



## Women Environmental Programme



### **WEP held a successful annual staff retreat**

To commence the year 2017, WEP organized a two-day retreat for her staff and Board of Directors from the 4th to 5th of January 2017, at Sawalino Hotel in Keffi Nassarawa State, Nigeria.

The aim of this year's retreat was to help WEP review her projects/activities of the previous year (i.e.2016), plan ahead for the successful implementation of projects and activities in the year 2017 and reorient staff and board members on her aims and objectives.

Read more <http://bit.ly/wepannualstaffretreat2017>

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## **WEP gets Deputy Executive Director**

Women Environmental Programme has gotten a Deputy Executive Director in person of Mrs. Kyauta Giwa. This position was created following the review of WEP's organizational structure in late 2016. Mrs. Kyauta joined WEP's team in January 2017.

Until she became the Deputy Executive Director of WEP, Mrs. Kyauta was the Executive Director of Community Action for Popular Participation (CAPP), a Non-Governmental Organization based in Nigeria.

All the members of Staff and Board of Directors of WEP welcome you Madam.



## Pre-project advocacy and sensitization in Zamfara state

Between 9th and 14th January, WEP's team was in Zamfara state for a pre-project advocacy and sensitization under the Kingdom of Netherlands' supported project titled: "***Ensuring Effective Implementation of Programmes, Policies and Legislations, that contribute towards Achieving Gender Equality in Nigeria by 2030.***" The project funded under the Netherlands Accountability Fund has the objectives to: advocate for policies and legislations that promote women participation at all levels of decision making, and remove all obstacles (social, political, cultural and economic) hindering women's empowerment and participation in decision making and infringing on women's rights; ensure effective implementation of programmes and projects through capacity building of CSOs, budget monitoring and information sharing; and raise awareness amongst stakeholders on the fundamental women's rights.

Read more <http://bit.ly/wepadvocacytozamfarastate>

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## Scoping mission on the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Nigeria

Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) and Women Environmental Programme (WEP) were engaged by the Secretariat of the Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam (BSR) Conventions under the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to conduct a scoping study in Nigeria and Indonesia to identify the initiatives and success stories related to gender mainstreaming in hazardous chemicals and waste management as addressed by the three conventions. The study include: surveys, consultations, discussions with key civil servants, experts, local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, international organizations, women & environmental Civil Society Organisations, mapping of actors and waste sector, visits of sites.

Read more [Scoping mission in Nigeria](#)

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## **Training MSMEs on RECP and Industrial Symbiosis**

Thanks to Switch Africa Green Project (SAG) entitled: «Enhancing resource productivity and environmental performance of MSMEs in Burkina through the Concept of Industrial Symbiosis», the third training on Resources Efficiency and Cleaner Production (RECP) and Industrial Symbiosis (IS) for the benefit of MSMEs was done on January 26 and 27, 2017, by Women Environmental Programme Burkina Faso (WEP BF), in Ouagadougou.

Read more [Training of MSMEs on RECP and Industrial Symbiosis](#)

## **WEP's Executive Director elected as Organizing Partner (OP) of Women's Major Group for Africa Region**

Priscilla Achakpa, WEP's Executive Director was elected as the Organizing Partner (OP) of the Women's Major Group representing the Africa Region in the online election that was conducted in February, 2017.

Priscilla Achakpa was elected alongside 6 other Regional OPs and 2 Global OPs representing Global South and Global North. These OPs' tenure is from 2017-2019.

Read more [WEP ED elected OP of WMG for Africa Region](#)



## **A visit by WSSCC's Executive Director Dr. Chris Williams to Nigeria**

Dr. Chris Williams, the Executive Director of Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) visited Nigeria in February, 2017. The aim of the this visit was to strengthen WSSCC's engagement with government and to ensure government's commitment at all levels to mobilise resources to improve water, sanitation and hygiene services in Nigeria towards achieving SDG 6.

While in Nigeria, Dr. Chris Williams in company of Priscilla Achakpa, WSSCC's National Coordinator and Engr. Ebele Okeke, WSSCC's WASH Ambassador and United Purpose's team, one of the implementing partners of WSSCC held meetings with the Ministers of Water Resources, Finance, Women Affairs and Social Development, Deputy Governor of Benue State, Commissioners, Directors of Federal and State Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the private sector.

The meetings laid emphasis on strengthening systems, collaboration amongst key federal ministries especially Health, Education, Water Resources, Environment and Finance and with the civil society. Chris Williams during the meetings emphasized the need to beef up efforts in water and sanitation for 49 million Nigerians still practicing open defecation. This he said the government can do by clearly prioritizing, budgeting and providing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services both in public and private places. There is also a need, he said, to be toilets in schools clearly differentiated and designated for boys and girls with water and soap

especially to enhance school attendance for girls who are menstruating and may drop out of school during their menstruating days due to lack of decent and private places to change.

