

AUGUST 2021



UNITED NATIONS  
NIGERIA



# NEWSLETTER



## FG, UN Launch Graduate Employment Initiative, Target 20,000 Graduates Annually



L-R: Vice President of Nigeria, His Excellency, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, President Muhammadu Buhari; The Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, His Excellency, Mr. Otunba Richard Adeniyi Adebayo CON; The Honourable Minister of State for Budget and National Planning, Clem Agba; The UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Mohamed Yahya; United Nations Resident Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria, Mr. Edward Kallon

The Federal Government of Nigeria and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have launched the Nigeria Jubilee Fellows Programme (NJFP), a graduate employment initiative that targets 20,000 annually.

H.E, President Muhammadu Buhari announced on 31 August at the Aso Rock Villa, that the application would open 6 September, and would seek to match 20,000 highly skilled graduates annually with yearlong job placements in public and private sectors across multiple industries.

Eligibility criteria include the following: Must be a Nigerian citizen; Be a fresh graduate (Bachelor's Degree or HND Certificate) from any discipline and graduated not earlier than 2017; Graduate with at least a Second Class Lower (2.2) for Bachelor's Degree or Upper Credit (> 3.00) for HND Certificate holders; Be at most 30 years old; Not currently engaged in any employment; and Have completed the mandatory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) OR have a certificate of exemption from the NYSC; among others. Further details are available here: <https://www.njfp.ng/eligibility>

The NJFP is an initiative led by the Federal Government of Nigeria, with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the European Union (EU), In attendance at the official launch was the Vice President of Nigeria, His Excellency, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, SAN, and the Honourable Minister of Industry, Trade and Investment, His Excellency, Mr. Otunba Richard Adeniyi Adebayo CON.

Other development partners who attended the event included the Chargé d'Affaires a.i Delegation of the European Union to Nigeria and ECOWAS, His Excellency, Alexandre Borges Gomes, United Nations Resident Humanitarian Coordinator in Nigeria, Mr. Edward Kallon and the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Mohamad Yahya.

### HIGHLIGHTS

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According to one 2019 estimate, about 25 million graduates remain unemployed across the country. The NJFP aims to create a channel between graduates and industry, to help address this employment gap by identifying the emerging skills that companies need most, while guiding graduates to be more prepared for a constantly evolving work environment.

## Young People, Nigeria's Greatest And Most Valuable Resource - Kallon



*UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria, Edward Kallon, addresses the audience at the observance of the International Youth Day in Lagos*

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria, Edward Kallon, has reaffirmed that young people are Nigeria's greatest and most valuable resource. "The quality and type of investments made in this human resource by government, determines the trajectory of development and how society can be envisioned in years and decades to come." He said today at the observance of the International Youth Day event organised as part of the 60th Anniversary of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA) in Lagos.

He added that strategic investment in young people's education, health, security, employment, empowerment, effective civil participation, and overall development carries the potential for demographic dividends.

The Director - General of NIIA, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae, in his welcome address, reiterated that there was hope for Nigerian youths, "and the hope can only be actualised by the youths themselves." He said further to the participants who were mainly undergraduates from four Universities, "As you look for change, see yourselves in the change process. Take note that digitalisation is not an option but a necessity. You must embrace technology and leverage on it to drive change."

Oniru of Iruland, Oba Abdul-Wasiu Lawal, commended the management of the NIIA and the United Nations for organising the event to celebrate the youths. He urged young people to embrace Agriculture in their quest for entrepreneurship.

Hon. Minister of Youth and Sport Development, Mr Sunday Dare, represented by the Special Assistant ICT and Corporate Relations to the Hon. Minister, Ms. Oluwakemi Ann-Melody Areola, explained that the youths must be engaged within their space.

International Youth Day is commemorated every year on 12 August, bringing youth issues to the attention of the international community and celebrating the potential of youth as partners in today's global society.

The theme of International Youth Day 2021, "Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health",

highlights the success of such a global effort will not be achieved without the meaningful participation of young people.



*L-R: Director - General of NIIA, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae; Special Assistant ICT and Corporate Relations to the Hon. Minister, Ms. Oluwakemi Ann-Melody Areola; UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria, Edward Kallon; and Oniru of Iruland, Oba Abdul-Wasiu Lawal*



*Director - General of NIIA, Prof. Eghosa Osaghae*



Spotlight Initiative



EU-UN Spotlight Initiative to end violence against women and girls

## Empowered To Advocate For Effective GBV And COVID Response In IDP Camps

*Fifty-year old Lariba Sule, a widow with disability, serves as a change agent in her community with no limitations. Aside from creating a sustainable livelihood for her family, she's committed her time as an activist for gender-based violence (GBV) and COVID-19 among families living in IDP camps and affected by conflict.*



Lariba Sule selling her food items at Teachers Village IDP camp in Maiduguri, Borno state. Photo: UN Women/Marian Roberts

Lariba, a mother of four, lives in Teacher Village camp in Maiduguri within the northeast of Nigeria. Her husband was killed by the armed insurgents Boko Haram seven years ago, leaving her and her children on the streets resorting to alms.

She could barely feed herself and her children until she encountered the “Building Leadership Capacity of IDP Women for Effective COVID-19 and GBV Response in IDP Camps in Borno State, Nigeria” project, funded by the Women’s Peace and Humanitarian Fund (WPHF) and the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative on Ending Violence against Women and Girls, implemented with the technical support of UN Women.

The project supported her with food items and a start-up grant for business enabling her to buy and sell corn, beans, groundnut, millet, rice, cowpeas and locally made pasta to take care of her family’s needs. She further received training on leadership skills, GBV, human rights and conflict resolution. She recalls prior to the project, women in the camp could not exercise their rights and faced several domestic abuses, rape, and other gender-based violence leaving perpetrators unpunished. Due to this, women and girls mainly the victims, lived in silence and fear with no access to any livelihood support.

After receiving capacity and being empowered to identify, report and handle GBV cases, Lariba now embarks on a campaign against

GBV in the camp. She educates other women and girls on the effects of GBVs especially rape. “I constantly engage women living in the camp to immediately take rape victims to the clinic before reporting to the police because the consequence lead victims with sexually transmitted infections, unwanted pregnancies, vaginal fistula, trauma and even death. Because offenders of rape are now reported and punished, it has reduced the cases in the camps”, she said.

