



...say no to flood!

IUFMP News

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
IBADAN URBAN FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT (IUFMP)



1st Pool of Works: **Expectations** *of* Community **Stakeholders**

**April - June
2021**



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FIRST POOL OF WORKS: COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS EXPRESS THEIR EXPECTATIONS & MY FLOOD EXPERIENCE

EDITORIAL CREW:

IUFMR NEWS...is a quarterly publication of the IBADAN URBAN FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT (IUFMP)

Editor-in-Chief: Engr. J. Olasunkanmi Sokeye

Editor: Abiodun Adefioye

Deputy Editor: Bunmi Babanumi

BRIEF ON IBADAN URBAN FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project (IUFMP) was set up by the Oyo State Government, with the funding support of the World Bank, in response to the devastating flood of 26th August, 2011 which claimed about 120 lives and destroyed properties valued at tens of billions of Naira.

This initiative of the Oyo State Government was borne out of the fact that Ibadan has witnessed several disastrous flooding incidents since 1933, with successive governments engaging in measures which turned out to be more palliative than curative. It was in view of this that the IUFMP mandate was aimed at providing fundamental and far-reaching solutions to the perennial and incessant flooding that has become characteristic of Ibadan.

With its broad-based Project Development Objectives couched as *"to improve the capacity of Oyo State to effectively manage flood risk in the city of Ibadan,"* the IUFMP mandate covers primarily, reconstruction of hydraulic devices (bridges, culverts, etc) that were destroyed by the 2011 flood incident, as well as a number of related issues which impact adversely on the predisposition of Ibadan to flooding. Such issues include the need to design a workable Solid Waste Management Masterplan, the imperative of a Flood Risk Management and Drainage Masterplan, and the essentiality of a comprehensive Ibadan City Masterplan. Also embedded in the Project design is a Flood Forecast and Early Warning System which is meant to make available to the residents the requisite resources to have prior awareness of possible flooding disasters and take the necessary precautionary measures. All of these are geared towards relieving Ibadan of the menace of incessant flooding and upgrading the city to its deserved status of a 21st Century mega city.

Therein lies the mandate of the IUFMP; and it is gratifying that the task is already being faithfully accomplished.





FROM THE PROJECT COORDINATOR'S *Desk*

This edition of IUFMP News presents the proceedings of the panoramic interviews we had with our community stakeholders on their wishes and expectations from the big interventions taking place in their domains under the First Pool of Works package of Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project (IUFMP). The interfaces were in sync with the operational guidelines of our Project, as jointly subscribed to by the Oyo State Government and the World Bank, to the effect that strategic engagement of the project beneficiaries is a sine qua non for achievement of project outcomes.

"Assumptions are the termites of relationships," so says Mr. Henry Franklin Winkler, a 75-year-old award-winning American actor, director, producer and author of children literature. This loaded maxim implies that any relationship that is left at the mercy of assumptions will be

gradually but steadily eaten away. It is therefore in order and in conformity with international best practice for IUFMP to engage the potential beneficiaries on their expectations and ensure that such are well taken care of in the project implementation path.

The importance attached to this engagement with our primary stakeholders is underscored by the fact that virtually the totality of this edition is devoted to it. They are the sole reason we are in business, and our primary preoccupation is to make life less difficult for them, at least flooding-wise. Their feedbacks are therefore most valuable to us, as they serve as useful insights and inputs into our deliverables.

I can imagine that our partners across the various communities of the First Pool of Works would be most thrilled to see how accurately we have captured and reproduced their expressed wishes on the

ongoing interventions in their localities. On behalf of the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of IUFMP, I assure them that we have the full backing of our people-friendly Governor, Engr. Seyi Makinde to execute the works to the letter. The next few months ahead will prove this, as the works begin to take shape at the different locations. Trust you would find this edition of IUFMP News as loaded and informative as always. Do enjoy it!



Engr. J. Olasunkanmi Sokeye
Ag. Project Coordinator

FIRST POOL OF WORKS:

Community Stakeholders Express their Expectations

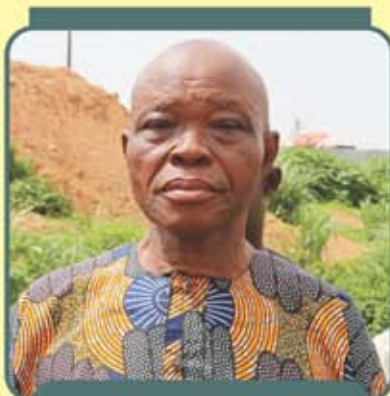
Building sustainable cities - and a sustainable future - will need open dialogue among all branches of national, regional and local government. And it will need the engagement of all stakeholders - including the private sector and civil society, and especially the poor and marginalized.

– Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations (2007 – 2016)

The Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project (IUFMP) is people-centric in all respects. This is so because, as a development project, every aspect and grain of the interventions is designed to make life easier for the stakeholders, who are mostly people living or working in Ibadan. The whole essence, according to the Project Development Objective (PDO), is to improve the capacity of Oyo State to effectively manage flood risk in the city of Ibadan.

