

STAKEHOLDERS MEETING, SITE HANDING OVER AND INTRODUCTION OF CONSULTANT FOR THE CONDUCT OF PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY AND PRODUCTION OF REPORT OF IKE-BUNU-SUNAWA, KABBA/BUNU L.G.A. OF KOGI STATE HELD ON 24TH JANUARY, 2019

A stakeholders meeting, site handing over and introduction of Consultant-Phase Associates to Ike-Bunu community for the Conduct of Pre-feasibility Studies of Ike-Bunu-Sunawa, Kabba/Bunu, L.G.A., Kogi State was led by Deputy Director Technical Services were held on Thursday 24th January, 2019. The team met with the host communities of Ike-Bunu, the proposed site of the sugar projects. The facilitator of the project, Mr. S. Awoniyi, the Consultant, Phase Associates, Traditional rulers and the Administrator of Ike-Bunu L.G.A. as well as the Honourable Commissioner Ministry of Agriculture, Kogi State all participated in the meeting which was held at Ike-Bunu Local Government Secretariat. The purpose of the meeting was to bring all stakeholders together to understand the role and responsibilities attached to each of them, so that every stakeholder will know their respective roles.

In his brief remarks, the meeting, the Deputy Director Technical Services stressed that the purpose of the meeting was to bring all the stakeholders together to understand the responsibilities attached. He said meetings of this kind will help in cementing cooperation and resolving grievances among the stakeholders. He later urged the communities to give the Consultant maximum cooperation to carry out the job adding that all that is needed from them was support, cooperation, and necessary collaboration to achieve a better result. He then formally introduced the Consultant, Phase Associates to the stakeholders. In his welcome address, Mr. A. Femi a representative of Ike-Bunu L.G.A. expressed much appreciation having all the stakeholders of Ike-Bunu community at the Local Government Secretariat for the meeting. He called on the stakeholders to have peaceful deliberations while urging the communities to give full support to the consultant. He hoped that the successful establishment of the sugar company will engage the youth of Ike-Bunu and other communities around.

Chief J. O. Awoniyi, the facilitator of the project compared the project with Obajana Cement factory, which he said started the same way. He stated that the arable land of Ike-Bunu is among the most productive in Nigeria and it was based

on this consideration that the National sugar Development Council awarded the contract to Phase Associates for the conduct of Pre-feasibility Studies and Production of Report. He also emphasized that the Consultant, Phase Associates and State Commissioner of Agriculture and Local Government Administrator are all from Bunu land, he therefore said that he has no doubt whatsoever that the proposed sugar project is going to be a successful one.

The Consultants, Phase Associates led by Prof. Jimoh, after introducing his team comprising of Soil scientist, Agronomist and Water Resources Engineers assured the communities that they would soon move in to make some findings regarding the studies. On the issue of security, he stressed that he is an indigene of Ike-Bunu land, he therefore solicited maximum security cover in conducting their assignment in the area for his team.

The Hon. Commissioner Ministry of Agriculture stated that he was delighted that the project is taking place at Ike-Bunu, noting that Kogi State Government had just signed MoU with NNPC on bio-fuel which will soon come on board in the State. He said His Excellency, Governor Yahaya Bello is ready and committed to giving all the support needed for the progress of the proposed sugar project.



Stakeholders at the meeting at Kabba/Bunu Local Government Secretariat