



CENTRE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT (CHD)

A Non-Profit Organization

COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT

(COE)

**PERIOD COVERED ON THIS COMMUNICATION ON
ENGAGEMENT**

FROM: 29 JUNE, 2019

TO: 01 OCTOBER, 2021

OCTOBER 1, 2021

PART I: STATEMENT OF CONTINUED SUPPORT BY THE EXECUTIVE

To Our Stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that Centre for Human Development reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its content.

In this Communication on Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours working at the national and state levels. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours



Simi Afonja
Executive Director

PART II: DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS:

1. URBANIZATION, GENDER AND THE GLOBAL SOUTH: A TRANSFORMATIVE KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

This is a 6-year comparative and city-based project on Urbanization, Gender and The Global South: A Transformative Knowledge Network investigating the changing nature of the relationships between gendered inequality and poverty, focusing in particular on how this is reconstituting gender relations and rights to the city and also engage urban policy makers in their application of SDGs 5 and 11. The research is being implemented in Ibadan, Nigeria and five other cities in the Global South (Egypt, Georgetown, Mumbai, Ramallah and Shanghai).

CHD is implementing the project in Ibadan city in partnership with York University, Toronto, Canada with the support of the Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada. The interviews with policy shapers and Survey on Urban Renewal Activities in Ibadan city are related to SDG 11 on Environment which is one of the four pillars of UNGC.



Some of the key activities implemented under the project include:

A. *Policy Shapers Interviews*

With the increasing influx of people into urban areas, the interview with policy shapers explored how the SDGs 5 and 11 are being implemented in the country and Oyo State with a special focus on Ibadan city and the extent to which their implementation is integrated and benefiting women. The purpose is to improve communications, inform policy decisions and more effective urban programs and policies in the city most especially for women and other vulnerable people.

The interviews explored understanding of SDGs framework of action, environment, gender equality and women's rights. Furthermore, it provided opportunity to assess the opinion of policy shapers on top priorities to be addressed in the urban settings to make it inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable. Each of the organizations listed their contributions towards the SDG 11 on environment and the kind of programs they implement towards realizing the goal. They also enumerated challenges in achieving the SDGs and made suggestions on how these challenges can be tackled.

The policy shapers interviewed included staff of Oyo State Ministry of Women Affairs, Community Development and Social Welfare, and Poverty Alleviation; Ministry of Health; Heinrich Boll Stiftung Foundation, Lagos; Sustainable Ibadan Project; Federation of Female Lawyers (FIDA), Oyo State Chapter; Federation of Muslim Women Association of Nigeria (FOMWAN), Oyo State Chapter; President, National Council of Women Societies (NCWS); Nigerian Environment Study Action Team, Ibadan; Director, Women's Research and Documentation Centre, University of Ibadan, Oyo State; Director, Centre for Sustainable Development (CESDEV) University of Ibadan; Senior Technical Adviser to the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nigeria; Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development Bureau of Physical Planning and Development Control, State Secretariat, Ibadan; Women Ward Leaders of LGAs of Ibadan South and Ibadan South East LGAs and Chairmen of Ibadan South and Ibadan South East LGAs; Nigerian Environment Study Action Team (NESAT); Local Government Departments of Community, Health, Education and Agriculture; Market leaders; Manager, Justice, Development and Peace Commission (JDPC), Ibadan, Oyo State; and Catholic Women Organization (CWO), Ibadan, Oyo State.



Prof. Adetoun Ogunsheye
President, National Council of Women Society
South West Zone.



Prof. Olarenwaju Olaniyan
Director, Centre for Sustainable Development
University of Ibadan



Hon. Faguwa Sakiru Kayode
Chairman
Ibadan South LCDA

B. Survey on Urban Renewal Activities in Ibadan city

The Centre for Human Development (CHD) collated secondary data and mapping information for Ibadan city focusing on urban planning indices, such as urbanization rate and urban planning in Ibadan). This activity was conducted in 2019.

Key highlights of the study show that:

- In most parts of the city, particularly the inner core and southeastern section, there is evidence of unplanned settlements that lack basic facilities owing majorly to the inability of municipal governments to keep pace with the level of infrastructure needs brought about by high rate of urbanization.
- Shortage of environmental infrastructure and social amenities – poor access to potable water; unstable electricity supply; haphazard physical development which constrains the provision of facilities; poor waste collection and management as wastes often block drains, roads, waterways.
- Recurrent flooding owing partly to the encroachment of flood plains by illegal buildings and construction, inadequate storm drains, acute deforestation and poor solid waste management.

