is the time to turn these words into action and make real progress towards providing sanitation and water for all, including the poorest and marginalised communities. These promises must be kept to bring an end to the global sanitation and water crisis,” Dr Ojo said.

With the largest population in Africa, a huge proportion of the shortfalls in universal access to water, sanitation and hygiene are found right here in Nigeria where 103 million people still defecate in the open. These deficiencies create a massive crisis as they undermine health systems,

continued on page 22

Nearly seven in ten women in Nigeria lack a safe toilet says study

by Jenchat Bishen

WaterAid research on World Toilet Day

World Toilet Day—commemorated on 19 November every year—gave WaterAid Nigeria another opportunity to call on the nation’s political leaders to improve the people’s access to basic sanitation.

The call followed the release of the results of a study commissioned by WaterAid which showed that 67 per cent of women surveyed have no access to a safe toilet,



Engr. Ebele Okeke, WSSCC WASH Ambassador, signs the Keep Your Promises campaign petition.

threatening their health and exposing them to shame, fear and even violence.

The survey of women living in five slums across Lagos, showed that one in five had first or second hand experience of verbal harassment and intimidation, or had been threatened or physically assaulted in the last year when going to the toilet.

The survey was conducted by international polling and research company, GlobeScan who polled 500 women between 18 and 22 October 2012 in Ajegunle, Ijora, Badia,

Oko Agbon and Otto-Oyingbo . Some of the other poll results found that:

40% of women are forced to defecate in a public place. A quarter of these have experienced either harassment, threat of violence or actual assault.

61% of women find the toilets they regularly use to be unhygienic.

56% of women avoid using toilets at certain times of the day to avoid putting themselves at risk.

98% saw it is important for the Nigerian Government to prioritise sanitation, in comparison to education and transport.

Although there are very real benefits to improved access to adequate sanitation and hygiene, access to sanitation remains a major challenge in the country. Sanitation not only saves lives, but also makes lives better. There are financial gains to be realised through ending open defecation and ensuring adequate sanitation at the individual, community and national level.

World Toilet Day, which is observed annually, focuses on the importance of sanitation, and aims to raise awareness of the consequences of lack of access to toilets and proper sanitation.

WASH United Charity Football Tournament draws attention to WASH issues

by Jenchat Bishen

As part of its activities commemorating the 2012 World Toilet Day, WaterAid Nigeria, through the Governance and Transparency Fund programme, was proud to be supporting for the second time, a WASH United charity football tournament.

The tournament, which aimed to draw attention to the WASH crisis in the country, was organised by the Network on Water and Sanitation in Nigeria (NEWS-AN) in collaboration with the Youth Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Network, Africa.

Using football as a medium for mobilisation, the tournament also sought to increase community awareness for improved youth engagement and participation in the WASH sector and call on government to keep its promises on increasing access to WASH services.

community forum in Nyanya, a suburb of Abuja. The project must be one requiring capacity building for people who would participate in a WASH school campaign using footballers as role models.

The football tournament was organised in association with the Nigerian Football Federation,

The tournament, which took place from 10 - 17 November 2012, formed part of WaterAid Nigeria's activities launching the 'Keep Your Promises' campaign. As part of the End Water Poverty coalition, WaterAid joined many across the world to launch the Keep Your Promises campaign on this year's World Toilet Day. The campaign will see supporters

across the globe taking action throughout the year and calling on their politicians to keep the promises they have made on sanitation and water.

While commending the Nigerian government's efforts, WaterAid is joining the End Water Poverty

coalition to call for a step change from all governments to keep all of their promises to improve access to sanitation and water, and to go beyond these commitments and work towards achieving universal access to basic sanitation and safe drinking water.

The Keep Your Promises campaign has four main demands—more money, better use of money, improved transparency, and making sanitation and water a priority beyond 2015.

The campaign is local, national, regional, and global, and is desirous of seeing water and sanitation promises made at all levels kept.



Winners of the WASH United Charity football tournament.



At the WASH United Charity football tournament held to commemorate World Toilet Day.

The final match, held at Government Secondary School, Zone 4, Abuja, was won by Capitol FC, who received a trophy and cash prize of 50,000 Naira to be used for a joint project with a WASH

UN-Habitat Youth Programme in Nigeria, WASH United, End Water Poverty, National Task Group on Sanitation (NTGS) and the Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC).

Leaders from page 20

economic development, education, and gender equality.

Worldwide, about 2.5 billion people lack access to adequate sanitation. In Nigeria, current estimates show that only 32% of the population has access to improved sanitation facilities while about 86,000 deaths, mainly among children under five, occur annually due to diseases predominantly caused by poor sanitation and hygiene practices.

As a member of the End Water Poverty Coalition, WaterAid joined the rest of the world to launch the Keep Your Promises campaign on World Toilet Day. The campaign will culminate at the MDGs Summit in New York in September 2013 when the Keep Your Promises global petition will be presented to decision makers. The petition calls on governments globally to work towards achieving universal access to basic sanitation and safe drinking water.



