



# WOMEN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME (WEP)





## Table of Contents

List of Acronyms	Page 3
About WEP	Page 4
From the Executive Director	Page 6
2019 Our Year In View	Page 9
Environment	Page 12
Governance	Page 23
Peace & Security	Page 30
Climate Change	Page 38
Awards, Appointments, Elections	Page 42
WEP's 2019 Publications	Page 43
Partners and Networks	Page 45
WEP's Founding Executive Director	Page 46

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

<b>ADR:</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution	<b>UNFCCC:</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>AYICC Nigeria</b>	African Youth Initiative on Climate Change Nigeria	<b>UNICEF:</b>	United Nations Children's Fund
<b>BES-NET:</b>	Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network	<b>VAPPA:</b>	Violent Against Persons Prohibition Act
<b>CONA:</b>	Community Needs Assessment	<b>VE:</b>	Violent Extremism
<b>COP:</b>	Conference of Parties	<b>WASH:</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>CSOs:</b>	Civil Society Organisations	<b>WECF:</b>	Women Engage for a Common Future
<b>CSW:</b>	Commission on the Status of Women	<b>WEP:</b>	Women Environmental Programme
<b>DDR:</b>	Disarmament Demobilisation and Reintegration	<b>WMG:</b>	Women Major Group
<b>ECOSOC:</b>	Economic and Social Council	<b>WSSCC:</b>	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
<b>ECW:</b>	Expanded Constituency Workshop	<b>UNFCCC:</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
<b>FIDA:</b>	International Federation of Women Lawyers	<b>UNICEF:</b>	United Nations Children Emergency Fund
<b>GCERF:</b>	Global Community Resilience Fund	<b>VAI</b>	Voluntary Aid Initiative
<b>GEF:</b>	Global Environment Facility	<b>VAPP</b>	Violence Against Persons Prohibition
<b>GERI:</b>	Gender and Environmental Risk reduction Initiative	<b>WANEP</b>	West African Network for Peacebuilding
<b>IDPs:</b>	Internally Displace Persons	<b>WASH</b>	Water Sanitation and Hygiene
<b>IHL:</b>	International Humanitarian Law	<b>WECF</b>	Women Engage for a Common Future
<b>IPCR:</b>	Institute of Peace and Conflict Resolution	<b>WEDO</b>	Women's Environment and Development Organization
<b>LEA:</b>	Local Educational Agency	<b>WEP</b>	Women Environmental Programme
<b>LG:</b>	Local Government	<b>WGC</b>	Women and Gender Constituency
<b>MHM:</b>	Menstrual Hygiene Management	<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>NEWSAN:</b>	Society for Water and Sanitation	<b>WMG</b>	Women's Major Group
<b>NGOs:</b>	Non-Governmental Organisations	<b>WOMEN2030</b>	Women CSOs Networking to Realize the Sustainable
<b>Ops:</b>	Organizing Partners	<b>WRAHI</b>	Initiative for Women's Health Development and Right Protection
<b>PFD:</b>	Policy Forum on Development	<b>WSSCC</b>	Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council
<b>PVE:</b>	Prevention of Violent Extremism	<b>ZEIP</b>	Ziongate Empowerment Initiative for the Less Privileged
<b>SDGs:</b>	Sustainable Development Goals		
<b>SEA:</b>	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse		
<b>ToT:</b>	Training of Trainers		
<b>UNDP:</b>	United Nations Development Programme		
<b>UNEA 4:</b>	United Nations Environment Assembly		
<b>UNFCCC:</b>	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change		





## About WEP

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-political, non-religious and voluntary organization formed in April 1997 by a group of women in Kaduna State. WEP envisions a world where the lives of women and youth are positively transformed.

Although WEP emerged in response to the environmental pollution by industries in Kaduna State, over the years she has expanded her interventions to conflict transformation, climate change and governance issues.

WEP has United Nations Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (UN) (ECOSOC) special status, Observer Status to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With the Observer Status, WEP participate as a major group organization in contributing to the intergovernmental decision-making process in the UN-System. WEP was an Organizing Partners (OPs) of Women's Major Groups and served as the National Coordinator for Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) in Nigeria between 2014 - 2019. WEP is also the Focal Point for Global Environment Facility (GEF) CSOs in West and Central Africa.

Since 1997 WEP has impacted over 20,000,000 lives positively across the globe through her interventions in Environment, Governance, Climate Change, Women and Youth Empowerment, Peace and Conflict Transformation.

## Strategic Objectives

- i. To sensitize and raise awareness of the general public on the impacts of climate change particularly on gender, its mitigation and adaptation;
- ii. To stimulate the management of natural resources within the framework of national and international policies/convention for sustainable development of the environment;
- iii. To build capacity of the relevant stakeholders on the management of

### VISION

A world where the lives of women and youth around the globe are positively transformed

### MISSION

Ensuring the rights of women and youth through sustainable environmental, socio-political and economic development



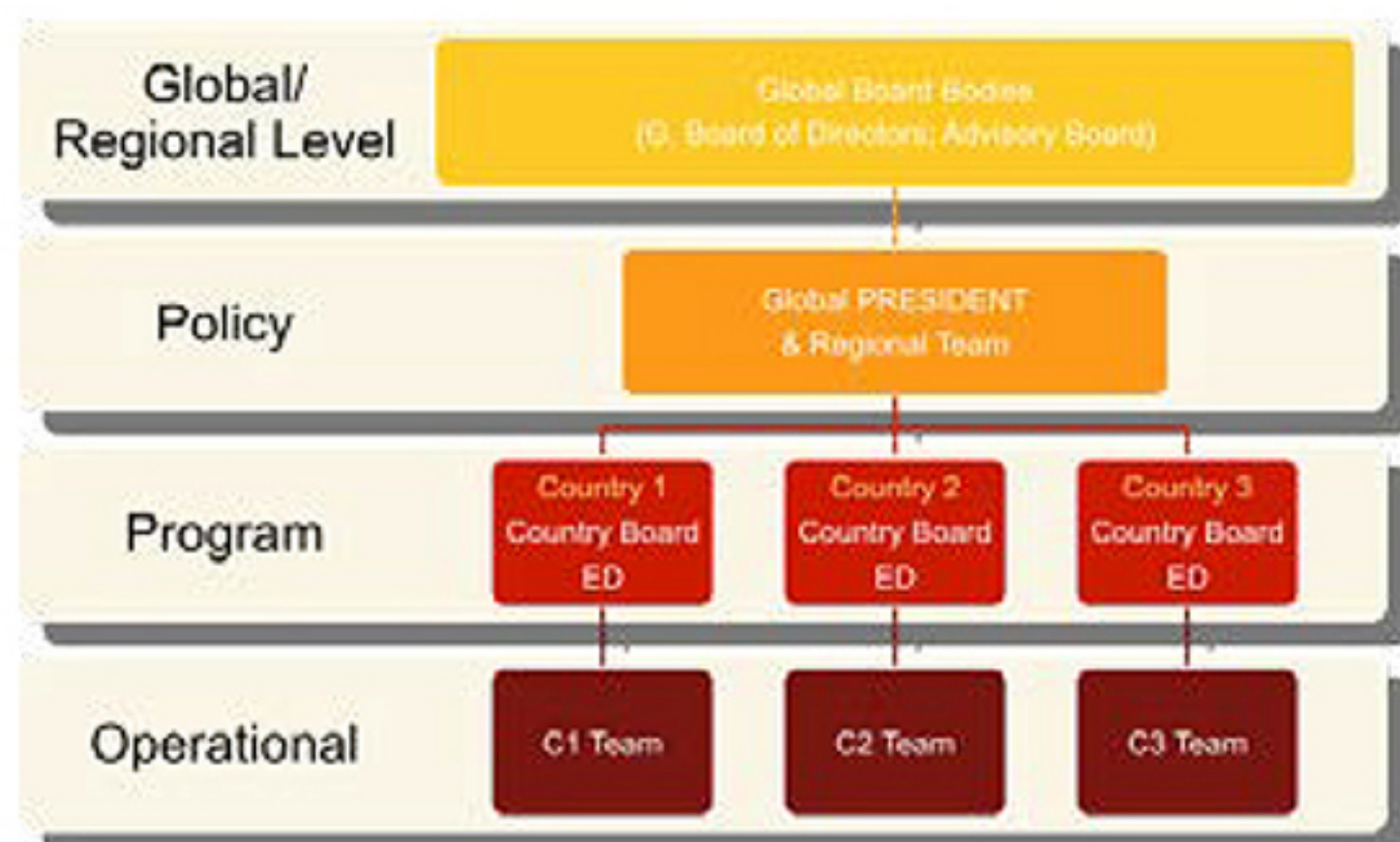
the environment, conflict transformation, renewable energy, water and sanitation, violent extremism and organic pollutants;

- iv. To educate women and youths on their civic rights and responsibilities, and on democratic governance.

