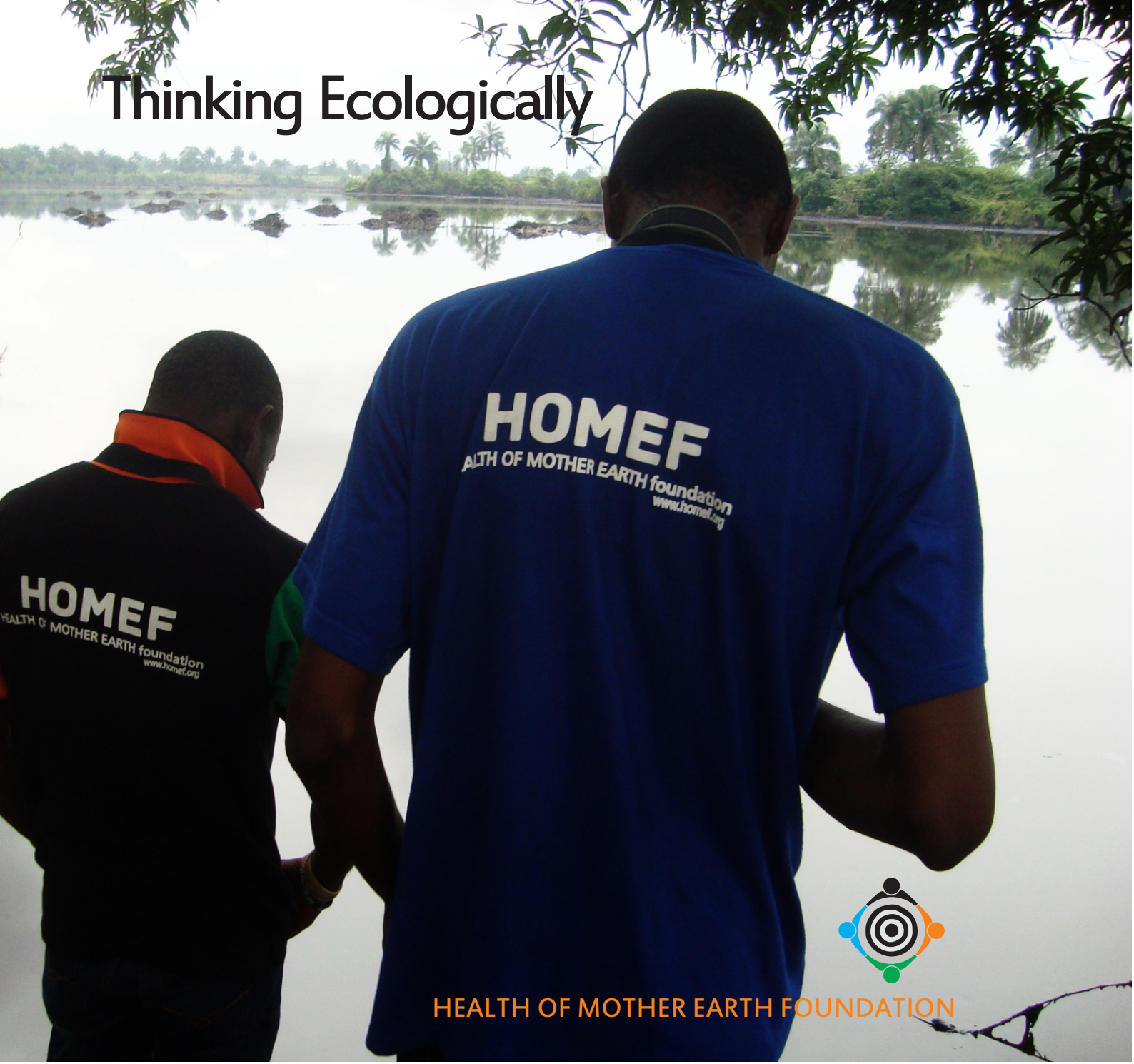


Thinking Ecologically



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HEALTH OF MOTHER EARTH FOUNDATION



