



**YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION: A STUDY OF  
JAMA'AR UNGUWAR KANAWA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, UNGUWAR  
KANAWA, KADUNA, NIGERIA.**

**<sup>1</sup>Abdullahi Hussaini and <sup>2</sup>Umar Haira'u**

**<sup>1</sup>Nigerian Meteorological Agency, Kaduna International Airport**

**<sup>2</sup>Kaduna Environmental Protection Authority**

Correspondence: [abdullahi.engineer@gmail.com](mailto:abdullahi.engineer@gmail.com), gsm: +2348033115536

**Abstract**

*This study attempt to give an insight to the activities of Jama'ar Unguwar Kanawa Development Association (JUKDA) on Environmental Sanitation. JUKDA was established by the Youth of Unguwar Kanawa in 2012 basically for the socio-economic development of Unguwar kanawa. This study concentrated on the efforts of JUKDA towards clearing blocked drainages and constructing new ones in order to create water ways for the avoidance of flooding and physical land degradation. Twenty Five (25) Streets were identified and an average of Twenty Five (25) households were found on each street. Eight (8) households were selected on each street and questions were administered on each of the head of the households. Two Hundred (200) respondents were drawn from the total of Two Hundred (200) households selected. The result indicated that Jama'ar Unguwar Kanawa Development Association has succeeded in constructing two surface drainages and rehabilitated so many old drainages across the Twenty Five (25) streets.*

**Keywords:** JUKDA, Environmental Sanitation. Unguwar Kanawa, Youth

## INTRODUCTION

Environment means different things from different perspective to different peoples and professionals. The environment is the set of conditions and circumstances affecting people's lives. The environment includes water, air and soil but also the social and economic conditions under which we live (Park, 2011). Globally, poor environmental quality is increasingly recognized as a major threat to social and economic development and even to human survival (Daramola and Olowoporoku, 2016; Acheampong, 2010; UNICEF, 2007; UNICEF, 2006; WHO, 2005). The impacts of environmental deterioration are even more severe on developing countries such as Nigeria; thus, obstructing and destabilizing socio-economic development (Bello, 2007; Mmom, 2003). The living environment is well polluted owing to social misdemeanor of indiscriminate littering, improper domestic wastewater discharge, and poor sewage disposal. These behaviors promote unsanitary living conditions that result in the breeding of communicable diseases (Daramola and Olowoporoku, 2016; Adimekwe, 2013).

Sanitation is the state of cleanliness of a place, community or people particularly relating to those aspects of human health, including the quality of life determined by physical, biological, social and psychological factors in the environment (Mensah, 2002). It can also be considered as interventions to reduce people's exposure to diseases by providing a clean environment to live and with measures to break the cycle of disease (Schertenleib, 2005). Nyamwaya (1994) also described sanitation as the proper disposal of human waste that is faeces and urine. It includes keeping the human environment free of harmful substances, which can cause diseases.

