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Hon. Minister Water Resources

#### Patrone

Engr. Ebele Okeke FNSE, CFR Engr. Kashim Ali, FNSE, mni

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# SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY FOR WATER FOR WOMEN OF OMIDOYIN COMMUNITY, KWARA

Dear colleagues and friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you a story with a happy ending. You may recall a video that made the rounds late last year showing the pitiful plight of women in an unspecified location in Nigeria, trying to

access water for the domestic needs of their families from a source that can only be described as liquid mud.

#### A video of the situation before the project

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1-

1eu1Oe8BjJH4guaeI7E562T0JmQGYvn/view?usp=drive link

Using the networks of its members, FEMinWASH traced and identified the community, and contacted the General Manager, the Kwara State Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency, Mr. Oladipo Adewumi Oluwafemi who immediately sprung into action. He visited the site, briefed the Commissioner for Water Resources, Mr. Usman Yunusa Lade, who in turn informed the Kwara State Governor; HE AbdulRahaman AbdulRazaq. The State Ministry of Water Resources mobilized a contractor and it is our heartfelt pleasure to say, the women, children and people of Omidoyin Community, Moro local government now have potable drinking water.

## A video of the completed project

https://drive.google.com/file/d/147Y2wVbsLCnCv-pCv1BbyIO7rPqhlnBV/view?usp=drive link

Another vulnerable group receives potable water supply! thanks to those who did not just pass by without doing something; God bless (1) the person who took the Tiktok video, (2) those who circulated it, (3) FEMinWASHs'ter Aanu' Rotimi (ED Centre for Accountability and Inclusive Development) for tracing the community and a team member, (4) FEMinWASHs'ter Bolu Onabolu for contacting RUWASSA (5) Dr Bayo Alao (ED Mercy Drop Foundation) for being a key member of the four person committee set up by FEMinWASH.

There is still a long walk to universal access and questions remain.

- 1. Less than six years to the end of the SDGs, why do 33% of Nigerians still lack access to potable water?.
- 2. How do we move from this piece meal approach to area-wide inventories and vulnerability risk ensure no one is left behind?
- 3. How do we enhance sustainability and longevity of infrastructure by always involving women in the water provision

### FEMinWASH Stronger Together.

Boluwaji Onabolu (MPH, PhD,)

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GM onsite inspection