Health of Mother Earth Foundation
Top Floor, 214 Uselu Lagos Road P.O.Box 10577 Ugbowo. Benin City.
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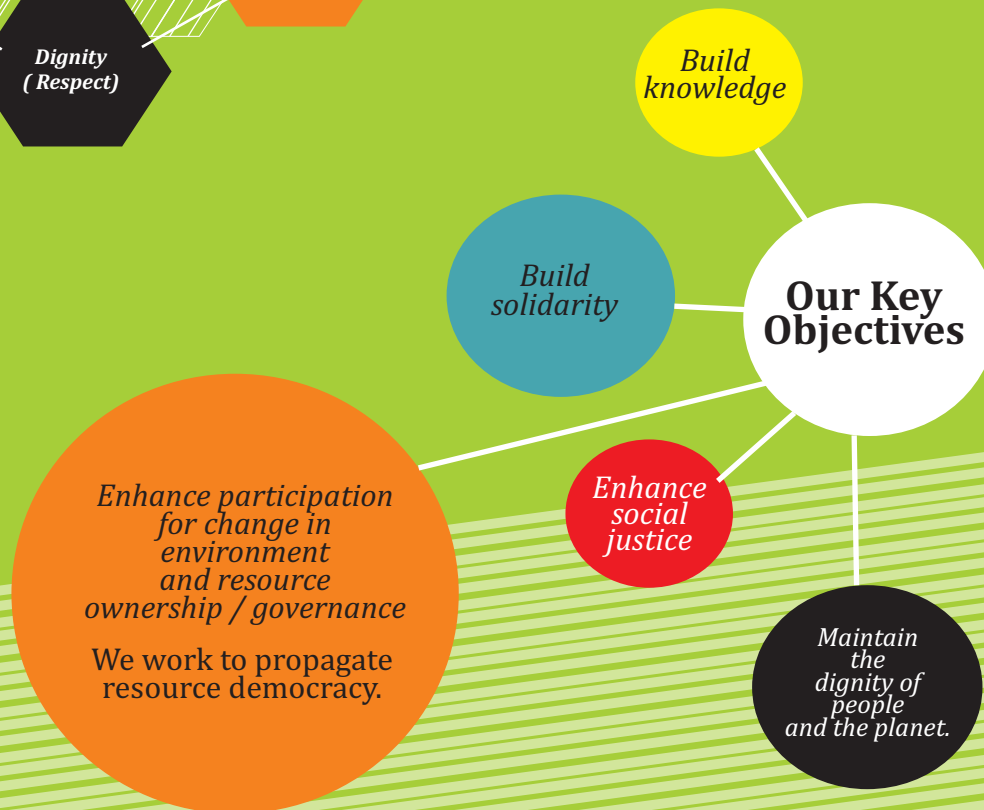
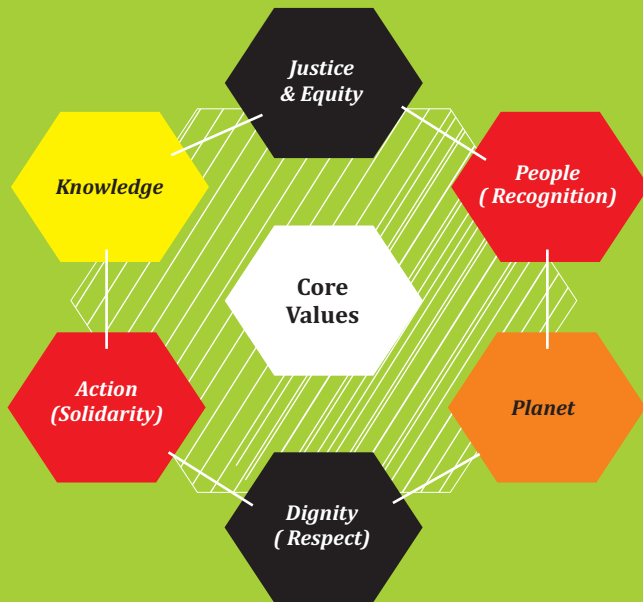
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Knowing HOMEF

We are an ecological think tank and advocacy organisation registered in Nigeria. Nigeria is our base but Africa is our focus. HOMEF is an ecological think tank and advocacy organisation set up to bridge the yawning gap between policy/decisions made by governments and the actual needs at the grassroots. HOMEF recognises that policies are often top down and such actions distort the possibilities of meeting actual needs.

HOMEF works to fill the gap in environmental advocacy in which grassroots voices are overlooked. We recognise that the global crises have systemic roots and the current paradigm of development and growth based on competition will lead to the critical destruction of biodiversity and continued destructive extraction of natural resources as well as dependency on risky technologies.





