



United States Diplomatic Mission to Nigeria, Public Affairs Section
Plot 1075, Diplomatic Drive, Central Business District, Abuja
Telephone: 09-461-4000. Website at <http://nigeria.usembassy.gov>

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 11, 2017

PR-016/2017

U.S. Government Launches \$2.5 million Water and Sanitation Project for Kaduna and Bauchi States

Kaduna, Nigeria – Today at the State House, the U.S. government, through its Agency for International Development (USAID), launched a new water and sanitation activity that will help Kaduna and Bauchi states improve the health and hygiene of their populations.

Under the two-year, \$2.5 million Water and Sanitation Coordination Project (WCP), USAID will work with Bauchi and Kaduna states. Both states have recently received substantial investments for water and sanitation infrastructure from the World Bank and African Development Bank.

The WCP will provide governance support for these new infrastructure facilities and also generate data critical to develop enhanced Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) programming and build a community of practice for WASH professionals throughout Nigeria.

USAID is working with the Kaduna and Bauchi state water boards to maintain a path toward financial and commercial viability. By strengthening their capacity to make solid investment decisions, improving billing and collections, and being responsive to the concerns of their customers, more people and businesses will ultimately have access to water and sanitation services.

“Infrastructure investments are essential, but not sufficient to extend water and sanitation services to even more residents,” USAID/Nigeria Mission Director Stephen M. Haykin said at the launch. “This is where [our] new project lends support.”

According to the UN, about 57 million people lack access to safe drinking water in Nigeria. Each year, waterborne illnesses kill around 1 million Nigerian children under the age of five.

The new activity builds upon the USAID Sustainable Water and Sanitation in Africa activity in Bauchi, Ebonyi, and Rivers states. Improving WASH services is a component of a broader [Memorandum of Understanding](#) in support of economic growth between USAID and the Kaduna state government signed in April.

Speaking on behalf of the two benefiting states, the Governor of Bauchi State, Barrister Mohammed Abdullahi Abubakar, pledged the commitment and political will of the people and states of Kaduna and Bauchi in ensuring the success of the project. “There is no gainsaying the fact that support from USAID is very essential in building the capacity and good governance of key institutions of Bauchi and Kaduna states,” he said.



From left: Kaduna State Commissioner for Water Resources, Sulieman Aliyu Lere, Chief of Staff to Kaduna State Governor, Alhaji Bachir Saidu, Governor of Bauchi State, Barrister Mohammed Abdullahi Abubakar, and USAID/Nigeria Mission Director Stephen M. Haykin.

About USAID: USAID partners to end extreme poverty and promote resilient, democratic societies while advancing our security and prosperity. In its partnership with Nigeria, the United States strengthens social stability through social services, supports transparent and accountable governance, promotes a more market-led economy, and enhances Nigeria’s capacity as a responsible regional and trade partner.

Relevant information about U.S. policies and programs in Nigeria can be found on our websites:

<http://nigeria.usembassy.gov> and www.usaid.gov/ng

###

Relevant information about U.S. policies and programs in Nigeria can be found on our websites:
<http://nigeria.usembassy.gov> and www.usaid.gov/ng

