

Progress report on Shell Milestone 8 activities following recommendations made by evaluators during the M & E visit (17-25 August 2009) in Rivers, Bayelsa and Delta States

1. Reactivate Obelle Mill and conduct training on enterprise development

This plan was not achieved due to heightened tension in the area. It was therefore recommended that the resources meant for this work were used for high value yielding MPCs. In this respect the heat exchanger with a blower was replaced in the processing facility at Rukpokwu (in the first instance) to enhance productivity. The centre was also meant to be upgraded to an SME through the provision of a flash dryer. The processing centre is being currently modified by the owner to accommodate the flash dryer. The commissioning of this new setup is planned for the end of November 2009.

Training activities for youths in the three States on rasper making, product packaging, and marketing are scheduled before the end of October 2009.

2. Upgrade of MPCs in Delta State

In Bomadi, the pending work has been completed on the projection of roof at the fryer, fire loading inlet, and tiling of trough and press panel (Figure 1). At Otor-Owhe, the MPC has been fully protected with galvanized wire mesh. Galvanized wire-mesh has also been fixed, and the fryer panel completely reinforced at Otor-Iyede (Figure 2). At Abraka, the entrepreneur of the centre demanded a toilet and a cloak room estimated at ₦700,000 instead of ramming round the building estimated at ₦85,000. We are currently negotiating on how best to do this. Arrangements are currently being made for the printing of the sign posts for all the processing centres. These will be mounted as soon as they are ready.



Figure 1: Roof projected, and presser base and cassava mash packing trough tiled at Bomadi



Figure 2: Galvanized wire mesh installed and fryer orientation corrected at Otor- Iyede

3. Provision of SEDI mobile graters to selected clusters/communities

Branded mobile graters (100; Figure 3) have been fabricated and moved to Onne Station for inspection by Shell authorities on Wednesday 21, October 2009. The graters will be moved to the communities through the ADP Offices. The total of 100 machines will be distributed as follows: Rivers 50, Bayelsa 20, and Delta 30. Training of the beneficiaries (already been identified by the cluster leaders) on the use of the equipment was completed between January and March 2009. However a refresher course may be necessary during the time of distribution.



Fig 3: Branded mobile graters.

4. Upgrade MPCs in Rivers State

Most of the work here has been satisfactorily completed including the work at Rukpokwu reported in Section 1 above (see Figure 4). The only outstanding work was to replace the heat chamber. The current heat chamber was dismantled and the exhaust covered against rain. After an intensive 5 days work and test running the dryer came out working more efficiently.



Figure 4: Happy proprietress



Dismantling of the heat chamber at Rukpokwu

5. Upgrade facilities in Bayelsa State

- The hammer-mill has been supplied and installed at Josy Integrated Farm (Figure 5).
- The *gari* roaster has also been padded with stainless steel foil and paddles supplied to replace the old ones..
- Mechanical sifters have been supplied at Odi, Yibama (Oruma) and Elebele (SMEs).
- At Oruma (Yibama) MPC, the remaining press has been supplied and the soak-away pit constructed.
- Sign posts arrangement to be erected in the remaining centres are currently being made for.



Figure 5: *Gari* roaster and hammer-mill at Josy Farm, Otuegwe II



Figure 6: Godgift Enterprise, Oruma Centre (former intervention centre)

5. Completion of all work at SIAS Elele-Etche

The Flash Dryer was moved from IITA-Onne Station and installed at SIAS Small-Medium Scale processing centre (Figure 7). The *gari* fryer chimney has been extended to ensure that the smoke is discharged outside. All other machine installation has also been done. The 500 KV generator set

required to power the plant will be provided by the proprietor Mr Charles Nwonuala, as this was the agreement right from the onset.



Figure 7: IITA truck delivering flash dryer components Flash drier being installed

In the dry section, the *gari* fryer chimney was also extended and piped outside the factory to remove the smoke from the processing area Figure 8.



Figure 8: Extended Chimney pipe

In the wet area, outstanding installation work was concluded such as providing a starter to the imported self-feeding grater, installing a 5hp 3 phase electric motor (Figure 9), and connecting a starter to the Patino grater, fixing the motor and belt on the high output twin basket imported press.



Figure 9: 5 hp, 3 phase electric motor drive



Motor starters installed for the 3 machines

Outstanding activities to be carried out by the proprietor include the installation of a 40 kva generating set, to provide electricity to the machines, tiling of the wet section, wiring of power to the wet area, providing a 60 amps gear switch, as was provided for the dry section, securing the factory with doors and gate, piping the water supply to the processing plant, flooring the entire dry section and part of the wet area, clearing the bushes around the factory, removing tractors, accessories, and oil processing machines from the factory, providing a door near the

feeding port of the flash dryer for easy access to the heat exchanger, and painting the entire building.

5. Ahoda SME

All tasks were completed during the first phase and this was ascertained by the SPDC evaluators.

6. Afam SME

Repairs in this Centre included the replacement of the louves with safer material, installation of new tiles in the processing and washing bay, and closing the soak-away. The leaking roof has also been mended, the lighting points repaired, and the building painted (Figure 10). The Centre is ready for commissioning.



Figure 10: Renovated Centre

Test running

7. Capacity strengthening and provision of machines at Oguta Agric Resource Centre (Imo State)

The following equipment has been delivered to ARC-Oguta on 10 September and 30 September 2009: 1 complete set of cabinet dryer with 52 shelves, 1 screw press (Brazilian type) with 2 baskets, 1 Sifter with 2kp electric rotator, 2 Patino graters with drums and 1 set of bearing, 2 Hydraulic bearing presses, 4 units of raspas and small tray *gari* fryers. The equipment was received by Mr Iworisha Frank Ossai on behalf of the Enigbo Abatu village in Oguta, Imo State (see photos). They have designated a former piggery within the Centre as the building in which the machines will be installed.



Mr Iworisha Frank Ossai and two others receiving equipment on behalf of the Oguta community