

# A REPORT

## ON THE ONE DAY SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGN ON CLEAN NIGERIA; USE THE TOILET CAMPAIGN

BY

THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES CAPACITY BUILDING NETWORK SE CENTRE  
(NWRCBNet-NAU)

IN COLLABOURATION WITH

ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA (EDIA), AWKA

AND

YOUTH WASH INITIATIVE AFRICA,

CLEAN NIGERIA; USE THE TOILET CAMPAIGN SECRETARIAT

ON THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2025

AT

CHARRIOT GUEST HOUSE MAIN GATE

NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY AWKA, ANAMBRA STATE

By

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Environment Development Initiative for Africa (edia) Awka.

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## BACKGROUND



**PIX 1: National Anthem during the One Day Sensitization on Clean Nigeria; Use the Toilet Campaign at Awka Anambra State held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025 By NWRCBNet -NAU in collaboration with EDIA, YouthWash and Clean Nigeria.**

It is estimated that over 48 million Nigerians practice Open Defecation (WASHNORM 2021). These practices translate into adverse health and economic implications on our urban and rural communities.

Consequently, Clean Nigeria Campaign was launched to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) Nigeria by 2030, with six Pillars of implementation Strategy. Pillars 2 and 5 talk about partnership coordination /collaboration and Advocacy /Communication respectively.

It is in view of the foregoing that the One Day Sensitization Campaign on Use the Toilet was carried out in collaboration with Environment Development Initiative for Africa (EDIA), Youth WASH, Clean Nigeria and the National Water Resources Capacity Building Network SE Centre Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka (NWRCBNet-NAU).

Therefore, this report summarizes the one day event, beginning from the opening of the ceremony with Chairman's remarks, Introduction of the High Table dignitaries, opening address, brief on all the papers presented.

There were goodwill messages from different organizations and individuals and concluded with key outcome of the workshop.

There are annexures bearing the Program of the event and comprehensive attendance list of participants with phone contacts.



## OPENING

The activity commenced with the arrival and registration of the participants, followed by the introduction of the dignitaries at the High table by the MC, Dr David Onuoha of the Environmental Science Management UNIZIK and the chairman of the occasion, Engr Ikeobi Ejiofor ,MD/CEO Anambra State Water Asset Company.



**PIX 2:Prof Emma Ezenwaji ,Director NWRCBNet-NAU welcomes the Arrival of Igwe Joel Egwuonwu of Umuawulu Awka –South while Mrs Uzoma Okpala, National Coordinator Clean Nigeria and Mr Victor Ezekwe,Permanent Secretary ,Anambra State Ministry of Water Resources and Power ,Look on.**

Roll call of some high table dignitaries were as follows;

- ✚ HRH Igwe Joel Egwuonwu of Umuawulu Town.
- ✚ Prof Ada Omeyi,SA Academic to Vice Chancellor ,Unizik
- ✚ Toochukwu Nwosu,Program Officer,Anambra State RUWASSA
- ✚ Hon. Chika Mba, Enugu State RUWASSA.
- ✚ Joe Egwu, Eonyi State RUWASSA.
- ✚ Victor Ezekwe, Permanent Secretary,Anambra State Ministry of Water Resources and Power, represented the Commissioner.
- ✚ Ogbu Christopher, representative community water resources Enugu.
- ✚ Uzo Kalu ,GM . Abia State RUWASSA
- ✚ Engr Frank Ekwempu, Director ICT,Environment Development Initiative for Africa (EDIA) Awka.

- ✚ Uzo Okpala, Coordinator Clean Nigeria Campaign
- ✚ Prof Emma Ezenwaji, Director National Water Resources Capacity Building Centre SE Network (NWRCBNet-NAU).
- ✚ Nature Obiakor, National Coordinator Youth WASH.
- ✚ Prof Okoye, Dean of Environmental Science Faculty Unizik.

The event effectively commenced about 2hours behind schedule due to emergency mechanical fault of the standby Genset after a power outage, with national,Anambra state and unizik Anthems to reflect the audience mix.

## REMARKS AND ADDRESS

In his opening remarks, the Chairman of the occasion, Engr. Ejiofor Ikeobi emphasized the important place of advocacy which is one of the six Pillars of the Campaign. He summarized that through the advocacy Pillar, that the campaign is capable of mobilizing multi-level stakeholders in the State, including the Law Makers ,towards achieving Open Defecation Free either by 2027 in line with the State aspiration or 2030 going by the projection of the National Plan of Action.

He thanked the Organizers of the event, noting that it was a key driver of behavioral change.

