



## 2020 NEWSAN ANNUAL REPORT





**From the NC**

**Year 2020 sprang a surprise on the whole world with the advent of covid-19. For the Water and Sanitation sector; it was not entirely a surprise, as the entirety of the sector is based on proper sanitation and hygiene to avert communicable diseases and illness. NEWSAN began her year with her work plan and in line with the work plan developed her activities such as the 5 year strategic plan, the commemoration of world significant days of remembrance and encouraged her state chapters to do same amidst the covid -19 pandemic. The issue of WASH had to take the center stage as the survival of the human race depended largely on water, sanitation and hygiene practises which have been viewed with laxity. Thus all of our engagement for the year were intensified at both the states and the federal level with a view to seen an improved implementation in the sector. We were able to engage the Accountant General of the Federation with a formidable partnership for collaboration. NEWSAN also engaged about 7 state governors on advocacy to foster further cooperation. The state chapters on their own also engaged their various state governors for partnership. Moreover NEWSAN also trained some of her state chapters and PWD on advocacy, WASH Assessment using an on-line tool, MAM, budget tracking and WASH governance to foster their**

**engagement as master trainers who also retrained their chapter members for implementation. From the seven states of Gombe, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Ekiti, Benue, Cross River and FCT, an assessment**

**was conducted by the states; from the assessment a situation room was created and is to be expanded and sustained for broader use on monitoring real time evidence on WASH implementation in the states. The year 2020 saw NEWSAN collaborating more; more partners like the NOA, Ministry of Health, and Office of the Accountant General of the Federation amongst others.**





What Changed

**A 5 year Strategic Plan document developed to guide the yearly implementation**

**14 State Coordinators & 7 PLWDs Trained on MAM, Budget & Tracking, Advocacies in Benue, Cross Rivers, Gombe, Ebonyi, Ekiti, Kaduna &**

**WASH Policy Assessment for 7 States**

**High level Advocacies to 7 States Governors & House of Assemblies: Ekiti, Ebonyi, Benue, Kaduna, Gombe Cross River and FCT**

**NEWSAN Reviewed the CSOs Commitments on WASH**

**Situation Room for WASH monitoring**

**1050 Copies of Policy Brief for Advocacies in the 7 States**

**Engagement with Accountant General of the Federation, Auditor General**

**A population of 5,500 community dwellers were reached on hygiene promotion, 1000 women reached with MHMM kits during covid -19**

**300 copies of harmonised reports of the 7 states for further engagement**

## Who we are

NEWSAN is a coordinating network of Non-Governmental Organisations and Community Based Organisations in water, sanitation and hygiene spread over six geopolitical zones of Nigeria. The mandate is to ensure access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for all Nigerians.

Currently NEWSAN has over 300 organisational memberships from the 28 active States chapters working on different issues in the WASH sector with a governing structure of elected National Executive Committee (NEC) officers who oversee the State affairs of the network through the respective elected state chapter officers. The



NEC members are answerable to the steering committee – the founding members.

### VISION

To promote Access to safe and clean water, sanitation and hygiene services for all in Nigeria.

### GOAL

Ensure access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities for all Nigerians.

### Mission

To promote and strengthen partnerships with relevant stakeholders on policies, laws, programmes and structures that will enhance access to safe and clean water, sanitation and hygiene facilities.

### APPROACHES

1. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene promotion
2. Gender Mainstreaming



3. Equity and Inclusion
4. Budget Monitoring and Tracking
5. Environmental, Sanitation and Hygiene improvement
6. Monitoring and Evaluation

### **Our Core Values**

**Integrity** – NEWSAN will consistently do what is right, just and fair in all circumstances

**Transparency and Accountability** – NEWSAN will operate with openness in all her dealings with effective reporting and feedback mechanism.

**Equity** – NEWSAN will ensure to leave no one behind in her programmes, policies and activities.

**Dignity** – NEWSAN in all her dealings will ensure that the rights and dignity of all persons are respected.

**Teamwork** – NEWSAN believes in diversity, leveraging on each other's competence towards achieving a common goal.

**Innovation** – NEWSAN values and continuously seeks out new and creative ideas to enhance her performance

### **Membership, Organisational structures, Controls, Governance**

Membership is open to organisations working in the WASH sector and the structure and Governance is as enshrined in the NEWSAN constitution.





## How we fared

### 1. 2015-2020 Strategic Plan Review

NEWSAN held a 2 day strategic workshop supported by WSSC; where her members reviewed the 2015 – 2020 strategic plan, measured the success and identified areas for improvement. An action plan was also developed which is to be followed until the final document is produced. About 24 members of the organisations including the NEC were present at the meeting held at Kini Country Home Akwanga Nasarawa State on 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

NEWSAN was able to develop an action plan to capture the activities from the first draft to the final draft with involvement of all the participants and NEWSAN's membership nationwide. This draft will be enriched enough to define the network's path way for the next 5 years.