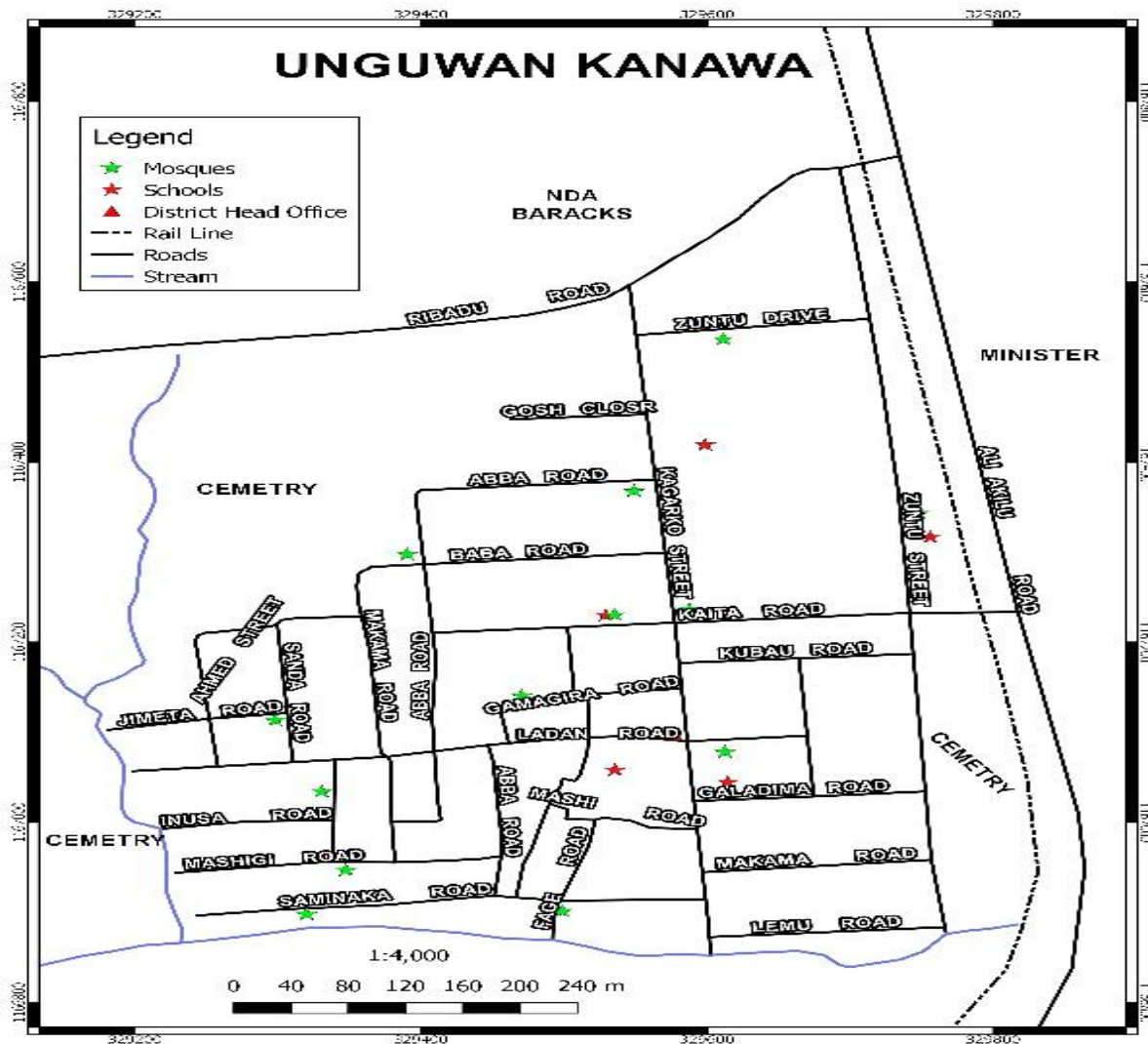
Environmental sanitation practices refer to residents' involvement in provision, utilization, and maintenance of environmental sanitation facilities and services and adherence to environmental legislation (Daramola, 2015). In Nigeria, adequate environmental sanitation

practices have not been ensured. They are characterized by lack of basic amenities and poor sanitation habits (Afon, 2006).

Jama'ar Uguwar Kanawa Development Association (JUKDA) was created in 2012 by Youth of like minds with the sole interest of developing Uguwar Kanawa socio- economically. JUKDA has demonstrated community services in different ramifications. The concentration of this study is on the drainages rehabilitated or constructed by JUKDA in its quest to reducing environmental problems like flooding and physical land degradation usually experienced by Uguwar Kanawa Dwellers.

## **STUDY AREA**

Uguwar Kanawa is not far from the central city of Kaduna state is just about 1.5km's journey. It shares boundry with Uguwar Shanu from the South and Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) from the North. It lies on latitude  $10^{\circ} 3'$  North and latitude  $7^{\circ} 25'$  East, it occupies 2176 hectares of land (KADGIS, 2019).



