

**AKASSA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION CELEBRATES WORLD WETLAND DAY IN AKASSA, NIGER DELTA, NIGERIA**

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**Venue:** BCM Field Ogbokiri , Akassa

The Akassa Development Foundation (ADF) is an NGO based in the Akassa Wetlands , Bayelsa State, Nigeria. The ADF has been working in the Niger Delta, Nigeria since 1997 and aims at improving the livelihoods of the thousands of people who dwell in the Akassa Wetlands through capacity building, education, natural resources management, micro credit, infrastructural development through a participatory development process.

To create awareness on importance of our wetlands and the need to imbibe sustainable wetland management practices, Akassa Development Foundation’s natural resources unit facilitated celebration of yearly World Wetland Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2007 in Akassa.

The event started with a motor bike ride by ‘Okada Union’ ( a group of over eighty motor bike riders) who drove through the communities to raise awareness on the event across Akassa communities.



**A motor bike rider on the move**



**Group of motor bike riders**

Shortly after this a brief display by some primary school pupils on the event of the Day was observed after which open speeches were given by selected members of the community on the importance of wise use of Akassa wetland resources.



**Brief display by school pupils**



**Open speech by a community leader**



**Open speech by a lady environmentalist while participants listen**

Finally, there was a friendly football match between the sea **turtle conservation club** and the **Okada Union**.



**Team members of Okada Union**



**Sea turtle club team photo**



**A participant sharing his view at the event**



**A member of sea turtle club in Akassa**

The event also gave room for a brief interactive forum where exchange of ideas was done among community members and the ADF natural resources management team to strengthen understanding of the importance of wetlands and its resources in Akassa.

Presented By

Mr. Kelechi Eleanya  
**Programme officer**  
**Natural Resources Unit**  
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