As a people-centred intervention therefore, it is incumbent on the Project to always touch base with its stakeholders, with a view to eliciting their views on whatever sub-projects or works that are being designed for them or executed in their communities. The benefits of such are various and varied, among which is the prospect of fostering a strong sense of ownership of the works among the beneficiaries. Which implies that they do not see the interventions as merely 'government-owned' (a euphemism for thinking it is owned by nobody), but as owned by the community, which must maintain and take care of it over time.

In line with the foregoing, while the last two editions of IUFMP NEWS have focused on the quantum and quality of work to be done at the sites of the First Pool of Works, this edition attempts a close-up with the potential beneficiaries of the interventions – the community's real people. In their own words, they narrate the flooding experiences of their respective communities and express their expectations from the interventions. Here we go.



Alhaji Yusuf Gbolagade
Vice-President, Alarere Community,
Egbeda LGA

ALARERE COMMUNITY, BY IWO ROAD INTERCHANGE

Flooding is a major menace in our community here, so much so that, anytime it rains heavily, our people are denied access into and out of the community. The flood usually affects many buildings, resulting in the collapse of many perimeter fences around here. We usually embark on safeguarding our children and young ones, to avert their being swept away by flood. Now that the Oyo State Government through the Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project has come to carry out this intervention work in our community, we are so glad. But our expectation is for them to do the work in such a way that it will provide lasting solutions to this longstanding problem. We have been severally carried along on this work, but it is even now getting more intensified. In fact, they even had a meeting with us quite recently, with all our representatives from the eight zones in this

community in attendance. On the part of the residents and community stakeholders, our responsibility is to ensure that, once this work is successfully executed, we must ensure to maintain it and avoid blocking it with wastes or any other thing that can hinder easy flow of water. We will monitor the completed structure regularly to guard against abuse. No building on waterways is permitted here, because ours is a planned estate, with ample provisions made for river setbacks. All access roads within Alarere Community here are layout roads, and no trespass is allowed. On behalf of the entire community, we appreciate the Oyo State Government and Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project for this laudable work, which they have deemed fit to execute here in Alarere Community.

We are, indeed, happy that the proposed project here is a great effort towards saving lives and property, because flooding has wreaked so much havoc, such as loss of lives, property, economic fortunes, social status, etc. The volume of water passing through this community is massive, because it is coming from different directions and meeting at the culvert that channels it through this community. This area is somewhat swampy; thus any little rainfall poses danger to residents. The inadequacy of the channel causes flood water to easily overflow into nearby houses, weakening the walls and fences, posing danger to us and slowing down the socio-economic development of our people. We, however, believe that this proposed work will bring about a positive change. We plead with the Government to ensure a timely and successful completion of the work, for the benefit of our people.



Pastor J. O. Akinrinade
Religious Leader, Alarere Community,
Egbeda LGA



Mr. Ajibola Odejimi
Youth Leader and Secretary,
Kolasi Zone, Alarere Community

We've had terrible experiences of flooding in this area, largely because of the pressure of flood water that is channeled across this community. There's a connecting drain that ought to channel flood water into the stream, but because it has been blocked, it usually overflows directly into the community, and from there straight into people's homes. We are, therefore, thankful that this opportunity is coming to us from the Oyo State Government through IUFMP. It is certainly no small relief that this will bring us. Since the day we heard about this intervention, we've been heaving a sigh of relief. This community is a layout, and there are connecting drains that channel water into the stream. We will seek further assistance that any blocked ones should be cleared to make them functional. On our part, we, the youths, are ready to give maximum support for the success of the work.

KUDETI CHANNEL (LABO, ORANYAN AREA)

I have been operating around here since 1994, and I can authoritatively say that this river (Kudeti) wasn't giving us so much troubles then. Sometime back, the river channel was widened but the supporting pillars under the culvert have been trapping wastes, thus hindering free flow of water. This results in backflow, with the water wrecking whole buildings and demolishing a whole lot of other structures. It has equally destroyed so many people's livelihoods in this area. We are pleading with the government to help fast-track what they plan to do here, because they have been sensitizing us about the intervention for a long time. We have had several mutual interactions in this regard. We believe that when the culvert is free of any encumbrances underneath, it will allow easy passage of water without backflow. As regards dumping of refuse, we count on the Government to supply us with big disposal bins to serve the community. This will be well maintained and help address the problem of discarding wastes into the water channel.



Comrade Adenrele Shittu
Vice-Chairman, Oyo State Oil
Marketers Association



Mr. Musiliu Aderibigbe
Labo, Oranyan Resident,
Kudeti Channel

This river (Kudeti) gives us a lot of stress during the rainy season, especially when there are heavy downpours. The flood usually overwhelms buildings and overtops the culvert, thus denying people access until it recedes. Dumping of wastes in the river channel does hinder the water flow, causing backflow and flooding of homesteads. The authorities should please make a scapegoat of those dumping refuse arbitrarily to serve as a deterrent to others. We too will play our own role of being vigilant to apprehend defaulters, in order to complement government's efforts. We have been carried along on this intervention from inception, and there is a community-based committee working in concert with IUFMP. We wish the Government success on the assignment, as it is going to bring us big relief and peace of mind.