Known for her zeal to bring about change in her community, Lariba also contributes her time to sensitizing women and children on COVID-19. “I lead other women to embark on household visit to educate families on the importance of wearing nose mask, making use of hand washing stations in the camp and avoid attending unnecessary ceremonies. I explain to them that because we live in an IDP camp, if we get infected, it will be uncontrollable and dangerous for us” she stated.

The “Building Leadership Capacity of IDP Women for Effective COVID 19 and GBV Response in IDP Camps in Borno State, Nigeria” project is under the Women Peace and Security programming of UN Women and seeks to contribute to lasting peace by ending sexual and gender-based violence, protect women’s rights, advance gender equality, and respond to COVID-19 in settings of conflict and crises.



## Joint SDGs Program Supports Sokoto State Social Protection Policy Development



Dr. Faizat Badmus-Busari, the UNICEF Social Protection Specialist and the UN Joint SDG Programme Manager (Middle) and other resource persons and dignitaries

The Joint UN SDGs programme hosted a three-day meeting with Sokoto State stakeholders to develop the State Social Protection Policy according to the programme's objective of facilitating institutionalizing Social Programme intervention in the State.

The meeting, held in Birnin Kebbi, Kebbi State, was attended by three of the four participating UN agencies (ILO, UNICEF, and WFP), provided the opportunity to strengthen the capacity of critical actors on social protection policy design for sustainable and innovative programmes that will reduce vulnerability and shocks among the citizens.

Declaring the three-day meeting open, Sokoto state Commissioner of Budget and Economic Planning, Muhammad Mainasara, expressed the state government commitments towards approval and implementation of the Policy as soon as it finalizes by stakeholders. According to him, the identification of Sokoto state as the model state on the Joint UN SDGs social protection programme provides a greater opportunity for the State to reflect and improve its indices, pointing out that his ministry is committed to mobilizing domestic funds that will complement UN agencies intervention towards improving the wellbeing of its citizens.

The Commissioner who was represented by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Usman Arzika Bodinga, disclosed that the Sokoto State Government had allocated the sum of N25

million in its approved 2021 budget for social protection activities, adding that a memo was raised for the release of funds to complement development partners intervention on social protection-related activities in the State. While appreciating UNICEF and other UN agencies for their support to the State, the Commissioner reiterated the state government's continuous readiness of providing enabling environment for effective and efficient programmes implementation in the State.

In his goodwill message, Chairman, Sokoto State House of Assembly Committee, on Social Welfare and Poverty Alleviation, Sokoto State House of Assembly Honorable Kabiru Dauda, commended the Joint SDG fund for the support and stated that the development of the Policy would help ensure social inclusion, which is crucial towards attaining global peace. Honorable Dauda assured all stakeholders of the commitment of the Sokoto State House of Assembly in contributing their quota towards the approval of the Policy.

Dr. Faizat Badmus-Busari, the UNICEF Social Protection Specialist and the UN Joint SDG Programme Manager, commended the state government for demonstrating strong commitment and serving as a model state on Social Protection Policy. She thanked the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning for organizing the meeting that will impart the social protection space in the State and create awareness and commitment of all stakeholders, which is necessary to ensure proper implementation of social protection policy.



## Celebrating The Launch Of The Joint SDG State Innovation-Accelerator Hub



*A cross-section of dignitaries at one of the consultative meetings on innovative financing*

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in collaboration with the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on SDGs (OSSAP-SDGs), have successfully conducted the zonal consultations in six geo-political regions in Nigeria. The consultations were set to identify innovative financing, quick wins, challenges in implementing the SDGs and social protection initiatives and also to present the draft National Social Protection Policy to the state for contribution. Subsequently, six states were identified (Sokoto, Gombe, Enugu, Delta, Lagos, and Nasarawa State) based on specific criteria including their level of performance, location, as well political commitment for the SDGs accelerator/innovation hub establishment.

The innovation hubs will serve as both a learning and convergence center for the states to explore, experiment, and share ideas on issues that relate to each geopolitical zone.

To date, visits to two Northern regions of Nigeria were held to kick start the establishment of the hub process, Sokoto in the North-West and Gombe in the North-East. The visit consisted of a two-day mission with the first day involving meetings with the key SDG stakeholders while the second day involved meeting with the SDG team. The first day brought together key private stakeholders, CSOs and government actors to discuss their roles in establishing the hub and how best to support SDG implementation with a focus on not only social protection but for the SDGs at large. The state private sector group have showed willingness and strong commitment to support the establishment of the innovation hubs as well as SDG implementation. The state government also showed commitment to support the establishment of the hub in their state. Additionally, the CSO promised to support in advocacy and data gathering for the hub.

The key discussions with the state SDGs team centered around ensuring sustainability of the SDG hub, highlighting the urgent need for capacity building for data gathering as well as the importance of data hosting and maintenance of the hub for continuity. A mini training was held on how to coordinate with other states within the zone, rebrand their office to be SDG compliant and how to source funding innovatively to maintain the hub.

The hubs are expected to take off before or by end of January 2022. The hub is to be managed and maintained by the host state government and also accelerate SDG implementation within the zone.





## UN Supports Technical Session On Drafting Of Social Protection Bill



A group photograph of some of the participants

Through funding received from the One UN SDG Fund, United Nations agencies are implementing a joint programme - "Institutionalizing Social Protection for Accelerated SDG Implementation in Nigeria", to strengthen social protection in Nigeria. The participating agencies are ILO, UNDP, UNICEF, and WFP. The programme aims to strengthen the right-based approach to social protection by supporting the institutionalization and legislation of Nigeria's social protection system.

The programme aims to generate impact by combining the policy and legal framework, building capacities and implementing tangible interventions focusing on innovative financing mechanisms for greater access to social protection, health, and nutrition for vulnerable groups with Sokoto State as the pilot State.

In May 2021, ILO facilitated the training of the legal drafters on drafting the National Social Protection Bill. Subsequently, in August 2021, the Ministry of Finance, Budget, and National Planning (MFBNP) has commenced a technical session to draft the bill through the support of ILO.

During the opening of the technical session, the Director of the legal drafting department of the Ministry of Justice, Mrs. Ifunanya Nwajagu, commended MFBNP, ILO, and UNICEF to draft the bill. She praised the involvement of the professional legal drafters from the outset instead of the common approach of involving them after the draft is concluded, thus helping speed up the drafting process. The social protection bill will guarantee rights for all residents.

