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Gombe Group of Environmental Clubs

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUBS ACTIVITIES

Meetings

Monthly meetings were carried out from July to December 2018. Several activities were carried out, including birdwatching and discussions about the environment and why we should care for it. We discussed proper waste disposal and the need to curb excessive use of fire wood, which is the major cause of logging in the areas.



Bird watching

As part of our activities with the environmental clubs, we involved them in bird watching around their homes. We taught them how to use binoculars and field guides to identify birds. We discussed the importance of birds to the environment and told them about some which are endangered and due to loss of their habitat or hunting. We then related their loss of environment to the incessant logging of trees in the state. In turn they told us of how their folklore has helped in the conservation of a tree species - baobab tree, they believe that the tree species is a host for different spirits, therefore they do not cut down the trees because the spirits may lose their homes and decide to inhabit human bodies. We also told them about the vultures, their current status and what their role is in our environment. They in turn told us the Hausa names for some of the birds we identified during the outings.

ENGLISH NAMES	HAUSA NAMES
Red-checked cordon-bleu	Asisi
Vulture	Angulu
Abdim's stork	Shamu'a
Northern red bishop	Janbaki
Waxbills	Ba'u
Laughing dove	Kurciya
Speckled pigeon	Hasbiya



Environmental clubs involved in bird watching

TREE PLANTING CAMPAIGN

The second and third tree planting campaigns were carried out in July and August 2018 at Gombe and Akko local government areas, Gombe state. Three hundred and thirty seedlings were planted in Gombe and another 330 seedlings were planted in Akko, with the help of the environmental clubs. The species of plants were African mahogany *Khaya senegalensis*, black currant *Syzigium guinensis* and bush mango *irvingia gabonensis*. The Hakimi of Kashere (Akko) admonished his people to take care of the plants and plant more trees as it is a religious obligation that comes with a blessing. To ensure the plants are protected we also provided local baskets to protect against livestock and wind. The

local chiefs (Hakimis) assigned some individuals in both regions to protect and ensure the safety of the seedlings. Pamphlets with information on trees and conservation were also distributed to members of the public during the campaigns.



Left: Director of APLORI, Prof S.A. Manu during the campaign at Gombe. Right: Mr Waldi Gurumse (team member) planting a tree.



Environmental club members involved in planting trees, Mr Elisha Barde and the Hakimi Mallam inna (Gombe) also involved.



Left: Turn out during the event at Gombe. Right: Bus hired to convey the basket to the site.



Left: Some members of the Gombe environmental club. Right: Elisha Barde addressing members of the environmental address.



Left: Visit to Hakimi of Kashere-north (Akko) before the event. Right: Fati Ramzy and Dr Charles Nsor of GSU during the campaign at Kashere.



Left: Distribution seedlings for planting. Middle: Hakimi of Kashere-East (Akko) planting trees. Right: Mr Longji Bako along with others.



Left: GSU vehicle carrying the trees for campaign. Right: Seedlings donated to some locals.



Left: Dr Babale of GSU planting a tree. Right: A representative of Sen. Moh'd Goje also planting a tree.



Left: Hakimi admonishing the people of Kashere (Akko). Right: Fati Ramzy, Sarah Markson, Jerry Denis, Bitrus Henry (from right).

SAVE TREES, SAVE OUR ENVIRONMENT

Trees have been known to provide lots of ecosystem services to man and his environment. Absorption of carbon dioxide, release of oxygen, reduction of air pollution, control of storms, improvement of water quality, improvement of soil fertility, provision of shelter, provision of homes for wildlife and also as food, all but to mention a few. These services have been provided to us by nature for free, and we are only expected to care for them, as they provide these services we can hardly accurately attach monetary value to.

However, we humans have become unnecessarily greedy and thirsty for more and more space that we do not consider the overall implications of our actions, both directly on us and on our biodiversity as a whole. The incessant cutting down of trees for fuel wood and timber. The rapid increase in population has also led to increase in land use for agriculture, overgrazing, urbanization. All of these anthropogenic activities has made alot of negative impact on our environment, as it is being rapidly degraded. In Nigeria, especially the north-eastern region, desertification has rapidly set in and it has been estimated that 350,000 square meter of land mass is being lost at an alarming rate of 0.6 kilometers per year.

We do not lose hope, as there are so many little things we can do to improve our environment. You do not have to plant a hundred trees in a day to show your support (you can, if you want to), but you can plant one or two at your home and nurture it until it grows to maturity. You can also educate people around you on issues relating to our environment and its preservation.

MU CECI BISHI YOYIN MU, CECI MUHALIN MU

An san bishiyoyi don samar da ayyuka masu yawa na yanayin kare muhalli ga mutum da yanayinsa. Rushewar carbon dioxide, sakin oxygen, rage yawan gurbataccen iska, kulawa da hadari, inganta yanayin ruwa, inganta kwayar kasa, samar da tsari, samar da gidaje ga namun daji da kuma abinci, duk sai dai don ambaci wasu. Wadannan ayyuka sun ba mu kyauta ta dabi'a, kuma ana sa ran mu kula da su, yayin da suke samar da wadannan ayyuka ba za mu iya daidaita adadin kudi ba.

Duk da haka, mu mutane sun zama ba da son zuciyar ba da gaske da kuma kishirwa don karin sararin samaniya da ba zamu iya la'akari da abubuwan da muke faruwa ba, dukansu a kan mu da kuma yadda muke da shi a kan mu. Cutar da katako da katako da katako. kara yawan karuwar yawan jama'a ya haifar da kara yawan amfanin gonaki don aikin noma, farfadowa, birni. Dukkan wadannan ayyukan anthropogenic sun haifar da mummunan tasiri akan yanayinmu, kamar yadda ake raguwa da sauri. A Nijeriya, musamman yankin arewa maso gabashin, rakuman daji sun tashi a hankali kamar yadda aka kiyasta cewa mita 350,000 na kasa da kasa na rasa a wata mummunar rawar da ta kai kilomita 0.6 a kowace shekara.

Ba mu rasa bege ba, saboda akwai abubuwa da yawa da za mu iya yi domin inganta yanayin mu. Ba dole ka dasa shuki dari ba a cikin rana don nuna goyon bayanka (zaka iya, idan kana son), amma zaka iya shuka daya ko biyu a gidanka kuma ka inganta shi har ya kai ga balaga. Zaka kuma iya ilmantar da mutanen da ke kewaye da kai a kan batutuwa da suka danganci yanayinmu da kuma adanawa.

Shin kun san?

1. Akwai nau'in bishiyoyi iri-iri guda 60,000 wanda aka sani a duniya
2. An kiyasta cewa kowane itace mai girma yana shafan carbon dioxide a cikin rabon 48 lbs. a kowace shekara.
3. A matsakaita, kowane itace mai girma zai iya samar da nauyin oxygen 260 kowace shekara.
4. Bishiyoyi su ne gidaje ga wasu dabbobin daji. Alal misali, dabbobi masu shayarwa kamar squirrels da tsuntsaye kamar woodpecker
5. Bishiyoyi sune rayayyun halittu masu rai a duniya, kuma basu mutu a tsufa ba.

DID you know?



1. There are 60,000 known tree species on earth
2. It has been estimated that each mature tree absorbs carbon dioxide at the rate of 48 lbs. per year.
3. On the average, each mature tree can produce 260 pounds of oxygen every year.
4. Trees are homes to various wildlife. For example, mammals like squirrels and birds like the woodpeckers
5. Trees are the longest living organisms on earth, and never die of old age.

Plant a tree today and save our future!