KUDETI CHANNEL (AGBONGBON-KOBOMOJE AREA)

We have been experiencing devastating flood disasters in this area since around the 1980s. Not a few residents have been pursued out of this area by flooding. Many lives and property have been wasted. Anytime it rains, there is no peace of mind. Especially when it rains overnight, sleep will disappear from our eyes, because we have to keep vigil to guard against being swept away by flood. This Kudeti is a big river and this place is a confluence of two rivers – Kudeti and Oluyoro Rivers. We thank the Oyo State Government and IUFMP for they have been holding several engagement activities with us to sensitize us on the work to be done, calling for our support and the need to ensure that neighbourhood youths do not pose a threat to the construction workers. We have come to know that one of the causes of flooding, especially in Ibadan, is increasing urbanization. This is compounded by dumping wastes into the river channels, which constricts the flow of water. But water will always find its course, even if it means flowing into homes and structures. This has been our plight, leading to flooding. It is now our responsibility, as community leaders, to galvanize our people to imbibe proper waste disposal ethics and maintain the structures when delivered. We thank the Oyo State Government. Even the minimal work done on dredging and expanding the river course has brought us some measure of relief; one can now imagine how beneficial it would be when the work is completed. We are really grateful to the Government and IUFMP.



**Alfa Abdul-Lateef
Boladale Ayelabegan**
CDA Chairman,
Agbongbon-Kobomoje Community

KUDETI CHANNEL (LANIOKA AREA)

This river channel is the popular Kudeti River. During my childhood years, this river and another one (Oluyoro) were two, and they had their confluence at a point further down from where it is now. But as the



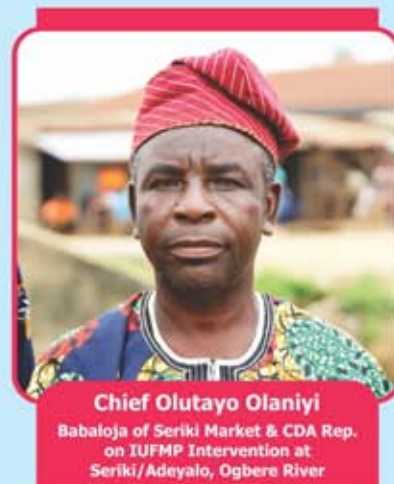
Hon. Abass Balogun
CDA Chairman & GRC Member,
Lanioka Area, Kudeti Channel.

merged river was getting bigger and wider, it began to wipe out the buildings on the fringes. Therefore, my experiences about flooding in this area are both various and varied. This particular point we are standing on used to be someone's room. There used to be several houses, churches, mosques and farmlands to my left hand side here. All these ramshackle buildings you are seeing to my right hand side were mansions and stately structures owned and inhabited by notable figures back in the years. They were all wrecked by massive flood disasters. Now that the government is coming to our rescue, we all are ready to imbibe the dictum that prevention is better than cure. The CDA executives of the various zones in this area are working hand-in-hand to ensure proper maintenance of this work, when delivered. It was a big shame for us when our area was rechristened "**Too Dirty**" (instead of **Kudeti**) during a community stakeholders' seminar we went for sometime back! It is now an

abomination for anyone to dump wastes into the river channel or mess up in anyway. Apprehended culprits will certainly face the full wrath of the law. We heartily thank the Oyo State Government, the World Bank and IUFMP for the great work that has started. On our part, we have been giving 100% support to the construction workers. And it is gratifying that they [the workers] too have been safety-conscious, especially in relation to the community people. We commend their work ethics and compliance with safety protocols.

SERIKI/ADEYALO AREA, OGBERE RIVER

In this area, we had experienced flooding several times, but the most devastating was the one of 26th August, 2011. This market of ours was nearly swept off by the heavily flooded river (Ogbere). It was only by God's grace that we didn't record any casualty, but we lost properties. I have been in this area since 1983. Then, this river used to be a small stream, which we used to walk across. After some time, we put a tree trunk on it to serve as makeshift bridge. By and by, it was getting wider and larger to what it is now. We have been well sensitized about the intervention to take place here; we were even shown the drawings or designs of it, and we are pleased with it. As a community, we are making so much efforts to educate our people on the dangers of dumping wastes into the waterways. It is an endemic practice in Ibadan which must be stopped. The Government needs to be more decisive on this. We thank God and the Oyo State Government for embarking on this project, which could only have been informed by their love for the community people. We are very grateful to our Governor, Engr. Oluseyi Makinde. We pray that his tenure will be a most successful one, and that we too will be blessed with long life to enjoy the work.



