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Prof S. O. Sam-Wobo fzsn, fppsn Editor-in-Chief, NJP



he Parasitology and Public Health Society of Nigeria joined the whole world to celebrate the first ever World NTD day on Thursday 30th January 2020. The Society established in 1973 has members as academics and research scientists in tertiary and research institutions located all over the six geopolitical zones of the country.

Nigeria is endemic to all the NTDs spread across different parts of the country in which the Society has been playing major roles in elimination with members involved at various levels with World Health Organization, Federal Ministry of Health, and the country based NGDOs on their individual expertise level. The Society thus boasts of a directory of experts who are willing to take the battle against the NTDs to the next level. We are indeed ready to join forces to "Beat the NTDs for good, for all".

The World NTD day was widely celebrated by PPSN through road shows, seminars/public lectures covered by the local televisions, media interviews (radio talk shows as well as television interviews) all over the country. The social media trended with pictures from the different parts of the country and even the people in the remotest parts of Nigeria learnt the meaning of "NTD".

The television and radio interviews are difficult to reproduce here but enjoy the pictures from different parts of Nigeria telling the story of PPSN celebrating as well as creating awareness on beating the NTDs for good, for all throughout the country.

Prof. Chinyere N. Ukaga fppsn, frstmh
National President, Parasitology and Public Health Society of Nigeria
Director, Academic Planning Unit, Imo State University Owerri
Council Member, International Society of Infectious Diseases
Executive member, World federation of Parasitologists

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ACRONYMS

EIC Editor-in-Chief

FCAHPT Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology
FCVMLT Federal College of Veterinary and Medical Laboratory Technology

FUTA Federal University of Technology, Akure

HANDS Health And Development Support Programme

IDPs Internally Displaced Persons

MoH Ministry of Health NC North Central

NGO Non-Governmental Organisation
NJP Nigerian Journal of Parasitology

NNN NTD-NGO Network

NTA Nigerian Television Authority
NTD Neglected Tropical Diseases

NVRI National Veterinary Research Institute
OGBC Ogun State Broadcasting Organisation

PPSN Parasitology and Public Health Society of Nigeria

STAC State Technical Advisory Committee

VC Vice Chancellor

WHO World Health Organization





To make PPSN the first to be consulted for authoritative view. credible and knowledge products as well as evidence based opinion on issues that make the most impact on parasite and public health problems in Africa.



To be the most visible partner in high policy impact research, capacity development and knowledge management, for effective control of parasitic diseases and agents of public health problems for the rapid socioeconomic development of Nigeria and by extension, Africa.

Key Achievements of PPSN



A summary of Key Achievements of PPSN are

- Developing an African curriculum for the training and practice of parasitology and entomology which responds to local needs.
- 2. Building the capacity and development of a critical mass of doctoral level scholarship for the continent.
- 3. Practical engagement in intellectual discourse, knowledge production, policy definition and intervention against diseases and their agents.
- Development of network of intellectuals that set the health system research agenda.
- Developing an agenda for dialogue between researchers and bureaucrats and developing a working relationship between government and intellectuals for disease control Nigeria.
- International engagement and visibility of locally trained Nigerian health system 6. scientists in the control of diseases, the promotion of the credibility of the Nigerian educational system.

HISTORY OF PPSN

he society has come a long way since 1973 when it was founded in Calabar. At the early period of its founding, PPSN, then known as the Nigerian Society for Parasitology (NSP) has limited membership. It was primarily based in the six Nigerian universities that were in existence at that time. A few of these universities then had postgraduate courses in Zoology with opportunities for parasite biology research options at the doctoral level. Parasitology and entomology and public health were restricted to the discovery of new parasites and in a few case, the description of the parasite fauna. Others that studied abroad had interest in parasites of animals of European interest. The founding of the society by graduates from such programs marked the beginning of the network and the reason for its research and capacity development base. The founding members were exemplary scholars and remained within the university system as lecturers and research fellows. Since there were few universities at the time, the network was simple and contacts easy requiring very little formality. The agenda was basic to developing parasitology that responds to African needs and training others for research and service.

The establishment of new universities in the country and subsequent appointment of the pioneer members as lecturers to develop the zoology, microbiology, veterinary and medical disciplines marked an important phase in the network and the shaping of Parasitology, Entomology and Public health issues in training curriculum. A more robust and distinctly ambitious curriculum for the teaching of Entomology and Parasitology was introduced. The new curriculum responded to the agricultural revolution, water development, and its complementary need for pest and diseases control and management skills. The responsibility for addressing this challenge rested on these pioneers and they tackled it at the capacity development stage. A radically new zoology curriculum was developed with domestic relevance in mind and generous component of entomology, parasitology and diseases of public and veterinary health importance. Hitherto, zoology graduates were perceived as fit only for employment in zoological gardens. The training curriculum that emerged responded to the "Green revolution" and "Health for All" programs of the late 70s and 80s. Subsequently the demand for entomologist and parasitologist for the development of government program in Agriculture, Veterinary schools established Departments of Parasitology and Medical Microbiology as well as Entomology to complement the training in applied aspects of biology including microbiology, biochemistry and pharmacology.