## Core Collective Values

- Transparency and Accountability
- Leadership and Excellence
- Equity, Fairness and Inclusiveness
- Self-reliance and Sustainability
- Service and Social Engagement
- Gender Justice
- Team work

## Organogram



## Strategic Intervention Pillars





## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

---



The experience of working to achieve our vision of a “World where the lives of women and youths are positively transformed” through our thematic pillars of Environment, Governance, Peace and Security and Climate Change is pleasantly different and challenging every year. WEP embraces these challenges and opportunities head long because it comes with new learning experiences and forming of new alliances while navigating an ever-shrinking funding landscape in order to impact the communities we serve.





Our year started with WEP participating at the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA4). WEP organised a side event on menstrual hygiene management to promote environmental policies/guidelines that promote menstrual rights by producing sanitary pads that don't degrade the environment when used. WEP also presented a statement on behalf of women, workers and trade Unions Major Group with a call for better implementation and strict adherence to the policies and resolutions passed and adopted by the assembly. During the year in review WEP also got elected to represent West Africa as Focal Point of the GEF CSO Network.

In order to achieve a more sustainable livelihood for farmers in Adogo community of Buruku Local Government area of Benue state, WEP constructed a solar tent used to preserve perishable farm produce to prevent post-harvest loss. Usually the farmers would be forced to sell below profit and further experience food shortage during off farming seasons. Farmers have testified that this has helped them preserve their perishable farm produce and they are able to sell during off farming seasons. This project won WEP the Energy Globe National Award 2019.

Children are the future care takers of the environment and on World Environment Day themed "Beat Air Pollution" school children joined WEP and excitedly planted trees in their schools. They learnt the environmental benefits of tree planting and its role in sinking carbon dioxide, improving air quality, climate amelioration, conserving water, preserving soil and supporting wild life.

The commitment of WEP to Promote women's

rights and gender equality was actualised during implementation of the five (5) year project on "Ensuring Effective Implementation of Programmes, Policies and Legislations that Contribute to the Achievement of Gender Equality in Nigeria by 2030" funded by the Kingdom of Netherlands. WEP engaged legislators in Zamfara state on a law to provide Women Affirmative Action in All Positions in Zamfara State and other related matters. WEP also sub granted to CSOs to monitor state projects. WEP is happy to report that through this project's funding and advocacy, the Benue State Government passed the Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act (VAPPA) and Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) as we continue our engagements with Zamfara State.

Still on promoting the inclusion of women, WEP continued supporting women through the project "Women CSOs Networking to Realize the Sustainable Development Goals code named Women2030". Funded by the European Union, the five (5) year project is implemented by five (5) partners with Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) taking the global lead while WEP is lead working in seven (7) countries in Africa. The project builds capacity of civil society organizations on mainstreaming gender in SDGs, conducting advocacies to get government and other stakeholders to implement actions that will realize the SDGs, media activities that enlightens about SDGs and gender equality and economic empowerment activities for women.

With conflicts breaking out in different parts of Nigeria, WEPs intervention through her pillar "Peace and Security" has taken up the challenge. Her project "Connecting Women and Youths in Violent Extremist Prone Areas



---

Through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II” supported by the Global Community Resilience Fund (GCERF) is working in six (6) local government areas of Benue State (Agatu, Ado, Buruku, Guma, Logo and Kwande). Activities cut across trainings on Community Policing, Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE), Advocacy. There are also Mentorship Programs, Livelihood Support, Establishment of Peace Clubs and Interfaith Dialogues that target community stakeholders including Religious and Traditional Leaders, Women and Youth Groups, Security Agencies, Business persons and Local Administrators. During the year in view as part of the activities, WEP held a state wide rally to mark the World Peace Day.

Our Climate Change Pillar was not left out! The project “Call to Action on Mainstreaming Gender in Climate Change Actions” Supported in the Global Alliance for Green and Gender Action has an overall objective to advance women’s rights and environmental justices. WEP realised this objective by building women’s movements of women’s rights advocacy groups as well as conducting advocacies for gender responsive policy framework. WEP in partnership with the Department of Climate Change in the Federal and State Ministries of Environment facilitated the development of Gender and Climate Change Action Plan for Nigeria. The Action Plan will ensure that gender issues are mainstreamed in the overall programmes and policies of the Ministry. In another intervention, WEP in partnership with Trees for Cities planted a total of one thousand (1000) trees with a survival rate of nine hundred and twenty (920) trees in ten (10) schools in line with Nigeria’s Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) submitted to the United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This activity was WEP’s effort to Implement the Paris Climate Change Agreement. WEP also participated in the Twenty Fifth (25th) session of the Conference of Parties (COP25) where WEP held an exhibition and panel discussion on Global South Women and Young Feminist dialogue on climate crisis: Alternative Solutions.

To ensure that our learnings, experiences and achievements are documented, WEP puts out a number of publications on different areas in line with out thematic areas, this year our publications includes “Training Manual on Gender Programming for SDG and Budget Monitoring, Training Manual on Gender Mainstreaming and Sustainable Development Goals, Journey to Resilience; Women Environmental Programme (WEP)’s Approach to Preventing Violent Extremism – PVE in Benue State, North Central Nigeria amongst others”.

We ask that you take out time and go through our 2019 Annual Report, we welcome feedback through our communications channels found in this publication.

We want to appreciate the Nigerian government for supporting the work of the civil society by providing an enabling environment, we also thank our funders without whom it is impossible to reach our beneficiaries. We appreciate our board members for providing the much-needed leadership and to the members of staff we say thank you for ensuring WEP’s work is implemented.

Thank you.  
*Anne-Marie Ahaagu*  
Ag Executive Director WEP



# 2019

## OUR YEAR IN VIEW







## WEP RETREAT 2018

As it is custom, every year Women Environmental Programme (WEP) organized an annual retreat to kick-start the working year 2019. The event took place at Brookville Hotels and Suites, Plot 553 Cadastral Zone Gudu District, Abuja from 14th – 15th January, 2019.

The annual retreat was attended by Board Members with staff presenting the work the organisation has done according to the 2018 workplan and budget. Inputs were made by board members on activities implemented, new policies developed as well as review of old policies.

Departmental Heads made presentations of achievements and challenges in implementing projects and staff capacity was built on proposal development, fundraising and team building.



Cross Section of Staff in a Group Session



Cliff Gai M&E Manager making a presentation during the retreat.



Cross Section of Staff and Board members and invited guests at the retreat.





Cross Section of Staff in a Group Session



Group photograph of WEP staff, Board members and  
Invited Speakers during the retreat.





# ENVIRONMENT

## PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

### Participation at the Fourth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly- UNEA 4

The fourth session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA4) held in Nairobi, Kenya from March 11th – 15th. The United Nations Environment Assembly is the world's highest level decision-making body on the environment. UNEA4 brought together governments, entrepreneurs, activists and others to share ideas and commit to actions to save the environment. The assembly with its theme of **“Innovative Solutions to Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Consumption and Production”** gave the framework for shifting our global economic systems towards more sustainable trajectories that tackle our environmental challenges and bring us closer to the ‘future we want’.

Prior to UNEA4, Women Environmental Programme (WEP) had participated in the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum where the Major Groups and Stakeholders came up with their inputs to the proposed draft resolutions that were to be negotiated at UNEA 4.

During the Opening Plenary of UNEA4, WEP's Damaris Uja delivered a statement on behalf of women, workers and trade unions major groups in which she called for better implementation and strict adherence to policies and resolutions passed adopted by the assembly.

WEP also organized a side event on menstrual hygiene management in collaboration with other partners to emphasize the need for environmental policies/guidelines that promote menstrual rights without causing

environmental degradation. This event afforded the organisation an avenue to share experiences on MHM and examine the activities of organizations in this regard

WEP participated in several other activities at



Damaris Uja Project Officer making a presentation at UNEA

UNEA4 including advocating among member states for gender-sensitive resolutions. Also WEP joined other women and gender organizations to commemorate the 2019 International Women's Day.



From Left: Damaris Uja (Project Officer), Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa (ED WEP) and John Baaki (Programme Manager) at a campaign during UNEA

At the end of the assembly, 26 resolutions were adopted towards effective management of the environment.



## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities

### Commemoration of 2019 World Environment Day

World Environment Day is celebrated on 5th June every year. The celebration of this day globally provides an opportunity to broaden the basis for an enlightened opinion and responsible conduct by individuals, organizations and communities in preserving and enhancing the environment. The theme of 2019's celebration was **"Beat Air Pollution"**. This was inspired by the need to combat the global menace of air pollution. It served as a call to action and advocate for a change in our everyday lives to reduce the amount of air pollution, and thwart its contribution to global warming and its effects on our own health.

To commemorate the 2019 World Environment Day, Women Environmental Programme (WEP) partnered with African Youth Initiative on Climate Change Nigeria (AYICC Nigeria) to plant trees and raise environmental awareness in primary schools in Abuja.



On the 13th and 14th June 2019, trees were planted in LEA Primary School, Jabi and LEA Primary School, Aleyeta respectively. The



planting exercises were preceded by talk sessions that raised environmental awareness among school children. It helped them to understand the vulnerability the environment faces, the importance of protecting it, as well as sustainable use of resources within the environment. The school children were receptive and happy to be enlightened about turning trash to treasure by using sachet bags and bottles to make flower vessels, waste paper to make envelopes & paper bags; instead of burning or littering them.





WEP Communications Officer Raphael Magen guiding the school children on tree planting.

**“Teaching children about the natural world should be seen as one of the most important events in their lives.”**

-Thomas Berry  
The Dream of the Earth



A WEP volunteer demonstrating tree planting to school children

**“A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.”**

- Franklin D. Roosevelt



A school pupil planting a tree



## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities

### WEP Participated at Global Environment Facility (GEF) Expanded Constituency Workshop

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) participated in the Expanded Constituency Workshop organised by Global Environment Facility (GEF) for National Focal Points, Convention Focal Points and other key stakeholders, including Civil Society Organisations which held in Lome, Togo from 14th to 17th May, 2019. The workshop was aimed at updating participants on GEF strategies, policies and procedures while encouraging coordination. WEP was represented by Nguavese Tracy Ogbonna who made a presentation on the Overview of the Evolving Role of Civil Society Organisations,

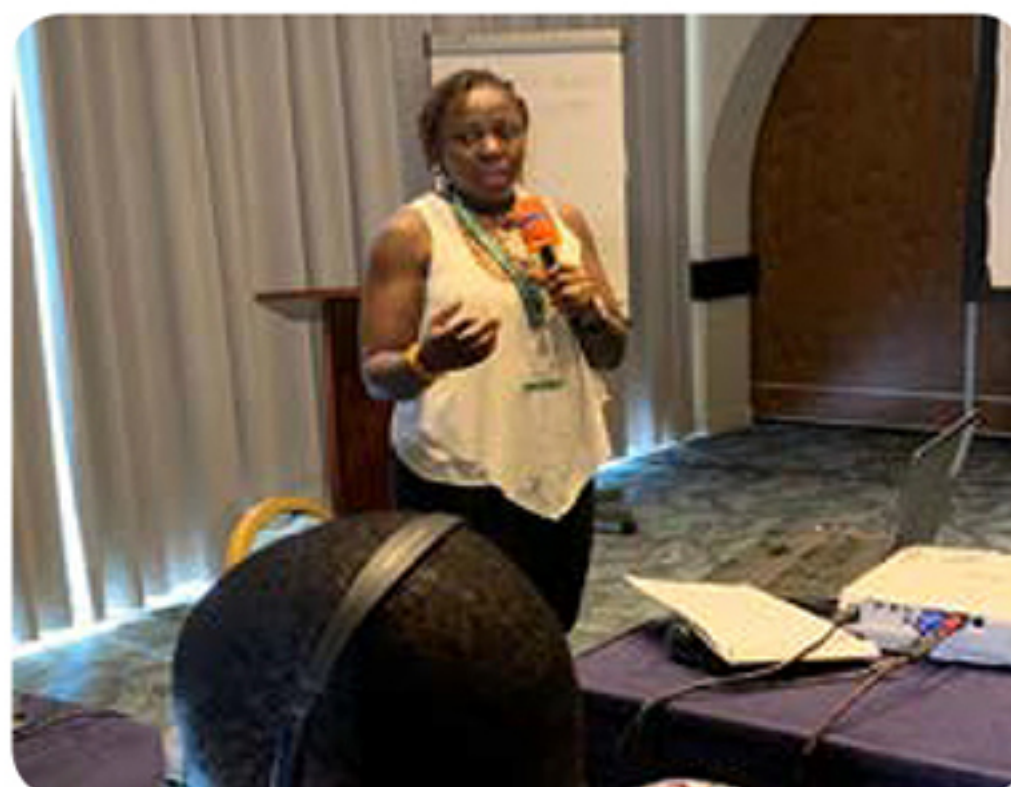
and the GEF CSO Network Engagement within the GEF Partnership.

The event also enabled focal points to meet with their counterparts from other countries in the region. GEF partners, especially GEF agencies discussed and reviewed policies and procedures and shared experiences from GEF projects and their integration within national policy frameworks.

The Coastal West Africa ECW had participation from Benin, Côte D'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Togo.



During a field visit at the ECW in Togo



Nguavese Tracy Ogbonna Senior Program Officer making a presentation during the Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW) in Togo.



Participants at the ECW in Togo.





### Construction of Solar Dryer Tent for Adogo Community in Benue State

In 2019, WEP constructed a solar dryer tent for Adogo community in Buruku local government area of Benue State. This project, which was wholly sponsored by WEP was motivated by the post-harvest losses of agricultural produce in the area. Much of agricultural produce like pepper and tomatoes get wasted during harvest which coincides with the peak of rainy season. Lack of storage facilities made farmers in the community especially women to suffer these losses which affected their economic status.

To support the community to overcome this challenge, WEP engaged the community leaders of Adogo who donated land and labour for the solar dryer tent to be constructed. The material used in making the solar dryer tent protects the products from direct sun rays and rodent/insect

People of Adogo community have been using the solar dryer since it was handed over to them officially by WEP and many have attested to how useful it has been in preserving their agricultural produce. Last year, many farmers

used the solar dryer tent to dry pepper and tomatoes for storage to sell later. This solar dryer tent is serving more than 50 farmers in Adogo community now. It has reduced post-harvest losses of agricultural produce in the community and gives farmers more time to attend to other things and they no longer have to watch over their produce as it dries for fear of insects perching or rodents or animals eating their produce.



The Solar Dryer Tent in Adogo Community in Benue State Donated by WEP.

WEP has plans to replicate this technology in other communities in Nigeria that suffer severe post-harvest losses. WEP is also working with women of Adogo community to find a way of supporting them with machines that will package the dried



Women farmers in Adogo Community drying their perishable farm produce to preserve it.



## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities

### WEP Participated In BES-NET Anglophone Africa Regional Trialogue; Joins the Coalition of the willing on Pollinators

**W**omen Environmental Programme (WEP) is a stakeholder in the implementation of the Pollinator Friendly Land Degradation Neutrality Country Action Plan that was developed from the BES-NET Anglophone Africa Regional Trialogue: Bright Spots for Land Degradation Neutrality, pollinators and

Food Security that took place on 28th – 30th May, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya. One of the things the Nigeria delegation resolved to do was to expand the team and join the pollinators' network.

Hence, the team swung into action, brought more members and held the first National Meeting on 25th July, 2019. During the meeting the team officially joined Coalition of the Willing on Pollinators to develop a pathway for pollinator protection by signing



Group Pic of Nigerian Delegation to the BES-net Anglophone Trilogue in Nairobi - Kenya.





the network's declaration. Also, the Pollinator Friendly Land Degradation Neutrality Country Action Plan was reviewed and endorsed during the event. The signing affirms the nation's intent to act and implement a national strategy to protect pollinating species threatened with extinction.

Nigeria thus becomes the 28th signatory to the Declaration of the Coalition of the Willing on Pollinators and commits to:

- Taking action to protect pollinators and their habitats by developing and implementing national pollinator strategies, consistent with the (IPBES) thematic assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production;
- Sharing experience and lessons learnt in developing and implementing national pollinator strategies, especially knowledge on new approaches, innovations and best practices;
- Reaching out to seek collaboration with a broad spectrum of stakeholders;
- Developing research on pollinator conservation; and,
- Mutual support and collaboration.

### ToT on Menstrual Hygiene Management

The training is first of its kind in Nigeria. It housed 80 participants from across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria drawn from various fields of endeavor. It is established that menstrual hygiene issues are interwoven. It is also worthy to note that menstrual hygiene issues needs collaboration.