Chief Olutayo Olaniyi
Babalaja of Seriki Market & CDA Rep.
on IUFMP Intervention at
Seriki/Adeyalo, Ogbere River

ORELOPE (ZARTECH AREA), ALARO RIVER

Our experience of flooding in this area and as regards this stream has been mixed. In the earlier years, it wasn't much, but with several interventions done in other places such as new roads, drains etc., this place began to get flooded, even with minimal rains. Which means water was coming from other higher places, and because we are in the downstream area of town, we suffer flooding. We have had occasions that people got stranded for upwards of eight hours when the bridge had been overtopped by flood water. They had to wait till it subsided. Some people had tried to act brave but they suffered for it. I can recollect two grave incidents. One was someone on a motorbike who, against all dissuasion, waded into it but lost control mid-stream. Efforts to save the drowning man proved abortive, as only his motorbike got trapped at some point and was recovered. He was swept off for good. Another person was trying to walk across



Mr. Ibikunle Olugbenga
Chairman, Orelope
Community, Ido LGA

too but he lost balance and got swept away. Our involvement in this proposed work has been very significant, because right from inception, IUFMP has been engaging us through various stakeholder meetings, training, other meetings and visits, till it got to a point whereby we ourselves are feeling like we are part of the planning and implementation. I want to say this as an advice to our people, so that we do not expose ourselves to undue danger and loss of property and lives as a result of rainfall and movement of water in waterways. Waterways are for carrying flood water away; that's why they are called flood drains, but we have turned them to refuse drains. Whenever it rains, you see people running over themselves to dump basketfuls of waste into the drains! This is not good. Let us put a stop to it. Because however much Government can try, unless we cooperate with them, we are only



Ogbere Tioya and Ariyo, Olorunsogo-Akanran Road Area, Ona-Ara LGA



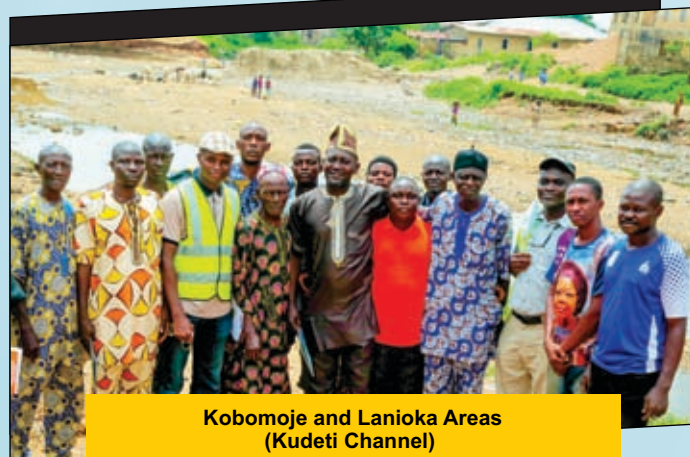
Kajorepo-Irepodun Express Area Orogun Channel



Agbowo-Orogun (Adeniran Street) Area Orogun Channel



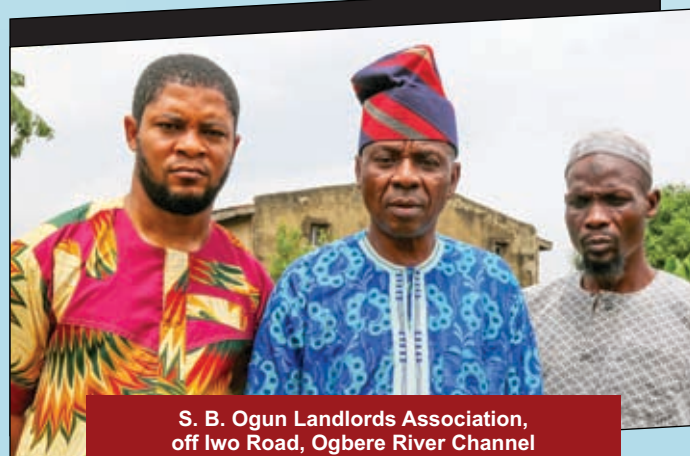
Orelope (Zartech) Area



Kobomoje and Lanioka Areas (Kudeti Channel)



Community representatives of Alarere led by the Baale



S. B. Ogun Landlords Association, off Iwo Road, Ogbere River Channel

GROUP PHOTOS

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES IN 1ST POOL OF WORKS



Balogun Community, Elewi Odo,
Ogbere North River Channel



Jerusalem-Arulogun, Isokun-Ojoo Area



Labo Oranyan Area (Kudetì Channel)



Odewenwa-Abike Area, off Iwo Road,
Ogbere River Channel



Yejide Area (Kudetì Channel)

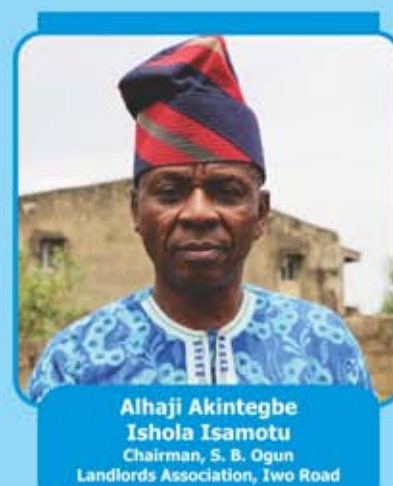


The Alapete of Apete, HRH Oba Raimi Bolarinwa
JP, flanked by other community representatives.

deceiving ourselves, it will not yield good fruits. We have had experiences of flood in the past; it is those who have been affected who can actually testify to its dangers. May we not be victims. But for us not to be victims, it requires that we stand up and do the right things.