NEWSAN as a contributing stakeholder to WASH has been able to review past performances and has adopted areas of improvement which will strategically position her for improved service delivery. The 2020-2025 Strategic plan further enhanced her drive towards key areas such resource mobilization, result oriented advocacies and engagement with other stakeholders especially our decision makers

towards evolving policies and strategies that will lead to measurable results for the country on inclusive WASH service delivery.



**NEWSAN members at a brainstorming session**



**Group Photograph of NEWSAN members at Kini Country hotel, Akwanga**



### 3. Menstrual Health and Hygiene Day Celebrations

NEWSAN works with the principle of leaving no one behind; engaging with development partners, MDAs, state chapters to celebrate MHHM where the campaign for actions was carried to schools, communities and hospitals with special attention to hand washing towards averting the impact of covid-19. NEWSAN in collaboration with her members and partners was able to deliver about 1000 kits to girls in schools, women in communities and 20 leg paddled hand washing kits to both communities and schools at the national and state levels.







The National Coordinator, Mr. Benson Attah, made a call at the Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) campaign and awareness outreach at Ruga Community located on the outskirts of AMAC FCT Abuja on Friday 29th May, 2020 in Abuja. Visit this link for more information: <https://nnn.com.ng/make-sanitary-pads-part-of-covid-19-relief-packages-group/>

#### **Interview with the National coordinator for Society for water and Sanitation in Nigeria By Olajide Adelana**

The Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN) is a group of civil society organizations in Nigeria's WASH sector, supported by WSSCC. Its National coordinator, Benson Attah, recently spoke with WSSCC on



the COVID-19 response and his concerns about the community spread of the disease in Nigeria.

Visit this link for details of the interview:

<http://www.wsscc.org/2020/06/02/intervention-in-the-wash-sector-is-a-gateway-to-improve-other-development-issues/>

#### **Review Meeting for CSOs' Commitment**

NEWSAN held a workshop on the review of Nigeria's civil society water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) commitments. The event was held at the Brookville hotels and suites, Lokogoma Gudu District FCT Abuja. 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2020. 35 participants drawn from MDAs, CSOs attended the review sessions. The commitments were reviewed to 3. This meeting was supported by SWA

- 1. NEWSAN commits to build advocacy messages, activities and engage with policy makers so as to hold them accountable for their compliance with Nigeria's WASH sector's 2014 and 2019 SWA commitments and Ngor declaration by 2021.**
- 2. NEWSAN will intensify its engagement with the State Governors on state by state basis through the Nigeria's Governors' Forum (NGF) and enlisting the support and concerns of the Legislators at both National and State Levels towards improved provision of WASH services by 2021.**
- 3. NEWSAN will work with the government and advocate for**



the establishment of appropriate mechanism and conducive environment that will guide the participation of the private sector in supporting and providing WASH services and facilities by 2021.



Photo of participants at the stakeholders at CSOs' review meeting



#### 4. Validation of Strategic Plan Document

NEWSAN Secretariat organised a meeting with her members around FCT and stakeholders in the WASH Sector to validate the Strategic Plan document that was developed in February 2020 in Kini Country Home. Twenty participants took part in this meeting at the peak of Covid-19 in May 2020 at The National Orientation Agency (NOA), Federal Secretariat, Area 1, Abuja. The 2020-2025 Strategic document for NEWSAN was validated.



Photo of stakeholders at the Strategic Plan validation meeting



Cross section of the validation meeting



FCT Coordinator presenting the document for validation

## 5. Boot Camp Training Camp

NEWSAN with support from WSSCC Trained and Strengthen capacity of NEWSAN seven states and person with disability on Rapid WASH policy assessment, advocacy, mutual accountability mechanisms (MAM), WASH governance and budget monitoring /tracking from 27<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>ST</sup> August 2020 at Brookville Hotels and Suites Lokogoma Gudu District FCT Abuja. About 26 participants drawn from 7 states of Ekiti, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Gombe, Cross River, Benue State and FCT to attend the TOT representing the 6 geopolitical zones. Participants were chosen based on several criteria including their mandate and ability to carry out trainings, their role in policy engagement, sectoral affiliation and ability to influence and drive changes and local government presence in order to carry out implementation at the grass root.





Group photo of Participants



Cross section of participants



The immediate past WSSCC NC-Dr. Achakpa facilitated



Some Special participants at the TOT

## 6. WASH Assessments from States & Situation Room

The national government has made efforts to improve WASH sector through ODF roadmap, PEWASH, Emergency Declaration on WASH, Executive Order against OD, WASHIM, and National WASH Action Plan. The states are expected to replicate same, but that is not the case as most states have weak WASH co-ordination, low political-will, insufficient budget, allocations/utilization, lack of





transparency/accountability and investment decisions are un-responsive to need-equity

The implementation of Rapid WASH Policy Assessment commenced immediately each of the trained participants arrived their various state. Each State Team conducted a step-down training to train more members who were later formed into Teams and assigned to carry out Rapid WASH Policy Assessment

The seven (7) NEWSAN state chapters of (Benue, Cross River, Kaduna, Gombe, FCT-Abuja, Ekiti and Ebonyi state and Persons Livings with Disability from the 7 states has conducted rapid wash policy assessment using **Mwater APP**, the activity was completed on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020. At the commencement of the assessment; a situation room was created at the NEWSAN National Secretariat to receive, monitor and analyse the data collected. The states developed individual policy brief to be used for their advocacy and harmonised copies of the assessment reports were also developed.