The National Coordinator Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) Dr Priscilla M. Achakpa secured not only the attention and services of experts in the field of menstrual hygiene but also their physical presence. Master trainers/Facilitators were drawn from Geneva, Kenya and Malawi, prominent among them are Virginia Kamowa (PHD), Irene Ajur Gai, Neville Okaro, Deepa Shakya and Asayire Kapire. In addition, the Federal Ministries of Women Affairs, Health, Environment and Water Resources, Finance, Education, Justice etc as well as the media, and Non-Governmental Organizations braced up and graced the event. Partners present included WSSCC, UNICEF and United Purpose.



## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities



from left: Dr. Eunice Ortom Wife of the Executive Governor of Benue State, Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa National Coordinator WSSCC, Mrs Christiana Oliko Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and Job Ominyi of UNICEF at the Training of Trainers on Menstrual Hygiene Management in Makurdi - Benue State



Trainees engaged in discussion during a group work session.



from Left: Dr. Virginia Kamowa, Dr. Eunice Ortom Wife of Executive Governor of Benue State, Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa National Coordinator WSSCC, Mrs. Christiana Oliko of Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and Job Ominyi of UNICEF



## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities

---



**Neville Okwaro demonstrating to a male group on different products used in managing menstruation.**

The first lady of Benue state Dr Eunice Erdoo Ortom declared the event open.

Dr Eunice Ortom was made the pioneer leader on Menstrual Hygiene Management nationwide. She promised to liaise with the wives of other Governors in the country to rise up in addressing the challenges girls and women face during the periods of menstruation. The commissioner for Women Affairs, Benue state also created time for the event.

The training witnessed participatory interaction, group works, Laboratory tent lectures on Menstrual Hygiene Management and field practice for participants in two communities of IKPAYONGO in Gwer East Local Government Area of Benue state.

In the end, the training hoped to meet the desires and unvoiced feelings of most young, abled and disabled females in Nigeria who are suffering or might have suffered in silence of this menstrual hygiene management phenomenon.





## MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT DAY 2019

**M**enstrual Hygiene Management is a day set aside to break the taboos surrounding menstruation, raise awareness of the importance of good menstrual hygiene management worldwide. This year was not an exception, WEP having pledged to uphold and spread the word on menstrual hygiene management partnered with Gender and Environment

Risk reduction Initiative (GERI) sensitize in two schools within Makurdi metropolis viz: Salam Progressive Academy Wadata and NKST Junior Secondary School Wadata. 177 students (142 female, 35 male) were sensitized not to be ashamed but to break the silence on menstruation and also exposed to alternative menstrual collection materials with environmental friendly ways of disposing menstrual waste. Sanitary pads were donated to the schools visited.



Group picture with students

## MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT STEP DOWN TRAINING

**W**EP conducted a step down training for menstrual hygiene management for other members of Civil Society Organisations in Benue State. The first was hosted at GERI office premises with 13 members (4 males 9 females) in attendance from three different organisations (Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, Gender and Community Empowerment Initiative, Auntie Meg Foundation and Women Environmental Programme). The training exposed participants to the need to break the silence on

menstruation. The different materials used for collecting menstrual blood, the need to provide safe spaces for girls in school and public places for managing menstruation, and proper





## ENVIRONMENT// Projects & Activities

disposal of menstrual waste. The training ended with an action plan to further step down the training to more beneficiaries and a pledge to break the silence on menstruation.

The second step down training was organized by the Civil Society Organisations-Benue at Elohim Development Foundation Makurdi where WEP co facilitated the training for further step down at IDP camps in Benue State. The step down training had in attendance 90 (57 females, 33 Males) IDPs in attendance experiences were shared and they were sensitized on the how to manage menstruation, the role of men during menstruation which is supporting girls and women, the various disposal methods of menstrual waste, the relationship between menstruation and hygiene. The IDPs welcomed the training as it exposed them to the importance of speaking about menstruation and maintaining a good hygiene during and after menstruation. The men pledged to support women to manage menstruation within and outside the camp.



Jenniger Oko of WEP demonstrating during the training.

### Global Hand Washing Day

This is the day set aside to re-echo the importance of hand washing with water and ash/soap as an effective means of preventing disease.



As a member of the Society For Water And Sanitation(NEWSAN) Benue State, sensitisation was carried out at LGEA Primary School Wurukum Makurdi, a total of 671 Pupils were reached during



sensitization across the school 375 Females, 296 males with the message of proper handwashing at critical times for preventing diseases for a healthy lifestyle. Washing hand bowls were presented to the school





## GOVERNANCE

### PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

#### Ensuring Effective Implementation of Programmes, Policies and Legislations that Contribute to the Achievement of Gender Equality in Nigeria by 2030

“Ensuring Effective Implementation of Programmes, Policies and Legislations, that Contribute Towards Achieving Gender Equality in Nigeria by 2030:” The Kingdom of Netherlands in the year 2016 made a financial contribution to Women Environmental Programme (WEP) for the implementation of the project: “Ensuring Effective Implementation of Programmes, Policies and Legislations, that Contribute Towards Achieving Gender Equality in Nigeria by 2030.” This 5-year project runs from year 2016 to 2021.



The objectives of this project include:

1. 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.

2. Ensure effective implementation of programmes and projects through capacity building of CSOs, budget monitoring and information sharing.

3. Raise awareness amongst stakeholders on the fundamental rights of women

In 2019, WEP continued implementation of activities under this project in Benue and Zamfara States.

The following were the activities that were implemented in the year and the corresponding results achieved:

- **Advocacy for gender-sensitive legislations and programmes:** WEP engaged the members of the Benue and Zamfara State Houses of Assembly to advocate for gender sensitive laws. In Zamfara State, the advocacy led to the drafting of a bill on Affirmative Action for Women in Zamfara State which encourages more women to take up political leadership positions. In September 2019, WEP convened a meeting with newly elected members of the Zamfara State House of Assembly in Kaduna and presented the draft bill to them which they all committed to ensuring it was presented on the floor of the House of Assembly and passed into law. In Benue State, WEP worked with International Federation of Women Lawyers and Benue Civil Society Organizations to advocate for laws that protect violence against women. This advocacy led to the domestication of Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act (VAPP Act) and Administration of Criminal Justice Act (ACJA) in Benue State. With the domestication of these laws in the state, it is hoped that there will be record reduction in cases of violence against persons.





WEP team with the members of the Zamfara State House of Assembly.

- **Budget monitoring:** Another activity that was implemented under this project in 2019 was monitoring the implementation of some capital projects in the federal and states budgets of 2017. WEP worked with civil society organizations in the target states of Zamfara and Benue and identified some capital projects located in the states from the federal and state budgets and monitored their implementation. These were projects that would benefit women and children greatly such as water projects, primary health cares, schools among others. The civil society organizations monitored these projects and wrote a report about their findings and submitted to the Houses of Assembly and other relevant institutions and the media for necessary action. Findings from the monitoring exercise showed that most projects were abandoned while some were implemented below satisfaction.

The report made from the monitoring exercise was aimed to get the contractors who abandoned projects come back to site and unsatisfactory jobs redone to deliver the desired benefits to women and children. WEP also through the civil society organizations held meetings with women in selected marginalized communities in these states to identify their needs which they facilitated their inclusion in the state budgets.

In 2020, WEP will continue to engage with the members of the Zamfara State House of Assembly to ensure that the Affirmative Action Bill for Women is passed. WEP will also produce a publication on the situation of women in these states to use it as a tool to call for more action on situation of women in the states. This project ends in 2020.





## WEP AT THE SIXTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN (CSW63)

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The CSW is instrumental in promoting women's rights, documenting the reality of women's lives throughout the world, and shaping global



standards on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of

session. This event holds yearly and the theme for 2019 focused on Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) as an outgoing organizing partner of the women's Major Group (WMG) was ably represented by Nguavese Tracy Ogbonna who served as a panellist of the WMG side event themed **"Challenges & successes—using Agenda 2030 to realize women's rights"**. The event had representation from Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe. The panellists were asked to discuss their country context, social structure challenges as well as the work they are doing in their various countries. WEP talked about the religious, political and traditional context of Nigeria making emphasis on patriarchy as a barrier to women's development even though the constitution enables women,



Nguavese Tracy Ogbonna with panelists at a Womens Major Group Side

Women took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 11th to 22nd March 2019. Representatives of Member States, UN entities, and ECOSOC-accredited Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) from all regions of the world attended the

actualizing spaces for women especially within elective and appointive positions is challenging. She also talked about the work WEP is doing in the area of environment, climate change, peace and governance.