The network widened and the membership of the society became diverse, in background training, institutional affiliation, research interest and location within the country. The responsibilities of trained parasitologist and entomologist also diversified from teaching and direct intervention against diseases to managing programs with varying health outcome needs (from ophthalmology to nutrition, worm control to sexually transmitted diseases, water and sanitation) as well as performing various tasks including consultancy to health education communication. In addition to the Universities, the Nigerian Veterinary Research Institute (NVRI, Vom) and the Nigerian Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), Biological Control Program, Vom (BICOT), the Nigerian Institute for Trypanosomiasis and Onchocerciasis Research (NITOR) and many of the River Basin Development authorities recruited parasitologists in large numbers. The technical competence of these graduates made them the cream of recruiting services at the international level with a large number managing programs at WHO and international development agencies. Only a very few sought employment in the bureaucratic arm of government until the early 1990s when their visibility in the field led them to the policy arm of government. Multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary coinages were introduced into the health sector policy through these fresh entrants into the civil service reflecting the environment in which parasitologist worked in the field. The base of health system research became the purview of graduates and with dwindling local funding the expertise for mobilizing external research funding became a necessity for fresh graduates.

The need for training curriculum to reflect this became imperative leading to mentoring in proposal writing for grants. WHO support to the Department of Zoology, University of Jos for the training of applied entomologist and parasitologist for Anglophone Africa Boosted the

network and curriculum. The institution became a centre of excellence for networking and training of applied field research in health system generally for most Africans. Social science disciplines and education became incorporated in the training of parasitologist to reflect their public health calling on graduation.

The cream of those early promoters of the society are leaders in universities and research institutes as Vice Chancellors. Directors and managers of control programs at home and abroad having successfully mentored successive generations of disease control and health system research experts. With current challenges in disease control, severe economic changes, diversity in the proprietorship of educational institutions and knowledge-seeking, new initiatives are required for the development of the network to respond to the current needs. At the moment there are more than 80 universities in the country up from six when the society was founded. Training curriculum had become more diverse. Holistic knowledge of disease control had also changed requiring basic knowledge of sociology, economics, computer, surveying as well as communication technology and history. Multi-disciplinary and participatory challenges require strengthening the network, expanding membership beyond the country to reflect current global views on disease control. With current doctrine of global and social responsibility, the pleasure of responsive giving, and partnership building, only professionally managed networks of members of civil society are favored to influence policy, irrespective of previous history of performance or credibility and integrity, pragmatic performance of the individual members.

STRENGTHS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR PPSN RESPONSE

PPSN enjoys the visibility that over four decades of existence and outstanding service by our member confers. The society is one of the longest serving in the country with the singular advantage of functioning without formal registration or professional management office. The commitment of its members to the collective goal of the founders has sustained the society for more than 40 years. The operation of the Society was founded on the credibility and integrity of its individual members that define the process that has been used for the management of the society.

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WHY THE CELEBRATION

eglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are a group of ancient diseases that threaten 1.6 billion people living in the poorest and most marginalized communities worldwide. They include: Buruli ulcer, Chagas disease, Dengue and Chikungunya, Guinea worm disease, Echinococcosis, Foodborne trematodiases, Human African trypanosomiasis, Leishmaniasis, Leprosy, Lymphatic filariasis, Mycetoma, chromoblastomycosis and other deep mycoses, Onchocerciasis, Rabies, Scabies and other ectoparasites, Schistosomiasis, Soil-transmitted helminthiases, Snakebite envenoming, Taeniasis/Cysticercosis, Trachoma and Yaws. The impact of NTDs includes substantial disability, stigma, and loss of livelihood, in addition to the deaths caused.

January 30 is the anniversary of the 2012 London Declaration on NTDs, which did much to bring together policy makers across countries and to encourage investment to commit to control and elimination of NTDs. "This special day will galvanize advocates across the NTD community, raise awareness and call our community to action in support of countries where NTDs still persist."

Upon approval and acceptance of PPSN into the NTD-NGO Network, it became imperative that the Society join the global health community to celebrate the First World NTD Day on 30th January 2020. Following this development, a facilitating team of Prof Sammy O. Sam-Wobo (Editor-in-Chief, *NJP*), Prof Chinyere N. Ukaga (President) and Dr. Taiwo Adubi (Treasurer), PPSN on behalf of Council galvanize Zonal Coordinators and members to celebrate NTD Day across the six zones in Nigeria namely: North Central, North East, North West, South East, South-South and South West through road shows, radio interviews and seminars. The aim is to give our Society more global recognition. We have chosen activities that are achievable with minimum finances by branches.

Following the celebrations across branches and zones, find in the report, a collection of the different activities by the Society through it members.