Homef Advisory Board

1. Chris Allan (USA) – Environmental health campaigner and philanthropy activist, USA
2. Siziwe Khanyile (South Africa) – Environmental justice campaigner, Campaigner with groundWork, South Africa
3. George Awudi (Ghana) – Climate justice campaigner – Chair of the Board and Campaigner with Friends of the Earth Ghana
4. Evelyn Bassey (Nigeria) – Environmental campaigner, HOMEF
5. Esperanza Martinez (Ecuador) – Environmental justice/Political ecologist, AccionEcologica, Ecuador
6. Nnimmo Bassey (Nigeria) – Environmental justice advocate, Director, HOMEF
7. Pablo Solon (Bolivia) – Climate justice campaigner, diplomat and movement builder- Executive Director, Focus on the Global South, Thailand
8. Liz Hosken (UK) – Mother Earth rights advocate, Executive Director of the Gaia Foundation
9. Lim Li Ching (Malaysia) – Agro-ecologist and rights advocate works with Third World Network
10. Akinbode Oluwafemi (Nigeria) - Environmental Justice Advocate with Environmental Rights Action

STAFF

Nnimmo Bassey
Director,

Joy Akpotor
Administration

Cadmus Atake
Project Assistant

Oluwafunmilayo Oyatogun
Communications Officer

ShehuAkowe
Abuja Liaison Officer

Zaid Shopeju
Media and publications

Daramfon Bassey
Research Assistant

OlatundunDotun-Davids
Network manager



HOME Note (from the Director)

Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) started its active life at the end of March 2013. We are happy to look back and confidently say that in our first year we enjoyed tremendous work of our team and great support in terms of good will and engagement from volunteers, partners and the general public.

Our first public outing was at Sustainability Academies held in August 2013 on the subject, "Climate Change and the Looming Food Crisis." HOMEF board member, Pablo Solon, was the first Instigator at our Sustainability Academy. He brought to us his rich knowledge and experience as a frontline global climate justice campaigner.

Our Second Sustainability Academy was held on 25 November 2013 with Noble Wadzah of Oilwatch Ghana as the instigator. The theme of the second HOME School was "The African Awakening and the Implications for the Environment."

A major highlight of our first year was the inauguration of the Right Livelihood College Campus at the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. The first Right Livelihood Lecture was given by Dr Monika Griefhan, co-Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation.

Between the two Sustainability Academies we had a major workshop on nutrition and the defense of our biological diversity. That event took place in Abuja in October 2013.

HOMEF exists to help build and share knowledge. In line with this mandate we published hard and online editions of our exciting in-house magazine, the Eco-Instigator. We backed this up with a strong presence in the social media.

Building a corps of knowledge generators led us to initiate Fellowship of HOMEF. The first set of four fellows was the two instigators at our Sustainability Academies, the presenter of the maiden Right Livelihood Lecture and the Vice Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt.

As exciting as the year was, we also suffered loss. Two great supporters of HOMEF, Professor Festus Iyayi and Madam Juliana Odey - illustrious justice advocates passed on in the course of 2013. Comrade Iyayi as he was fondly called in and outside the trenches of struggle was at our inaugural Sustainability Academy in August, while Madam Odey aka Madam cassava was with us at our Convention on Biological Diversity and Nutrition Workshop in October 2013. We have resolved that the best way to honour their memories is to keep the flag of struggle for justice flying and never flagging.

Hasta la victoria siempre! Until Victory!



Nnimmo Bassey

Climate Change and the Looming Food Crises

By Oluwafunmilayo Oyatogun.

In Abuja, several key policy makers and NGO leaders gathered together at the Protea Apo Apartments for the first session of the Health of Mother Earth Sustainability Academy (HOME School) on the 19th of August, 2013. The first leg of the 3-city event was targeted towards this sector of society in order to discuss Nigeria's standing on policy in relation to the theme: Climate Change and the Looming Food Crises.

The instigator at the academy was Pablo Solon the former ambassador of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations (February 2009 to July 2011) who is the current Executive Director of the NGO, Focus on the Global South. He spoke extensively during the session on the need for Africa to take active steps against climate change.