**Fig 1: Map showing all the streets in the study area.**

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

The information used for this study was from the questionnaire administered on the respondents selected on each street/road of Unguwar Kanawa Kaduna. There are Twenty Five (25) streets/roads at Unguwar Kanawa with an average of 25 household on each street/road. Eight (8) households were selected from each street/road and all the respondents were heads of the households. This is done in order to get their responses on how youth involvement in

environmental sanitation assisted the area in curtailing environmental problems. A total of Two Hundred (200) household heads responded.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1 shows the Age group of the respondents. Out of the Two Hundred (200) respondents, Twenty Seven (27) of the respondents falls between 19-30 age group, Forty Three (43) of the respondents are within 31-40 age group, Seventy Four (74) of the respondents falls between 41-50 age group, Thirty Three (33) falls on the age group 51-60 while Twenty Three (23) respondents falls within 61-70 age group.

**Table 1: Age Group of the Respondents**

Age Group	Number of Respondents
19-30	27
31-40	43
41-50	74
51-60	33
61-70	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

**Source: Fieldwork (2019)**

Table 2 shows the various educational qualifications within the study area. Twelve (12) of the respondents have no qualifications, Eighteen (18) have primary education, Ninety Nine (99) have secondary school education and Seventy Seven have tertiary education.

**Table 2: Educational Qualifications of the Respondents**

<b>Qualification</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>None</b>	12
<b>Primary</b>	18
<b>Secondary</b>	99
<b>Tertiary</b>	71
<b>Total</b>	200

**Source: Fieldwork (2019)**

Table 3 shows the various occupation of the Two Hundred (200) respondents. Fourteen are farmers, Thirty Two (32) are craftsmen, Thirty Eight (28) are pensioners, Thirty Nine (39) of the respondents are traders, Seventy Six (76) are civil servants and Twelve (12) are not **listed**.

**Table 3 Occupation of Respondents**

<b>Occupation of respondents</b>	<b>Number of Respondents</b>
farmers	14
Craftsmen	32
pensioners	28
Trader	39
Civil servants	76
others	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

**Source: Fieldwork (2019)**

Table 4 shows the gender of the respondents. One Eighty Eight (188) out of the Two Hundred (200) respondents are Male while only Twelve (12) are female and this is because male are mostly the head of the households.

**Table 4 Gender of Respondents**

Gender	Number of Respondents
<b>Male</b>	188
<b>Female</b>	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>200</b>

**Source: Fieldwork (2019)**

Table 4 shows that all the Two Hundreds (200) respondents confirmed the constructions of 2 new surface drainages and rehabilitation of so many drainages by Jama'ar Unguwar Kanawa Development Association (JUKDA) across all the streets. This has contributed in the curtailing of environmental menaces such as flood and physical land degradation.