## GOVERNANCE// Projects & Activities

### Women CSOs Networking to Realize the Sustainable Development Goals (Women2030)

Women CSOs networking to realize the sustainable development goals is also known as Women2030 project. It is a project funded by European Commission whose aim is to ensure that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals takes into account the issues of women. This project is

The major activities implemented in 2019 under the Women2030 project were:

WEP provided grants to 36 civil society organizations - 3 women-led civil society organizations in Ghana, 4 in Burkina Faso, 6 in Cameroon, 4 in Togo, 2 in Tunisia and 17 in Nigeria, to carry out different gender equality and women's empowerment initiatives. While some of the initiatives were aimed at promoting clean cooking energy, others were aimed at



Panelist during a WEP sponsored media session for female aspirants in Nigeria.

implemented by 5 partners including WEP with Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) taking the lead globally, while WEP leads in Africa where she implements in 7 African countries. The Major activities on this project include - capacity building of civil society organizations on mainstreaming gender in SDGs, advocacy activities that get government and other stakeholders to implement actions that will realize the SDGs, media activities that enlightens about SDGs and gender equality and economic empowerment activities for women.

promoting enrolment and retention of girlchild in schools by addressing factors that fuel teenage pregnancy among girls, some focused on menstrual hygiene management and some on mitigating the impacts of climate change, while other initiatives encouraged women's access to land and other natural resources.

Capacity building - In 2019, the capacities of 28 participants (1 male, 27 females) from 15 women focused Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in Montserrado County, Liberia was built on concepts and approaches to





mainstreaming gender into Agenda 2030 and mainstreaming gender into organizational policies.

In addition to the above, WEP carried out gender sensitive assessments in 3 countries (Cameroon, Liberia and Ghana) and held policy consultations in Togo and Tunisia preparatory to preparation of shadow reports by these countries to be presented at High Level Political Forum. To influence policies at regional and global UN conferences, WEP staff and



Panelist during a WEP sponsored media session for female aspirants in Nigeria.

partner organizations participated at events such as the High-level Political Forum, United Nations Environment Assembly and Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development amongst others. Also to influence national and sub-national SDGs plans, WEP launched mainstream and social media campaigns in all her countries of operation. Prominent and the most strategic media campaign was that launched in Nigeria ahead of the country's general elections which created platform for female aspirants to campaign about their candidacy.

The impact recorded by the Women2030 project in year 2019 and since the project started is shown in the testimonies of beneficiaries from the project's mid-term evaluation that was conducted early 2019:

**“The activities were of great interest to women’s civil society organizations in Togo; especially for the process of elaboration of the National Development Plan of Togo (PND). This Women 2030 project has enabled women’s organizations to have the capacities strengthened and to better contribute and participate in the development of the National Development Plan that Togo launched from 2016 to 2018. They have been able to integrate the concerns of women in the basis for this PND document. You can imagine that in the national capacity building workshop of CSOs on gender and SDGs that WEP-TOGO organized, the 30 or so women’s organizations had no idea about the SDGs. Now they are better equipped and can integrate these SDGs into the action plans of our organizations.”**

**- ACAKPO-ADDRA Essivi from Togo**

**“for the first time, I had a better understanding on the goals.”**

**- Samuel Kyiei-Berko of Lifetime Empowerment Center (LEC) Ghana**



### WEP Volunteer and Mentorship Programme

**W**EP Volunteer and Mentorship Programme was initiated in 2018 as one of the ways of fulfilling the vision of WEP's new strategic plan of "a world where the lives of women and youth around the globe are positively transformed." The aim of this

Every year, youth who have interest in the development sector are enrolled into the programme where they are taught theoretically and practically on basic development issues. There have been increased interests in the programme among the youth based on testimonies from the programme's beneficiaries. This interest is shown in the number of applications we receive every year.



Cliff Gai M&E Manager facilitating a mentorship session

programme is to equip its participants with community development skills and inspire them to undertake voluntary community development projects as a way of contributing to communities' development and bettering the society.

In 2018 when the programme started, only 51 applications were received, but in 2019, the number of applications received increased to 238.





---

This programme has impacted its participants as expressed in some of the testimonies of beneficiaries below:

“I am thankful to the management and staff of Women Environmental Programme, the facilitators and all the new friends I made while undergoing the one year program.

---

“I am saying thank you but I must confess that... what I learnt in one of the sessions I used it in my online WhatsApp class and the participants were wondering where I got some of the information from.

---

“Though, a trainer with JCI Nigeria, I have learnt and attended several training under the Junior Chamber International platform, and as the 2019 National Vice President of JCI Nigeria in Charge of the North East District 2, the community and stakeholders mappings gave me a better way to engaged with the heads of communities and have their buy-in to some of our projects, session on gender equality and mainstreaming, proposal writing, strategic planning, security risk management, Climate change and more were others aspect of the program...”

- Ibhazukor Irabor Benjamin. Co-founder, VAD Initiative.

“A heartfelt gratitude to the management and staff of Women Environmental Program (WEP), for finding me worthy to be part of 2019 mentorship program. I had zero knowledge what Development work was all about, but today, the story is different. I am well equipped to take-up responsibilities in various capacities, all thanks to an excellent tutelage / mentorship from seasoned professionals at WEP. Thanks for this opportunity.”

- Ehiwuogwu Abigail Uche.

---

“The WEP volunteering and mentorship program inspired me to believe more in myself and my abilities. This training inspired me to successfully design, manage and execute a 10days peer mentorship program for teenage refugees from southern Cameroon, through different trainings, cross-cultural interactions and capacity building tasks. It is a life changing experience how my little effort can change the world by volunteering and championing the Sustainable development goals (SDGs).”





## PEACE & SECURITY

### PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

#### Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) in Benue State

Year 2019 was the beginning of the second phase of the project aimed at preventing violent extremism in Benue State. The project titled: **“Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue State Phase II”**. It is the continuation of the first phase which started in 2016 and ended in 2018. The project was inspired by the unrest in the North Central Region of Nigeria occasioned by factors such as communal and political crisis, cult activities in schools, farmers-herders crisis, kidnappings and activities of Boko Haram. A lot of youth were active players in these unrests, and their

involvement WEP discovered was due to one or a combination of the following reasons: unemployment, poverty, ignorance, lack of parental guidance and bad governance.

In order to find a lasting solution to these unrests, WEP collaborated with other Civil Society Organizations and designed a project with a set of different initiatives focusing on six Local Government Areas in the State which were affected more by these unrests; Ado, Agatu, Buruku, Guma, Logo and Kwande. The following activities were implemented under this project:

**Project Inception Workshop:** Project Inception Workshop was held where stakeholders from the state and the LGs of intervention were brought together. These included; the



Traditional leaders during the inception workshop of the project.





representative of the Governor of Benue State, members of the House of Representatives from the 6 LGs of intervention as well as their counterparts from the Benue State House of Assembly, religious leaders, chairmen of the LGs of intervention, the Traditional rulers of the LGs, community level traditional rulers for the communities of intervention, the press, security agencies and other civil society organizations working in the state. The inception workshop presented to us an opportunity where we presented the project to stakeholders at various levels, answered their questions and solicited their support for the implementation of the interventions of the project on their various communities and LGs over the next 3 years.

**Quarterly Advocacy Visits to Communities:** These visits focused on explaining what the

project was doing under Phase II and soliciting the support of all stakeholders towards the successful implementation and monitoring of all project activities over the next 3 years period. We were also able to get commitments from communities towards giving their maximum support to the initiatives of the project in the communities of intervention. We learnt that communities are willing and eager to support the intervention especially in the LGs where Phase I was implemented.

**High Level Dialogue:** The project held a 1 day high level stakeholder dialogue on peace and PVE in Benue State. The dialogue hosted high level stakeholders from government ministries/departments/agencies, religious leaders, traditional rulers, women groups, youth groups, security agencies operating in the state, civil society organizations and the



During a Community Policing Training in Kwande Local Government Area of Benue State.



Group photo of participants at the community policing training in Logo Local Government Area of Benue State.



With Women during the Interfaith Dialogue in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State.



Cross Section of participants during a community policing training session in Buruku Local Government of Benue



## PEACE & SECURITY// Projects & Activities

media. The dialogue examined the situation of the state in relation to violent extremism and what the various state and non-state actors are doing about it.