FINANCING THE CELEBRATIONS

he President gave clarification that the Zonal coordinators are to key in and initiate activities as indicated by the EIC. The Society will fund the activities of the zone towards this project and the more zones are involved the greater our impact. The zones should choose activities from those listed by EIC and inform council. If zones have alternative plans Council should be informed for approval. Following the lean purse of the Society, the President in Council approved that Fifty Thousand Naira (N50,000.00 be disbursed for the celebration in each location across the zones. The following locations in the zones benefitted.

■ NORTH CENTRAL ZONE

- 1. Minna
- 2. Jos

NORTH EAST ZONE

- 3. Bauchi
- 4. Gombe
- 5. Jalingo
- 6. Yola

South East zone

- 7. Nsukka
- 8. Owerri

South South zone

- 9. Benin City
- 10. Port Harcourt

South West

11. Abeokuta

However, some locations got external support and celebrated in grand style. These locations are

- 1. Awka
- 2. Makurdi
- 3. Ago-Iwoye
- 4. Akure
- 5. Oye-Ekiti
- 6. Owo
- 7. Lagos
- 8. Abuja



NORTH CENTRAL ZONE

ACTIVITIES FROM JOS, PLATEAU STATE

In Jos-City, North Central Nigeria, a major rally was staged. It featured students and staff of several tertiary institutions in the zone; National Veterinary Research Institute, Vom, Federal College of Veterinary and medical Laboratory Technology, Vom, Federal College of Animal Health and Production Technology, Vom, University of Jos, Nasarawa state University, Plateau state Polytechnic Bokkos, and Staff and Pupils of Zarmaganda Model School, Jos.

The event featured Hand Washing Demonstration, Talks on prospects of Neglected Tropical Disease elimination in Nigeria, Control and Prevention.

Questions were received from participants and answered by seasoned Parasitologists including Prof. Anthony Dakul, Prof. Gideon Amiga (benefits of Hand Washing), Dr. Lois Pam (Symptoms, control and Prevention of Leishmaniasis),

Dr. Ishaya Rinpan (Hand Washing techinques), Mrs. Joan Peter Garba (Symptoms, control and Prevention of Soil transmitted helminthes) and Mr. Emmanuel Onah (Prospects of Controlling NTDs in Nigeria).

A road walk was embarked, where Hand bills bearing relevant information about NTDs were distributed to host community of the school. All of these were guided by Prof. Anthony Dakul, the North Central Coordinator of the Parasitology and Public Health Society of Nigeria (PPSN).

Pictures of activities are below:







Mrs. Joan Peters Garba Parasitology Division, NVRI



Mr. Onah Isegbe Emmanuel FCVMLT, Vom



THE FACILITATORS AT THE EVENT: (From Left to right)
Mr. Onah I.E; Prof. Amuga G.;Dr. Lois D; Prof. Dakul A.; Mrs. Joan P.G and Dr. Rinpan I.



Dr. Mrs. Lois Daniels FCAH&PT, Vom



Dr. Ishaya Rinpan (HANDS, Jos, Plateau state):Demonstrating hand washing technique



Pupils demonstration handwashing



A cross section of PPSN Members at the event.



Dr. Rinpan Ishaya delivering a talk





Pupils listening with much attention to the teaching



RoadWalk led by Prof. Dakul Anthony and Prof. Gideon Amuga



THE ROAD WALK



Group Photograph of some PPSN members with Pupils of Zaramaganda, Model School, Jos.

A FEEDBACK FROM A MEMBER OF THE NORTH CENTRAL ZONE (ONAH Isegbe Emmanuel)

TO BEAT NTDs: What is the true cost of this noble desire?

rom the 2020 WORLD NTDs Day - Thanks to the Crown prince of Abu
Dhabi, members of the Parasitology and Public Health Society of
Nigeria (PPSN) and Nigeria's Ministry of Health, for the massive
efforts.

Are Neglected Tropical Diseases going to end? I've been thinking since Thursday, 30th January, 2020.

So on the D-day something happened. A friend of mine almost did what he had always advocated against. And what was that? Open defecation. Yes! The venue of the event was a Primary School, right at the City centre of Jos, Nigeria. On arrival he suddenly became pressed. He went round the school looking for a toilet. He was surprise - the site was an open field where other pupils use as their toilet. Open defecation was effectively being practiced on the spot. He had to go out of the venue elsewhere.

We desire a good thing. We want to control and possibly eliminate Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) in Nigeria. Now the question is this: What is the True Cost of this Desire? To achieve this, the directives and policies of government, recommendations from the laboratories and epidemiological surveys must be able to reach the end users. While using them, to ensure that they are consistently practiced over a long period of time. With these, we believe that we will beat most of the NTDs.

In 2019 the Nigerian Government launched the "Zero Tolerance to Open Defecation" Campaign. During the #BeatNTDs event the question kept ringing; Is there a Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy to achieve this? My friend didn't want to defecate in the open, but there were no toilets?