S. B. OGUN LANDLORDS ASSOCIATION, IWO ROAD (OGBERE RIVER)

Flood water used to enter buildings in this area, but since the river has been dredged and cleared [as part of the First Pool of Works on river channelization], the experience has changed. The proposed intervention will bring much relief to this area, going by the way they have informed us that it will be done – just like the Ogunpa channelization project. Meanwhile, we learnt that only one street will be rehabilitated, but we would like that the second one be fixed as well, in order to make the channel accessible for cleaning and maintenance. If the other street remains unfixed, it might easily be turned to a dumpsite by recalcitrant people. Fixing it is what would be most beneficial to our community. We will also need the big waste disposal bins positioned at strategic locations, as a solution to the problem of discarding wastes into the river channel. As a community, we have been having engagement sessions with IUFMP on the work to be done in our area, and so far, we are pleased with the way the work is going. The people's major role is to desist from arbitrary waste disposal, and you can possibly see an example in our area here where a major dumping ground around has been decommissioned and discontinued. It happened through the efforts of our Landlords Association. Some people, however, use the cover of the night to dispose wastes wrongly. That's why we are reiterating the need for the Government to place big bins at strategic locations. We thank the Engr. Seyi Makinde administration as well as their development partners for this intervention. We appreciate them and wish them success. Thank you.



OGBERE (TIOYA) AND ARIYO RIVERS, AKANRAN ROAD, ONA-ARA LGA

Our experience of flooding on the two rivers are not palatable at all. Over time, the rivers have been known to destroy property and sweep away lives and livelihoods – humans, vehicles and livestock. We thank our Governor for this World Bank-assisted intervention that has just started. We are also pleading with them to expedite action on it and make the work a reality soonest. These rivers have undergone a metamorphosis from a stream or rivulet to what they are now. We used to walk across them before. Later, we were using planks as makeshift bridges, until when concrete bridges were erected. Even with the seemingly roomy culverts that are in place now, they are still being overtopped during periods of heavy rainfall, and this is what necessitates the proposed new interventions. We are very grateful to God,



Governor Seyi Makinde and the World Bank. As regards this work, we have taken part in about 4 to 5 seminars organized by IUFMP. They also keep updating us on the plans for executing the work. We were recently alerted that some people were already dumping wastes at the sites of the ongoing work at Ogbere (Tioya). We urgently rose to the occasion and marshalled all landlords and landladies on the stretch to take responsibility for preventing such unwholesome practice in their respective domains or else, they would be accused of culpability. We are glad that they are complying with the directive and the practice has since been stopped. Once this project is completed and handed over to us in the community, we assure you that nothing like waste dumping or blockage of the waterways will be allowed. Even those wanting to build especially at some points not too far from the rivers will not be allowed, except they can present authentic building approvals from the Government.

BALOGUN COMMUNITY, ELEWI ODO (OGBERE RIVER)

There are six CDA zones in this area, and I am the current Chairman. We are on the Ogbere River and this point is what is called Ogbere North. About 5 to 6 years back, anytime it rained, all the houses near the river here used to be flooded. Successive Governments have tried to be of help, but it is the major intervention by the current Government that we are banking on to solve the problem sustainably. The massive boulders in the river course will need to be removed, so that they will stop serving as blockages to water flow. We are so happy with the kind of assurances we have on the quality of work that will be done. May God help them to actualize it. IUFMP has been inviting us to meetings, seminars and other engagement sessions, at least not less than 3 or 4 times. Even those whose property will be affected are being assured that due



Alhaji Jimoh Bamidele
Chairman, Balogun Community,
Elewi Odo, Ogbere River

compensation will be paid before commencement of civil works. Our people are so fond of disposing wastes arbitrarily. Sometimes you even see some people throwing empty pet bottles and other disposables from commercial and private vehicles, not minding the implications on public health. In spite of all the efforts by the Government, some people still relish using the waterways as their own dumpsite. Even some landlords are recalcitrant too, but we are prevailing on them to imbibe a positive attitude to environmental issues. We are indeed grateful to our Governor, Engr. Seyi Makinde for this giant stride. Though the work is yet to be delivered, we are so very thrilled by what we have been told and shown in the course of the engagement sessions by IUFMP. May God continue to bless our Governor and his administration.

ODEWENWA / ABIKE AREA, OFF IWO ROAD (OGBERE RIVER)

Our experiences of flooding in this area are so numerous and deadly. This Ogbere River that passes through our community has wrecked a lot of havoc. About 10 to 15 years ago, anytime it rained, the bridge would be flooded and motorists would not be able to cross, let alone pedestrians! Our people would be scooping flood water out of their houses. This scenario was what we were facing until three (3) years ago when some people from IUFMP invited us for a meeting. It was at the meeting we were told that this river will be channelized. We were so happy with the news.