The outcome of the technical session will result in a framework of the law and an initial first draft of the bill. The finalized bill will strengthen the government's commitment to realizing a

human rights approach to social protection by linking key stakeholders of the social protection sector and improving coordination of the three pillars of social protection- social assistance, social insurance, and labour market intervention. In addition, the legal standards in the bill will guarantee access to a minimum social protection floor to all residents in Nigeria, including the poor and vulnerable who continue to suffer discrimination.

The path towards the creation and adoption of the social protection bill will rely on the growing commitment by the Government of Nigeria, as shown by the adoption and current review of the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP) and the human capital investment in the Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (EGRP). However, it also acknowledges the law establishing different stakeholders and does not intend to infringe on the mandate of the various institutions.

During the technical session, the legal drafters began deliberation on the relevant sections of the bill, the parts of the Bill, the powers of the council, the composition of the council, and the establishment of relevant committees, such as monitoring and evaluation, management information system, training research, and development.

Speaking on the importance of the bill, Dr. Sanjo Faniran, representing the Permanent Secretary of MFBNP, said, "The Ministry of Finance, Budget, and National Planning has the coordination mandate and does not implement social protection programmes. As a result, the bill is focused on establishing a council to coordinate social protection in Nigeria and does not infringe on the mandate of other government institutions".

He also expressed the ministry's gratitude to the legal drafters and the head of the legal and harmonization committee of the technical working group on social protection, "I am proud of this initiative, and we are grateful to ILO and UNICEF for supporting the process".

## Fuel Efficient Stoves Keep Women And Girls Out Of Danger In Borno



One of our frontline beneficiaries demonstrating how she uses the energy efficient stoves to cook for her household.

The continued armed insurgency in Borno State, northeast Nigeria poses a great risk to women and girls when going to fetch firewood for domestic use. They risk abductions and sexual violence as they travel long distances through the forest for the purpose.

Besides, the action also means cutting down trees in the areas that are already severely affected by climate change. The use of firewood with the traditional three stones stoves also poses health risks due to the inhaling of smoke by the women and girls while cooking. These stoves consume so much firewood too. This means frequent visits to the bush and getting exposed to more risks for the girls and women.

### Relief to women and girls

In order to address these challenges and also the need to improve livelihoods through income generation, The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with financial support from the Governments of Sweden, Norway and the European Union Trust Fund for Africa (EU-TF), is implementing a Safe Access to Firewood and Alternative Energy (SAFE) project in Borno State aimed at saving women and girls from the ordeal by introducing fuel efficient stoves (FES).

These stoves, apart from addressing the above challenges, also improve livelihoods through income generation, among many other benefits. FAO distributed the FES to 13 300 vulnerable households in Borno State in 2020.

### Impact Assessment

Recently, an evaluation was conducted to monitor the distribution process in line with the principle of Accountability to the Affected Population (AAP) and to evaluate the impact of the FES technology in reducing exposure of vulnerable households to protection and health related risks.

The data was collected from a random sample of more than 300 beneficiary households across Mafa, Bama, Dikwa and Ngala Local Government Areas (LGAs) in Borno. At the end, trip-time used for collecting firewood has reduced to more than 50 percent, while weekly firewood collection frequency has also reduced from four (4) times to one and half (more than 50 percent).

Other key results achieved by the project includes great reduction in household average weekly expenditure and household firewood consumption, from N946. To N460 and from six (6) pieces of firewood to two and half (about 58 percent) respectively.

Besides boosting the income of women working at the stove manufacturing centers, this project has saved women from being exposed to sexual violence, abduction and even death, it has mitigated climate change impacts with reduced cutting down of trees and helped in improving the health of women and girls before now exposed to smoke and soot.

### Testimonies:

"The forest is not only far but also unsafe. In fact, we have stopped going there due to fear of being kidnapped," says Sadia Muhammadu - a Maiduguri-based food vendor. She says the fuel-efficient stove would not just support her business but also save her from the risks of foraging into the forest to search for firewood. The insurgency has targeted farmers and people who supply firewood. Sadia said the prices of firewood had gone up and were unaffordable for small-scale business owners like her.

"I can now send my children to school. I have built a house of my own and can eat, drink and also engage in another petty trading," discloses Falmata Bulama, a worker at an FES production centre in Gongulong, Jere Local Government Area. She says that for over three years, the centre does not only serve as a form of employment for her but also improved her income and be able to meet her family needs.

## UN Organises 10th Year Memorial For Victims of UN House Bombing

It is 10 years since the United Nations system in Nigeria lost 13 staff members and 10 others in a suicide car bomb blast at the UN building in Abuja. Therefore, a memorial event was organised on Thursday, 26 August, by the UN in Nigeria.



UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Edward Kallon, lays a wreath at the UN House

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Edward Kallon emphasised that "we would refuse to be cowed by violence; remain defiant against terror and recommit ourselves to supporting the Nigerian people to fulfill their dreams of a future of prosperity, peace and security.

The essence of the Memorial, according to him, was to remember and to reflect on the service and sacrifice of those who



A cross-section of some UN staff members and representatives of victims' families at the memorial

died while trying to save others' lives - 'our fallen colleagues and partners'.

Mr Kallon thanked the attendees for joining the UN system "as we remember and honor the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to humanity." The event attracted senior government officials, families of the victims and some survivors.

## Nigeria Records Gain In Fight Against Tuberculosis Amidst Coronavirus Pandemic



A patient using TB drug

Response to the coronavirus pandemic notwithstanding, data indicate that there has been an increase in annual tuberculosis (TB) case notification. This outcome is the result of strategic intervention by the National Tuberculosis, Buruli Ulcer and Leprosy Control Programme (NTBLCP), in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) working on TB control and elimination in Nigeria.

Findings show that, in 2020 a total of 138,591 cases were notified; 15% higher compared to 106,533 and 120,266 cases notified in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Also, comparing first quarters of 2019, 2020, 2021 case notification are 28,823, 33,132 and 43,838 (32% increase in Q1 2021 compared to Q1 2020) respectively.

Commending the collaborating organizations for their efforts, the National Coordinator, NTBLCP, Dr Chukwuemeka Anyike, said, "We are very impressed with the 2020 programme performance despite the COVID-19 pandemic".

He stressed that active TB case finding is vital in reducing the burden of the disease in the country because Nigeria has over 440,000 incident TB cases, and over 300,000 are estimated to be missed annually.

"This implies that with additional resources channeled towards TB case finding, scale-up of innovative strategies and a focused and targeted approach the country can actualize its goal of finding all missing TB cases and possibly ending TB in Nigeria" he continued.