2012 staff retreat helps shape the WANG team

by Victoria Chenge

Shaping the Dream Team was the theme of WaterAid Nigeria's 2012 annual staff retreat; a theme chosen to highlight the importance of strengthening the Country Programme and underline the need to deliver on new and existing goals and objectives.

In order to achieve the goals of the organisation, "we must recognise our potentials, increase our performance and represent ourselves and WaterAid more effectively," said the Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo.

The retreat emphasised five key areas critical to the success of the Nigeria Country Programme—delivering on user numbers, integrating year one objectives of the new projects, improving documenting and sharing of WaterAid Nigeria's work, and delivering a workable 2013/14 multi-year plan and budget.

The staff retreat is an annual WaterAid Nigeria event that provides the opportunity to take stock of the achievements and challenges of the out-going year, show appreciation to long serving staff members, and honour those who have distinguished themselves in the course of their duties. The staff retreat also allowed staff to relax and bond, and provided the rare opportunity to enjoy some sports and games.



WANG staff at the retreat.

Meetings with ECOWAS Commission highlight WASH issues in West Africa

by Tolani Busari

The need for the governments of the nations in West Africa to honour their promises to improve WASH coverage in their individual countries was the subject of discussions with representatives of the ECOWAS Commission and Parliament.

The ECOWAS Commission team included the Vice President, Dr T McIntosh and Director of Environment, Dr J Boanuh; while the WaterAid Nigeria team included Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo; Regional Advocacy Manager, West Africa, Mohammed Abdul-Nashiru; and Head of Governance, Tolani Busari.

The WaterAid team also met with the ECOWAS Parliament Bureau's Secretary-General, Mr Mohammed Diakite, and the Secretary to the Parliament's committee on agriculture, environment, water resources and rural development, Dr Alieu Senghore.

The meeting led to a subsequent joint presentation to the ECOWAS parliament committees on agriculture, environment, water resources and rural development, child protection and human rights.

The presentation highlighted the challenges and effect of lack of access to safe drinking

water and adequate sanitation by West Africans and the need for the governments in the region to prioritise the provision of these basic services.

The parliamentarians promised to raise the lack of access to WASH services with the individual governments and within the larger ECOWAS Parliament.

Regional Advocacy Strategy Workshop

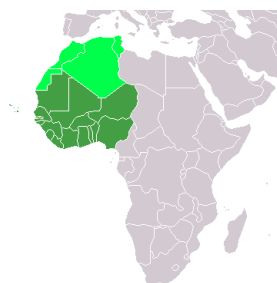
by Tolani Busari

WaterAid Nigeria hosted all seven country programme advocacy leads across West Africa at a regional advocacy workshop organised by WaterAid regional office for West Africa in July 2012.

The four-day event was facilitated by the Regional Advocacy Manager (West Africa), Mohammed Abdul-Nashiru, with support from the WaterAid UK Campaigns Coordinator (Africa and Asia), Pankaj KC, and Senior Policy Analyst (Climate Change),

Daniel Yeo.

The purpose of the meeting was to develop long-term advocacy strategies in line with the global vision and advocacy



priorities. The workshop provided a platform for mutual

support and challenges, involving policy and campaigns staff to improve advocacy work.

Individual country programmes, now more than ever, are appreciating their role in contributing to the attainment of organisational and regional priorities. They have made a commitment to work collectively involving policy and practice staff to achieve significant change in poor peoples' lives.



OUTREACH BRIEFS

by Saheed Mustafa and Tolani Busari

Photo: WaterAid Nigeria / Taye Balogun

National Orientation Agency, WaterAid Nigeria explore ways to collaborate

A team comprising some WaterAid Nigeria and the National Orientation Agency (NOA) staff was set up to look into ways both organisations can work together to improve access to WASH in Nigeria.

WaterAid Nigeria initiated the meeting to explore the possibility of working with the agency as part of WANG's strategy of influencing key stakeholders and mainstreaming WASH into the larger development efforts of the nation.

The meeting was attended by the Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo; Head of Governance, Tolani Busari; and Advocacy and Partnership Manager, Saheed Mustafa.

African Development Bank to collaborate with WANG in capacity building

At a meeting on 12 December 2012, two officials of the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group expressed the Bank's willingness to collaborate with WANG to build the capacity of NGOs and government institutions in monitoring and evaluation, pro-poor approaches to urban WASH reforms as well as procurement processes and systems.

WaterAid Nigeria initiated the meeting to build on the opportunities identified during a strategy session of various civil society organisations and international non-governmental organisations in 2012.

WaterAid Nigeria participates in MDGs expert group meeting and consultative forum

WaterAid Nigeria participated in a meeting of the Expert Group on the MDGs organised by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on MDGs. The objective of the meeting was to draw lessons for input into the post-2015 United Nations Development Framework. It therefore reviewed the progress

ECOWAS Parliament to hear WASH advocacy at plenary

The ECOWAS Parliament has invited WaterAid Nigeria to make a presentation on WASH in the ECOWAS sub-region at a plenary session of the ECOWAS assembly.

The request followed a similar presentation to the parliament's joint committee on water, sanitation, and human rights during an ECOWAS parliament

special session. The presentation, made by Tolani Busari, Head of Governance (Nigeria), on behalf of the sub-region's WaterAid country offices, highlighted WaterAid's work and achievements as well as WASH challenges across the sub-region.