Who will sponsor the provision of the toilets, portable water and hand washing facilities in the primary schools where the most vulnerable groups converge frequently?

There is a barrier between the promise (recommendations) and receiving the promise (practicing the recommendations). World Health Organization recommends Implementation Research (IR) as a tool to bridge this gap.

In the first place, these are the promises or recommendations: Bed nets should be distributed and used by all vulnerable groups (to prevent mosquito born infections), prompt and accurate diagnosis (to effectively identify the disease causing organism), access to affordable and effective medicines (to eliminate the agent in the host), use of foot ware (to prevent hook warm infection), hand washing (to prevent worm, bacterial and viral infections), stop open defecation (to prevent littering the environment with the infectious agent), Access to portable drinking water (to prevent water born infections). Etc.

What is the true cost of achieving this in our communities? President Goodluck Jonathan of Nigeria once said – 'when I was a child, I had no shoes'. Not every child will be as lucky as he was. Hookworm and other intestinal worms do a lot of harm to the cognitive performance of infected children. This has a far reaching implication on their feature mental capability. I have a feeling that this plays a major role in the cerebral output of children in sub-Saharan Africa. As most infected individuals are concentrated in sub-Saharan Africa; having an estimated 198 million infected individuals. This figure was reported by Bethony J. and his colleagues in 2006.

To #BeatNTDs, we have to go beyond the recommendations (promises) to practicing them. Each community (State, Local Government, school, office, family, individual, etc) have the responsibility to count the cost; have a plan and set up monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to see to the end of these diseases.

As we continue to beg donor agencies (UK AIDS, USDFID, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, etc) for grants, we must do what we can.

This is a call to everyone to respond by taking action. We have to put our expectations side by side our realities. We have to do what we can within our limits.

The children of that school are still at a high risk of multiple re-infection. But together we can #BeatNTDs.

#WORLDntdsDay2020

ACTIVITIES FROM MINNA, NIGER STATE







NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASE NGO NETWORK

PARASITOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (PPSN)

In Conjunction with

NTD-NGO NETWORK

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY, FUT MINNA

World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Day

THEME

SENSITIZING THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO THE ELIMINATION OF NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

ROAD SHOW

MEDIA INTERACTIONS

SEMINARS ON NTDs

HOST PROF, FRANCIS O. ARIMORO HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL BIOLOGY CHIEF HOST PROF. ABDULLAHI BALA VC FUT MINNA

DR SUNDAY ISIYAKU COUNTRY DIRECTOR, SIGHTSAVERS, NIGERIA FACILITATOR DR. INNOCENT C. J. OMALU STATE COORDINATOR, PPSN

TIME: 10AM PROMPT.

VENUE: CENTER FOR GENETIC ENGINEERING AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, STEP-B, FUT MINNA

ON THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY, 2020

PREPARATIONS TO MARK THE DAY/FOCUS OF THE CELEBRATION:

- 1. A total 100 Branded T-Shirts and Face caps, Jotters and Pen as souvenir was acquired from the support of Sightsavers Nigeria for the celebration
- 2. Production and distribution of Public Enlightenment Materials such as Posters, Hand bills and Flyers using local languages, depicting and explaining the Impact, Causes, Risk Factors, Prevention and Treatment of the NTDs.
- 3. Radio and Television adverts and talks on NTDs wash using local stations and languages.
- 4. Police permission and Road safety personnel were contacted for the rally
- 5. A one day Symposia/Workshop for stakeholders on NTDs. The keynote speaker was Dr Isiyaku, Country Director, Sightsavers Nigeria. Other guest speakers were The wife of the Governor of Niger State, The commissioners of Tertiary Education and Health and the Speaker, Niger State house of Assembly, The Vice Chancellor FUT Minna, The Dean of Life Sciences and The Head, department of Animal Biology, FUT Minna. Focused discussions to draw attention to the impact of NTDs as well as the gender dimensions.

ACTIVITIES OF THE DAY

The rally started at 7.30 am on Thursday, January 2020, at Mobil round about to Bosso campus of the Federal University of Technology, Minna, with personnel of the Police and Road safety escorting a journey of about 9 kilometres. Posters were displayed for the public to read and handbills in English and local languages were distributed along major markets along the road.



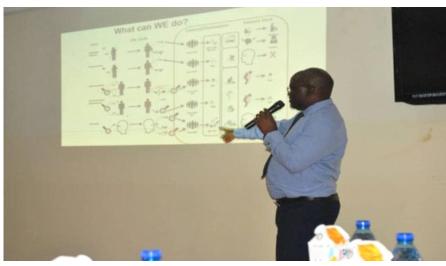


Federal University of Technology Minna students at the Rally



There was demonstration of hand washing before and after using the toilet

The Seminar started by 10am. Mr William Adamani, the Country Technical Manager for Sightsavers represented the keynote speaker, Dr Isiyaku. The Vice chancellor, Dean and Heads of Departments in School of Life Sciences gave goodwill messages. The office of the Wife of the Niger State Governor sent a representative from Government House.