The Rapid Assessment brought out some of the salient issues amongst others such as:

Lack of political will of the Cross River State Government in driving WASH policy.

Budget allocations are hardly released for implementation of projects and programmes.

All the MDAs show high level of cooperation and volunteered in presenting their documents to the Assessments teams.

Most of the officials in MDAs were ignorant on issues of Menstrual Hygiene Management and SDG targets on WASH.

Some of the Ministries like Finance, Education do not exercise authority over the MDAs under them due some administrative lapses.

Deployments in some MDAs have affected the smooth operation of activities in the affected MDAs because persons who took over as some desk officers have little or no experience.

## 7. Advocacies at States & High Level Advocacies

All the 7 States that participated in the boot camp meeting used the policy document to perform their advocacies within the project stipulated time between July to December 2020 to stakeholders responsible for the salient issues that were observed in their MDAs during the Rapid WASH Assessment; with the target towards improving service delivery. In furtherance with the advocacy, the National office conducted high level advocacies to Ekiti, Cross-Rivers, Benue and Kaduna to also met with their governors, State legislatives and key MDAs that could close up the gaps observed. These created awareness on happenings at the National and motivated the states to key into PEWASH, ODF Roadmap and developed technical working group on MHHM amongst other intentions towards improving WASH service delivery at States with strong affirmations.



The NEWSAN team with Ekiti State Governor and his team



NEWSAN Team in Cross-River with House of committee members on Water and Sanitation



NEWSAN Team in Benue State

## **8. Partnership with Accountant General of the Federation**

NEWSAN in furtherance with her Advocacies visited the Accountant General of the Federation Alhaji Ahmed Idris on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020; at the meeting a partnership was formed between NEWSAN and the office of Accountant General of the Federation and a focal officer was nominated to furnish the partnership. This partnership will ensure NEWSAN is duly involved in the WASH budgeting and releases at Federal level.



NEWSAN NC handing some Advocacy tools to AGF



Cross Section of the visit



Group Picture of the Visit

## 9. Covid-19 Monitoring

NEWSAN at the frontier of the COVID-19 intervention, presented pallatives, water buckets with taps and sensitization to the most vulnerable and poorest of the poor women in Umuogharu, Ezza North LGA of Ebonyi state. NEWSAN Ebony state in partnership with the office of the Deputy principal secretary to the Ebony state Governor and the General manager, Ebony state Rural water supply and sanitation Agency (EB-RUWASSA) embarked on joint sensitization program to the Abakaliki Rice Mill. During the sensitization program both NEWSAN and Ebony state government realized that carrying out sensitization program together, they can achieve more results.

NEWSAN Gombe donated hand washing facilities to Gombe state ministry of environment and forest resources as part of their contribution in the fight against COVID-19.

Ekiti NEWSAN in collaboration GRIP and Sade Gbonyi Foundation joined the government of Ekiti state and well-meaning Nigerians to





distribute food stuff to women to cushion the effects of food shortage during COVID-19 Pandemic.



NEWSAN staff in Kogi state on a sensitization campaign on the 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2020



NEWSAN CSOs in FCT Abuja chapter supporting pregnant women and front line healthcare workers in primary health care centers with facemasks. 14/05/2020.

#### 10. State Activities

Following the training in Abuja for NEWSAN State Chapters- Benue, Ekiti, Gombe, Ebonyi, Kaduna, Cross-River and FCT all convened the State Exco meeting upon arrival from Abuja and in the meeting to do step down training for members on MAM, Rapid WASH assessment, WASH Budgeting and tracking. Furthermore members were selected and trained for the implementation of rapid assessment to selected relevant institutions in the seven states respectively.

The report for the assessments for the seven states can be assessed through this link:

NEWSAN Kaduna state chapter visited Kaduna Water Corporation. . There was a facility tour of the Corporation's Water intake and Treatment Plants to ascertain level of rehabilitation work on the facility and create a forum for further collaboration.



The MD and the top management staff of the Corporation with NEWSAN

NEWSAN Ekiti State in collaboration with GRIP and World bank organised a training on Prevention and Response to GBV/Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) in the Third National Urban Water Sector Reform Project, Ekiti Water Corporation. The meeting examined various ways women and girls were exploited and lack of adequate WASH facility was a key point that was extensively discussed.



Participants at the NEWSAN/GRIP/World bank Training

Benue State Chapter alongside other stakeholders as Pioneered the formation of the Benue State Technical working Group on Menstrual Health and Hygiene Management (TWG), held at the Pauline Makka Women Center, Makurdi-Benue State in July 2020.



Participant at the TWG





Our partners for 2020