On 30th June, 2020, it rained heavily that day and everywhere got flooded. The work here started late last year. The river has been cleared for channelization to commence. To our greatest surprise this year 2021, specifically on 30th June again, it rained heavily again! However, because of the intervention work that has started through dredging work that has been done, there was no flooding. We thank the State Government through IUFMP

for the work done so far, even though we are still expecting the big one promised, that is, the channelization.

As a community we were carried along in the implementation process of the project in our area. We have attended series of meetings where different issues were addressed. Some of us were nominated by the community to represent them at the Community Grievance Redress Committee set up by IUFMP. The contractor handling the work was even introduced and handed over to us at the inception of the work. The community has a role to play in flood mitigation. Our people should ensure that wastes are not dumped in the river as this is one of the major causes of flooding. As community leaders, we are going to enforce this because once the river is channelized and our people keep on dumping waste, it's like going back to square one. We are ready to give our support to the contractor throughout the implementation period and also make sure that people do not erect buildings along the river banks.



Mr. Adegbola Adeniyi
Landlord/Community Leader,
Odewenwa Area, opposite Ile Marun,
Iwo Road, Ibadan

My experience of flooding in this area is terrible, very terrible! I don't even have enough words to describe it. Before, when this bridge got flooded, we would be running up and down in confusion and we wouldn't even have anywhere to sleep. Our houses, everywhere would be flooded. My aged mother, children and I, would not have anywhere to sleep. Now that work has started, it rained heavily on 30th of June this year and we were even thinking it would be like before. Had it been that the dredging of this river had not been



Alhaja Fati Binta Sulaiman
Landlady at Odewenwa Area,
opposite Ile Marun, Iwo Road, Ibadan

done, we would have been telling another story. Words are not enough to express my appreciation to the Oyo State Government, IUFMP and World Bank for remembering us in this community. Dumping of refuse in the river is a major cause for concern in this community. People dump waste indiscriminately here. At times people will pile waste in their vehicles and dump in the river. We living close to the river have turned to watchmen especially around 12midnight, 1am and 2am, in order to stop people from dumping waste in the river. We need the help of the Government in catching the culprits. There was a day a woman wanted to pour her rubbish in the river and I told her to take it away, but she said she did not have any other place to dump it. When she saw how serious I was about not allowing her, she took to her heels. We are doing our best and we are appealing to the Government to complement our efforts. If refuse is not thrown into the river, we will be able to enjoy the channelization work to be done here.

YEJIDE AREA (KUDETI CHANNEL)

The flooding problem affecting us in this area is caused by recalcitrant people who are always throwing refuse in the river. From 4.00am every day you will see them with heaps of debris which they dump into the river. If flooding is to be a thing of the past, there is need for Government to help us construct toilets for use as against people defecating in the river. This will be maintained by the community. We also appeal to the Government to help us with big waste bins so that dumping of refuse in the river would stop. At the inception of the project, we were carried along to the extent of attending several meetings, workshops and training sessions where we were told about the kind of work that will be done here, what will be expected of us and the need to disseminate information to the people in the communities we are representing. We have been informed that the channelization to be done on this river will be very deep and wide and will be able to accommodate flood water adequately without it overflowing its banks and causing us havoc. We are appreciative of this intervention work and we promise to support the efforts of the State Government.



Alhaji B. A. Atilola,
Group Chairman, Yejide Area,
Kudeti Channel



**Evangelist Gbenga
Akinrinsola**
Chairman, Kajorepo/Irepodun
Landlords Association

KAJOREPO/IREPODUN EXPRESS, OROGUN

We thank Oyo State Government for the great work that is about to commence here which we are sure will make life more comfortable for people residing in this community. Our experience of flooding in this community is very terrible. When it rained heavily, say for about 4 to 5 hours non- stop, we would ask people living close to the river to leave as the river would overtop its banks. Most houses would be submerged and motorists and pedestrians would not be able to cross the bridge. Even though no life was lost, but lots of property were destroyed. Now we are so happy with the work done so far. Already the river has been dredged, and compensation given to the affected people. IUFMP has gotten us involved in the implementation process. For about three years now, they have been inviting us for seminars and workshops. In fact we were at Oyo Town for three days where we were duly informed and sensitized about the work. A Community Grievance Redress Committee of which I am a

member was set up to address issues that might come up in the community during implementation of the project. This shows the importance the Project attaches to the involvement of the community in its implementation process. Because of our experience of flooding, we will not allow anybody to erect any structure along the river banks. At the same time we will really monitor and ensure that refuse is not dumped in the river. This will be done through the environmental committee we have in place in this community.



Waheed Oyekanmi
Youth representative

I was born in this community. I am so happy with the efforts of the State Government at curbing flooding in our community. I can recollect about three flooding incidents here. As a result of flooding, people's properties have been destroyed and it has affected the means of livelihood of some people. We are appreciative of the work done so far and we know that once it is concluded, flooding will be a thing of the past in our community. I want to appeal to everyone in this community not to misuse this opportunity that we have; we should desist from dumping waste in the river and building along river banks especially on river setbacks.