Keynote speaker, Mr Adamani from Sightsavers



Some members present at the seminar, including PPSN members from Uni-AbuJa and Kaduna State University

ACTIVITIES FROM MAKURDI, BENUE STATE



PARASITOLOGY & PUBLIC HEALTH SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (PPSN) BENUE BRANCH



CELEBRATES NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES DAY

30[™] JANUARY, 2020



MASS DEWORMING OUTREACH OF CHILDREN AGED 0 - 5 YEARS IN MAKURDI METROPOLIS BENUE STATE

PPSN Benue Branch also celebrated the World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Day like other partners/stakeholders the world over on 30th January, 2020.

The branch dewormed 200 children aged between 0-5 years in addition to the enlightenment talks. A primary school within Makurdi Metropolis - LGEA Primary School, Ichwa was the venue for the World NTDs Day celebration and this school was selected because it has a high number of the target population who are internally displaced persons (IDPs) enrolled as pupils in the school. The Benue Branch team was led by one of the esteemed PPSN fellows Prof. Okwoli Amali and Mr Peter Zawua, the Chairman of Branch. The duo gave enlightenment talks to the teachers before the commencement of the deworming outreach. The teachers only were educated because as caregivers and trained professionals, it is expected that they will continuously step down the

The talks emphasized the need to desist from indiscriminate defecation (open defecation), the need to always practice proper hand washing practices and the need to always use potable water for domestic use. The fight against these neglected tropical diseases is a collective effort as such all hands must be on deck if they are ever to be eradicated; the teachers were told. Prof. Amali gave the example of the eradication of Guineaworm (Dracunculiasis) in Nigeria. He further encouraged that if the people stick to preventing measures; the control of neglected tropical diseases will be easier.

The dewormed children were also feed with a boiled egg each after the administration of a single dose of Albendazole.



information/knowledge to their pupils.







Prof. Amali making his presentation

he school management received the PPSN Benue Branch with warmth and expressed deep appreciation for the kind gesture of the Branch towards their institution. The Head Teacher of the school - Mrs. B. M. Utume informed the branch that often times, even with its peculiar needs (influx of IDPs), the school was often forgotten by the State Government because of its location at the outskirts of Makurdi. However visits such as this always gave them hope that they were not completely forgotten after all.



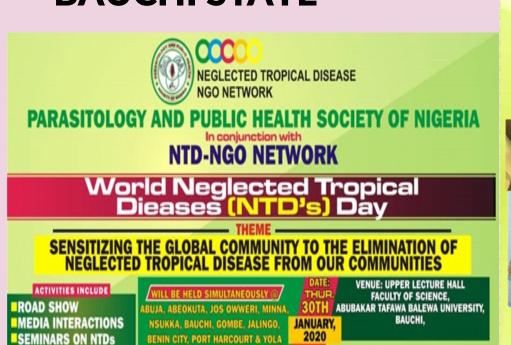






NORTH EAST ZONE

ACTIVITIES FROM BAUCHI, BAUCHI STATE





Design & Printing by: AREWA Press Ltd Bauchi 08033430501

here was a presentation on NTDs which was well attended. The VC was there and declared the programme open. The leaders of a nearby community were invited. This was followed by road show from the campus through to Yelwa market which is nearby. Flyers in both English and Hausa were distributed. This was watched with keen interest by observers. NTA Bauchi and 2 radio stations Bauchi Radio Corporation and Albarka radio which many people listen to covered the programme. All the 3 will broadcast the programme. The two radio stations aired the jingles in both English and Hausa.













NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASE NGO NETWORK

PARASITOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH
SOCIETY OF NIGERIA (PPSN)

In Conjunction with

NTD-NGO NETWORK

&

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, FUK

World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Day

THEME

SENSITIZING THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO THE ELIMINATION OF NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES FROM OUR COMMUNITIES

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

ROAD SHOW

MEDIA INTERACTIONS

SEMINARS ON NTDs

PRO.S.L KELA

DEAN FACULTY OF SCIENCE(FUK)

PROF. . A.M. GANI VICE CAHNCELLOR TIME: 2PM PROMPT. FACILITATOR
MR. BARKA JAMES
PROVOST. COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCI. TECH
STATE CO-ORDINATOR, PPSN

VENUE: ENTERPRENEURSHIP AND SERVICE LEARNING CENTRE

ON THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY, 2020

he programme was held in two phases: a road show and a seminar on NTDs. Prof. S.L. Kela (Federal University of Kashere, FUK) chaired the programme, while Mr. Barka James (Provost, College of Health Sciences & Technology, Kaltungo) served as the PPSN state coordinator and he was assisted by Dr. O.Q. Junaid (FUK). The road show involved the Vice Chancellor, FUK, Prof. Alhassan M. Gani, where he emphasized on the importance of elimination of these NTDs from our communities and Nigeria at large, and also advised the students to take their personal hygiene and sanitations very serious.