### Training of Local Security Personnel, Traditional and Administrative Leaders on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanisms:

Local Security Personnel, Traditional and Administrative Leaders were trained on Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanisms. The training used Relations presentations and discussions to develop the capacity of participants on mechanisms for handling conflict at their various administrative levels within the community. The training had 312 participants across the 6 LGs made up of 99 women and 213 men.

### Training of Community Members on

### Community Policing and Neighbourhood Watching:

We organized a training for community members across the 6 LGs of intervention on Community Policing and Neighbourhood Watching. The training built the capacities of participating community members on community policing, human rights within the context of informal security structures and how they can through collective efforts and collaborations with security agencies operating within their LGs.

We organized and held interfaith dialogue sessions on Peace and PVE across the 6 LGs of intervention. The sessions in each LG brought together the leaders of the various religious groups within the LG (Muslims, Christian and African Traditional Religion). The sessions discussed peace and PVE in the communities and how the participants as religious leaders



During Community Policing Training - Buruku Local Government Area of Benue State.



Cross section of Traditional leaders from Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State at the project inception.



Group pic during a High level dialogue on PVE



Group pic during a High level dialogue on PVE





can leverage on the unique positions as resected figures and spiritual authorities to foster peaceful coexistence and galvanize action towards PVE in their communities. This activity has shown that though the various religious leaders yearned for a platform for engagement with each other to address issues of common interest, they never did. The activity has presented an opportunity for this to happen and they have keyed into it and are now meeting regularly.

**Training of Local Religious Leaders on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE):** A training of Local Religious Leaders across the 6 LGs of intervention on Preventing Violent Extremism was held. The training brought together male and female religious leaders from the 3 major religions in the communities of intervention (Christianity, Islam and

Traditional African) over a 2 day period. These trainings built the capacities of the participants on the concept of violent extremism, radicalization to violent extremism, methods adopted for recruitment and radicalization of population members by VE groups and context specific approaches for preventing VE, the VE groups operating in our context, as well as the signs of radicalization to look out for within our context.

**Training of Teachers on Preventing Violent Extremism:** We organized a training for teachers across the 6 LGs of intervention on PVE. The trainings focused on the concept of violent extremism, radicalization to violent extremism, methods adopted for recruitment and radicalization of young people by VE groups and context specific approaches for preventing VE, the VE groups operating in our



During a Community Policing training in Kwande Local Government of Benue State.



During a Group Work Session in a community policing training in Kwande Local Government Area of Benue State.



A Traditional Ruler raising his hand to make a comment during the project inception.



Nguavese Tracy Ogbonna (Project M&E) making a presentation on impact of Phase 1 of Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone Areas through Empowerment and Skills Acquisition in Benue state.



## PEACE & SECURITY// Projects & Activities

context, as well as the signs of radicalization to look out for in young women and young men. These trainings emphasized the important roles teachers play in the lives of young women and young men as well as the importance of effective PVE approaches within the school system at the community levels. Teachers who participated in the trainings also made personal commitments to go back to their schools and come up with programmes and activities that will enable them contribute to the PVE efforts through the school system.

**Organized State Level Rallies to create awareness on Peace and Preventing Violent Extremism in Benue State:** We hosted a state wide rally in Makurdi the Benue State capital to promote peace and create awareness on Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) in the state. The rally which was a huge success

formed part of our activities to mark the World Peace Day in the state. Young men and young women, media houses and security agencies within the state participated in the rally which commenced with a procession on major roads in the city and rounded up with a talk on the role of young people in promoting peace and PVE in the state at the Smile View Hotel in Nyiman Layout in Makurdi, Benue State.

**Training of Security Personnel at LGs on Preventing Violent Extremism – PVE:** We during the period under review hosted training for Security Personnel across the 6 LGs of intervention on Preventing Violent Extremism. The training which was borne out of the lessons learned from the previous Phase of the project focused on the concept of VE as obtained within the context of intervention as well as the various roles security agents operating



Cross section of participants during project inception.



Cross section of participants during project inception



Cross section of participants during project inception.



Cross section of participants during the High Level Dialogue on PVE in Benue state.





within the context can play in preventing the recruitment and radicalization of population group members to violent extremism within the context. The trainings also featured discussions on the roles that security agents can play in de-escalation of conflicts between community members.

**Production of Manuals and Establishment of Peace Clubs in Secondary Schools:** We published 1000 copies of a Peace Club Manual and established Peace Clubs in 30 schools across the 6 LGs of intervention. The peace clubs have been established to build the capacities of young women and young men in schools across the LGs where we work on peace building and the roles they can play in the entrenchment of peaceful coexistence in their communities.

**Establishment of Mentorship Programme across LGs of intervention:** We held preparatory meetings with young women and young men under our mentorship sessions across the LGs of intervention 6 meetings (1 in each LG). The mentorship sessions focus on building a sense of purpose in the young people who participate in discussions as facilitated by the mentors who are to facilitate the sessions in line with the mentorship manual.



Gloria Shuib of WEP evaluating a student's use of computer in one of the digital clubs set up by WEP.



Peace Rally in celebration of World Peace Day in Makurdi Benue State



Peace Rally in celebration of World Peace Day in Makurdi Benue State



Peace Rally in celebration of World Peace Day in Makurdi Benue State.



## PEACE & SECURITY// Projects & Activities

### Commemoration 2019 International Day of Peace

**W**EP joined the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution (IPCR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other partners to commemorate the 2019 International Day of Peace that had the theme: "Climate Action for Peace." WEP was a member of the National Peace Day Planning Committee and headed the sub-committee "Climate Action for Peace Competition among secondary schools." WEP coordinated schools to participate in this competition by implementing innovative actions that were adjudged capable of addressing the climate challenge. Best projects by schools were given awards on 21st September 2019.

### WEP PARTICIPATED IN NIGERIAN ARMY'S DISARMAMENT, DEMOBILISATION AND REINTEGRATION TRAINING

**W**omen Environmental Programme (WEP) is one of the organisations that

have been privileged to benefit from the Nigerian Army's gesture of capacity building for Personnel and Civilians in the area of Peacekeeping Operations.

These trainings continue to strengthen the capacity of our staff in the area of Peace and security. This time, WEP's Senior Program Officer, Damaris Nguumbur Uja was a beneficiary of the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) Course 17/2019 organised by the Martin Luther Agwai International Leadership and Peacekeeping Centre, a unit under the Nigerian Army. The training took place from the 10th -21st June, 2019 in Jaiji, Kaduna State.

The Course exposed participants to the Concept of Peace Support Operation, UN Approach to DDR, Legal Foundations of DDR, Post conflict stabilization, Peace Building and Recovering frameworks, Small Arms and Light Weapons Control, Security and Development, International Humanitarian Law (IHL), Financing and Budgeting of DDR, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), Emotional Intelligence and Psycho-social Counselling.







# CLIMATE CHANGE

## PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

### Trees for Schools

WEP got a grant in 2019 from Trees for Cities, a UK charity organizations to plant trees in 10 primary schools in Abuja. This grant came after the grant earlier received in 2018 from the same organizations to plant trees in 4 states in North Central Nigeria. WEP already



has planted 1000 different trees species in the 10 primary schools and 90% of the trees have survived. The trees, when they grow up, will provide both environment and economic benefits –control of erosion, serve as windbreaks, provide fruits for eating and could be sold for money.

### Development Of Gender And Climate Change Action Plan For Nigeria

In year 2016, Women Environmental Programme (WEP) in collaboration with the Federal Ministry of Environment and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) organized a National Consultation on Gender and Climate Change in Abuja Nigeria. The consultation which the then Minister of Environment, Amina J. Mohammed also

participated proposed some recommendations in respect to gender and climate change issues in Nigeria.

One of the recommendations from the consultation was that, a gender and climate change roadmap be developed for the Country. Following this, a technical team was set up to initiate this process. A draft document was put together and went through few reviews as a nationwide consultation was not feasible due to the limited resources received.

The process had not yet completed when in 2017 the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted the global Gender Action Plan (GAP) and there was a need again to review the Country's draft roadmap to be in line with the UNFCCC's GAP. In 2018, WEP in collaboration with Department of Climate Change, Federal Ministry of Environment, in consultation with other partners, resumed work towards finalizing the draft Gender and Climate Change Action Plan for Nigeria. This was supported by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Climate Change Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and Both ENDS.

To complete work on the draft National Action Plan on Gender and Climate Change, WEP engaged a Consultant who updated the Action Plan to be in line with the UNFCCC's GAP and in tune with the current country's policies and programmes. This was done before the document was taken to the different geographical zones of Nigeria to receive inputs.

