



**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL
STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (NESREA)**

An Agency of the Federal Ministry of Environment

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN

**'Building Capacity, Enforcing
Compliance'**

2009 - 2012

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

There is no doubt that the quality of the Nigerian environment will impact the quality of all our lives and the lives of generations to come. President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua's Administration accepts that sustainable development, a major milestone in the 7-point agenda, which addresses the environment challenges across our nation, is a priority.

In our drive to become one of the leading economies of the world by the year 2020, the present administration has resolved to integrate sustainable environmental development and enhancement of supporting infrastructure into our national development agenda. We are aware of the risks of climate change, land degradation and poor environmental sanitation, all of which reinforce the mandate and the role of NESREA in our National Development.

I welcome and fully support this Corporate Strategic Plan of NESREA and will support the Director General in its delivery. I am pleased that the Plan describes the scale of the environmental and social challenges, and also explains how NESREA, with the support of other Ministries, International Development Partners and the Civil Society, will start to address these issues in the years ahead.

I look forward to seeing the progress being made by NESREA in terms of building environmental capacity and where necessary, enforcing compliance in the various sectors that have the tendency to impact negatively on the environment.

**Mr John Ogar Odey,
Honourable Minister of Environment.**

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

I welcome and support this Corporate Strategic Plan for NESREA. It reflects the significant commitment the Senate has made to tackle environmental degradation across Nigeria. We are pleased that environmental regulation and enforcement play a stronger role in protecting and improving the natural resources that underpin our growing economy.

Our committee looks forward to continuing to work with NESREA in helping to secure the resources necessary to deliver this Strategy.

**Senator (Dr.) Grace Folashade Bent,
Distinguished Chairman, Senate Committee on Environment & Ecology.**

Improving the quality of our environment and the protection of our natural resources and assets are well supported by the Federal House of Representative Committee on Environment. I welcome and fully support this NESREA Corporate Strategic Plan and look forward to working with the Director General in helping deliver the necessary resources and regulations.

**Honourable Duro Faseyi,
Honourable Chairman, House Committee on Environment,**

NESREA our duty

The National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA) was created by an Act of National Assembly on 31st July 2007 as an Agency of the Federal Ministry of Environment.

NESREA has the responsibility for the protection and development of the environment, biodiversity conservation and sustainable development of Nigeria's natural resources in general and environmental technology including coordination, and liaison with relevant stakeholders within and outside Nigeria on matters of enforcement of environmental standards, regulations, rules, laws, policies and guidelines.

The NESREA Act empowers the Agency to be responsible for enforcing all environmental laws, guidelines, policies, standards and regulations in Nigeria, as well as enforcing compliance with provisions of international agreements, protocols, conventions and treaties on the environment to which Nigeria is a signatory.

The Challenge Ahead

Our **vision** is to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment for all Nigerians; while our **mission** is to inspire personal and collective responsibility in building an environmentally conscious society for the achievement of sustainable development in Nigeria.

The environment is very important to everyone's wellbeing. A high quality environment will help people to live longer in good health. A good environment is also good for business. We therefore need to make the best use of the resources available to us to realise such an environment.

At no time before in the history of Nigeria has the need to radically address the environmental challenges besieging the nation been so urgent. Nigeria, which was previously perceived as being immune to natural disasters has unfortunately over the past decades of sustained neglect of the environment and ecosystem, become an emerging destination of environmental degradation and a global flashpoint on account of the increasing and sustained risks of ecological disasters and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Even as the nation's geographical location cushions her from many natural disasters, Nigeria remains threatened by a combination of; the rapid and unabated desertification in the North; the environmental degradation, gas flaring and pollution in the South-south; the sustained gully and flood erosion ravaging the Southeast; urban congestion, industrial pollution, unsustainable waste management practices and squalor in the Southwest and other major cities; and deforestation in the middle belt and tropical forest destinations nationwide.