Urban Renewal in Ibadan

In the past few decades, there have been several interventions in the form of renewal or upgrading of some slums in Ibadan in order to achieve sustainability in its development. The most comprehensive urban renewal exercise carried out in the city remains the World Bank-supported urban renewal scheme in selected three neighborhoods in Ibadan, namely; Mokola, Agugu and Yemetu (Akinyode, 1998).



Aerial view of Ibadan City

In more recent years, however, the term “urban renewal”, its usage and focus have been limited to city beautification, waste management, street sweeping, environmental sanitation and development control.

Lack of infrastructure was identified as one of the most pressing problems in Ibadan city.

The major achievements of the urban renewal programs initiated in the last 10 years include

- Rehabilitation/reconstruction of roads as well as construction of major bridges demolished by the flood of August 2011, among which is the Restoration (Bodija/Secretariat) bridge.
- Dualization of major roads in Ibadan.
- Construction of a fly-over at the Mokola Roundabout in Ibadan.
- Modernization of motor parks: the construction of major intra and inter-city motor parks within the Ibadan metropolis, among which are the Temidire motor park, Podo motor park, Challenge motor part and Iwo road motor park.
- Waste management: clearing of 225 identified unauthorized refuse depots; regular collection of waste from major markets and hinterland; repair and refurbishing of 55 waste management trucks; monitoring, collection and disposal of waste during sanitation exercises, every Thursday and last Saturday of the month; establishing synergy with 11 Local Government Councils in Ibadan region for the coordination and use of their refuse/garbage trucks; and re-engineering of Private Sector Participation (PSP) Scheme of refuse management by contractors.
- The upgrade of Agodi Garden, a tourists’ haven located near the state.

- Removal/demolition of structures/ buildings along waterways/streams setbacks. Although 2,106 buildings/structures were marked for demolition by the State Committee on flood, only 216 buildings/structures were demolished throughout the 11 Local Governments in Ibadan along Ona-Ara River, Sango/Eleyele Polytechnic road, Apete stream, Ogbere River, Challenge Odo-ona area, Agbowo/Orogun stream.
- Sanitization of existing state lands and other lands through removal of illegal structures and shanties. A total of 65 structures were removed from Alalubosa GRA; 52 shanties were removed from Kolapo Ishola GRA; 7 gates were removed from Agodi GRA; and 15 structures and shanties were removed from Awotan/Apete GRA.

However, the urban renewal has had mixed reception in terms of judgment passed by residents and citizens of the city. For the elites, the program is timely and well thought while for the low income residents of the city, it has deprived them of their source of income as they are being displaced from most times their illegal settlements.

Benefits of the Urban Renewal Exercise

Urban renewal as practiced in Ibadan has the potential of affecting the human environment either positively or negatively. Some of the positive effects are:

- i. The renewal exercise has improved and increased socio-economic and infrastructural facilities in the society; thus, narrowing down the gap between infrastructural systems and the populace.
- ii. The renewal activities have improved the social welfare, health condition and environmental balance amongst the urban populace. The effective integration of greenings along major roads has improved environmental air quality through open air space management which has further reduced the “urban heat island” effect.
- iii. The implementation of sustainable urban renewal initiatives has created various kinds of job opportunities which include sustainable research work, architectural designs, green urban designs, green environmental technologies and other specialist job opportunities.
- iv. It has improved safety of lives and properties from flooding. By ensuring free flow of streams and rivers, residents of the city are safe from regular flood disaster.
- v. The regular practice on urban renewal will further enhance a wider knowledge of local building practitioners particularly the architects and urban planners towards sustainable urban development.

Challenges of the Urban Renewal Exercise

Although urban renewal has many benefits, some challenges in its implementation and potential negative impacts on urban dwellers are often associated with the exercise. Some of the challenges peculiar to the recent renewal exercise in Ibadan are:

- i. Lack of adequate resettlement plans. The state actors on urban renewal have failed to make any provision for resettlement of those displaced as a result of demolition of