The opening address was read by Prof Emma Ezenwaji, who reiterated the urgent need for the state government to pay attention to issues of WASH as they carry out development and channelization of infrastructures in the communities. He informed the audience that that the Senate of Nnamdi Azikiwe University has approved BSc. Program on WASH and it is due for takeoff by 2025/26 academic year.

## GOODWILL MESSAGES

The following Organizations delivered goodwill messages at the event.

1. Anambra State Commissioner for Water Resources and Power represented by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry.
2. The National Water Resources Institute Kaduna, the capacity building arm of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources.
3. The Vice Chancellor UNIZIK, represented by Prof Ada Omeyi who also received WASH tag from the National Coordinator Clean Nigeria.
4. Traditional Ruler of Umuawulu Town in Awka South Local Government.

## KEY PAPER PRESENTATION BY UZO OKPALA, NATIONAL COORDINATOR CLEAN NIGERIA CAMPAIGN, ON AN OVERVIEW OF NIGERIA'S EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE BETTER SANITATION PRACTICES

The presentation situated the Nigeria Open Defecation challenge within global context and declared that it has one of the highest rates; 48 million people (WASHNORM 2021).This poses a serious health and economic impact on the citizens.

The Nigeria response birthed the Clean Nigeria Campaign (CNC) to achieve Open Defecation Free (ODF) by 2030.The implementation of CNC has six Pillars and five Objectives.



The six Pillars are;

- Enabling Environment
- Partnership Coordination and Collaboration
- Public finance
- Service Delivery Model and Arrangement
- Advocacy and Communication
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Accountability

The Objectives Are:

1. Implement a national campaign / transformational sanitation promotion agenda to End Open Defecation in Nigeria by 2025.
2. Mobilize support and resources (i) at the highest political level and (ii) within the private sector and from the development partners.
3. Create a pool of resource persons to support local actors to implement a nation-wide transformational sanitation promotion.
4. Mobilize various strata of the society to imbibe a new culture of safe sanitation through behavioural change communication and advocacy strategy.
5. Establish mechanisms for tracking progress, and sharing knowledge and lessons learnt.

The presentation further highlighted the success stories of the campaign in the past four years to include among others

Launch of Clean Nigeria web portal.

Collaboration with the National Orientation Agency (NOA) - 36 States + FCT  
Training of 774 Community Mobilization Officers, over 15 million reached with the Clean Nigeria Campaign message.

Engagement of 77,400 Youth Volunteers under the National Youth Volunteer Program on Hand washing for Covid 19 Prevention and Clean Nigeria Campaign, 104,490,000 persons were reached under the 3- Months Program.

The National Flag off of Youth WASH Program and unveiling of the Youth WASH Strategy.

Engagement with Faith Based Organization.

Momentum for CNC: Increased awareness and collective action through FMYD youth engagements, ODF events, GHWD, and WTD celebrations.

Resource Mobilization: Over N50M state government funds mobilized for the Campaign

Partnerships and Collaboration: Strengthened multi-sectorial efforts; Southwest ODF media dialogue and private sector consultations expand engagement.

Donor Coordination: Addressing gaps, avoiding duplication, and aligning advocacy priorities for optimal resource use.

On the other hand, insufficient grassroots mobilization, inadequate funding, less commitment by state government are some of the challenges faced.

Finally, the presentation concluded that for a high impact ODF and Hygiene for 2025, state and local government should drive the ODF leadership, there should be urgent and innovative financing and localized campaign for behavioral change.

## **SECOND PAPER PRESENTATION BY PROF EMMA EZENWAJI ON EXPLORING ENTREPRENEURIAL OPPORTUNITIES IN WASH SECTOR FOR YOUTH EMPOWERMENT**

The paper highlighted that WASH Sector holds a lot of opportunities for young people's empowerment, including youth followership programs which serve as enablers for vision innovation, advancing opportunities etc. His presentation however, pointed out some of the barriers to youth WASH involvement such as;

- ❖ Limited time for proposals
- ❖ Poor support for youth led organizations involved in WASH activities especially from government.
- ❖ Marginalization in decision-making and planning processes
- ❖ Poor access to education etc.

He concluded that WASH Sector possesses a great deal of entrepreneurial opportunities for youth empowerment, if diligently pursued and explored.

## **THIRD PRESENTATION BY NATURE OBIAKOR, COORDINATOR YOUTH WASH INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA ON THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN CLEAN NIGERIA CAMPAIGN**

His presentation dwelled on the need to approach and view the initiative from a business side in order to attract the relevant top level stakeholders needed, private sector inclusive. He informed that some youths have undergone some capacity strengthening and deployed in the course of the campaign which signifies enormous contributions young people could bring on the table towards achieving Open Defecation Free Society.