In other climes, when the pandemic triggered lockdowns in March 2020, diagnosis and enrollment for TB treatment fell in many high TB burden countries. In Nigeria, the key component of the intervention began in the second quarter of the 2020 with WHO and partners integrating TB case finding into the COVID-19 structure in all outreach in 12 states (e.g., Anambra, Bauchi, Benue, Cross River, Delta, Imo, Kaduna, Kano, Lagos, Niger, Osun, and Rivers States).

The response included training TB case officers' /community informants on advocacy, house-to-house case search, contact tracing, and social mobilization for Tuberculosis and COVID 19. Effort to locate TB and Covid-19 cases included screening programme, laboratory services engagement with key community stakehold-

ers in the 12 states, and services in the health facilities were intensified in collaboration with USAID-KNCV, using Genexpert and the 'WOW' Trucks.

In the cause of the search, 48 years old Mrs Oguejiofor C, living in Ogbaru Local Government Area of Anambra State, was diagnosed of TB after a house to house visit by the TB case officers to her locality. She had been coughing severally for some months, experiencing weight loss, sweating at night and having constant fever.

"I am glad I heeded the advice of a health officer who came to sensitize people in my area about Covid-19 and TB during the Covid-19 lockdown. I approached her with my symptoms, and she said it could be TB and advised I visit the hospital where sputum and X-ray tests were conducted. I started treatment immediately, and I am already feeling better," she said.

Unlike Mrs Oguejiofor, 25 years old Chimeze Kenneth Obi did not present any symptoms when diagnosed in May 2020. His case was notified by the TB/Covid-19 case officers on house to house search in Ogbaru LGA, Anambra state.

"I provided sputum sample for testing, and I was later informed of my TB status. I started treatment immediately. The treatment lasted for six months, and all the treatments were free. I am happy I was detected before it became a serious health problem", he said while appreciating the government and WHO for the search initiative.

With early lesson from the recovery effort, all 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) have included TB in the covid-19 response to ensure that new cases detected are placed on treatment.

Speaking on the intervention, WHO National Professional Officer, Dr Moses Onoh said, "Tuberculosis is curable and preventable, yet millions of people are infected annually, with many unable to access diagnosis and life-saving treatment".

WHO will continue to support governments at all levels to ensure that the Covid-19 management programme takes the advantage of the extensive structures and human resource capacity available in the TB control programme to increase detection, diagnosis and management of cases at the community level.



# Nigeria Commemorates Humanitarians, Alerts Citizens On The Effects of Climate Change

The 19th of August marks World Humanitarian Day (WHD), a day that honors humanitarian aid workers all over the world. This year's WHD theme is climate change and the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) is taking this opportunity to remind everyone in Nigeria that we are no longer talking about the possibility of a climate emergency, we are now living through it.

Last year, like every year, humanitarian organizations and workers helped people affected by extreme weather-related events. In West and Central Africa, climate change effects are felt in rising temperatures, droughts and floods that are affecting people's livelihood, shelter and physical and mental well-being.

"The climate emergency is a race that we cannot afford to lose," said Edward Kallon, Humanitarian Coordinator for Nigeria.

"Extreme stress, property loss and food/water scarcity contribute to community conflict over resources, leading to increased incidences of community tensions and farmer-herder violence in north-east Nigeria," he continues.

Nigeria has experienced the highest number of fatalities from conflicts between farmers and herders concentrated in the northwestern, Middle Belt, and more recently in southern states.

## Effects of climate change in north-east and raising awareness

The impact of climate change has significantly increased in West and Central Africa over the past 10 years with geographic concentrations in north-east Nigeria. Here, people struggle to access to food and suffer from climatic shocks that are negatively affecting food crops, driving up food prices. The economic decline has drastically reduced the buying power of communities to secure even the basics.

Climate effects also strongly impact humanitarian access. Extreme weather resulting from climate conditions can delay the delivery of life saving assistance and place humanitarian workers at great risk. As climate patterns become more volatile, heavy rains result in frequent flash floods, making it more difficult to mount a timely response. The security situation in the north-east is still precarious with ongoing attacks on humanitarian assets, infrastructure and personnel.

Climate hazards especially affect women and girls, who often bear a disproportionate burden to provide for their families by going without food and other means of sustenance. As droughts make water even more scarce, women and girls are forced to walk longer distances to obtain potable water, increasing their exposure to sexual harassment and assault as they travel to bring back these essentials.

"Time is already running out for millions of vulnerable people in the north-east, we need to act now," said Mr. Kallon. "Men, women and children who have contributed least to this climate emergency are, sadly, the most affected."

There will be several environmental/climate change events happening simultaneously during WHD, as Borno, Adamawa and Yobe states will engage in tree planting, trash pick-up in communities and open discussions on local radio on what actions people can take to fight the effects of climate change. The UN and partners have also enlisted the support of national climate change and environmental influencers to spread the message on social media through interactive sessions.

Meaningful climate action is needed as climate change will continue to detrimentally affect access to clean water, food, and other resources, resulting in adverse effects to the safety and well-being of communities in the north-east BAY states. As we head rapidly towards the end of the year, funding levels do no



match the increasing needs—the Humanitarian Response Plan remains only 33% funded—while the total ask is over USD1 billion.

## Fragile contexts, most affected

Climate is changing everywhere, but people living in fragile context are affected all the more. Climate change and conflict are a toxic combination, causing mass displacement, disrupting food production and food supply deliveries, increasing risks to diseases and worsening already chronic malnutrition.

The climate crisis is a humanitarian crisis, and the humanitarian system has an important role in the fight against the climate emergency. It must advocate for affected vulnerable people and offer solutions to help anticipate specific climatic shocks, such as storms, floods or droughts, and to mitigate their humanitarian impact. The crisis requires both global and local action.

To address the increasing risks of living in a warmer world, we must become "climate smart." This could include taking anticipatory action ahead of a crisis, based on early warnings. The Risk-informed Early Action Partnership (REAP), launched at the UN Climate Action Summit in 2019, aims to make 1 billion people safer from disaster by 2025. The partnership between climate, humanitarian and development communities will drive a systemic shift towards acting earlier to reduce the impacts of disasters, mobilize commitments and inspire action.

"We cannot afford to accept climate disasters as inevitable. We are in the most important race of our lives. And, together, we can make meaningful changes to mitigate the effects of climate change," said Mr. Kallon.