JERUSALEM/ARULOGUN, ISOKUN-OJOO

Our experience of flooding in this area is very bad, and to tell you how terrible it was, about three years ago, flood water swept off an okada (motorbike) man with his okada. The river would be so full that both motorists and pedestrians would not be able to cross the bridge until it had subsided. In fact, since they started this work, life has been easier for us all. They constructed a pedestrian bridge for us and motorists do not have to face the agony of going through access routes that are not too good, because a temporary road was constructed beside the bridge. We were so fearful that we would face a lot of hardship, but thank God for the contractor's ingenuity. To cap it all, there was a heavy rain few days ago, it rained for about six hours, but to our amazement there was no flooding! The river was just flowing gently without it overtopping the banks as it used to do. We have been involved in the implementation process of this project. I can count up to three times and more that I have attended meetings, seminars at IUFMP's office at Ikolaba [Ibadan]. When this work is completed, I want to make it known that we will not give room to dumping of refuse in the river. We are going to have community environmental task force that will be doing the monitoring and will hand over violators to the Government. We really appreciate the State Government and the World Bank for the reconstruction work being done on the Jerusalem Bridge.



Elder Ogunmuyiwa Olubayo
Chairman, Jerusalem Area
Landlords Association



Oba Raimi Bolarinwa (JP)
Alapete of Apete, Ibadan

SAMOG-APETE

The river here has been troubling us a lot. Anytime it rains, the volume of water would be so much that the bridge would be flooded. A lot of properties have been destroyed. Many people have left this area to build houses in other places because of their experiences here. The river is so wide and the volume is increasing every day. One of the problems we have here is the indiscriminate dumping of refuse in the river. Motorists would stop their vehicles on top of the bridge and empty their wastes in the river. We are now taking steps to stop this because we can't afford to let it continue, especially once the bridge has been reconstructed to accommodate more volume of water. If people continue dumping refuse in the river, no matter how strong the bridge is, it will not stand the test of time. We are talking to our people, but at the same time we are imploring the Government to assist us with stationary waste disposal trucks. Once the bridge is completed, we are sure that our people will be able to sleep with their two eyes closed when it rains. We appreciate the State Government and IUFMP for remembering us in this area.

I have been attending a lot of IUFMP programmes as a representative of the community. Before now, we had been invited to series of meetings and programmes where we were informed of the kind of work to be done, what would be our roles and responsibilities, etc. We have experienced so many flood events here



Imam Ajibola Quazeem
Community/Religious
Leader, Apete

and the reason for this is the inadequacy of the bridge to accommodate the volume of water. Which means that a bigger and wider bridge will be constructed, in line with international best practice. We have reasons to believe this because we have Sasa-Osajin and Ola-Adua Bridges which are nearby as good examples, not to talk of other interventions of IUFMP spread across the city! My advice to our people is to stop the indiscriminate dumping of refuse at unauthorized places. IUFMP does not want lives to be lost through flooding; we too must desist from acts that could cause flooding. It is for our own good. Those living upstream should remember those downstream before throwing refuse in the river. What goes around comes around. I pray evil will not happen to us. Our people should follow the laid-down policy of Government on waste disposal by engaging the services of Government-approved refuse contractors to dispose their waste accordingly.

AGBOWO-OROGUN (ADENIRAN STREET)

This place is called Aba Apata on the road linking Orogun with Agbowo. This bridge also connects Akinyele Local Government area with Ibadan North Local Government. Before commencement of the intervention here, this river had been troubling us. It used to flood everywhere. Flood water had even carried people away. However with the work that has started here, we have enjoyed moments of peace particularly with the recent heavy rain which ordinarily would have flooded everywhere, but which we were spared!

We are promising the State Government that once this work is completed, we will ensure it is properly maintained. We will set up monitoring and maintenance committee that will ensure wastes are not dumped into the river and whosoever is caught will be handed over to the Government for appropriate sanctions. On this project we have attended series of programmes and engagements; so we are in the know of the work that will be done here and what should be our roles and responsibility in the course of implementation and after. We want to appeal to our people to stop the indiscriminate dumping of refuse in the river and water channels, though as I said earlier, we as a community are working on ways of enforcing this. On behalf of the community, we appreciate the State Government, IUFMP and World Bank for this work. While thanking them for the compensation paid to the affected people, we also want to appeal that members of the community that are newly impacted should also be taken care of. We are indeed grateful to God.



**Alhaji Ogunyode
Mudasiru Adigun**
CDA Secretary/Community
Rep on IUFMP GRC



Pastor Mike Dairo
Member, IUFMP Community
GRC, Agbowo-Orogun

We are so happy and very appreciative of this great work which has started in our community. The State Government and IUFMP have been faithful and committed to the work. Indiscriminate dumping of refuse is an issue in this place. We are soliciting the assistance of Government in this area, especially when the work is completed. We will do our best to apprehend defaulters, but we will need their assistance in the area of environmental health officers and provision of waste bins for disposal of refuse so that the so-called waste would not end up in unauthorized places. We are also appealing that the bridge should be properly barricaded with wire mesh so that people will find it difficult dumping waste in the river. In the same vein, we will monitor and not allow buildings to spring up close to the bridge or the river banks.

