



**DECLARATION AFTER A ONE-DAY COMMUNITY TOWN HALL MEETING ON INCLUSIVE BUDGET ORGANIZED BY THE NIGER DELTA BUDGET MONITORING GROUP (NDEBUMOG) WITH SUPPORT FROM OXFAM IN NIGERIA, AT METHODIST WOMEN CIVIC CENTRE, IKOT EKPENE, ON THE 15TH DAY OF MAY, 2015**

**The Niger Delta Budget Monitoring Group (NDEBUMOG)** with support from Oxfam in Nigeria, held a one-day Inclusive Budget Town Hall Meeting for the Ikot Ekpene cluster communities. The communities include Essien Udim, Obot Akara, Abak, Ukanafun, Ika, Ikot Ekpene, Ini, Ikono, Etim Ekpo, and Oruk Anam. They were so clustered for the essence of meeting.

**The Town Hall Meeting** was attended by Market Women, Clergymen, Youth Groups, Community Associations, Students, Faith Based Groups and Community Based Organizations, among others.

**We**, the participants at the Town Hall meeting, resolved as follows:

**Information** is power and knowledge of any process leads to sustainability. Hence, we are demanding for inclusion and integration in the budget processes of all tiers of the government for the good of Ikot Ekpene stakeholders.

**Realizing** that some Ikot Ekpene cluster projects in the budget for the year 2013 were not carried out during that fiscal year. In view of this, we (the Ikot Ekpene stakeholders), hereby demand that our right to inclusion in a participatory democracy be respected by agencies of government. Henceforth, the government should include Ikot Ekpene cluster communities in its budget consultation, need assessments and budget defence of MDAs, particularly from agencies, such as Local Government, State Government, the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and Budget of the Federal Government.

**We demand that**, henceforth, Local, State and Federal Government budgets should be accessible and available to all stakeholders in Ikot Ekpene area. Gully erosion/flood control should be extended to other Ikot Ekpene clusters outside Abak Local Government.

**Effective waste management equipment** should be provided in all Ikot Ekpene communities, including construction of guest houses in Ikot Ekpene cluster. Unstable

power supply should be addressed adequately with more high/low tension substations constructed in Ikot Ekpene communities.

**Deplorable primary and secondary school buildings** and facilities in Ikot Ekpene communities should be renovated. It has also been observed that some highly-placed members of the communities interfere and receive bribe from contractors and aided them to do shoddy jobs in the communities. Again, some youths who do not have the necessary skills foment trouble when projects are to be executed in communities. Henceforth, the youths should desist from such violent conduct in order for the communities to enjoy peace and attract infrastructural development.

We commit to follow up on inclusive governance accountability that would deepen democracy in Nigeria.

**Signed**

**Uwemedimo Edet Okon-Ikot Ekpene LGA**

**Evangelist Nse Edet-Manta 1, Abak LGA**

**Ema Ekpo-Ikono LGA**

**Otuekong Udoekong-Ikpe Udok, Essien Udim LGA**

**Chris Emmanuel-Edem Idim Ibakasi, Ini LGA**

**Glory Uko-Oruk Anam LGA**

**Stella Umoh-Obot Akara LGA**

**Glory Godfrey-Ika LGA**

**Enobong Frank-Etim Ekpo LGA**

**Ini Udo Ekong -Ukanafun LGA**