VC, FUK, Prof. A.M. Gani emphasizing the need for FUK to contribute his quota in the elimination of NTDs



Prof. S.L. Kela sensitizing food vendors about NTDs and personal Hygiene

The NTD Seminar delivered by Prof. S.L. Kela and Dr James Barka Provost, College of Health Sciences Kaltongo on NTDs and personal hygiene to the members of the public present.





Cross section of participants at the NTD Programme

ACTIVITIES FROM JALINGO, TARABA STATE



Road show at different locations during World NTD day in Jalingo

he Taraba State Chapter of PPSN celebrated the world NTD Day first with a radio interview by Dr. Obadiah Sambo Elkanah at the Taraba State Broadcasting Service. Thereafter a Road show featuring PPSN members, National Youth Service Corps members, Taraba State University Students and staff and members of the Boys' Brigade went round some locations in Jalingo. Later after the road show, a public lecture was held at the Taraba State University main auditorium. The auditorium was filled to capacity and dignitaries who graced the occasion apart from PPSN members include: The Hon. Commissioner of Health, Dr. Innocent Vakkai, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health, Dr. Obadiah Musa, the Vice Chancellor, Taraba State University, Jalingo with his entourage, the Deans of Faculties TSUJ, the State Coordinator, World Health Organization Taraba State, the Director TACA, the Medical Director Federal Medical Centre, Jalingo.

The keynote address titled: "The Scourge of NTDs and Prospects for Control" was delivered by Hon. Commissioner of Health, the Vice Chancellor gave the welcome address a while good will messages were received from WHO, State Ministry of Health, TACA and FMC Jalingo.









SOUTH EAST ZONE

ACTIVITIES NEGLETED TROPICAL DISEASE FROM NSUKKA, PARASITOLOGY AND PUBLIC HEALTH SOCIETY OF NIGERIA **ENUGU STATE** NTD-NGO NETWORK NORLD NEGLECT TROPICAL DISEA (NTDS) DA SENSITIZATION THE GLOLBAL COMMUNITY
TO THE ELIMINATION OF NEGELECTED TROPICAL **DISEASES FROM OUR COMMUNITIES** Venue: FBS Theatre, UNN Road Show | Media Interactions | Seminar on NTDs Thursday 30th Lead speaker: Dr. Emma Udeh, Associate Director January 2020 Centre for Integrated Health Program, Abuja

The President, Prof Chinyere Ukaga, with Prof Ekejindu, Prof BEB Nwoke, Prof MOE Iwuala and others holding the NTD banner at Imo State University, Owerri



Profs Chinyere Ukaga, MOE Iwuala and BEB Nwoke seated for the NTD lecture



Road show on the streets of Owerri

he PPSN Awka Chapter was involved in the 1st World NTD day that took place on 30th January, 2020. The event commenced with a Press Briefing on NTDs and

interventions by by the Anambra State Commissioner for Health, Dr. Vincent Okpala. This was followed by a road show led by the Commissioner to create awareness of NTDs that lasted for more than two hours.

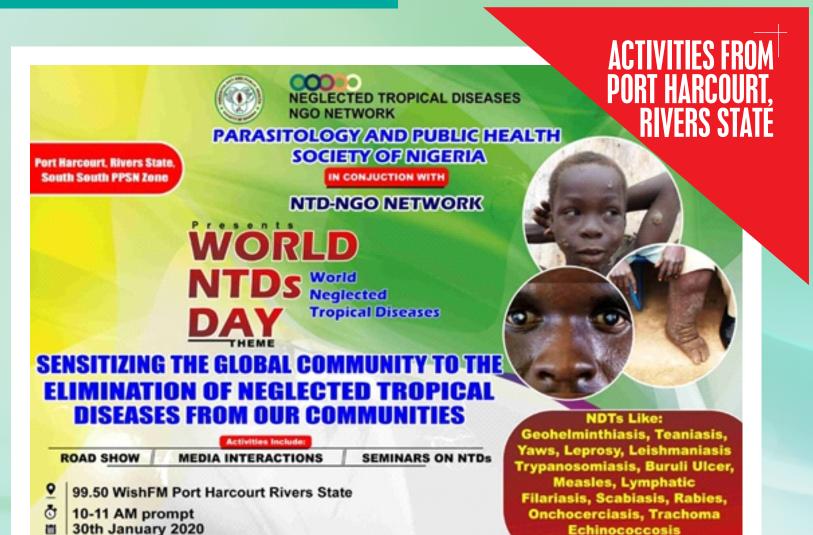
It was a very successful outing and people were educated about the need to take these NTDs drugs as they are free, safe and very effective against targeted NTDs. The masses were also encouraged to practice good personal hygiene, to stop open defaecation and dumping of refuse in the gutters, to always sleep under insecticide treated bed nets and to keep the surroundings clean. They were also encouraged to report cases of rabies to any Primary Health Centre close to them.

