



Yali Network Abuja Partners Lablek and others provide succour for flood victims

A group of Non-Governmental Organisations came to the rescue of victims of the recent flood incident that ravaged Trade More Estate Lugbe Abuja Nigeria. It will be recalled that some areas in Trademore Estate Lugbe faced heavy flooding last month due to torrential downpour that directly affected over 57 households, displaced three schools and a police station. The flood was mainly caused by increased level of water which was due to lack of proper drainage system in the estate and construction of building along the waterways. A lot of properties and lives were lost as a result of this incident.

The NGOs under the leadership of YALI NETWORK in collaboration with LABLEK and others visited residence of the estate to commiserate with the victims of the flood and released palliatives to 23 house-holds. According to an official of the group the objective of the initiative is to provide knowledge and practical measures to put in place in order to prevent floods, what to do in the face flooding to avoid its adverse effect and to donate relief materials to the affected victims.

In her remark YALI Network Abuja Coordinator, Moyosoluwa Oladayo said that the event was organised in collaboration with other partners to commemorate the Nelson Mandela International Day 2023. According to her 'In line with this year's theme, climate, food and solidarity it is pertinent that "now, more than ever, humanity needs to confront climate change, persistent and increasing levels of poverty, as well as inequality. She commended the effort of the Estate management so far in pushing towards addressing the issues of flooding and emphasized that we can have a sustainable society when people are actively involved in tackling their immediate environmental challenges and societal issues as the residents of Trademore Estate have shown in the midst of this flood crisis. She sympathized with the residents of Trademore Estate especially those who are largely affected by the flood issues and said that the visit is to let them know that the YALI Network identifies with them as fellow citizens and have come to show solidarity with them and extending a hand of kindness to them.

Also speaking the Lablek Community Water Service Director, Mr. Obasi John spoke on community engagement and the significance of grassroots

advocacy as well as empowerment in building resilience against environmental challenges. He said "The event underscored the urgent need for implementing sustainable solutions to combat climate change, the recurring threat of rising floodwaters in vulnerable communities in Nigeria" Earlier while welcoming the group, Engr. Dr Adewale Adenaike the Chairman of Trademore Estate Residents Association Phase 3 who spoke on behalf of all the residents declared the position of the Estate to all the government agencies and the upper legislative arm of the government. According to the Chairman who is a Civil Engineer advised the Government to take a look into the recommendation made by the technical committee that was set-up after discovering the source of the flood. Dr. Adenaike maintained that what is important in Lugbe is flood management and still insist that the answer is not demolition but constructive engineering and holistic solution, pleading that the government should come to their rescue.

The event was put together by Lablek Community Water Service Limited in partnership with YALI Abuja Network, Global Environmental and Climate Conservation initiative, Youth-CAN as well as others. In attendance were the Exco Members of the three phases of Trademore Estate executive, YALI Abuja Network Volunteers, Global ECCI CEO Dr. Abdulhamid Tahir Hamid and members, representative of ECOCYKLE, and Members of the press.

Mr Obasi John of Lablek Community Water Service Limited used the opportunity to appreciate Mr. Alan of Kruse research USA, who single handedly sponsor the relief materials and his continuous support for the needy in Africa while also thanking Dr. Eberechi Osuagwu for her efforts in making the event successful.



BUA donates N115m items to host communities

BUA Cement company has donated drugs, bags of cement, school uniforms and learning materials worth N115 million to communities in Sokoto State. The Managing Director, BUA Cement, Alhaji Yusuf Binji, represented by the Head of Administration and Corporate Services, Mr Sada Suleiman, handed over the items to the benefiting communities in Wamakko Local Government Area. Binji said that the items were donated to complement government efforts on healthcare, education and community development. He said that the company had supported 12 primary healthcare facilities in the area. The managing director listed the benefiting communities to include; Wajeke, Arkilla, Kalambaina, Sabon Garin Alu, Bakin Kusu, Gidan Boka, Gidan Bailu and Mobile barracks. Others were Gumbi, Arkilla federal low-cost, Farfaru, Beni, Asare and Kaura Kimba. According to him, development associations in 68 communities were provided with bags of cement to undertake repairs of mosques, cemeteries, drainages and other areas of importance.

Binji disclosed that the company awarded scholarship to 158 indigent students in Sokoto, Kebbi and Zamfara

states, while no fewer than 1,004 primary school pupils received two pairs of uniform each. He added that the company had installed 500 KVA Transformer at Gidan Salanke, Gida Fulani, and Bakin Kusu. This, he said was in addition to solar power at Sheikh Usman Danfodio mosque Sokoto, A A Rajin special School and solar powered boreholes at Gidan Rafi and Gidan Sanda. Binji said the company had executed many projects in past as part of its corporate social responsibility. He listed some projects to include two boreholes at Gidan Gamba and Girabshe, electrification of Rugar Waru, Hundi Chebuwa, Rijiyar Dorowa, Malikawa and Wangarawa. The managing director appreciated the existing cordial relationship between the company and its host communities." BUA cement has been doing a lot in supporting healthcare, providing scholarship and educational materials as well as training residents on various business skills," Binji said. Responding on behalf of benefiting communities, the Caretaker Chairman of Wamakko local government area, Alhaji Bello Tureta, thanked the company for the intervention. Tureta urged the communities to support the company and ensure peaceful coexistence at all times.

ASR AFRICA FLAG-OFF CONSTRUCTION OF CAREER AND RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES CENTER

The Abdul Samad Rabiou Africa Initiative (ASR Africa) has commenced the construction of a 2,000 square meters Career and Renewable Natural Resources Center at the University of Ibadan. The center will provide counseling and career support to students of the university and explore the potential of cleaner energy solutions for the institution. This comes barely three days after the groundbreaking of a Student Affairs Center comprising a sports center, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) hub, administrative offices, and a 1,000-student capacity amphitheater at the Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Anambra State by ASR Africa.

Both projects, drawing from the N1 billion grant to the University, are in fulfillment of the tertiary infrastructure grant awarded to the six universities in 2021 as part of the ASR Africa Tertiary Education Grants Scheme. The grant was drawn from ASR Africa's US\$100 million Fund for Social Development and Renewal. Other universities that benefitted from the grant were the University of Maiduguri, Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, the University of Ilorin, the University of Benin, and Nnamdi Azikiwe University.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony in Ibadan, Oyo state, Dr. Ubon Udoh, the Managing Director of ASR Africa thanked the university management for their cooperation on the project implementation. He described

the project as "life-changing" as it will address diverse mental health issues amongst students, nurture students in their career path and provide cleaner energy solutions for the university's use. Furthermore, Dr. Ubon said the project affirms Abdul Samad Rabiou, founder and Chairman of ASR Africa's commitment to supporting quality education within the tertiary education system in Nigeria and Africa at large. He added that the career center is a project that would further boost the morale of the students of the University of Ibadan to compete academically with their peers outside the country. "I want to on behalf of Abdul Samad Rabiou thank the university management for the cooperation and partnership they have shown us so far. I want to assure you of growing this partnership and looking forward to better things to come". Dr. Ubon said.

In his remark, Prof. Kayode Adebowale, the university's Vice Chancellor, thanked Abdul Samad Rabiou, founder and Chairman of ASR Africa for making the project a reality. Prof. Kayode said the project is of great importance to the university, as it will address students' needs for counseling and career mentorship and pave the way for research on alternative energy. He assured the ASR Africa team of the management's support to ensure the speedy completion of the project.