**Table 4 Construction of New Drainages and the Rehabilitation of old Drainages**

Variables	Number of respondents
New Drainages	200
Rehabilitated Drainages	200

**Source: Fieldwork (2019)**



**Plate 1: JUKDA Rehabilitating a Drainage**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**





**Plate 2: JUKDA at work.**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



**Plate 3: JUKDA constructing a Drainage**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



**Plate 4: JUKDA constructing a Drainage**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



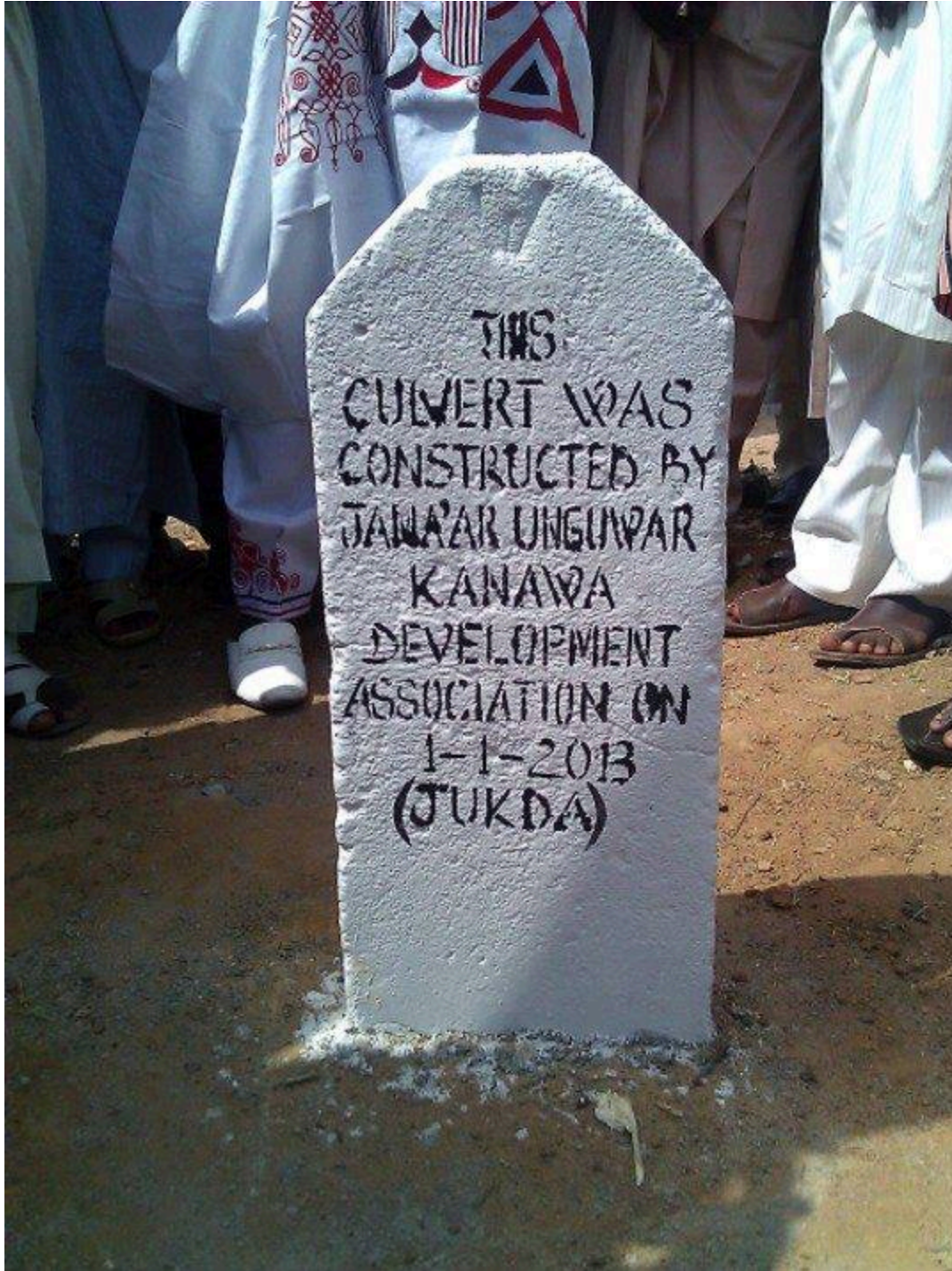
**Plate 5: JUKDA Rehabilitating a Drainage**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



**Plate 6: JUKDA's Slabs ready to be placed on a Drainage**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



**Plate 7: JUKDA commissioned a Culvert**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**



**Plate 1: JUKDA with the late District head**

**Source: Fieldwork, 2019**

## **CONCLUSION**

This study has found out the commitment and involvement of Youth in community services especially environmental sanitation. The study was able to establish the contributions of Jama'ar Unguwar Kanawa, Kaduna towards the clearance of blocked surface drainages and the construction of new ones. This has gone a long way to curtailing the overflow of water to several houses whenever rain falls and the apparent physical land degradation. The association (JUKDA) established in 2012 has brought succor to the dwellers of Unguwar Kanawa, Kaduna especially on environmental related problems.

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