“Africa is becoming the most exposed region in the world to the impacts of climate change,” Pablo began. He reiterated throughout his presentation the vulnerability of Africa to temperature changes. For instance, by 2025, the impact of climate change on water availability in Nigeria will drop to 1700 cubic meters of water per person per year from over 3000 in 1990. This means Nigeria is quickly approaching water stress.

In addition, the displacement of people is key in the climate change discussion and so issues of civil wars and uprising are of concern. It is predicted that there will be an increase of civil wars in Africa by up to 54% due to climate change. And while it is possible to adapt to climate change to a certain extent, money is the deciding factor. So, poorer countries, with fewer emissions, will end up suffering the impacts the most. He concluded by giving practical and real solutions to the false solutions of GMOs, ocean fertilization, synthetic biology, stratospheric sulfate injection and the like. His suggested solutions include leaving 2/3rd of fossil fuels in the ground, adopting zero waste strategies and dismantling military infrastructure.

In Benin, the Sustainability Academy continued with a session organized for school children and community members at the Precious Palm Royal Hotel. The Governor of Edo State, Comrade Adams Oshiomole, was represented by Dr. Onikolease Irabor, the Special Adviser on Environment to the Governor of the state.

This session was very interactive, with students, media representatives, community members and youth leaders asking questions on climate change in Nigeria, addressing the food crises and the way forward. In line with HOMEF's commitment to engage young people in environmental education through interactive methods, participating students were invited to recite poems on climate change.

The instigator, Ambassador Pablo Solon presented on Nigeria's place in climate change and the looming food crises. He delivered his presentation on climate change in a manner that was informative to all the categories of people present at the session. "There are several impacts climate change has on the environment including health, wars and food instability. Already, malaria is prevalent in Africa and worse health conditions are the most direct impacts of climate change."



HOMEF Annual Report 2013



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FOUNDATION

THE ECOLOGICAL THINK TANK



He continued by saying, “in most African cases, climate change will lead to water stress. In some cases, there will be scarcity and drought. Climate change may not destroy the Earth itself, but life as we know it will be altered drastically.” In a graphic display, he likened climate change to change of temperature in a human, first rising to a fever and eventually to death.

Speaking on false climate solutions Ambassador Pablo said, “geo-engineering is like putting an umbrella over the earth. This is the first of the false solutions for climate change.” He continued by saying, “when you genetically modify organisms, you are mixing things that don't mix in nature.”

The final session of The inaugural HOME School concluded in Lagos with an outstanding event at the Afe Babalola Auditorium, University of Lagos, Akoka. The event was organized in partnership with the Department of Mass Communications and was sub-themed 'Communicating Climate Change: Raising

Awareness to Instigate Action.'

“We need to communicate climate change effectively in order to address it. We want to address how to create action, how to mobilize, how to involve. I use the human fever analogy because it is simple,” began instigator Ambassador Pablo Salon. He went on to say that many international deliberations end up being business as usual and that the real problem behind climate change is capitalism.

So, we need to communicate climate change effectively in order to address it.” Upon learning about the Eko Atlantic project and the antagonistic nature of the project to nature and its climate denial nature , he said 'I want to see Eko Atlantic, why would any one want to build that?'



Right Livelihood Campus Comes to Nigeria

by Zaid Shopeju.

The Health of Mother Earth (HOMEF), University of Port Harcourt (UNIPORT) and the Right Livelihood Award Foundation signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to co-host the Right Livelihood College (RLU) at the Faculty of Social Science on Monday 25th

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November, 2013. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Joseph Ajienka represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Prof Nduka, expressed his delight at the honour of his school being the first Nigerian university to host such a conference, which will immensely benefit the students and young researchers in the university and increase the quality of research while opening them to more international learning opportunities.



The event which also marked the second edition of HOMEF's Sustainable Academy (HOME School #02) had Comrade Noble Wadzah of Oilwatch Ghana as the lead Instigator for the session.

The Right Livelihood College is an international capacity building initiative of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation to generate knowledge and communication values for a peaceful and sustainable world.

The college aims to harness and promote ideas and knowledge of laureates through research and the University of Port Harcourt is the fifth of the campuses in the world.

In his opening remark, Prof Alapiki, Dean of the faculty highlighted ways the young scholars can access the learning platform provided by the Right

Livelihood College.