Attached are some of the pictures taken during the celebration.



Some members of PPSN at the Press Briefing

SOUTH SOUTH ZONE



he South South Zone was allotted two centres for her first NTDs Day Celebration activities, namely, Benin City and Port Harcourt City. Rivers State, Port Harcourt Centre had an hour Media Interaction on Tuesday the 29th January,

Harcourt from 10:00 to 11:00 am. The Zonal Coordinator, Prof. Wokem, G. N. led the four members' team; Drs. Azuonwu, O., Elele kingsley and Lebari Barine, G. for the outing. It was a live radio broadcast titled "the sensitization of the global community on the elimination of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) from our communities". The exercise was quite exciting and of course, a huge success. Below are some of the snapshots, banner and an extract from the interview granted to the Team leader at the end of programme.





The Zonal Coordinator, Prof. Wokem, G. N. (middle) led other four members; Drs. Elele Kingsley, Azuonwu, O., and Lebari Barine, G. to the Radio Interaction

RIVERS STATE MINISTRY OF HEALTH NTD DAY PROGRAMMES

World NTD Day
30th I ry 2020

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Noted Tropology)

Viscases (
Other Proposed Propos

Members of Rivers State Advisory Committee on NTDs

On the 30th January, 2020 which was the actual NTDs Day Celebration, again four members of the Chapter joined the lecture series and other activities at the Rivers State Ministry of Health, Port Harcourt on invitation. There were many other collaborators in

attendance like Evidence Action, WHO, UNICEF, Director of Public Health, Rivers State Ministry of Education, Director of Diseases Surveillance and Control and many other partners.

At the meeting, Rivers State Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) was inaugurated with Prof. Florence Nduka as the Chairman. Other members of the STAC are Prof. Gloria N. Wokem, Dr. O. Azuonwu and Dr. Mrs. Chinwe N. Eze.

See photos below



PPSN members of the new committee

Also on 30th January, 2020; Faculty of Basic Medical Sciences, University of Port Harcourt organized an NTDs Awareness Campaign to the University Community. Below is photos of participants involved



SOUTH WEST ZONE

Activities from Abeokuta, Ogun State

The Abeokuta State Chapter of PPSN celebrated the World NTD Day as follows: On Wednesday 29th January, PPSN of Prof Uwem Ekpo and Prof Sam-Wobo attended the Press Briefing at the Ogun State Ministry of Health. The Press briefing was organized by Ogun State NTD Unit, which featured the Honorable Commissioner for Health, Ogun State, The Special Adviser on Health to the Governor of Ogun State, The Director Public Health, Members of both print and electronic media and COUNTDOWN. The press briefing lasted for one hour. Afterward, the PPSN member and State NTD Team when on schools and market sensitization to discuss about NTDs, share fliers and answered questions. PPSN supported the activity with 50 branded face-caps given to press team and the commissioner team during press briefing.



Celebration of World NTD Day: The Honorable Commissioner for Health, Dr Timi Coker delivering her address in Abeokuta



Celebration of World NTD Day: Press Briefing in Abeokuta



Celebration of World NTD Day: Media men wearing branded PPSN face-caps

On Thursday 30th January, PPSN members (Prof Uwem Ekpo and Prof Sam-Wobo) with Ogun State Director for Public Health, Dr Soyinka, attended a media interaction event on OGBC FM 90.5 at 8.00. This was a phone in live programme where PPSN provided information on the role of research on #beatNTDs.



During the media interaction session on OGBC live programme

At OGBC FM 90.5 for media interaction

fter the media interaction, PPSN members participated in road show from the premises of State Ministry of Health to Olubara of Ibara Palace. PPSN world NTD day banner was carried along during the road shows and used as back drop for photos.



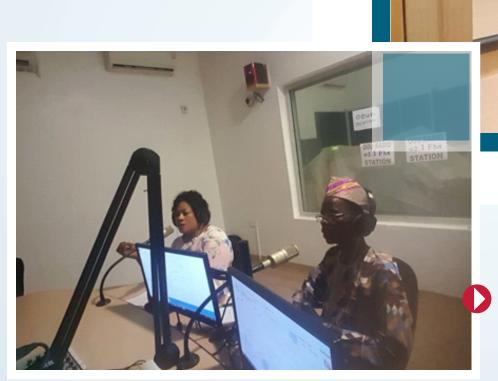


At the Palace of Olubara of Ibara after the road show

NTD Sensitization
at a primary school
in Kuto, Abeokuta

ACTIVITIES FROM AGO-IWOYE, OGUN STATE

The PPSN members in Olabisi Onabanjo University organized a radio interaction to sensitize the listening public on NTDs.



Prof Agbolade with **Dr Wunmi Abimbola**on the media interview

ACTIVITIES FROM LAGOS, LAGOS STATE

PPSN World NTD Day celebrations also took place in Lagos, Oye-Ekiti and Akure Chapters with PPSN members doing road shows, seminars and visits to schools.