I live very close to the bridge of Orogun Stream. Over the years, we have been having bitter experiences concerning refuse dumping. We have made a lot of efforts to stop it. In fact, there was a time we constituted ourselves to night guards to apprehend defaulters dumping refuse in the area, particularly inside the river. It's like there is no result! We even erected a small signpost warning people not to dump refuse in the river but funnily, they were dumping the wastes on the signpost itself! We attempted to arrest some people, but even at that, people would be sympathizing with those so arrested. I want to say that we still need the assistance of Government to help us arrest defaulters and make them face the wrath of the law. The reason why I said so is that we don't want the efforts of Government in channelizing this river to be futile, because if people keep dumping refuse after the work has been completed, it will not stand the test of time. We appreciate the State Government and IUFMP for this good initiative and we are assuring them of our cooperation and support in the course of implementation.



Mr. Osuolale Ajibade
Landlord/Community Leader,
Agbowo Orogun Community

MY FLOOD EXPERIENCE

by Miss Grace Isaac Iquot

Over the years, I had often read in newspapers about calamities caused by flooding and it usually sounded fictional because I had not witnessed a real-life scenario. Looking back now, I think we often underrate some things to be grateful for. The reality of my experience was mind-numbing.

On Monday, 28th June, 2021, I had left my workplace somewhat around 4:30pm hoping to get home early before it rained because it was cloudy. Needless to say, the traffic that evening was terrible as everyone was trying to get home before the downpour. Unfortunately, it started raining before I arrived my destination. I had boarded a Safeboda bike but the rider had to end the trip because it was raining so hard that it started raining hailstones which I later learnt had not happened for many years back. By the time the rain stopped, it was 7:00pm and I was completely drenched from head to toe. I got another rider, this time a regular bike man, who I told I was going to Kuola. Mid-way, I saw a lot of cars turning back, so I asked the bike man what was wrong. Poor me! He didn't speak English and his local dialect was Hausa. I got restless but allowed him to continue the trip. We got to the bridge before Adedayo Street when it dawned on me what exactly had happened. THE BRIDGE HAD BEEN OVERFLOODED! How do I get home? How did it start? Why are people not looking terrified? I had questions. Apparently, even with the intensity of the flood, a lot of people still walked through it. I am talking of floodwater that stopped at the waistline of a 5'6". I saw some teens cutting pegs and I presumed it was to gain balance in the water. No way was I going to walk into that water, I knew better. The bike man pulled over and asked me to pay up. What! Why didn't he tell me this was the situation? Well let's just say he couldn't communicate but why didn't he take an accessible route? Why did he take me to see such a horrible sight? For the price we bargained? Before boarding the bike, I offered to pay him twice the regular price because I was in haste to get home plus it was getting dark. It was a tug of war between me and the bike man. I wasn't going to pay him as bargained because I felt he was trying to milk the situation. Hello it's 2021 and things are hard! Eventually, after much back and forth, we settled at a fee and I paid. I was on the lookout for another bike man that would take me through another route but first I needed to capture the moment. It was then I heard some older men and women cussing out loud. One of them said and I quote, "Ki omi ti e gbe eni kan lojo kan boya awon gofament ma bawa wa nkan se si." An older man replied and said, "Ko ma ti e gbe eeyan, ki bridge yii wo patapata." I tried to tell them not to wish bad on anything or anyone but I thought to myself that it was risky to calm an agitated person. In few minutes, a Toyota Corolla Sport drove into the flood water, got submerged, lo and behold the flood was sweeping it away. My heart skipped for a minute and other onlookers were shouting "Omi ti n gbe moto yen o." Luckily for the driver, the bridge has an iron rail and the car got hooked at the end of the rail. It was scary and I had begun to tremble, so I walked a few kilometers away from the flood site, got a bike and left. As I fell asleep that night, I couldn't stop thinking about the young man in the car that almost got swept away by the flood.

Tuesday, the flood waters had receded completely before daybreak. The plants around that area were completely swept off. It was almost like nothing existed there. I engaged the bike man I boarded to know if there was any casualty from the previous night and he said he hadn't heard of any. Good news but WHAT IF?



Miss Grace Isaac Iquot is undergoing her national service (NYSC) with the Environmental Safeguards Unit of Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project (IUFMP)



DO NOT BUILD ON WATERWAYS

CONSULT TOWN PLANNING AUTHORITIES

LET'S JOIN HANDS TO STOP FLOODING IN IBADAN!!!

IBADAN URBAN FLOOD MANAGEMENT PROJECT (IUFMP)

📍 Quarter 1068, Oba Akinyele Street, Federal Government Secretariat Road, Agodi GRA, Ibadan, Oyo State.

✉ info@iufmp.org

📘 @ibadanflood

🐦 @ibadan_flood

🌐 <https://ibadanflood.org>