**Variations, Accumulation and Recovery Capacity of Heavy metals in Sand Mine ponds of the Otamiri River in Owerri, Nigeria**

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Indiscriminate in-stream sand mining, which is on the increase in such fast developing cities in Nigeria as Owerri could portend environmental risk and so requires investigation against the backdrop of possible natural recovery processes. This anthropogenic activity is rife in the the Otamiri River- one of the major surface waters that serve the city of Owerri in southeastern Nigeria, providing for domestic source of water and fisheries to the inhabitants. The current study therefore was a contribution to the knowledge bank of water pollution and ecological dynamics.

There are no competing financial interests that could compromise the integrity of this work.

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