On 4th November 2019, WEP convened the





first review meeting at the conference hall of Department of Climate Change, Federal Ministry of Environment. This meeting brought together experts on gender and climate change to review the initial draft of the Action Plan produced by the Consultant. This review meeting was attended by 11 persons including staff of WEP and Department of Climate



Change.

The Deputy Director, Department of Climate Change, Mrs Halima Bawa-Bwari welcomed the reviewers and appreciated them for coming, stating how important the process of developing the National Action Plan on Gender and Climate Change was to the Department.

Reviewers took time about 1 hour to read through the draft document before they started making comments and inputs to the document page by page.

Some of the comments and inputs made by reviewers at this meeting were:

- There should be inclusion of youth in the Action Plan
- The Action Plan should have a time frame

- There should be deeper gender analysis linking to gender and climate change in some sections of the document. The reviewers observed that in some sections, statements were just made or quoted from sources but without discussing it further to relate to gender and climate change.
- Reviewers advised that more sources should be consulted to get more information into the document.

In addition to the above, the reviewers made several other comments including grammatical corrections, rephrasing of sentences and formatting of the document.

The Consultant noted all the comments and inputs made and incorporated them into the document.

After the review meetings, WEP and the Department of Climate Change conducted zonal consultations to receive inputs into the



draft Action Plan from stakeholders in the 6 geo-political zones of Nigeria.

The zonal consultations took place on the following dates: 8th November 2019 for North-



## CLIMATE CHANGE// Projects & Activities

West Zone in Kaduna State; 11th November 2019 for North-East Zone in Bauchi State; 14th November 2019 for North-Central Zone in Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja; 18th November 2019 for South-West Zone in Osun State; 20th November 2019 for South-South Zone in Delta State; and 22nd November 2019 for South-East Zone in Ebonyi State.

The zonal consultations were used not only as a platform to receive inputs into the draft Action Plan, but also as a capacity building platform for women and gender organizations and other stakeholders. At the zonal consultations, representatives of WEP and Department of Climate Change took time to discuss the following topics: concept of climate change and gender, gender mainstreaming in climate actions, climate change mitigation and adaptation, advocacy for environmental rights, policy and legal frameworks related to gender and climate change.

After all the presentations were made, questions and comments were taken, and appropriate responses provided.

At all the zonal consultations, the draft Action Plan was presented, and stakeholders present reviewed the document and made comments and inputs. There were general comments and inputs as well as specific comments and inputs, all of which were captured and incorporated into the document.

The inputs received from the zonal consultations in addition to the peer review meeting and from the project team were used to finalize the National Action Plan on Gender and Climate Change for Nigeria which will be published and circulated among relevant stakeholders in the country.

### Climate Action March 2019

As part of the activities leading up to the 25th session of the Conference of Parties (COP 25) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Women Environmental Programme in collaboration with Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) organized a Climate Action March in Abuja



on the 29th November 2019 to increase awareness on climate change impacts and promote the creation of a climate resilient society. The Climate Action March featured a solidarity walk from Area 1 Shopping Complex to LEA Primary School, Festival Road, Area 10, Garki where a Climate Action Talk was held with school children. After sensitizing the pupils on the importance of preserving the environment and sustaining its resources, the Head teacher of LEA Primary School Garki assisted by the Ag. Executive Director of WEP carried out a symbolic tree planting exercise to mark the event.



## CLIMATE CHANGE// Projects & Activities



### WEP Participates in the 25th Session of the Conference of Parties (COP 25)

Women Environmental Programme (WEP) participated in the 25th session of the Conference of Parties (COP25) to the United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Madrid, Spain, with an official opening from the United Nations Secretary General, António Guterres with discussions on issues concerning the implementation of the Paris Agreement since its commencement.







WEP participated in the review of the Gender Action Plan (GAP) which was adopted in 2017 at COP 23 in Bonn Germany. The GAP provides guidance to Parties on inclusion of women in climate change negotiations and on planning and implementing climate change actions bearing in mind the needs of women and other groups vulnerable to climate change impacts. The negotiations of the Parties to have a new GAP which should be expanded to cover other issues not covered earlier was not smooth as was expected as Parties had taken reasonable time to debate on whether or not “human rights” be recognized in the text of the gender negotiations. While some parties were of the position that “human rights” is a principle guiding the Paris Agreement and should be reaffirmed in the text of the gender negotiations, some Parties held a contrary position. Also on the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage (WIM): Parties evaluated the performance of the WIM as a mechanism associated with the Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts. Its objective is to address loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

During the COP25 WEP also showcased her work on the Gender on gender and climate change at the Gender day market place. WEP

represented on a panel discussion on Making Climate Actions which was organised by Global Climate on what it will take to transit to actions that will keep global temperature below 1.5 degrees. The panel was held to straighten dialogue on the way forward after Madrid. The rising sea levels, heat waves, flooding, hurricane is an indication for an immediate action to be taken towards ending climate change.

Dr. Priscilla Achakpa called on the private sector to take responsibilities for the environment adding that issues of gas flaring, mining and oil pollution make up some of the environmental challenges in Nigeria while women are negatively impacted by the impact of these activities. She called on Cooperates to take immediate actions on social responsibilities to communities. Saying “Women are vulnerable to climate change as well as agent of contributing to climate change solutions. WEP through her solar tent project have supported over 50 women directly and many more indirectly in enhancing sustainable food security.





## AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, ELECTIONS

### WEP Emerged 2019 Winner of the Energy Globe National Award

WEP emerged the winner of the 2019 National Energy Globe Award Nigeria.

WEP's project of Promoting Women Empowerment through Efficient Technology that makes available solar dryer tents in rural communities won the organization this award.

The award was presented to WEP by the Austrian Embassy in Lagos, Nigeria



### Nomination as a Member of Implementing Committee on the President's Pledge of Planting 25 Million Trees in Nigeria

Following the pledge made by President Buhari to plant 25million trees in Nigeria at the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly, a committee was set up by the

Federal Ministry of Environment to implement the President's pledge. WEP was invited to be a member of this committee that will implement the President's pledge of planting 25 million trees in Nigeria. The inaugural meeting of this committee held in December 2019 where sub-committees were created.

### Election as Regional Focal Point of GEF CSOs Network for West Africa

WEP contested and won the election of the Regional Focal Point of Global Environment Facility (GEF) CSOs Network for West Africa in 2019. The role of the Regional Focal Point is to coordinate CSOs to make inputs into the work of GEF and other UN environment processes and programmes. WEP will serve for 2 years in this position.

### Member of European Union Policy Forum on Development

WEP's application to become a member of EU's Policy Forum on Development (PFD) was accepted. As a member of PFD, WEP will influence EU policies and programmes by making inputs both virtually and at physical meetings into EU policies and laws. Membership of PFD is strategic for networking, fundraising and influencing policies and programmes of EU in Africa and elsewhere.





## WEP'S 2019 PUBLICATIONS

### Training Manual on Gender Programming for SDG and Budget Monitoring



Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) have the responsibility to mobilize and advocate for policies and laws that address the concerns of women. But this they cannot do without the right skills and capacity

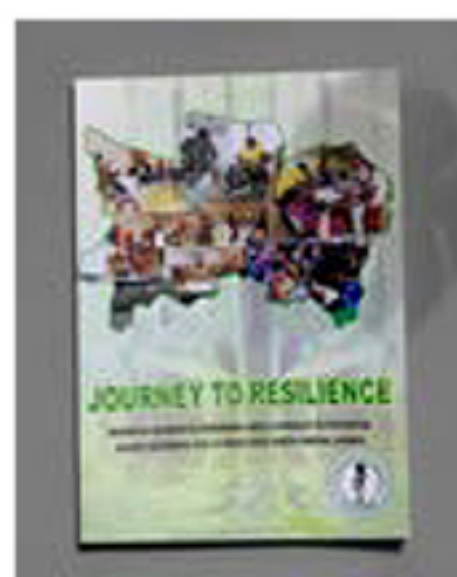
to advocate and push for these demands. This manual has been produced to build the capacity of CSOs on Gender Programming for SDG and Budget Monitoring with the support from the Kingdom of Netherlands under the Netherlands Accountability Funds.

### Training Manual on Gender Mainstreaming and Sustainable Development Goals



This training manual highlights all the SDGs and targets as well as indicators. The manual provides guide to mainstreaming gender in all SDGs by providing practical examples and case studies. Similarly, the manual provides guide, examples and case studies on developing gender-responsive legislations, policies and programmes and show how this is linked to the attainment of all the SDGs.

### Journey to Resilience; Women Environmental Programme (WEP)'s Approach to Preventing Violent Extremism – PVE in Benue State, North Central Nigeria.



