

Sustainable Development Solutions Network Nigeria (SDSN-Nigeria)
A National Chapter of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions
Network (UN SDSN), New York, USA
Annual Activity Progress Report (2015)

The SDSN-Nigeria Secretariat presents this Activity Progress Report (APR) to brief the Network stakeholders about how we are taking actions, implementing the strategic plans and tracking the achievement of the Network for improvement and accountability.

Membership of SDSN-Nigeria comprises all Federal Universities in Nigeria. The Board is steered by the Director and the Co-Director with membership including Sustainable Development Desk Officers in the Universities. The body meets from time to time to deliberate on issues related to the Sustainable Development Agenda, Solutions initiatives and formulate action plans.

Activities and achievements for the year 2015.

Capacity Building

Since inception in May, 2013, major activities had been on organizing capacity building workshops on the Post-2015 Global Sustainable Development Agenda, for members and other stakeholders. Two (2) Federal Universities had hosted the event from the Northern and Southern Zones. This year's workshop was themed; **Sustainability of Nigerian Environment for Sustainable Development**, it was hosted by the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Imo State during 26 – 28 May, 2015. Eight (8) Resource Persons and 28 participants from different member institutions attended the event.

Global Summit

In 2013, the Network successfully worked out a partnership with the University of Ibadan Centre for Sustainable Development (CESDEV) and African Sustainable Development Network (ASUDNET) to organize an international summit, the 5th Annual Ibadan Sustainable Development Summit (**ISDS**) on the theme: **Sustainable Development in Pre-colonial, Colonial and Post-colonial Africa: Issues and Context**. This year, the collaboration was extended to multinational organizations including CESDEV, ASUDNET, SDSN Global, Ford Foundation, United Nations Millennium Campaign Organization and the Smile Communications Nigeria to organize **the Sixth Annual ISDS** on the theme: **the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda: Whither Africa?** The event was hosted by the University of Ibadan CESDEV from 23 -28 August, 2015. About 150 participants and 22 Resource Persons were in attendance from the academia, research and development institutions as well as government representatives from about 10 countries. The summit successfully developed an action plan for the domestication of the SDGs for Nigeria and the West African sub-region. Following up on

this, five (5) SDGs SDSN-Nigeria working and research groups were formulated and adopted with total membership of 70.

Solutions Initiative

The Network since inception in 2013 has committed to research and development of projects that create solutions to various challenges confronting each zone of the country. Among the initiated and ongoing projects are:

- (1) Niger-Delta Development Project, started in 2013. Being a long term solutions initiative, much intellectual capital has been committed to its take off and efforts to secure effective funding are on course with relevant stakeholders.
- (2) University of Nigeria, Nsukka Waste Management project from the local node of South East zone
- (3) Massive multimedia awareness and education on SDGs and SDSN activities.
- (4) Upgrading of the Network website contents, and the release of Newsletter to disseminate information on activities of the SDSN.

Level of accomplishment on the Solutions Initiative 3 and 5 has been successful, while the development projects 1 and 2 are on course to be fully implemented.

Action Plan for 2016

At focus for 2016, the Network has considered the necessity to build on the successes and advance its activities on the following:

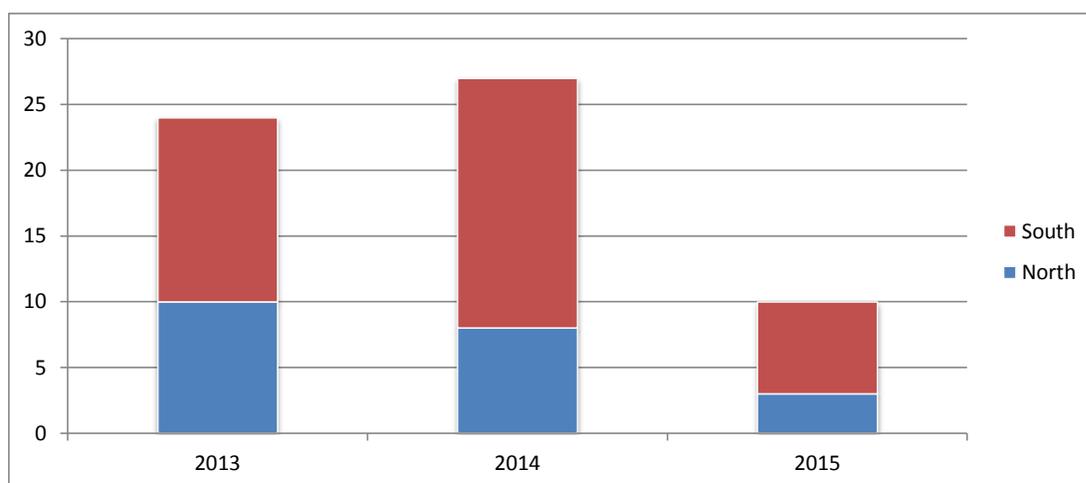
- (1) **Capacity Building:** to organize a reawakening sensitization workshop on the need for participation of the academia in the implementation of the SDGs for Vice Chancellors of all Universities, Provosts of Colleges, Rectors of Polytechnics and heads of relevant academic and research institutions in Nigeria.
- (2) **Annual Summit (ISDS):** to mobilize and collaborate with heads of government ministries, departments and agencies, including relevant stakeholders within the country, across regions of West Africa and beyond for practical actions on the implementation of the SDGs right from the first quarter of 2016.
- (3) **Solutions Initiative:** to develop a resettlement project for the North East zone as mitigation to the security challenges. Also, to rededicate commitment towards full implementation of the Niger-Delta Development action plan.
- (4) **Network Institutionalization:** to properly institutionalize the SDSN-Nigeria, chapter of UN SDSN in the country and West Africa as a Network for actions and for driving SDGs implementation through 2030.

Board Meetings Consensus

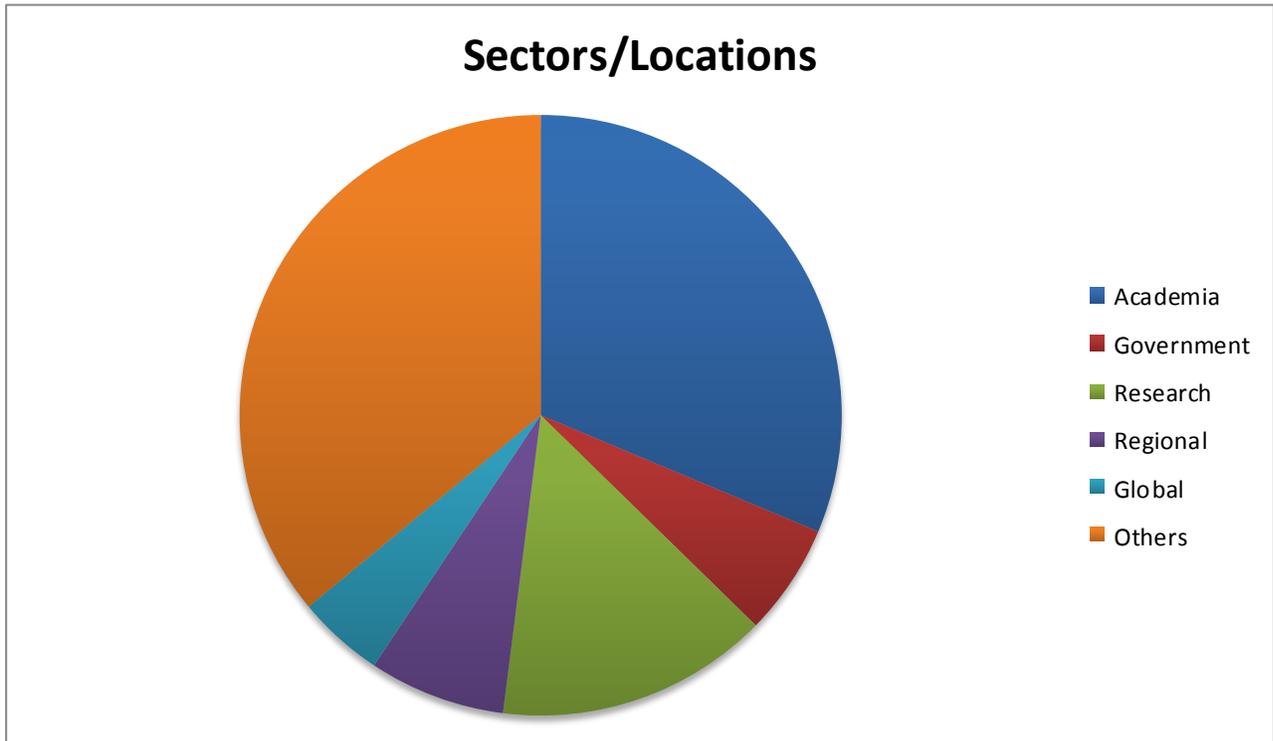
In 2015, the Network board members met twice (in Owerri and Ibadan) to draw up the activities and assess performances as outlined in the action plans (full analyses are presented in annexes A – D). The body emphasized on the following:

- (1) That the Network should continue on its capacity building efforts through workshops and related activities for the advancement of the cause of making the academia relevant within the implementation of the SDGs.
- (2) That the Network should open up and expand its membership to all relevant and interested academic and research institutions for proper integration of all stakeholders and for effective funding of development projects.
- (3) That the Network should carry on with its action plans as a consortium of Nigerian Universities and speed up actions on development of community-oriented research and projects with proper strategies and logistics within the context of the SDGs.
- (4) That the Network’s local nodes are at liberty to initiate, collaborate and implement any development projects and Solutions Initiative that are relevant to the SDSN
- (5) That the Network will from time to time feed its members and relevant stakeholders with necessary update on the activities and events of SDSN and SDGs, especially through direct mailing and Newsletter.
- (6) That the funding of the Network shall be through viable collaborations, sponsorships and members’ fee payment within economic realities.

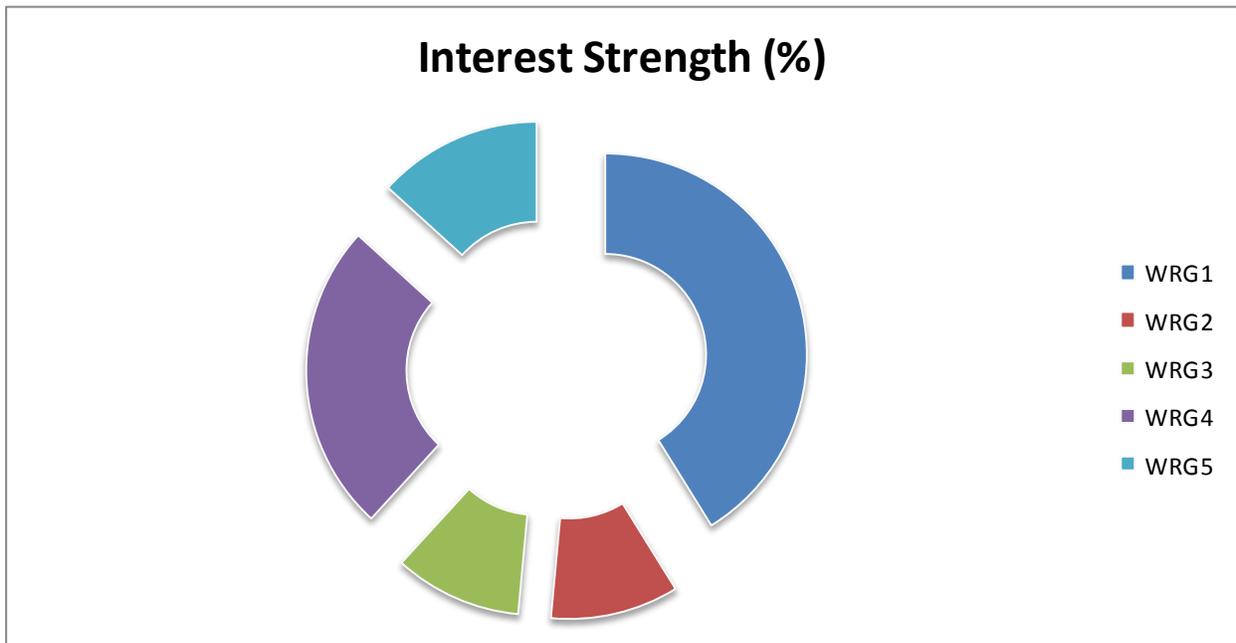
Annex A- Member Universities Participation based on North-South Zones since Inception (2013 – 2015)



Annex B- The Sixth Annual ISDS, 2015 Participation/ Representation



Annex C - SDGs SDSN-Nigeria Working and Research Groups Membership/ Interest Strength



Annex D – SDGs SDSN-Nigeria Working and Research Groups developed during the ISDS Global Summit.

- SDSN-Nigeria worked out five working / research groups on the 17 SDGs based on their similarities and relatedness within the context of research. These were:

Group 1 has:

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Group 2 has:

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Group 3 has:

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Group 4 has:

Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss

Group 5 has:

Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.