

Housing & Environment

It is estimated that by year 2008, more than half the world's human population of 3.3 billion people will be living in the urban areas. It is also estimated that by 2030, this number would reach an all time high of 5 billion with many of these people poor.



Urbanization is therefore an inevitable, but positive concomitant of economic change. The growth of slums, the concentration of poverty and its attendant social disruptions in cities does pose a great challenge. It is also true that no state can achieve a significant economic growth without urbanization.

Modern civilization also brings in its tow environmental damage. In it also lays the realization of potential for sustainable values. So we say cities create environmental problems, but again solutions to these problems can also be found in these same cities. "The potential benefits of urbanization far outweigh the disadvantages".

The challenge is in:

- Governments and its people learning how best to exploit the possibilities and channeling same for sustainable growth and development.
- Initiating policies and plans to improve the qualities of infrastructure and life in cities of Niger State

"Government to respond to the need of all citizens, including urban squatters, for personal safety, basic infrastructure and services, to eliminate health and social problems"

- Providing infrastructure that are necessary and central to development in both urban and rural areas all year round; roads, electricity, health and educational facilities and the provision of portable drinking water are all key to attaining the MDGs.

Specifically, the challenges of Housing and Urban Cities Management:

1. Political will to enforce existing laws and legislations of urban planning and other environment related issues
2. Lack of and inadequate equipment and machinery for effective functioning of statutory bodies
3. Near lack of professionalism in the sector

4. Duplication of roles and responsibilities between agencies
5. The growth of slums due to planlessness, and
6. Outdated and un-reviewed Minna City Master Plan, and absence of Master plans for the major cities in the State. The specific challenges of the Environment are:

- Poor management of Minna city canals/channels
- Prevalence of flood and erosion in the State

- Tree felling/logging for fire wood and timber with consequent exposure of the land to desertification elements especially in Lapai and along the northern fringes of the State
- Weak enforcement of the State Environmental Laws and Legislations
- Poor sustainable cities solid waste management mechanism



- The growth of slums in Minna and other cities and
- Obsolete and near lack of sanitation equipment

Policy Target 1:

Construct 5,000 Housing Units across the State. Attaining this policy target will depend on:

- Constructing 1,000 Housing Units (500 in Minna, 200 in Suleja, 150 each in Kontagora and Bida) of Two and Three Bedrooms between 2007 and 2008
- Constructing 3,000 Housing Units (100 units in each of 25 LGAs; 500 Model units of three Bedrooms in Minna) between 2008-2010 and
- Constructing 1,000 Housing Units of Three Bedrooms in Suleja, Minna and Bida between 2010-2011
- Develop implementation guidelines for PPPs in the provision of urban housing.
- Acquire land for the Housing estates
- Pursue the development and mass utilization of hybrid and alternative building materials and technologies with clear cost, time and other advantages over conventional types
- Provide access roads, culverts and infrastructures In Industrial and Residential layouts

Policy Target 2:

Update the Minna Master plan and develop master

plans for other cities for effective development control.

This policy target shall be met through these strategies:

- Stakeholder Forum to review and validate the existing Minna Master Plan
- Zone system, Update the Minna Master plan for effective development control between 2007-2008 Using the CADASTRAL
- Develop Master plan for major cities of Suleja, Bida, Kontagora and NewBussa using the cadastral Zoning system between 2007 2009, and



- Develop Master plan for all LGA Head quarters in 2008

Policy Target 3:
 Transform the Urban Development Board to Minna Capital Development Authority (MICADA)

The policy target shall be met through the following strategies:

- Establish MICADA and provide the legal framework for its operation in 2008
- Streamline the activities of Land, Housing, NISEPA and NUDB to reflect the new concept between 2007-2008
- Engender periodic inter-agency interaction for sustainable cities development and

control between 2007-2011

Policy Target 4:
 Capacity strengthening for sustainable urban environmental management and promotion of PPP and public participation.

The policy target shall be met through the following strategies:

- Stakeholders Forum to discuss the Waste Management Strategies for Implementation in 2008

- Implementation in 2008
- Sensitization of citizenry on the compendium of Niger State Environmental Laws and Legislation in 2007/2008
- Sustained public education on Environmental Sanitation 2007-2011
- Expand Minna Compost Plant to include polymer and polythene recycling and iron smelting plant, and establish three others in Kontagora, New Bussa, Suleja and Bida to convert



waste to compost
between 2007 - 2008

- Develop Green Areas in Minna, Bida, Suleja, New Bussa and Kontagora in collaboration with LGAs 2007-2011



Policy Target 5:

Capacity strengthened for sustainable land management to combat land degradation

This policy target shall be met through the following strategies

- Create State Emergency Agency (SEMA) in 2008
- Provide GIS Laboratory for Annual update and inventorization of soil and Gully erosion sites and Flood prone sites. Weather reporting. 2007- 2011, and
- Formulate appropriate State policies and plans that directly

address the issues of sustainable livelihood of the poor through sustainable land management. 2007-2011

Policy Target 6:

Global Partnership

Global partnership shall be obtained through:

- Marking of World Environment Day, World Habitat Day, National
- Environmental Sanitation Day in Niger State 2007 - 2011
- Creating linkages with other environmental development partners

e.g. GEF, WORLD HABITAT among others. 2007 - 2011

Policy Target 7:

Enhance Solid Waste collection in the State between 2007-2008

The under listed strategies shall be used to attain this policy target:

- Procure 2 refuse compactor machines/vehicles every 24 months
- Procure 11, 15 ton tippers (2 each in Bida, Suleja and Kontagora, and 5 in Minna)
- Procure 2 and

- refurbish 2 sewage collection trucks
- Procure 2 excavators for Minna City Canal Cleaning on a sustainable basis
- Procure 20 motorized slashers for grass cutting/trimming and
- Procure 4 water tankers

Policy Target 8:

To enhance environmental sanitation in the State

This policy target shall be attained through the following strategies:

- Initiate a Bill on State Environmental Sanitation Days 2007 - 2011
- Provide 50 Public toilets in strategic locations and lease to youths for management across the State (employment creation) 2007 - 2009
- Provide 20 others in slums around Minna between 2007-2009, and
- Reconstitute and reinvigorate the
- Technical Committee on environmental sanitation in the State in 2008
- Niger; Agaie and Bida Kogi/Niger; and Kaduna and Niger
- Encourage further research into crops. Agric, industries and organic fertilizer and alternative energy source

Target 9: Enhance the operations of area land /survey offices in the State

- Upgrade Minna Survey office and Suleja, Bida, Kontagora and New Bussa area offices
- Acquire mapping and survey equipment: for Minna and area offices
- Mapping of towns
- Define boundaries and resolve boundary issues between Kwara/Niger; Borgu and Jebba sector; Wushishi/Kuta; Suleja/Lapai; FCT/