Not only do these environmental problems continue to constitute grave health hazards and contribute significantly to growing poverty, they are also a major constraint to sustainable development and Nigeria's vision to be amongst the top 20 nations in 2020. It is therefore gratifying to note that environmental sustainability is a critical component of the Seven Point Development Agenda of President Umaru Yar' Adua, GCFR.

President Yar' Adua's well-thought out Seven-Point Agenda focuses on Critical Infrastructure, Niger Delta, Food Security, Human Capital Development, Land Tenure and Home Ownership, National Security and Intelligence, and Wealth Creation. These elements are key drivers to the socio-economic development of Nigeria. The success of this agenda will depend to a great extent on how well environmental considerations are factored into the sectoral implementation of the agenda, taking cognisance of the fact that environmental issues are inextricably linked to economic development activities.

The implementation of NESREA programmes, for the promotion of environmental protection and sustainable development, leading to ecosystem integrity in all the sectors, supports the implementation of Mr. President's 7-Point Agenda.

Based on putting in place a more sustainable environmental protection and natural resources conservation framework, the Agency has embarked on the development of this Corporate Strategic Plan. This Plan describes the strategic priorities and outcomes that we will focus on and the key actions we will be taking over the next three years to adequately and effectively respond to these environmental challenges.

Building the intellectual, technical and environmental leadership capacity in ourselves, our partners and industry will be a priority, as we will be enforcing compliance with regulations and importantly increasing the environmental awareness of the Nigerian people.

We recognise the fact that to achieve our vision of a cleaner and healthier environment for all Nigerians will take much investment, regulation, personal and collective responsibility. We also acknowledge that we cannot achieve this vision alone and we look forward to the joint working and support of our partners in its delivery.

Dr. (Mrs.) Ngeri S. Benebo, JP
Director General / CEO

Summary of the Key Strategic and Environmental Changes resulting from our Activity and Partnerships
By 2012 we aim to have made progress in relation to:

2009/10	2010/11	2011/12
Our initial Regulations being published to the targeted sectors and the general public	An appropriate increase in the budgetary provision for environmental matters	Improving the environmental sanitation and waste disposal methods in the 36 State Capitals and the FCT
An increase in the level of voluntary compliance across all industrial sectors.	An increased number of industrial, commercial and servicing facilities adopting cleaner production techniques	Observing a reduction in sanitation related epidemic / communicable diseases in the country
Improved technical support from development partners and donor agencies on environmental enforcement programmes	An increased number of water bodies being free from visible litter and waste	Improved water and air quality from the 1999 State of the environment Report baseline
An increased number of stakeholders' participation in NESREA programmes.	The development of and access to alternative energy sources other than firewood	An increased spawning of fish species that have been severely impacted by historic water pollution
Increased and improved cooperation with the States and Local governments on environmental enforcement activities	An increase in the number of agreed Industry Sectoral MoUs	Improved forest cover from the 1998 baseline including increased afforestation and tree planting
The availability of qualitative and quantitative environmental data and evidence in support of regulations and developing environmental standards	The mainstreaming of environmental enforcement concerns into national developmental agenda	Increased the tarage of remediated and rehabilitated land
	Reducing the incidences of land degradation and bush burning	Less incidences of flood and major soil erosion

Environmental Priorities

Environmental pollution and degradation of natural resources such as land, fresh and marine waters, forest and biodiversity threaten human livelihood and health. Wealth creation by exploiting natural resources such as in energy production and consumption, frequently has an environmental downside, which may in turn threaten human health and the quality of life, including food security. Environmental pollution from power generation and transmission, transportation and industrial production aggravate global warming. Deforestation arising from agricultural production leads to soil erosion and biodiversity loss. In addition, occasional catastrophic accidents associated with these development activities are widely recognized problems.

To realise our corporate vision, two broad ranging environmental outcomes were identified. These are borne out of the fact that inappropriate and inadequate regulation of our environment constitutes a major challenge to socio-economic development. These outcomes represent what the Agency wants to happen in Nigeria.