## National Council Of Women Honors UN Women Country Representative



UN Women Nigeria Country Representative, Ms. Comfort Lamptey (left) receiving the award from Honorable Minister Pauline Dame Tallen at the 21st National Council for Women Affairs in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

Council Meeting on Women Affairs under the theme, “Gender Equality: A Panacea for Enduring Security and Sustainable Economic Recovery in the Post COVID -19 Era” in Uyo Akwa Ibom state.

The National Council on Women Affairs Meeting, an annual event rotated amongst states of the federation and a platform spear-headed by the Ministry of Women Affairs this year assembled all stakeholders to discuss issues affecting the development and welfare of women, girl child, and the disadvantaged.

In attendance, minister, state governors, international partners and civil society organizations deliberated on adopting the policy of inclusiveness for women at all levels.

Presenting the award, Honorable Tallen commended Ms. Lamptey for her commitment and support for activities of the Federal Ministry of women affairs in relation to women, children, and vulnerable groups, especially the girl child.

UN Women Nigeria’s Country Representative, Ms. Comfort Lamptey, on August 26, 2021, received an excellence award from the National Council on Women Affairs for championing the issues of women, children and persons with disabilities.

The award was conferred on Ms. Lamptey by the Honorable Minister of Women Affairs, Dame Pauline Tallen at the 21st National

In her response, Ms. Comfort Lamptey expressed her appreciation to the ministry and all stakeholders for their collaboration with UN Women leading to the mention of a gender-responsive budgeting for the first time in the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning 2022 Budget Call Circular. She further dedicated the award to all Nigerian women describing them as resilient.

## SRSO Ogunbiyi Engages Youths on Energy and Climate



Ms Damilola Ogunbiyi ‘s engagement with young change makers and activists is to hear youth expectations for the major energy and climate events in 2021-HLDE/COP26; bridge the gap between energy and climate discussions and allow youth to be active stakeholders that shape national policy and global action plans to achieve Agenda 2030 and reach NetZero by 2050.

The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All (SRSO), Ms Damilola Ogunbiyi, held a Youth Roundtable discussion on Energy and Climate. The discussion which was with selected young people, was held at the UN Information Centre (UNIC) Lagos. Over one hundred other youths joining online on ‘Accelerating a youth-led energy transition in Nigeria’



Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All (SRSO), Ms Damilola Ogunbiyi (Left), and Mr Olumide Idowu, a Climate Change activist

## For the First Time, Nigeria Budget Call Circular Features Gender-Responsive Budgeting

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) Budget Call Circular, 2022 directs all Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to adopt a gender responsive budgeting (GRB) approach in preparing their respective spending plans for the 2022 fiscal year. This is a historical shift within Nigeria's macroeconomic policy space as it formally acknowledges the term 'gender responsive budgeting' for the first time in the government budgetary process.

While several international and national stakeholders, have been advocating for a gender responsive budgetary approach for many years, the GRB Directive in the 2022 Budget Call Circular occurred due to an ongoing partnership between the Federal Ministry of Finance, Budget and National Planning and UN Women. The Honourable Minister for Finance, Budget, and National Planning, Hajia Zainab Shamsuna Ahmed and the Director General of the Budget Office, Mr. Ben Akabueze, were pivotal to the inclusion of this significant paradigm shift in the language of the Call Circular.

A Budget Call Circular is a policy directive from the Federal Budget Office issued at the start of a fiscal year to signal start of the budget preparation process. It provides guidance for Ministries, Departments and Agencies on what needs to be included in the Budgets, the national macroeconomic policy frameworks they need to refer to in developing their budgets, as well as the kind of things the Budget office and the Ministry of Finance will look out for to approve sector budgets, and to track budget performance.

In specific terms, the 2022 Call Circular requires MDAs to do 2 things: Use gender disaggregated data to show beneficiary distribution and to adopt intervention strategies that specifically target women as well as other vulnerable populations. This is a deliberate attempt to address some of the peculiar challenges which they have encountered due to the Covid-19 pandemic and facilitate an inclusive post-COVID national economic recovery.

The pandemic affected women and girls disproportionately. It led to an increase in the caregiving burden on women and girls; the distortion of livelihood options within the informal economy, where women predominate; food shortages; deteriorating condi-

tions for people already in need of humanitarian assistance and protection, particularly those living in poor conditions in displacement sites; school closure with consequences on girls' health and wellbeing, and a heightened risk of gender-based violence. Most women-owned businesses were affected because they are located within the informal sector which has a high dependence on daily physical interactions and sales. Informal agricultural labourers, most of whom are women were hard hit by income and employment losses from harvesting and processing, as Nigeria's food systems, including agricultural production, sales, distribution, consumption were disrupted.

The GRB directive in The Call Circular provides a basis for targeted remedial actions to address the above issues and their consequences.

### What does the 2022 Federal Budget Call Circular mean for gender equality?

Equal opportunity in budgeting has been elevated beyond rhetoric and now a matter of policy action.

Reinforces policy demand for data-driven design and implementation of government programmes

Budget performance assessments will begin to include gender-specific indicators

There is a stronger basis for non-governmental agencies to demand accountability for GRB programming across MDAs

There is a policy basis for gender-specific requirements as part of for Legislative oversight.

The Federal Call Circular presents a template for any/all the 36 states to also integrate gender responsive budget directives in their respective state budget call circulars.

## Be The Change, Walk The Talk On SDGs - UN

In the quest to mobilise individual actions towards the attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria, the National Information Officer of the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Nigeria, Oluseyi Soremekun has called on everyone to 'Be the change and walk the talk on SDGs'.

He said this while addressing Subject Teachers of Lagos Education District 1, at Government College Agege, on Tuesday, 24 August at the Subject Teachers Association Day event.

Soremekun informed that the United Nations has launched the "Be the Change Initiative" which provides an opportunity for everyone to better "walk the talk" when it comes to the SDGs.

According to him, this Initiative guides and encourages us to live more sustainable at work and at home by changing our consumption patterns, using active transport such as cycling, and buying local foods. "Everyone is welcome to participate. Every little step helps – inform your family, your friends and your community about simple actions they can take in their daily lives. Individual actions are important. Personal adoption of the SDGs moves us closer to achieving them." He emphasised, and drew participants' attention to two resources on the un.org: "Lazy Person's Guide to Saving the World" to get inspired to live sustainable every day and the 170 Actions to Transform the World.

Earlier, Tutor General/ Permanent Secretary of the District, Barrister (Mrs) Margaret Titilayo Solarin, had commended UNIC



National Information Officer of the UN Information Centre (UNIC) in Nigeria, Dr. Oluseyi Soremekun addresses the audience while Tutor General/ Permanent Secretary of the District, Barrister (Mrs) Margaret Titilayo Solarin, looks on.

for being part of the programme and urged the teachers and School Principals present to pay attention to details of discussions at the programme.