- structures. With more buildings under threat of demolition as part of flood management activities, there is possibility of further forced evictions.
- ii. Low level of awareness: The majority of urban populace are yet to comprehend the relevance of urban renewal as an approach to salvage environmental degeneration. This has influenced the adaptive capability of urban populace particularly the low-income urban settlers. As such adequate awareness programs are required in urban centers to enlighten the urban settlers on the significance of urban renewal towards environmental sustainability.
 - iii. Inadequate community consultation and public participation. Most of the urban renewal efforts were imposed on city dwellers. The public had very little contribution in the initiation, planning and implementation of most of the renewal exercises.
 - iv. Conflicting stakeholders' interests: One main problem in implementing urban renewal policies is the institutional biases of different sectoral views (Wahab and Falola, 2017). Generally, stakeholders in Nigerian urban centres have bias on environmental sustainable measures. Despite some professional input towards achieving urban renewal in Nigeria, other stakeholders such as government officials, contractors and manufacturers are focused on profit making. The stakeholders' interest has also affected the low quality of infrastructure and housing produced in urban centres (Egunjobi et al, 2016). The institutional structure with respect to responsibilities, regulations and implementation of urban renewal are typically fragmented.
 - v. Lack of political will and continuity: Most of the urban renewal efforts embarked on in the first tenure of the current administration have been abandoned during the second tenure. Many projects were abandoned as a result of pressures from some interest groups that did not see the renewal efforts as beneficial.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL FINGERPRINT – A NEW PARADIGM IN HAZARD FORECASTING AND EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR GLOBAL HEALTH RISKS.

The project addresses issues associated with public and environmental health in a rapid urbanizing city to increase resilience of the city to deal with health challenges associated with urbanization. This will be achieved with the use of early warning systems (EWS) in strategic locations around Lagos state.

The project is a joint partnership between University of Bath, UK; University of Stellenbosh, South Africa and University of Lagos with support from UK Research and Innovation. The three universities are collaborating with government agencies, NGOs and communities to implement this action. The University of Lagos is collaborating with relevant MDAs, NGOs and Communities for the project.

CHD is one of the NGOs selected to partner with the communities via citizen science, to communicate the research outcomes and increase community wide-awareness of environmental and public health related issues within the project communities in Lagos State. Funds were not

released by the funders to implement the activities in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, CHD participated in establishing the Project Team for Lagos State and also in the development of the Perspective Paper for the project.

3. JUDICIAL PANEL OF INQUIRY INTO HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY POLICE OFFICERS, SARS OPERATIVES AND OTHER PERSONS

The #ENDSARS protest that convulsed cities and towns in Nigeria was an accumulation of human rights violations of Nigerians by the Special Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) and the entire Nigeria Police Force in general. The protest increased discourses in the public space of the ignominious roles of the police over the years. With the aid of social media especially Twitter, Nigeria youths were able to galvanize together and lead protests to demand for a reform of the policing system and that the government must bring erring officers to book.

KEY #ENDSARS DEMANDS BY PROTESTERS

As a response to the statement of the Inspector General of Police, Mohammed Adamu on next steps after the dissolution of SARS, a group of Nigerians under the aegis of 'Young Nigerians' made the following demands:

- i. Release of arrested protesters
- ii. Justice and compensation for families of victims
- iii. Independent body to oversee prosecution of officers
- iv. Psychological evaluation of disbanded officers before redeployment
- v. Increase in police salaries

The group also developed an indicator to classify their demands into 'Now, Short term and long term'.

Now:

- i. A State of the Nation address by Mr. President
- ii. Release all protesters
- iii. Immediate constitution of the Governing Council of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) for the Panel's legitimacy
- iv. The immediate suspension of all officers indicted in various panels, while prosecution commences
- v. Officers in command that protesters were killed on their watch relieved of duty.

Short-Medium Term:

- i. Justice and compensation for protesters and bystanders killed
- ii. All states to set up their Panels of inquiry within one week. Only 29 states including the FCT complied
- iii. On-going psychological evaluation of police officers

- iv. Regulations for the Police Act 2020 to implement improved welfare for police officers
- v. Set up an independent body for ongoing review of cases of police brutality.

Medium-Long Term:

- i. Holistic police reform including training curriculum review and minimum entry requirements for police force recruitment
- ii. Decentralize the Police Force to improve efficiency.

As part of her human rights program, CHD monitored proceedings of the judicial panel of inquiry into allegations of human rights violations against police officers, including officers of the special anti-robbery squad (SARS) and other persons.

The panel commenced proceedings officially on the 5th of November 2020. In Ekiti State 84 petitions were received by the panel from victims of police brutality, family members of victim, police officers who were attacked by protesting youths, representatives of government and individuals who were hurt or lost their properties or source of livelihood as a result of the protest.

Evidence presented before the panel include: medical reports, pictures and death certificates of victims shot by the police, pictures of bodies of brutality of some victims, pictures, video clips and documents of properties destroyed during the #ENDSARS Protest, among others.



The panel was given a duration of 6 months to conduct the inquiry, and to make recommendations to the government for compensation to victims of police brutality, extortion or other inhuman treatment over the years. Police officers or individuals who were affected by the protest will also be recommended for compensation by the Ekiti State government. At the end of the six (6) months sitting a total of Twenty One (21) Million Naira was awarded as compensation for victims of police brutality.