There were interactive sessions after the presentations were made which brought that segment of the occasion to an end.

## **AWARD PRESENTATION**

The following deserving individuals from organizations were presented with Award Plaques;

- Sir Arinze Obasi, Director Finance Environment Development initiative for Africa (edia) Awka.
- Sir Edet Solomon, Chairman Borehole Drillers Association of Nigeria Anambra Chapter.
- Prof Emma Ezenwaji, Director NWRCBNet-NAU.
- Hon Ejiofor Ikeob MD/CEO Anambra Water Asset Company.
- Hon Golden Iloh, House committee Member on Water.
- Nze Afam Gabriel Okpalauzuegbu BODAN
- Barr Law Mefor, Commissioner for Information Anambra State.

Mr chinedu Arize of NWRCBNet SE appreciated all the participants sponsors and partners and called for ongoing support for sanitation initiatives and clean Nigeria.

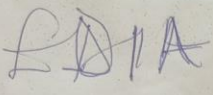




## KEY OUTCOME

Over 86 participants sensitized on critical issues and Pillars around Clean Nigeria; Use the Toilet campaign as panacea to achieving OPEN Defecation Free by 2030.





## ANNEXURES

**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES CAPACITY BUILDING NETWORK (NWRCBNet) S. E. CENTRE IN COLLABORATION WITH CLEAN NIGERIA: USE THE TOILET CAMPAIGN SECRETARIAT, YOUTH WASH INITIATIVE AFRICA, ENVIRONMENT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA (EDIA)**  
**Programme of Events for**  
**ONE-DAY SENSITIZATION CAMPAIGN ON CLEAN NIGERIA**  
**DATE:** Thursday, 3rd April 2025  
**VENUE:** Chariot Guest House, Main Gate, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka  
**CHAIRMAN:** Engr. Ikeobi Ejiofor MD/CEO Anambra State Water Asset Company, Awka

S/N	Programme	Time/Duration
1.	<b>Registration and Networking</b> ▪ Participants will register at the entrance. ▪ Networking opportunity	10:30 AM - 10:40 AM
2.	<b>Recognition of members of high Table</b> MC – Dr. David Onuoha (Dept. of Environmental Management, UNIZIK)	10:40 AM – 11:00AM
3.	▪ National Anthem ▪ Anambra Anthem ▪ UNIZIK Anthem ▪ Opening Prayer	11:00 AM - 11:10AM
4.	▪ Presentation and Breaking of Kola nuts ▪ Opening Remark by the Chairman	11:10AM – 11:25AM
5.	<b>Opening Address by the Director</b> ▪ Prof. Emma Ezenwaji <sub>FANG</sub> , Director, National Water Resources Capacity Building Network (NWRCBNet SE)	11:25AM – 10:40AM
6.	<b>Goodwill Messages</b> Messages from stakeholders and partners supporting the event, including: ▪ Ministry of Water Resources and Sanitation ▪ NWRI ▪ NGO Representatives ▪ Community Leaders	11:40 AM – 12:15 PM
7.	<b>Address by the Ag. Vice-Chancellor, Nnamdi Azikiwe University</b>	12:15 PM - 12:30 PM
8.	<b>Keynote Paper Presentation</b> ▪ Speaker: National Coordinator, Clean Nigeria Campaign	12:30 PM – 1:00 PM
9.	Interactive Session	1:00 PM - 1:15 PM
10.	<b>Paper Presentation: Exploring entrepreneurial opportunities in WASH Sector for youth empowerment</b> ▪ Speaker: Prof. Emma Ezenwaji <sub>FANG</sub>	1:15 PM - 1:45 PM
11.	Interactive Session	1:45 PM – 2:00 PM
12.	<b>Presentation: The Role of Young People in the Clean Nigeria Campaign</b> ▪ Speaker: Mr. Nature Uchenna Obikor, Coordinator, YouthWASH Initiative Africa.	2:00 PM – 2:30 PM
13.	Interactive Session	2:30 PM – 2:35 PM
14.	Presentation of Awards	2:35 PM – 2:45 PM
15.	Announcements	2:45 PM - 2:50 PM
16.	<b>Closing Remarks by The Chairman and Vote of Thanks</b> ▪ Mr. Chinedu Arinze, NWRCBNet SE Appreciation to all participants, sponsors, and partners. A call to action for ongoing support for sanitation initiatives and the Clean Nigeria campaign.	2:50 PM - 3:00 PM
17.	<b>Lunch</b> ▪ Lunch for all participants.	3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

### The Program of Event



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List Of Participants at The Event



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List Of Participants at The Event