

The background of the entire page is a vibrant, abstract pattern of concentric circles in various colors including red, blue, green, yellow, and purple. These circles are set against a textured, painterly background. A large, solid yellow triangle points from the top right towards the center, partially overlapping the text area.

Annual REPORT 2015

HEALTH OF MOTHER EARTH FOUNDATION

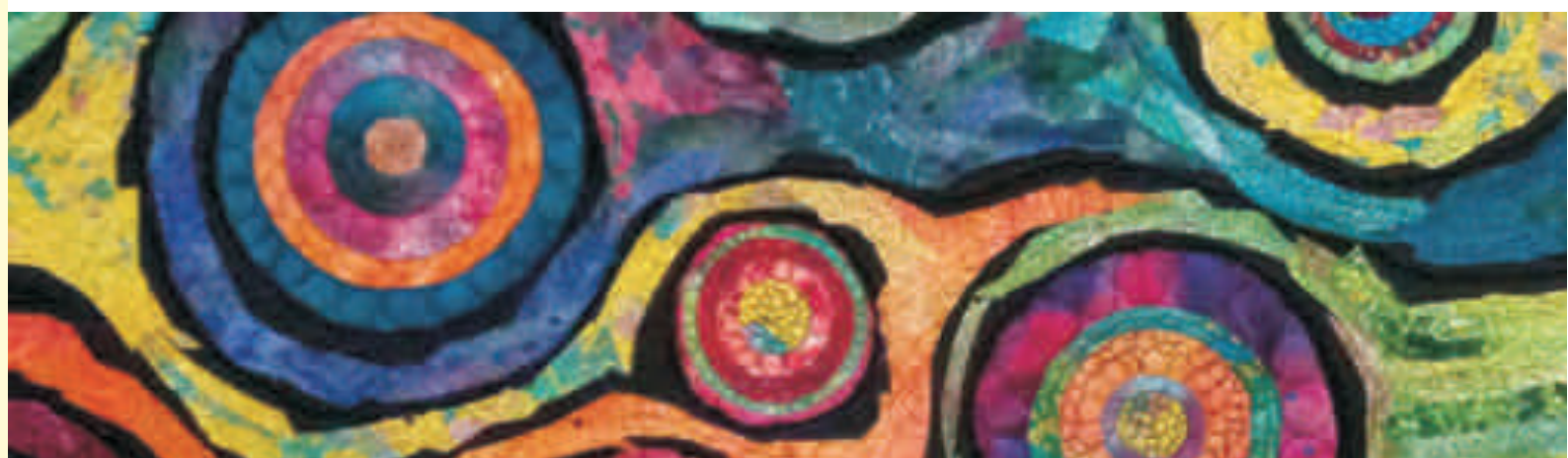
-The Ecological Think Tank-



Health of Mother Earth Foundation
Top Floor, 214 Urelu Lagos Road P.O. Box 10577 Ugbowo.
Benin City,
Edo State, Nigeria.
www.homef.org; home@homef.org