2 Titilayo Crescent, Bodija Ojurin, Ibadan
Tel: 0806 006 0004; 08084727110;
www.chdafrica.org Email: info@chdafrica.org

Photo:

Google



4. CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR SMALL MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMES) IN EKITI STATE

We mobilized small business organizations to participate in the workshop. The mobilization for this activity commenced with contacting the Chairman, of Small and Medium Enterprises Development Agency of Nigeria (SMEDAN), Ekiti State branch. Thereafter, CHD staff paid him a courtesy visit to discuss the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) within the four pillars of human rights, labour, environment and Anti-Corruption. At the meeting, CHD solicited his support to nominate SMEs to participate in the proposed workshop on SDGS and Gender Equitable Business Model. Unfortunately, he couldn't mobilize organizations to participate from his network. In a bid to ensure the activity holds, we decided to identify and involve SMEs with at least 10 staff in their organization for the training. Thirty seven SMEs have indicated interest to attend the workshop. However, we have not been able to hold the workshop with the newly identified SMEs due to concerns from the proposed participants with attending physical meetings despite the assurance that Covid19 protocols will be adhered.

5. ENGAGEMENT WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS WORKING ON SDGS IN THE SOUTH WEST, NIGERIA

We established contact with Special Advisers (SAs) to three governors in the region. They were contacted and subsequently, informed of plans to conduct a study via phone interview to explore the SDGs implementation in the states and to assess commitment on issues related to human rights, labour, environmental challenges and anti-corruption.

They were contacted through telephone calls, email, SMS and WhatsApp however, we couldn't secure finite commitment from the three SAs contacted within the period we scheduled to conduct the activity.

6. ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY: CENTRE FOR GENDER AND SOCIAL POLICY STUDIES, (CGSPS) OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY, ILE-IFE, NIGERIA'S 2019 CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

CHD'S resource persons for its programs are drawn from the academic community in Nigeria. Following up on the policy shapers' interviews supervised by Dr. Monica Orisadare, described above, in her capacity as the Executive Director of CGSPS, she organized the CGSPS international conference on sustainable development goals. From 12th to 15th of May 2019, CGSPS hosted dignitaries, experts and scholars in the field of Gender and Development to stimulate dialogue on the issues. The conference kicked off with a cocktail reception for invited guests and participants on 12th May 2019. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eyitope Ogunbodede, Prof. Gertrude Mianda, Dr. Abimbola Adimula, The Dean of Deans, Prof. M. A. O. Aluko and other eminent personalities were in attendance.

Over 250 participants at the opening ceremonies of the conference were opportuned to listen to presentations by outstanding and experienced personalities who have continued to advance gender and development nationally, regionally and globally, particularly Her Excellency, Erelu

2 Titilayo Crescent, Bodija Ojurin, Ibadan

Tel: 0806 006 0004; 08084727110;

www.chdafrica.org Email: info@chdafrica.org

Bisi Adeleye-Fayemi, wife of the Ekiti State Governor, Her Excellency, Mrs. Kafayat Oyetola, wife of the Osun State Governor and Princess Adejoke Orelope- Adefulire, the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development. The lead paper presentations by Prof. Gertrude Mianda, Director of Harriet Tubman Institute of York University and Prof. Lere Amusan (University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa) were exemplary scholarly contributions which propelled renewed fervor for cutting edge research in gender and sustainable development. The Key Note Papers and Lead Presentations are available at <http://cgs.oauife.edu.ng> on the “Resources” page.

Experienced as well as young researchers presented eighty-eight scholarly articles across a wide range of themes such as Gender and Food Security, Gender and Health, Gender and Economic Growth, Gender, Migration and Sustainable Urbanization in Africa, Gender and ICT, Gender and Entrepreneurship, Gender, Language and Culture. Researchers were able to improve on their scholarly work from comments and contributions that their presentations generated in the twenty parallel sessions.

Challenges:

1. The Covid19 pandemic is still a cause for concern in Nigeria. With poor acceptance of the vaccine, less than 5 million Nigerians vaccinated out of 200 million people in the country. This has made people caused disinterest in attending meetings physically.
2. Though we proposed a virtual interview with the SAs to the governors who were willing to participate initially however, we realized that they would have preferred a one-on-one interaction. This makes genuine connections easy to develop. It makes it easy for people to be open and expressive as against virtual.
3. We have challenges making the workshop with SMEs a virtual event as most of them are not technology savvy to be able to attend this nature of training online and also, very few of them use smart phones.