According to Nnimmo Bassey, 2010 Right Livelihood Laureate and Director of HOMEF, "living in the Niger Delta can be equated to living in a laboratory of contestations and experimentations birthed by failed promises, dashed hopes, brutalised lives and a thoroughly polluted environment". He continued, "We pay keen attention to the line of our national anthem that warns that "the labour of our heroes past shall never be in vain. It is this stubborn struggle for dignity and justice that has empowered the oppressed to stand on the ruins of our



Prof Ethelbert Chinaka
laudable initiative
ity of education,

homesteads and shattered lives and proclaim we shall overcome, we shall rebuild, we shall not be buried in the dust.” He expressed his hope that “through this partnership with UNIPORT, doors of scholarship, exchanges and deep examination of our environment in all ramifications will be opened.”

Monika Griefahn, Co-Chair of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation and a former Minister of Environment in the German State of Lower Saxony said that “the Right Livelihood College was inaugurated in 2009 to further the foundation's work through capacity building and increasing accessibility of past Right Livelihood Laureates accessible to people”. She also said “the foundation tries to recognise the work of people who are working to promote peaceful and sustainable world and hope that by recognising the exceptional work, they can help put their cause on global discourse and protect them from persecution.”

She cited some of the works of the past

laureates such as Wangari Maathai of Kenya who won the award in 1984, and later won the Nobel Peace Prize 20years later. According to her, this shows the foresightedness of the foundation in it's selection of winners.

The Instigator for the HOME School #02, Noble Wadzah of Oilwatch Ghanaian his paper titled 'African Awakening and Implication for the Environment' said “Civil society cannot stand alone in the struggle against the polluters, multinational corporations and insensitive governments The academics should be involved.”

” He added that “The Arab spring only tells one side of the story; the political story and how the people responded to issues they were not comfortable with. But we have another dimension to the story; the environmental struggle for justice that we are confronted with.



“ As Africans we are all connected to one rural area or another.” “We therefore need to challenge institutions, develop new thinking that takes into account our shared values of communal well being.”

In his closing remark Dr. Eme Ekekwe admonished that “what we have done here today is a wakeup call on two levels; academic and personal.

“ We are to supply the intellectual needs for the practical struggle that is taking place out there. Sometimes in this country, it is not the academics and intellectuals

who should be leading; it is the artisans, farmers, fishermen. It is those people whose fishing waters are being polluted, those people whose lands are been grabbed and appropriated not only by the multinationals but by our own people.”

HOMEF's work tracks ecological and political education aimed at examining the roots of exploitation of resources, labour, peoples and entire regions. We hope this will contribute to the rebuilding of our national resources and the restoration of dignity and harmonious living with full respect to natural cycles of Mother Earth.

A close-up photograph of a pair of hands, likely belonging to a person of African descent, cupped together and holding a large quantity of white beans with black eyes. The beans are piled high, overflowing from the hands and spilling onto a dark surface below. The background is a solid teal color. The text "Defending Our FOODS and Biodiversity" is overlaid in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font, with "FOODS" in all caps and "and Biodiversity" in lowercase. The text is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the image, partially overlapping the hands and the beans.

Defending Our FOODS and Biodiversity

HOMEF hosted a workshop on **Stopping the False Nutritional Kite & Understanding the Convention on Biological Diversity** on Tuesday 08 October 2013 in Abuja.

Participants included farmers, farmers associations, representatives of Communities, government agencies, international agencies, business, civil society groups, faith based organisations and the media.

The workshop aimed to boost learning on nutrition through natural foods and to interrogate the claims/myths of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) as the panacea for nutritional deficiencies in Nigeria and Africa as a whole. The workshop also aimed to build knowledge of participants on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) process as a foundational tool for defending our environment.

Three papers were presented as follows:

a. Understanding the Convention on

Biological Diversity by Rufus Ebegba

b. Nutrition from Natural Foods/Crops by Yemisi Olowookere

c. Unmasking the mythic Nutritional Kite by Nnimmo Bassey

These presentations were followed by robust interrogations and group deliberations.

