U unveils €956,000 projects to support persons with Albinism, water, sanitation in Nigeria

by Bill Okonedo | April 12, 2018 10:28 am

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The European Union (EU), on Wednesday, said it had concluded arrangements to support persons with Albinism and Water/Sanitation in Nigeria, with five projects with a total funding amount of €956,000.

In a statement issued by EU and signed by Modestus Chukwulaka, EU delegation press officer, the Union said it was committed to promoting and protecting human rights in Nigeria, especially the rights of persons with albinism (PWAs), as well as mitigating the conflict in the Niger-Delta region.

Chukwulaka said the EU would mitigate in the Niger Delta conflict by addressing the main causes of the unrest and violence, which include bad governance, youth unemployment, and poor delivery of basic services with the launch of five new projects.

The statement read, “One of the projects is funded under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) programme, while the other four are funded under Component 3 of the Niger-Delta Support Programme (NDSP).

“With a total funding amount of € 0.956 million, the projects will be implemented over a five-year period. The overall objective of the EIDHR programme is to help civil society become an effective force for political reform and defence of human rights.

e programme has been running in Nigeria for almost 20 years and has supported local and international civil society organisations more than €20 million to implement projects across a wide gamut of human rights issues including the death penalty, press freedom, torture and ill-treatment, women’s rights, children’s rights, youth leadership, peace building, elections and voter education, a human trafficking.”

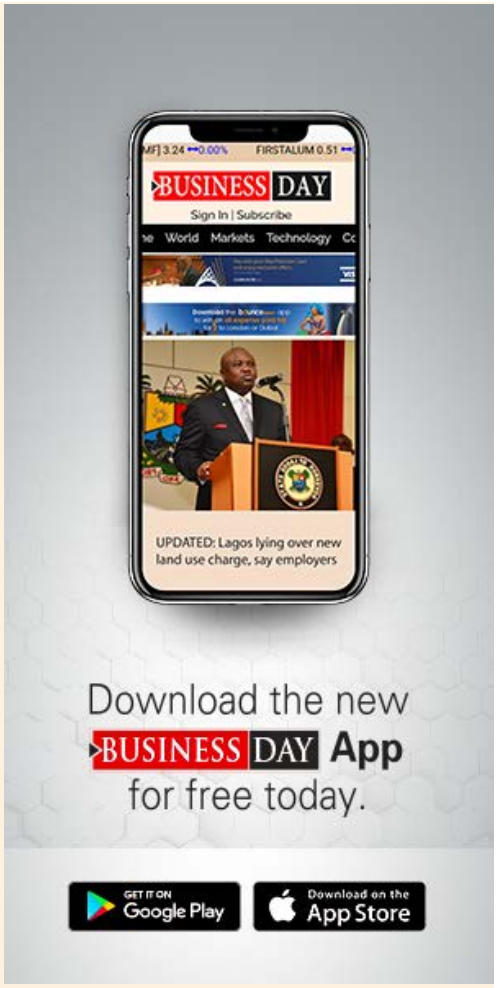
He noted that, while NDSP aims to increase access to safe, adequate, and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services delivery to underserved populations in 5 EU supported Niger-Delta states of Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo and Rivers.

Speaking on the EIDHR project, Ketil Karlsen, head of the EU Delegation to Nigeria and ECOWAS, said, “In October 4, 2017, the European Parliament passed a Resolution on the Situation of Persons with Albinism in Africa. Part of the Resolution calls for the EU and its Member States to keep engaging with the countries affected, in order to effectively support their efforts to formulate policies addressing the specific needs and rights of persons with albinism.

“The European Union is proud to announce that it is the first donor world-wide to support the albinism cause. The EU Delegation to

Nigeria is equally proud to announce that it is the first Delegation to take forward the recommendations of the Resolution."
The EIDHR grant contract is implemented by The Albino Foundation. The NDSP grant contracts are implemented by Initiative for Community Development, Leadership Initiative for Transformation and Empowerment, New Initiative for the Enhancement of Life and Health, Riverine Communities Health and Development Organisation.

Tags: 000 projects, EU unveils, persons with, to support, €956



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