The Knowledge Management Assistant at UNIC, Bolanle Olumekor, spoke further on the SDGs framework and why it matters to everyone.

## Teachers Deploy New Skills To Enhance Learning In North-West Nigeria

**M**alama Maimuna Abubakar prides herself on being a loving mother. But the 32-year-old has another passion: teaching young children. Lacking qualifications, she pursued her passion by volunteering as a teacher for six years. Happily, she now has both training and employment, and is teaching in a school in north-west Nigeria.

Just finishing a literacy lesson with Primary 2 pupils at the Magaji Bello Shagari Model Primary School in Shagari village, she expressed the fulfillment she gets from her new job.

“Teaching literacy - which involves helping children learn how to read and pronounce words - gives me enormous satisfaction,” she said.

While Maimuna has always been excited at the progress she’s made with her brood of learners, that excitement has increased in the last three years because of the knowledge she has acquired after undergoing training to improve her teaching skills.

Through the Educate A Child (EAC) project, a global education partnership programme of the Education Above All (EAA) Foundation and UNICEF, Maimuna and four other teachers in her school have been trained and are now delivering lessons with improved knowledge and skills. In Sokoto State, the EAC project has been implemented in schools in Shagari and Kware local government areas.

The training covers several strategies that teachers can put to use in their lessons, including the use of teaching aids.

“I now use flash cards and my pupils follow more easily,” said Maimuna.

Farouk Muhammad, who teaches numeracy to Primary 4 pupils at the school, said his students have benefited from the use of sticks to help in counting.

“In my class, since we started using the sticks, the pupils have been able to solve some numeracy problems more easily,” he said.

The benefits of the sticks become apparent as Farouk calls on Rahima Muhammad to solve a sum, and hands the 10-year-old a bunch of sticks - which she counts quickly to find the answer.

“We are now adopting more pupil-centred and activity-based methodologies in class, rather than the teacher-centred methodologies we were using,” said Headteacher Mohammed Abubakar, 45, who also took the training. “With activity-based methodology, every pupil is involved in learning. Both the introverts and the extroverts are carried along, and there are no passive learners.”

With the training, supported by partners EAA and UNICEF, enhancing the capacity of teachers to deliver their lessons more



Malama Maimuna Abubakar

effectively, the hope is that countries like Nigeria that are trying to achieve quality learning outcomes for grade-school learners can get closer to attaining their vision.

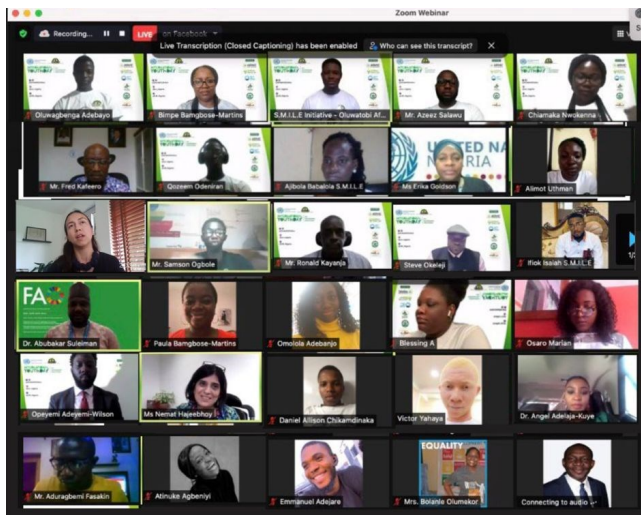
Abaza Hassan, 38, a teacher at the Ruggar Liman Primary School, where the EAC project has also been implemented, is also grateful to EAC for the training. She says she has developed a keener interest in literacy since getting trained.

“I like teaching because with the method we are using, the pupils understand the lessons faster,” she said, pointing to Usama Aminu, 12, as an example of a student who has benefited.

For other teachers at the school, such as Blessing Achi, 32, the training has helped her deliver her lessons to her students.

“One key thing I have learned is the child-centred approach in the delivery of my lessons,” she said. “I have learnt to organize children in groups for more interactive learning, and they are livelier and happier learners.”

## UN, S.M.I.L.E Mark Int’l Youth Day, Call On Youth To Be Active In Agriculture



**T**he UN Nigeria Inter Agency Group on Youth, in collaboration with Strategy for Mentoring Initiative and Leadership Empowerment (S.M.I.L.E) has commemorated the International Youth Day under the theme ‘Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health’; to raise awareness on the food systems, nutritional health as well as amplifying the roles young people play in ensuring food security despite the challenges facing the food systems such as climate change, poverty, political instability and the most recent factor COVID-19 pandemic.

In his keynote address, Mr Fred Kafeero, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Representative in Nigeria and to ECOWAS, explained the concept of the food systems, and identified challenges facing the Nigerian Food Systems such as climate change, malnutrition, the political landscape, and COVID-19 pandemic, among others. He urged young people to get acquainted with the scope of agriculture, and identify which part of the food systems they could engage in.

## Stories Of Hope: Responding To The Drug Use Epidemic In Nigeria

**A**pata is a community in the outskirts of Ibadan town, Oyo State, where cannabis is primarily sold by criminal hideouts. Law enforcement officers in this community consider drug users as criminals. "People who use drugs are criminals and have to be dealt with according to the law. The Law permits us to arrest anybody with illicit drugs and charge them to court" said Olusegun Ibitoye, Assistant Superintendent of Police / Administrative Officer of Apata Police Area Command, Ibadan, Oyo State.

The police in this area command usually arrest drug users and prosecute them regardless of the quantity of cannabis found on them. Many drug users resist arrest thereby leading to violence and insecurity.

Public hostility and discrimination towards drug users are commonly reflected by the police actions. As with many of his colleagues, Ibitoye stigmatized drug users. "My thought towards the illegal drug users was they were criminals, dangerous... not fit to hold leadership position in decent society. I used to avoid them when there is no criminal evidence against them. If [they] exhibit illicit psychoactive drug, without hesitation, they will be aggressively arrested and prosecuted" said Ibitoye.

This perception of drug users by Ibitoye and his colleagues however changed courtesy of a programme organized by Goodworker Ministries International who received support from UNODC, with funding from the European Union. The support re-

ceived was to deliver Drug Prevention Treatment and Care Sensitisation training targeting audience within Oyo State. One of such training was for law enforcement officers. This was a 3-day training covering different modules on drug dependence, prevention, treatment and care.