The workshop observed that:

1. The Convention on Biological Convention (CBD) is technical and not an easy convention to be understood by the average Nigerian farmer.
2. Many conventions and treaties are entered into by the government without consultation with farmers and citizens
3. Small scale farmers are the largest aggregate investors in agriculture in Nigeria and in the world
4. Policies affecting farmers are developed without the consent and inputs from farmers

- modified organisms (GMOs) and foods in Nigeria
6. Nigerians are not aware of the health and dietary risks of GMOs
 7. Nutrition is not manufactured in the laboratory and must not be used as a guise for introduction of GMOs into Nigeria
 8. Large scale land grabs is happening in Nigeria without consent of farmers and communities
 9. Poverty and poor dietary options lead to food insecurity and poor nutrition
 10. Over processed foods often presented in plastic packages are not helpful in meeting the nutritional needs of the people
 11. Groups like the G8 promoting the so-called Alliance for Nutrition are working in the interest of multinational agribusiness with the objective of capturing the African market and dislocating agricultural policies
 12. There is an increasing dependency on multinational agribusiness and

- supporting government agencies that do not portend good for Nigerians
13. African governments have been largely complacent about the covert activities of the biotechnology industry to undermine food sovereignty on the continent
 14. Food sovereignty is impaired by dependence on food imports and manipulation of crops

The workshop also noted the recent passage of policies on agricultural trade and GMOs by the Council of Ministers of the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA) and saw this as a growing threat to African agriculture, demanding that the policies are not deeded and should be jettisoned.

The workshop resolved as follows:



POLITICS
ENVIRONMENT, BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY,
UNMASKING THE THREATS



by a wide variety of foods
good health. "you are what
nutrition



Therefore it is important to
be properly guided



1. Government and civil society groups should embark on intensive education of grassroots farmers on the provisions of the CBD and related conventions, treaties and policies
2. Initiatives to enhance indigenous agricultural and food preservation techniques should be developed
3. The provisions of the CBD should be fully explained to farmers and citizens as a key tool for biodiversity protection
4. Government should ensure that GMOs are not brought into Nigeria in the absence of a strict Biosafety Law and in line with the precautionary principle of the Cartagena Protocol
5. There should be strict penalties for defaulters of the provisions of the CBD
6. Nigerians should eat healthy organic foods that are culturally appropriate
7. Policy makers to ensure that only safe products are allowed into Nigeria and ensure a strict implementation of the CBD.
8. The current Nigerian Biosafety Bill pending signature of the President should be opened to farmers and the generality of the public for inputs. The Nigerian President should not assent to the National Biosafety Bill in its current form to give opportunity for citizens' and critical stakeholders to make inputs in line with the provisions of the Cartagena Protocol which Nigeria is signatory to.
9. There should be full transparency on the part of government and her agencies in the labelling and liabilities and redress in the Biosafety laws and in the promotion of practices that support food sovereignty
10. Agro-ecological food production should be encouraged for biodiversity conservation
11. Agriculture is all about our culture and is equally deeply political and must be treated with serious considerations in these spheres

Being on the HOMEF Team

Oluwafunmilayo Oyatogun

I joined the HOMEF team immediately after the organization was founded and in less than one year, we've seen an improvement in the reception of environmental justice issues in every day discourse in Nigeria.

The team is made up of young people carving their career paths, as well as award-winning and world-renowned environmentalists who influence policy at an international level. No wonder, we are such a dynamic group and it shows in the unique workshops and resolutions HOMEF is putting out there.

From the programs to the

publications to the tea experience, working on the HOMEF team has been both rewarding and empowering. HOMEF is a unique organization that focuses on issues that young people ordinarily feel helpless towards - hunger, oil, and the politics of these things. But HOMEF has found a way to successfully marry the youthfulness of young people with the wisdom of older people to provide solutions for some of the worst injustices of our age. I cherish the opportunity to work with brilliant people who all share the vision of seeing a continent that is environmentally, politically and socially just.





Cadmus Atake

Working in HOMEF has been life transforming and incredibly interesting, Securing this job was like a dream come true for me because environment advocacy and enlightenment became my life style while I was in school and securing this job has given me the right platform to do that, Working to secure the environment to avoid anything catastrophic from happening to mother earth and making the future leaders aware of the grave danger that awaits mankind is a worthwhile job for me. Indeed it is a lifestyle.

Working in HOMEF has given me ability to carry out assigned task within a short time frame and it has really helped me as an individual to be prepared at all times and has given me the opportunity to learn from seasoned environmental professionals both local and international.

