

# **U.N. IN ACTION**

Week of 7 April 2003 Programme No.850 Length: 3'13"

#### UNDP ENHANCES FISH PRODUCTION IN LAGOS

VIDEO	<u>AUDIO</u>

## **NARRATION**

CROWDS/TRAFFIC (13") Nigeria, with 120 million people has the largest

population in Africa. It faces a tremendous

challenge in producing enough food to meet the

basic needs of its population.

WATER/CITY (14") Fish was a staple food in the Nigerian diet. But

pollution and decreasing stocks have caused

problems for both consumers and for fishermen,

who lost their income and can no longer feed

their families.

UNDP MEETING WITH UNDP, the United Nations Development

COMMUNITY (22") Programme, is therefore supporting a project for

fishermen in Ebute-Afuye, a community located

on the outskirts of Lagos, Nigeria's largest and

most important city. UNDP's Programme

Advisor, Solomon Handuku, has been working

with the local community:

#### HANDUKU:

**SOLOMON HANDUKU ON** 

"We have succeeded in reorienting their minds

CAMERA (15")

and their hearts to believe and accept aquaculture as one of the viable projects that could bring improvements in their lives."

### <u>NARRATION</u>

MEN DIGGING, CLEARING THE

AREA (11")

To establish fish farming facilities, the fishermen were first trained in building fish ponds, management and raising catfish.

FISH PONDS (7")

Both men and women are participating in the project. More than 150 ponds have been dug.

MEN PULLING IN FISH-LADEN NETS (11")

After four months they can harvest the fish and sell them in the marketplace. The income being generated has helped to reduce poverty, says community leader, Jonathan James.

## JAMES:

JONATHAN JAMES ON CAMERA (8")

"Our people here are very happy and grateful, because they have profited from it and some have used the money to send their children to school."

#### NARRATION

MARKET SHOTS (22")

Along with the economic benefits of fish farming came the creation of direct and indirect employment for more than 5,000 people. Other

positive effects are the improved standard of living and the building of self-esteem among the fisherfolk. Mbaya Kankwenda is UNDP's Resident Representative in Nigeria.

### KANKWENDA:

MBAYA KANKWENDA ON CAMERA (23") "In terms of objectives and the results expected from this kind of support: one, it is, of course, they have something to eat – so we are fighting hunger in that area; second, we're stabilizing the population – and that is important, to avoid rural urban migration."

### **NARRATION**

FISH PULLED OUT BY NET (23")

There's an old saying that "if you give a man a fish he will eat for a day, but if you teach a man to fish he will eat for a lifetime". The people of Ebute-Afuye are putting this principle into practice and thereby improving their own living standards in a sustained and ecologically sound way.

LOGO (20")

This report was prepared by Chaim Litewski for the United Nations.