A team from WaterAid Nigeria met with the ECOWAS Commission to highlight WASH issues and explore possible areas of collaboration.

WANG engages with Nigeria's Senate

At the instance of the Special Adviser on NGOs to Nigeria's Senate President, Senator David Mark, WaterAid Nigeria is to make a presentation on the need for policies for improved WASH in the country in the upper chamber of Nigeria's National Assembly in 2013.

WaterAid Nigeria is also exploring the possibility of a similar engagement with the Federal House of Representatives to identify WASH champions amongst the lawmakers who will be parliamentary voices for WASH.

to date of the implementation of the MDGs.

The document produced from the meeting was presented at a subsequent national stakeholder's consultative forum, where participants identified the changes they desired in the different thematic areas of MDGs targets such as poverty reduction, gender, health and water and sanitation.

Participants at both meetings were drawn from the different sectors covering the eight MDGs, including health, education and environment. WaterAid Nigeria made a presentation on water and sanitation

coverage, identifying the opportunities, challenges and the way forward to improve WASH access in the country.

The presentations at the meetings were incorporated into Nigeria's position paper, which was presented at the Rio+10 conference in June 2012.



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Wale Elekolusi

A cross-section of traditional and religious leaders during the commissioning in Jigawa State. Photo: WaterAid/Wale Elekolusi

...Open defecation-free communities celebrated

WaterAid Nigeria, in collaboration with the European Union and Enugu and Jigawa state governments, has completed and handed over 16 small town water schemes to communities in the two states.

The small town water schemes are part of the WaterAid/European Union Water Facility Project in Nigeria, implemented to ensure a demand-driven approach and increase access to water and sanitation in these small towns by 75 and 50 per cent respectively.

The official commissioning and handing-over took place in May 2012 in Gakori, Kaugama Local Government Area of

Small town water schemes commissioned in Enugu and Jigawa States

by Oluseyi Abdulmalik

Jigawa State, and in June 2012 in Ugwunoda, Igbo Etitì Local Government Area of Enugu State.

The ceremonies brought together government officials, traditional leaders, civil society organisations, implementing partners, community members and the mass media. The occasion was also an opportunity for WaterAid and both state governments to celebrate the achievement of open defecation free (ODF) status in 13 communities collectively.

Community members who voluntarily serve as peer



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Oluseyi Abdulmalik

One of the new small town water schemes in Ugwunoda, Igbo Etitì local government area

educators and campaigners for sanitation and hygiene in their communities became voluntary hygiene promoters (VHP) and natural leaders. They were empowered by the project to assist their communities to become open defecation free through the community-led total sanitation (CLTS) process.

Government representatives at both events expressed their state governments' pleasure at the hand-over of the schemes to the communities, stressing the government's commitment to intensifying efforts to address the challenges of the WASH sector by continuing to work with development partners such as WaterAid and the European Union.

Country Representative, Dr Michael Ojo led the WaterAid team at both events and emphasised that WaterAid's partnership with the two state governments is focused on filling

the critical gap in WASH service delivery and ensuring that such services have local ownership and are sustainable.

He expressed appreciation for the commitment of both state governments and the support of the people of the small towns in ensuring the smooth delivery of the water schemes. He also commended the state and local governments that had paid their counterpart funds, urging the others to honour their counterpart funding obligations to the programme.

Water Consumer Associations (WCAs), which are grassroots management structures for the water schemes, were established in beneficiary communities to ensure that the projects are sustainable. In Jigawa State, the government replicated the WCA structure for 102 schemes.

Community members and local government officials in both states spoke of the indescribable

relief from many years of acute water scarcity. In Ugwunoda, Enugu State, for instance, people used to trek about 10 kilometres to fetch water from Adada River or paid 400 Naira (approximately £1.60) for a 100-litre container of water from tanker drivers.

The elderly and persons living with disabilities who could not trek the distance and had no helpers had very low water access. Some barely managed to have a bath once in a week.

In this second phase of the project, the small town water schemes have improved access to water for 187,100 mostly poor beneficiaries in the selected small towns.

The construction of ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines has resulted in access to improved sanitation for about 14,000 people.

The WaterAid/European Union Water Facility Project in Enugu

and Jigawa states was launched in 2007. Dubbed Closing the Gap: Improving Water Supply and Sanitation Provision in Small Towns in Nigeria, it aimed to promote a coordinated, sustainable, and cost-effective approach to accelerating the achievement of the MDG targets for water and sanitation in rapidly emerging small towns in Nigeria.



Photo: WaterAid Nigeria/Wale Elekolusi

The small town water schemes have contributed immensely to improving access to water for the poorest communities

WaterAid transforms lives by improving access to safe water, hygiene and sanitation in the world's poorest communities. We work with partners and influence decision-makers to maximise our impact.

**Website: <http://www.wateraid.org/nigeria>
E-mail address: nigeriacomms@wateraid.org**



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17 Bechar Street, Zone 2, Wuse, Abuja, Nigeria