Having to read and watch the news daily about natural disasters and man-made disasters has given me cause for concern for the environment and the sustenance of future generations to come and so I have been instigated to act as an environmentalist and speak out to enlighten the public on the dangers involved in their actions on the environment and all these has been activated in me being a part of HOMEF.

Learning more about climate change and its impact during the HOME school 1

sessions from the lead instigator Pablo Solon, former Bolivian Ambassador to UN, really enlightened me about the eminent dangers associated with extreme climate altering actions.

The second session of the HOME School and Rights Livelihood Lectures also gave me a wider knowledge about the Rights livelihood college /laureates .

I also had the opportunity to learn more about the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBDs) and GMOs through the CBD training which has enabled me to place more values on biodiversity and naturally produced foods.

Knowing more about areas like Ogoni land in Rivers State and other areas in Niger Delta that are ravished by oil spills exposed me to the nonchalant attitude of



the Nigerian Government and the Multinational Companies operating in the Niger Delta region.

Visiting impacted communities like Goi and Bodo communities in Gokana Local Government Area of Rivers State has given me a whole new perspective about the sufferings and starvation of the Niger Delta people, whose health and livelihood has been totally brought to a decline with a life expectancy rate of 41 years.

The organization of conferences /seminars and workshop for youths,

tertiary institution students, community people and other CSOs has really broadened my scope on basic and pressing environmental issues in Nigeria from various dimensions.

In all these outing, new ideas and knowledge has been opened to me as in knowing that a lot of people do not actually know anything about what is happening around their environment and the damages done to her.

One of the great moments I had was having to fly for the first time. At first I

scared that I had to start praying all through the flight but after a while I got comfortable with it.

Travelling on the job has broadened my horizon about various geographical locations, cultures and people and I can happily say within this period of time I have learnt a lot and can readily write a tale of different cities in Nigeria.





Zaid Shopeju

Having spent the last 5 years of my life campaigning for environmental justice, leading rallies to raise public awareness on climate change and collaborating on different joint actions to demand for climate justice – working as part of the HOMEF team has been the peak of my advocacy in every sense. It has been a rare honour and privilege working alongside people that truly believes in people's power and share genuine care and concern about our environment.

Being part of the HOMEF team is like being part of an elite team of environmental troopers; ready to soldier on at a minute notice. The sense of purpose and accomplishment in our humble effort in exposing environmental injustice whether in the creeks of the Niger Delta or raising new cadre of sustainable leaders is more fulfilling than words can describe.

What I have learnt in less than a year under the guidance, mentorship and leadership of Nnimmo and the rest of the team have immensely widened my horizon and personal understanding of climate politics. HOMEF team have identified the connection between climate change, hunger politics; an unusual feast and detour from the false solutions been championed in the academic and civil society world - and I am so proud to be part of this amazing team and history. I am quite confident that 20 years from now history will favourably acknowledge the contributions of these visionary and selfless people. It always feels good to be part of history, and being part of the HOMEF team gives me that feeling. Being part of HOMEF is being part of movement of movements!

HOMEF Media

We published two editions of our in-house magazine, Eco-Instigator, in 2013. We also commenced the publication of a monthly electronic bulletin from November 2013

Social media:

1. On facebook we can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Health-of-Mother-Earth-Foundation/575246475820259> .
2. Our twitter handle is Heath_Earth Our events were twitted live and we plan to bring in live streaming from 2014.
3. On flickr our photo stream is found at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/100756072@N02/>.
4. HOMEF has a Facebook page and a sub-page on GMO-Free Nigeria <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Gmo-Free-Nigeria/426899044091789>.
5. On vimeo we are found at www.vimeo.com/homeftv.

HOMEF in Networks

Within our first year we were privileged to help midwife two vital networks, NRAN and YLNM

- a. No to REDD in African Network, (NRAN)
- b. Yes to Life No to Mining, (YLNM)
- c. Oilwatch International
- d. Alternatives
- e. /The Rules

HOMEF Partners

We had the pleasure of receiving support in various forms from these esteemed institutions and organisations:

- **Tikva Grassroota Empowerment Funds**
- **Grassroots Foundation**
- **Third World Network**
- **Federal Ministry Of Environment/UNDP**
- **University Of Port Harcourt**
- **Mass Communications Dept., Univeristy Of Lagos**
- **Protea Hotels Apo Apartments, Abuja**
- **Precious Palm Royal Hotel, Benin City**
- **Base Consult**