The high point of these meetings were the commitments received from the Federal Government to provide the needed support to the Partnership for Expanded Water Supply and Hygiene (PEWASH), a national mechanism launched in 2016 as a strategy to reach all Nigerians with water, sanitation and hygiene services. Benue and Cross River states government also pledged to pay their counterpart funding to up-scale RUSHPIN (Rural Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion in Nigeria) programme in Benue and Cross River States. RUSHPIN is being funded by WSSCC through the Global Sanitation Fund (GSF). Through RUSHPIN, Obanliku Local Government in Cross River State has become the first Local Government in Nigeria to attain Open Defecation Free (ODF) status.

The Federal Ministry of Water Resources also pledged to be holding twice a year, a coordination meeting with the Ministries of Health, Education, Finance, Women Affairs and Social Development and Ministry of Environment.



## **WEP Trains women-focused CSOs on Gender and SDGs - As the world commemorates another International Women's Day**

To demand effective implementation of the SDGs, other global and national development plans, Women Environmental Programme (WEP), under the project “Women CSOs Networking to Realize the Sustainable Development Goals, also known as Women2030,” funded by the European Commission, convened a 2-day training for Women-focused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Nigeria from 6-7 March, 2017 at Pope John Paul II Pastoral Center, Wuse II, Abuja, to commemorate the 2017 International Women’s Day.

Read more [WEP Trains women-focused CSOs](#)



## **AWDF Trains WEP’s Board of Directors and Management Staff on Civil Society Governance**

In the last quarter of 2016, Women Environmental Programme (WEP) benefitted from the African Women Development Fund’s ([AWDF](#)) Feminist Leaders and Governance Coaching Project.

The 9-month coaching project on leadership and governance was aimed at strengthening the leadership capacity and governance frameworks of women organizations in Africa for transformational change for women and girls.

Kick-starting the coaching project, AWDF organized a Chief Executive Officers (CEO) forum which took place from 15 - 17 November 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, for orientation, skills sharing, strategy development and networking for participating leaders, coaches and AWDF. WEP was represented in this training by Ms Evelyne Ugbe and Juliana Agema. The participants to this training were assigned coaches by AWDF for continuous interaction via phone calls, emails, Skype and where necessary in-person meetings.

In the first quarter of 2017, precisely on 8th March, based on AWDF's Feminist Leaders and Governance Coaching Project goal to strengthen governance frameworks of participating organizations, a one day workshop for organizational strengthening was organized for WEP's Board of Directors and Management Staff. The interactive workshop which was facilitated by AWDF's Coach, Dr. Yene Asigidi, had the objective to inspire strategic thinking among the Board of Directors and Management Staff towards a better governance of the organization.

The envisioning exercise during the workshop made all the participants to see WEP beyond what WEP is today. There were different visions about WEP ranging from: WEP as a global organization, WEP as grant making organization, WEP as an advisor to national and global environment, gender and sustainable development issues etc.

The outcome of this workshop was the review of WEP's governance structure, mission and vision. The reviewed governance structure, mission and vision will be unveiled to the general public in due course.



## **WEP Burkina Faso participates at Climate Change Adaptation Forum**

The NGO Care International and all its partners, namely, the Environment and Development in Africa (ENDA), the *International Development Research Centre (IDRC)*, *The African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)*, *The Climate Knowledge Brokers (CKB) Group*, invited 80 actors of several domains from public et private sectors of 23 countries, in Senegal to attend the Adaptation Learning Programme (ALP). It was a great opportunity to

strengthen the capacity of all actors by providing a platform for multi-actor learning and exchange on climate change adaptation knowledge in Africa.

Read more [WEP Burkina Faso participate at Climate Change Adaptation Forum](#)



## **State of Infrastructural Development in FCT**

Experiences from the survey conducted by Women Environmental Programme in Abuja Municipal Area Council (AMAC), Gwagwalada and Kuje Area Councils of FCT.

Read more [State of Infrastructural Development in FCT](#)



## WEP @ 20

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) will be celebrating her 20 years of existence as a Non-Governmental Organization this year. WEP will be 20 years by April, 2017. This event will be marked with the theme:

***“Celebrating 20 Years of Accomplishments and Service to Humanity.”***

The event will feature activities such as paper presentation, documentary showcasing WEP’s achievements, entertainment, side events and lots more.

Expected to be in attendance are our partners, beneficiaries, media, government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and well-wishers.

Details concerning this celebration will be communicated soon.

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