ACTIVITIES FROM AKURE, ONDO STATE



Celebration from Akure Chapter led by Prof Oniya of FUTA, Akure



Celebration of World NTD Day: Dr Ogunmola (FMoH) and Prof Oniya

ACTIVITIES FROM OYE EKITI, EKITI STATE





Celebration of World NTD Day:

Road show in Oye-Ekiti led by

Dr H. Mogaji of Federal University, Oye-Ekiti

Celebration of World NTD Day:

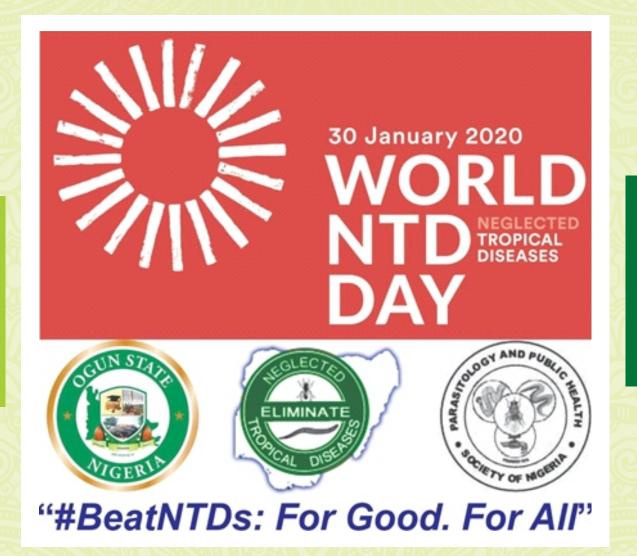
Oye-Etiki team posing
for a photo



ACTIVITIES FROM OWO, ONDO STATE

The road show celebration of **NTD** day by **Adekunle Ajasin University**, Owo was coordinated by **Dr Grace Ajakaye**. Pictures below





Celebration of

World NTD Day: Logo on PPSN face caps



FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OYE-EKITI













SOME COMMON NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES









Enguiries: 08156018982













































World NTD Day: Awareness poster from Oye-Ekiti with PPSN logo visible

APPRECIATION

he Society sincerely appreciates all members who played one role or the other towards the successful celebration of the first world NTD day. From the North Central, we acknowledge the huge role played by Prof Danaan Anthony Dakul, the zonal coordinator in mobilizing members. Some others in the Jos axis are Prof Gideon Amuga, Mr. Emmanuel Isegbe Onah, Dr Lois Pam, Dr Ishaya Rinpan, and Mrs. Joan Garba. From Minna, tremendous work by the following Dr. ICJ Omalu, Prof. Francis Arimoro, Dr Sunday Isiyaku represented by Mr. William Adamani (Sightsavers, Nigeria), Dr Ishaya Auta, and Dr Olanrewaju made the celebration at Minna very successful. The Society acknowledges the great contributions of PPSN Benue State members such as Prof Okwoli Amali, Mr Peter Zawua, Mrs. B.M. Utume, and The activities of the North East coordinated by Dr. Elkannah Sambo are noted. We appreciate the great work put together by Prof Mrs Maryam Suleiman and other members of Bauchi branch. From Gombe, Prof S. L. Kela, Dr Junaid and others were outstanding in the celebrations

The South East zone which is the zone of the President performed very well. We appreciate Venerable Prof Ikem Okoye, the zonal Coordinator for the activities in Nsukka branch. From the Owerri branch, we sincerely appreciate the great roles played by Prof B. E. B. Nwoke, Prof M. O. E. Iwuala, Prof Mrs Ekejindu, and many more for the wonderful activities put together to celebrate the day. The Awka branch represented by Mrs. Ogechukwu Aribidor is appreciated as they had a combined outing with the Anambra State Ministry of Health

The South-South zone which had a celebration in Port Harcourt is appreciated. We recognize the great roles by Prof Mrs G. N. Wokem, zonal coordinator; Prof Florence Nduka, Drs. O. Azuonwu, K. Elele, Barine G. Lebari and Chinwe N. Eze in the celebration.

From the South West zone, NTD day were celebrated in Abeokuta (Prof U. F. Ekpo and S. O. Sam-Wobo; Ago-Iwoye (Prof Agbolade and Dr Wunmi Abimbola), Lagos (Drs. Taiwo Adubi and Deborah Adepoju), Akure (Prof B. Oniya and Dr. Ogunmola), Oye-Ekiti (Drs. H. Mogaji, H. Okoh and Prof L. Olofintoye) and Owo (Dr, Grace Ajakaye).

The Head Teachers, teachers and pupils of all schools visited across the five zones are highly appreciated for their support and participation

The Council, Editorial Board and the Board of Trustees of PPSN are appreciated for their different roles in making sure that the celebration was first class.

THANK YOU ALL

Prof S. O. Sam-Wobo Editor-in-Chief