As a law enforcement officer, Olusegun Ibitoye was selected to participate in this training. He reported that the training had such a transformative effect on him, that he now views people who use drugs differently. According to him: "When I see them [drug users], I have compassion and help them physically, psychologically and emotionally. I want to play a vital role to enable them have a better future in the society".

This training created a lasting impact on him. As a member of the Community Development Association, he decided to cascade this training to officers in 7 other divisions in Ibadan, Agodi Area Command and Apata Area Command.

With an enlightened approach Ibitoye now advocates for a humane response towards drug users. "I found out that drug dependency is a health issue and we have to provide help to them. If perceived dependent on drug use, they should be referred to the appropriate agency for treatment. There is need to extend human rights action as well as medical and psychological support to drug users. Drug dependency is not a moral issue but a health issue,"

## UN Marks Int'l Day Of Remembrance Of And Tribute To Victims Of Terrorism

**I**n 2017, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed August 21st as the International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism in support of the rights and fundamental freedoms of victims and survivors of terrorism, and to reaffirm that the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law in all areas of society is essential to preventing and combating terrorism.

Victims of terrorism and their families need focused and dedicated mechanisms to ensure that their rights as individuals are upheld and protected. As one of the critical United Nations bodies dedicated to countering terrorism, UNODC seeks to uphold the rights and interests of victims and survivors by working with Member States to strengthen the implementation of national legislation and policies that support and protect victims of terrorism. As an extension of this work, UNODC has published several assistance tools to enhance the capacity of governments and other stakeholders to build institutional capacity to support victims of terrorism and to enhance their role in the criminal justice process.

In partnership with the Government of Nigeria, UNODC has been working to strengthen the criminal justice response to terrorism and promote greater accountability for the perpetration of acts of terrorism, including through the integration of a gender perspective in our work. Emphasizing the role of gender in the criminal justice response to terrorism is essential to supporting victims of terrorism, particularly in recognition of the fact that terrorist groups, such as ISWAP, Boko Haram and Ba Kura, systematically target women and girls through acts of sexual and gender-based violence – such as rape, sexual slavery and forced marriage – as a means of achieving tactical, strategic, and ideological aims.

On August 20, 2021, UNODC hosted a virtual event to commemorate the 4th International Day of Remembrance of and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism, with a focus on exploring the psychological and psycho-social needs of victims of terrorism, and to promote sustainable and accessible care for victims of terrorism. This virtual event featured a diverse panel, including representatives from the Lebanese Association for Victims



of Terrorism, the Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, the Grief Directory, the Medical Women's International Association and victims and survivors of ISIS.

Highlighting the importance of the day for Nigeria and illustrating the necessity of providing support to victims and survivors of terrorism, Dr. Eleanor Nwadinobi, President of the Medical Women's International Association, told participants: "Today is a day to remember, but is also a day to meet the very practical needs of countless of survivors, including those of the Boko Haram conflict, where we have widows, child widows, wives who have disappeared, and children called bad blood on account of being products of forced abductions and sexual violence by Boko Haram".

For the UNODC Country Office in Nigeria this International Day of Remembrance is especially important as we marked the tenth anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the UN House in Abuja on 26 August 2011. We especially honor the sacrifice of our dear UNODC colleague, Ingrid Midtgaard, who was among the 23 people killed in the attack. We also honor our UNODC colleagues who were injured on that terrible day, yet would not be deterred from their mission to serve the peoples of the world, and remain an inspiration to all of us at UNODC.

Since 2019, UNODC has been providing technical expertise and advising the development of the draft Terrorism Prevention and Prohibition Bill.

## FG, UN Launch Project To Provide Immediate Relief to Vulnerable Migrants

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs, Social Development and Disaster Management (FMHDSD), launched a new project in Abuja, Nigeria, to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic amongst vulnerable returned migrants through the provision of immediate relief allowance and basic items.

Implemented within the framework of IOM's 2020 COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) over a period of 9 months, the project primarily focuses on the 3rd strategic priority of the SPRP, which aims at ensuring access to basic services and commodities, including health care, protection and social services to populations affected by the pandemic. The project was designed to complement actions funded under the UN in Nigeria COVID19 Basket Fund by focusing on returned migrants residing in the country's northern parts.

In launching the project, the Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management & Social Development, Sadiya Umar Farouq, said, "this project showcases the Federal Government's commitment to tackling emerging issues and challenges that may confront the protection of livelihoods of returnees and protection of migrants in our country. The vulnerable groups, most affected, include the elderly, chronically ill, people living with disabilities, women and children, unemployed youth, refugees and migrants who have lost access to livelihood opportunities. The project aims to target at least 450 people.

As part of its commitment to the Federal Government, the Government of Switzerland pledged to continue supporting the Federal government respond to the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic.

"We are very pleased to be supporting the project that we are launching today. The activities are crucial to ease the hardships faced by vulnerable migrants in the North of Nigeria", said George Steiner, the Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland, whom Ms Ojoma Ali Program Officer – Migration represented.

Activities to be implemented include providing immediate support to vulnerable returnees, including victims of trafficking, Gender-based violence and those needing Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, in the form of relief items (food hampers, hygiene kits, protection or self-care kits for migrants) and relief allowances (cash assistance) amongst others.

In his remarks, IOM Nigeria Chief of Mission Frantz Celestin stated that "IOM and the Ministry will use the defined eligibility criteria for the selection of beneficiaries that would benefit from this initiative. At the end of this project, the major objective is that returnees and their family members have improved resilience to the immediate impact of COVID-19 through financial and in-kind relief support".

The project "Providing Immediate Socio-Economic Relief to Vulnerable Migrants Impacted by COVID-19 in the Northern States of Nigeria" is funded by the Government of Switzerland.

## UN Refurbishes Shelter In Uyo; A/Ibom State To Provide Safe House For Victims Of Trafficking

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) handed over a refurbished National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking (NAPTIP) shelter in Uyo, Akwa – Ibom State, the shelter serves as a haven for male and female victims of trafficking.

This initiative is part of efforts to strengthen the National Referral Mechanism in Nigeria by providing resources to select shelters as there are limited shelter options for male victims of trafficking, (VoTs), who constitute approximately 31 percent of all VoTs identified by NAPTIP in 2017.