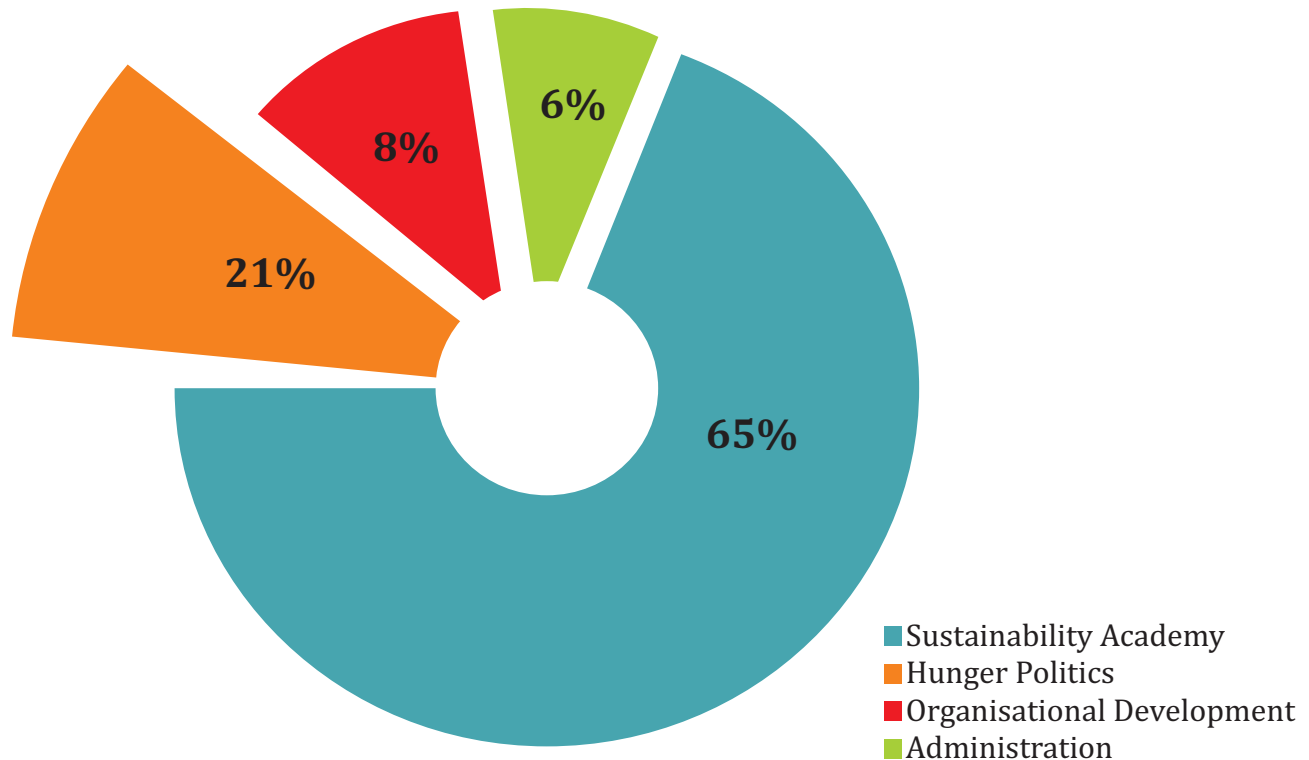
HOMEF Annual Report 2013

Home of Mother Health Foundation
Annual Reports And Accounts
For The Year Ended 31 December 2013

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
	N	N	N	N
Revenues, Grants and other Supports				
Contributions & Grant Income	16,667,233	-	-	16,667,233
Other Income	27,700	-	-	27,700
Investment Income	10	-	-	-
Net assets released from restrictions:				
Satisfaction of program restrictions	-	-	-	-
Satisfaction of Equipment restrictions	-	-	-	-
Expiration of time restrictions	-	-	-	-
Total Revenues, Grants and other Support	<u>16,694,933</u>			<u>16,694,933</u>
Expenses and Losses				
Sustainability	10,231,164			
GMO/CBD	3,300,226			
Development Programme	1,090,231			
Management and General	1,195,430			
Total Expenses	<u>15,817,051</u>			
Change in Net Assets	877,882			
Net assets at the beginning of the year	-			
Net assets at end of year	<u>877,882</u>			

2013 Expenses





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