This publication is a documentation of WEP's intervention on PVE in Benue State under the project; Connecting Women and Youth in Violent Extremist Prone areas through Empowerment

and Skills Acquisition. The project was implemented in Ado, Agatu, Kwande and Logo Local Government Areas based on the findings of the community needs assessment (CONA) conducted.

### Peace Club Training Manual



WEP will engage young women and young men, local religious, teachers, traditional and administrative leaders to strengthen community systems and structures that support resistance to recruitment and

radicalization to violent extremism; enhance livelihood opportunities to reduce individual vulnerability and increase self-confidence and worth among vulnerable youth in the communities. This will be done through trainings on livelihood/entrepreneurship, Alternative Disputes Resolution, Preventing



## WEP'S PUBLICATIONS continued

**Violent Extremism/Radicalization and Community Policing, Mediation, Dialogue, Mentorship and Advocacy meetings.**

This Peace Club Manual will provide a guide and build the capacity of young potential peacebuilders in conflict resolution and peace building activities.

### **Gender and Climate Change Issues in Agriculture in Nigeria: A Focus on Benue, Cross River, Plateau and Rivers States**



Climate change is a priority to researchers, government and non-governmental organizations and this has been necessitated because of the dramatic increase in the prevalence of

many life-threatening mishaps in different parts of the world. Without doubt, climate change threatens everyone, all regions and countries. It has been observed that agricultural research activity and extension services in Nigeria and the study areas in particular, have been gender specific, focusing more on males and their production challenges. This publications highlights gender and climate change issues in agriculture in Nigeria with a focus on Benue, Cross River, Plateau and Rivers States.

## WEP IN THE NEWS

### 1. Nigerian community gets a solar food dryer

Drying fruit and vegetables in the sun is the traditional way to preserve them. But out in the open they are exposed to bugs, dirt and weather. A women's initiative has constructed a solar drying tent, which does the job of drying faster and more efficiently.

<https://www.dw.com/en/nigerian-community-gets-a-solar-food-dryer/av-50221507>

### 2. Doing your bit: weaving waste into fashion

An organization in Nigeria is combining environmental action with female empowerment. It trains women to recycle waste plastic by weaving it into fashion accessories - which they can sell for a profit.

<https://m.dw.com/en/doing-your-bit-weaving-waste-into-fashion/av-51456530>

### 3. Facing the future with gender-sensitive forest conservation

Naomi Zebedee is a young Nigerian woman living in Sabo, in the Kaduna State capital. Once every month, she dares all odds – and the devils on the notorious Kaduna/Abuja Expressway – and commutes to the Federal Capital Territory, Abuja. Her monthly ritual is to attend the Y-Farm Youth and Women in Agribusiness Monthly Hangout, organized by the youth and gender-focused NGO, Fresh and Young Brains Development Initiative, conceived to foster knowledge sharing and create a network of youths and women in agriculture.

<https://punchng.com/facing-the-future-with-gender-sensitive-forest-conservation/>

### 4. Group advocates burning, burying used menstrual pads

The Women Environmental Programme, has advised ladies to cultivate the habit of burning and burying used sanitary towels, following the recent trend of theft of used underwear and pads for rituals.

<http://www.thenationonline.net/group-advocates-burning-burying-used-menstrual-pads>

### 5. Climate Change: NGO advocates women inclusion in planning, implementation

A Non-Governmental Organization, Women Environmental Programme (WEP) has called for the inclusion of women in the planning and implementation of climate change related actions. Mr John Baaki, Programme Coordinator of WEP made the call in Abakaliki on Saturday at a capacity building workshop for women, gender-based organisations and stakeholders in the environment sector.

<https://powerlinks.news/nigeria/news/climate-change-ngo-advocates-women-inclusion-planning-implementation>

6. UNEA 4: Damaris Uja of WEP delivers combined statement of major groups women, workers and trade unions. A combined intervention on behalf of the Women, Workers and Trade Unions Major Groups, delivered at the 4th Meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly, held in Nairobi, March 2019.

<https://youtu.be/LE97dj37TzM>





## PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

### DONORS

1. The Kingdom of Netherlands
2. Delegation of the European Commission to Nigeria
3. African Women Development Fund (AWDF)
4. Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC)
5. Global Greengrants Fund (GGF)
6. Open Knowledge Foundation (OKF)
7. Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP)
8. Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA

1. Federal Ministry of Environment
2. Federal Ministry of Water Resources
3. Federal Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development
4. Nigerian Army Peace Keeping Centre (NAPKC)

### NATIONAL NETWORKING PARTNERS

1. Charles & Doosurgh Abaagu Foundation
2. Community Emergency Response Initiative (CERI)
3. Shacks and Slum Dwellers Association of Nigeria
4. Innovative Initiative for Community Peace Building
5. Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN)
6. Climate Change Network of Nigeria (CCNN)
7. Nigerian CAN

8. Benue NGOs Network (BENGONET)
9. UNWOMEN Civil Society Advisory Group
10. Green Alliance, Nigeria

### REGIONAL WORKING PARTNERS

1. African Working Group on Gender and Climate Change
2. West African Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) Nigeria
3. Network of African Peace-builders (NAPS)
4. GEF CSOs Network

### GLOBAL NETWORKING PARTNERS

1. Women and Gender Constituency (WGC) of the UNFCCC
2. Women's Major Group-UN
3. Gender and Disaster Network
4. Gender and Climate Change Network
5. Global Land Tool Network
6. International Land Coalition (ILC)
7. Habitat International Coalition
8. Women for Water Partnership
9. World Alliance for Citizens Participation (CIVICUS)
10. Shacks and Slum Dwellers International (SDI)
11. Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO)
12. Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF)





For over 23 years Dr. Priscilla M. Achakpa the founder of WEP has led the organisation's engagement at various levels. She represented WEP as one of the Organizing Partners (OP) of the Women's Major Group at the United Nations (UN) for four years while juggling as the CSO Coordinator of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Process for Nigeria. Dr. Achakpa also served as the GEF CSO Network Focal Point for West Africa for four years and the National Coordinator for WSSCC for seven years. As the Gender Focal Point Negotiator for Nigeria and Member Africa Group of Negotiators UNFCCC she coordinated with other Gender Focal Points Negotiators from Africa at UNFCCC.

Dr. Achakpa also served as one of the coordinators representing West Africa on the Africa Working Group on Gender and Climate Change (AWGGCC) where she was involved in strategic planning; research and documentation, documentary, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, high level advocacies, representation of the group, coordination

and fund raising. As a member of the interim committee at the African CSO Engagement Mechanism she supported in setting up of the African CSOs engagement mechanisms, drafting of the position papers which was circulated to all networks in Africa. During her tenure as ED of WEP, she/WEP was a recipient to several awards some of which are; "2face Peace Award" for Exemplary Advocacy on IDPs and Peaceful Co-Existence in Nigeria, 2016, ECO Ambassador, Channels TV Nigeria and Deutsche Welle. Mother of Peace Award: for Mediating and Bringing Peace to Agila Community in Benue State Nigeria 2011 amongst other awards.

The entire WEP family will continue to look up to her for her guidance and mentorship as the organization welcomes a new Executive Director in person of Anne-Marie Abaagu.

Thank you!

WEP Family.





## WOMEN ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME (WEP)

🏠 Block E, Flat 2, Anambra Court  
Gaduwa Housing Estate  
After Apo Legislative Quarters.  
P. O Box 10176, Garki Abuja,  
Nigeria – West Africa.

✉ wep2002@hotmail.com,  
wepkaduna@yahoo.com  
info@wepnigeria.net

☎ +234 (9) 2910878  
+2348023235798

🌐 [www.wepnigeria.net](http://www.wepnigeria.net)

### Benue Office

Plot 625, Suite 7 David Mark  
Bye pass, High level, Makurdi  
Benue State – Nigeria.

### Taraba Office

Opposite Catholic Cathedral  
Behind Sanaf Suite,  
Shavon Mile Six, PO Box 456  
Jalingo, Taraba State - Nigeria

### WEP Burkina Faso

11BP339 Ouaga 11  
Tel: 0022670234930  
Email: wepbf@yahoo.bf

### WEP Togo

Quartier Adidogomé-Sagbado  
à 50m de l'enseigne du CEG  
Sagbado, Lomé-Togo.  
Tel: (00228) 90 81 26.86  
Facebook: WEP-Togo  
Email: weptogo@gmail.com

### WEP Tunisia

15 Rue de Liban La Marsa,  
2070, Tunis Tunisia