- a. Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss; and
- b. Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and wastes control.

To explain how we are working towards these broad outcomes, we have described the key areas we aim to make progress in, over the coming years. This summary of key strategic and environmental activity will provide us with the benchmarks and milestones to review our progress.

We also recognise that NESREA is developing as an organisation and we shall continue to build our capacity and capability and that of

others.

This Corporate Strategic Plan identifies some of the topical environmental issues we will focus on and importantly, describe the programme that NESREA will carry out to build the requisite environmental capacity and capability across Nigeria, a fundamental building block of sustainable development.

Future Pressures

NESREA recognises that there are some risks that also need to be understood and where possible mitigated, these can be summarised as:

Climate Change the impacts of climate change are already being seen with changing weather patterns such as more rainfall and higher temperatures. The combination of droughts and floods will become more obvious and the need to both adapt to these changing conditions and where possible mitigate the further release of greenhouse gases will be a priority for NESREA and our National Government. Climate Change will impact the way we live our lives, the way we use our land and water and the way we work.

Investment to achieve the vision of ensuring a cleaner and healthier environment for all Nigerians will require regulation coupled with significant investments and behavioural change. Through raising environmental awareness and standards, we will solicit for appropriate investments to support this major programme of work. Whilst the Government will play its part, private sector investments will be critical at a time when the global economics situation is poor.

Growth and regeneration the 2020 vision for Nigeria creates some huge opportunities for the nation to be amongst the world leading nations and with that stimulus, a thriving economy underpinned by growing and developing industries. The aim is that, this growth is done in a sustainable way. The risk is that the growth is unplanned and outstrips the critical, environmental and sustainable infrastructure needed to fully support it.

Our Framework for Action

In considering how we look to deliver the environmental outcomes, we have linked our activity and resources under 5 building blocks, these are:

Environmental advocacy, advice and communication;
 Regulation;
 Environmental monitoring and reporting;
 Partnering and working through others; and
 Developing ourselves and learning from others.

The following tables link our strategic action and indicators of progress.

Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and waste control	
Strategy Block	Strategic Actions
Environmental Advocacy, Communication and Advice	<p>We will work with other Government Agencies (national and local) to where possible, align our plans and priorities and messages.</p> <p>We will work with Industry sectors, in terms of regulation, environmental impact and future investment.</p> <p>We will work with other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to promote environmental awareness messages to the general public.</p> <p>We will work with State and Local Governments to help educate industry and communities including developing community based environmental programmes through our National Youth Service Core (NYSC) partnership and work with civil society groups (Faith-based organisations, non governmental organisations, etc).</p>
	<p>Partnership agreements with over 20 State Governments.</p> <p>Sector plans published for all key industrial sectors. Environmental best practice published for key sectors and technologies.</p> <p>Annual communications strategy agreed with the Ministry of Environment. Our national environmental conferences will continue to grow and stimulate action</p> <p>We will have a presence in all 36 States and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Our NYSC programme will be delivering real environmental benefit to local communities. Our community programmes will be recognised as helping spread the increase of greater environmental awareness amongst their communities. Environmental awareness will be greater across the</p>

Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss	
Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and waste control	
Strategy Block	Strategic Actions
Regulations and standards	<p>We will develop and seek approval for a programme of appropriate regulation and guidance that will help manage the environmental risks</p> <p>We will work with the Judiciary to explain the regulations, environmental risks and the responsibilities of those who should be accountable.</p> <p>In support of the approved regulations we will introduce site related permits to interpret the regulation and ensure the responsible person of the business understands the permitted levels of pollution and the consequence of non compliance.</p> <p>We will work with other National and State Government Agencies to ensure our inspection and enforcement work and effort are aligned to theirs. We will forge and agree to joint priorities and partnerships to ensure our resources are used most effectively.</p>
	<p>Regulatory programmes agreed with the Federal Ministry of Environment.</p> <p>Regulation approved with supporting guidance for key industry sectors.</p> <p>Judiciary understanding of environmental challenges and supporting legislative framework.</p> <p>Specific judges specialising in environmental law and cases.</p> <p>All major polluting industries will have agreed improvement plans linked to the permit conditions.</p> <p>We will have developed and piloted 'regulatory plans' with other National Agencies and State Government's linking and aligning our regulatory efforts with those of other relevant Agencies.</p> <p>Industries will be introducing their own environmental management systems.</p>

Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss	
Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and waste control	
Strategy Block	Strategic Actions
Environmental Monitoring and Reporting	<p>We will finalise the baseline data and information that describe the current status of the Nigerian environment in relation to enforcement activities.</p> <p>We will develop systems to collect, access and analyse environmental data and information.</p> <p>We will develop continual environmental monitoring programmes in relation to air quality, waste management, water quality, biodiversity and pollution in general.</p> <p>Our monitoring programme will focus on environmental pressures not monitored by other Agencies.</p> <p>We will develop agreements with International and National, as well as relevant Stakeholders to collect, access and share environmental data and information.</p>
	<p>Produced a regular annual status of the Nigerian Environment in relation to enforcement activities.</p> <p>Produced a report of the best and worst environmental industries and organisations in Nigeria.</p> <p>We will have an Information Technology (IT) based system that enables the effective analysis and reporting of environmental evidence.</p> <p>A sampling and reporting process will be established and embedded across Nigeria. This will help us understand the different risk and environmental impacts from industry, waste disposal, land use, and climatic change.</p> <p>Memorandum of Understanding will be in place across all tiers of Government, including State Environment Protection Agencies, as well as International Regulatory Agencies and Stakeholders in relation to environmental information sharing.</p>

Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and waste control		
Strategy Block	Strategic Actions	By 2012, we will have
Partnering and Working Through Others	<p>We will support and promote the development of key strategic environmental infrastructure, particularly in relation to waste management, water management and air quality, linked to sustainable energy generation.</p> <p>We will work with the initial 18 State Governments where NESREA has offices to agree partnerships focussing on joint environmental priorities including increasing environmental awareness and compliance monitoring.</p> <p>We will work with other National Agencies including the Police, Customs, Security, Oil and Gas, Water Resources, Forestry and Education to reinforce environmental messages and policies.</p>	<p>Reduced the scale of waste dumping.</p> <p>Waste Strategies and the necessary waste infrastructure to treat and dispose of waste will be developing in at least 10 States.</p> <p>Enabled the adequate disposal of waste water and sewerage.</p> <p>Joint State Action Partnerships will be delivering real environmental protection and improvement.</p> <p>Wider coverage across the electronic and print media of environmental issues, messages and solutions. The school curriculum will include environmental messages and promote good environmental practices.</p>

Improved quality of air, land, and water, as well as reduced biodiversity loss Effective compliance and environmental stewardship in sanitation and waste control		
Strategy Block	Strategic Actions	By 2012, we will have
Developing ourselves and learning from others	<p>We will develop a framework for staff development and support that both attracts and retains the people needed to help NESREA fulfil its vision.</p> <p>We will continue to share and seek support from development partners and programmes in other countries.</p> <p>We will work with the United Nations, World Bank and others to share our experiences and learn from others. We will support the Nigerian Government in relation to its response to Climate Change and other emerging environmental challenges</p>	<p>Agreed staff attachments/secondments with major industries.</p> <p>Our recruitment policy and reward strategy enables us to recruit professionals with industrial and regulatory experience.</p> <p>Our in-house training programme continues to develop the environmental leaders of the future.</p> <p>Our overseas placement programme running in 3 countries, including the UK where it started.</p> <p>Contributed to and developed Enforcement programmes across the African continent.</p> <p>NESREA experiences being shared around the world and in particular in developing nations looking to follow our example.</p>