In 2019, IOM assessed 21 shelters, and of these, five were identified to receive material supplies and refurbishment works. Upon NAPTIP's request, IOM supported three shelters in three zonal commands: in Edo, Enugu and Akwa - Ibom and two privately owned shelters in Lagos and Oyo state. So far, all these shelters have received equipment and supplies to strengthen their capacity to provide services in line with the minimum shelter standards.

The COVID 19 pandemic has disproportionately affected the livelihoods of many Nigerians. Entire communities will be faced with reconstructing themselves socially and economically to cope with the effects of the pandemic. The disruption to livelihoods coupled with financial challenges due to limited socio-economic opportunities and loss of household income exacerbates risks for already vulnerable populations and increases communal tensions. For migrant workers or VoTs, loss of work and poverty increased their risk of exploitation and re-victimization. There was a 58% increase of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) reported during the lockdown, with very few options for safe housing or temporary accommodation for VoTs and survivors of GBV.

"This refurbishment work has been done to ensure that this shelter can provide safe accommodation to more victims of trafficking,". said Prestage Murima, IOM Nigeria Programme Development Coordinator.

In 2020 NAPTIP rescued 132 VoTs in Akwa-Ibom between the ages of 5-34, further showing the need to strengthen counter-trafficking and protection responses for victims of trafficking within the state. The repairs, painting, and plumbing works were finalized to ensure that identified victims of trafficking and GBV survivors could also utilize the accommodation spaces that were previously out of use.

The Director-General of NAPTIP, represented by Barrister Hassan Tahir, the Director Legal and prosecution, stated that the Uyo shelter had the highest occupancy of all their nine shelters in Nigeria, 700 VoTs have been accommodated in the shelter to date, with the timely and swift refurbishment, the shelter can accommodate more victims.

Since 2017, IOM Nigeria has provided support to 21,771 returnees, of which 2,302 are VoTs. This initiative was made possible under the "Strengthening Direct Assistance to VoTs in Nigeria Through a Victim-Centered Approach" funded by the UK Home Office.



# Forced Labour And Fair Recruitment In Nigeria: UN Strengthens Capacity Of Media And Civil Society Organizations

*In a bid to address knowledge and capacity gaps of stakeholders, including media and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the area of forced labour, the International Labour Organization (ILO) validated the global media toolkit on Forced Labour Reporting and Fair Recruitment contextualized for use in Nigeria from 23 – 24 August. The adapted toolkit is designed to support journalists to report more effectively, thus reducing abusive practices that impede on the human and labour rights of migrant workers.*



*A group photograph of national stakeholders at the review and validation meeting of ILO's media toolkit for reporting on forced labour and fair recruitment.*

In 2020, ILO launched a global media Toolkit on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment to contribute to quality reportage by journalists in the area of forced labour and recruitment. The Toolkit has an accompanying media-friendly glossary on migration and provides concrete tips for improving media story ideas to promote production of quality reporting on forced labour and fair recruitment issues.

In Nigeria, ILO commenced the adaptation of the toolkit in 2020 and facilitated a presentation of the draft document to integrate stakeholders' feedback during a virtual meeting organized in February 2021. This informed the meeting convened to review and validate the contextualized draft toolkit by national stakeholders in August. Participants at the two-day event included journalists, media and civil society organizations, members of the Technical Working Committee (TWC) on the implementation of the National Policy on Labour Migration and ILO tripartite constituents.

In a welcome remark delivered during the event on behalf of Ms. Vanessa Phala, the Director of ILO Abuja Country Office, the intent of ILO to work more collaboratively with relevant stakeholders in addressing discriminatory attitudes towards migrant workers, in addition to facilitating improved access to information and support services throughout the migration cycle was restated.

Ms. Phala informed participants that the engagement is facilitated within the framework of the FAIRWAY programme supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and encouraged stakeholders to tap into the resource in ensuring accurate, factual and non-sensationalized reporting of stories related to labour migration.

The representative of the Honourable Minister, Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMLE), Dr. Sunday Onazi in his remarks enjoined stakeholders in the National migratory space to support the Media in their effort to operationalize the toolkit.

Additional goodwill messages delivered on behalf of Dr. Timothy Olawale, Director General of the Nigeria Employers Consultative Association (NECA), and Ismail Bello, Acting General Sec-

retary of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) noted the involvement of ILO constituents in the process of adapting and validating the toolkit for use in Nigeria, further reinforcing respective institutional commitment towards addressing practices related to forced labour.

Upon conclusion of a clause by clause review and perusal of the toolkit by participants, a motion for validation was moved by Tersoo Zamber of the Federal Radio Cooperation of Nigeria (FRCN) and seconded by Joy Atovie of the Centre for Youth Integrated Development (CYID).

Going forward, ILO seeks to support the establishment of specialized networks of journalists' in the area of forced labour and fair recruitment reporting, including through delivery of trainings for media and civil society groups across the country.

The contextualized media toolkit and glossary adapted for use in Nigeria contains a number of select specific relatable stories, street lingo and slangs, representative of experiences encountered by migrant workers.

The introduction of Nigerian terminologies into the toolkit is deemed as a user-friendly approach in ensuring country specific context is retained and adequately captured during reporting stories in the area of forced labour and fair recruitment by the media.

Flowing from the closely knit working relationship between media and CSOs across a wide range of thematic areas, the adaptation process actively involved civil society groups that are members of the TWC on the implementation of the National Policy on Labour Migration.

Members of the TWC who participated at the event included the Nigerians in Diaspora Commission (NiDCOM), National Commission for Refugees Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCFRMI) and the National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)

It is believed that through the cordial engagement and existing relationships of these stakeholders, broader sectoral policy aspirations would be complemented and sustained, including in the area of implementation of the revised National Policy on Labour Migration (NPLM).

# PHOTO NEWS



## Captions, from left to right in a clockwise direction

1. Vice President H.E. Prof Yemi Osinbajo (Left) exchanges pleasantries with UNDP Resident Representative in Nigeria, Mr Mohamed Yahya, at the State House Abuja. 31 August.
2. Taraka LGA of Benue state has been certified open defecation-free. Dr. Ibrahim Conteh, Chief of UNICEF Field Office Enugu (Left) joins other partners including the Benue State Government, the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office; Federal Ministry of Water Resources; to present the open defecation-free certificate to representatives of the community. 31 August
3. FAO is transforming ranches in Kaduna and #Niger states by providing infrastructure such as fencing, solar-powered boreholes, cattle water drinking troughs and irrigation facilities to support the cultivation of animal feed such as napier grass and other legumes.

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