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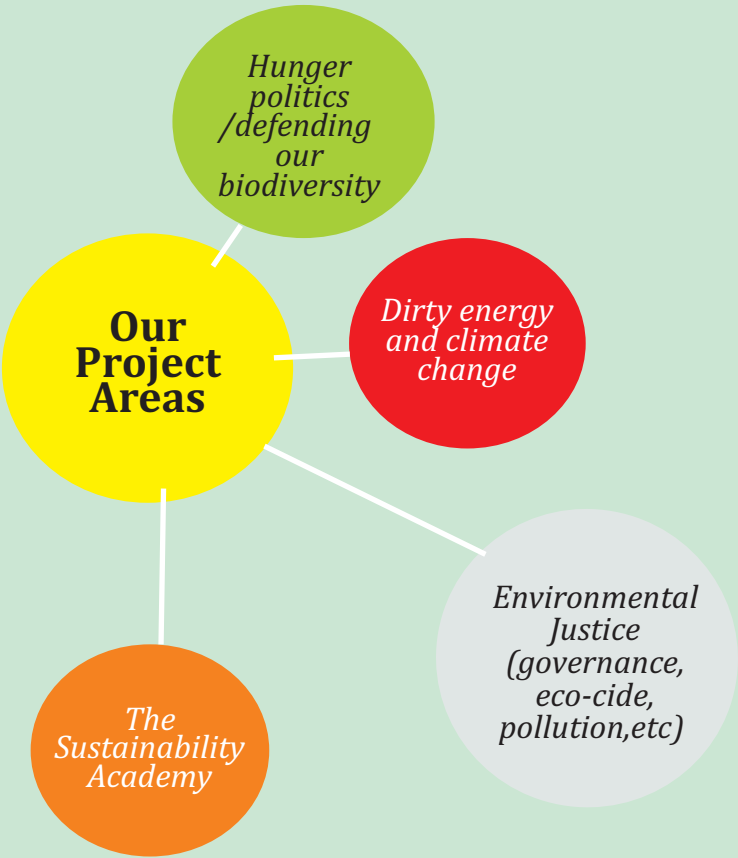
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KNOWINGHOMEF

We are an ecological think tank and advocacy organisation registered in Nigeria. Nigeria is our base but Africa is our focus. HOMEF is 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 actions based on such can 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, South Africa
3. George **Awudi** (Ghana) – Climate justice campaigner – Chair of the board, Ghana
4. Evelyn **Bassey** (Nigeria) – Youth environmental campaigner, HOMEF
5. Esperanza **Martinez** (Ecuador) – Environmental justice/political ecologist, Accion Ecologica, 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 Rights Advocate

STAFF

Nnimmo Bassey
Director

O Dotun-Davids
Administration

Cadmus Atake
Project Officer

Oluwafunmilayo Oyatogun
Communications Officer

Shehu Akowe
Abuja Liaison Officer

Zaid Shopeju
Multi-media and Publications

Daramfon Bassey
Research Assistant

Victory Okogie
Administrative Assistant

Volunteers

Mariann Orovwuje
Hunger & Biosafety

Ruth Iziduh
Research



2015 was a momentous year for us at HOMEF. We took off with a flurry of activities in very enthusiastic communities. We approached the fight for environmental justice from the roots, opening up dialogues within communities, dissecting the origins and continued causes of ecological damage in such communities and building up visions of what must be done to remedy the situation. We can safely say that with this platform we are having communities of ecological defenders that are ready to stand up for the rights, improve on their livelihoods and live in dignity.

A sad note for us came on 9th April 2015 when one of our trustees, Oronto Douglas, passed on. Oronto was one of Nigeria's foremost ecological rights thinkers, with whom I was privileged to co-found Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria. We sorely miss him. We are also spurred to work harder to ensure that his ideals and dreams live on.

One of the highlights of the year was the momentous visit of Vandana Shiva to speak at the 2nd Rightlivelihood Lecture at the University of Port Harcourt and to address Sustainability Academies in two Niger Delta communities of Bori (Ogoni) and Erema (Egi). She led the communities to plant Gardens of Hope as symbols indicating that our despoiled environments will live again, especially as we work towards a post-fossil world.

Another highlight was our participation in Shehu Musa Yar'Adua's **No Where to Run** – a film documentary on Nigeria's environmental and climate crises. The documentary captures Nigeria's desperate environmental situation in stark colours and confirms the paths of our future work.

HOMEF is thankful to our volunteers, supporters and foundations that made it possible for us to carry on with our work.

Until victory!

Nnimmo Bassey

Nnimmo Bassey
Director

HOMEF Fellows

Over the span of two years, HOMEF had the pleasure of having four distinguished Instigators (facilitators) at our HOMEF Sustainability Academies (HSA), also known as HOME Schools.

Our Instigators automatically become Sustainability Academy Fellows. Our Fellows are available to respond to issues pertaining to their areas of expertise whenever the need for such help arises. They generally provide a strong backstop for our pursuits in knowledge generation and dissemination.

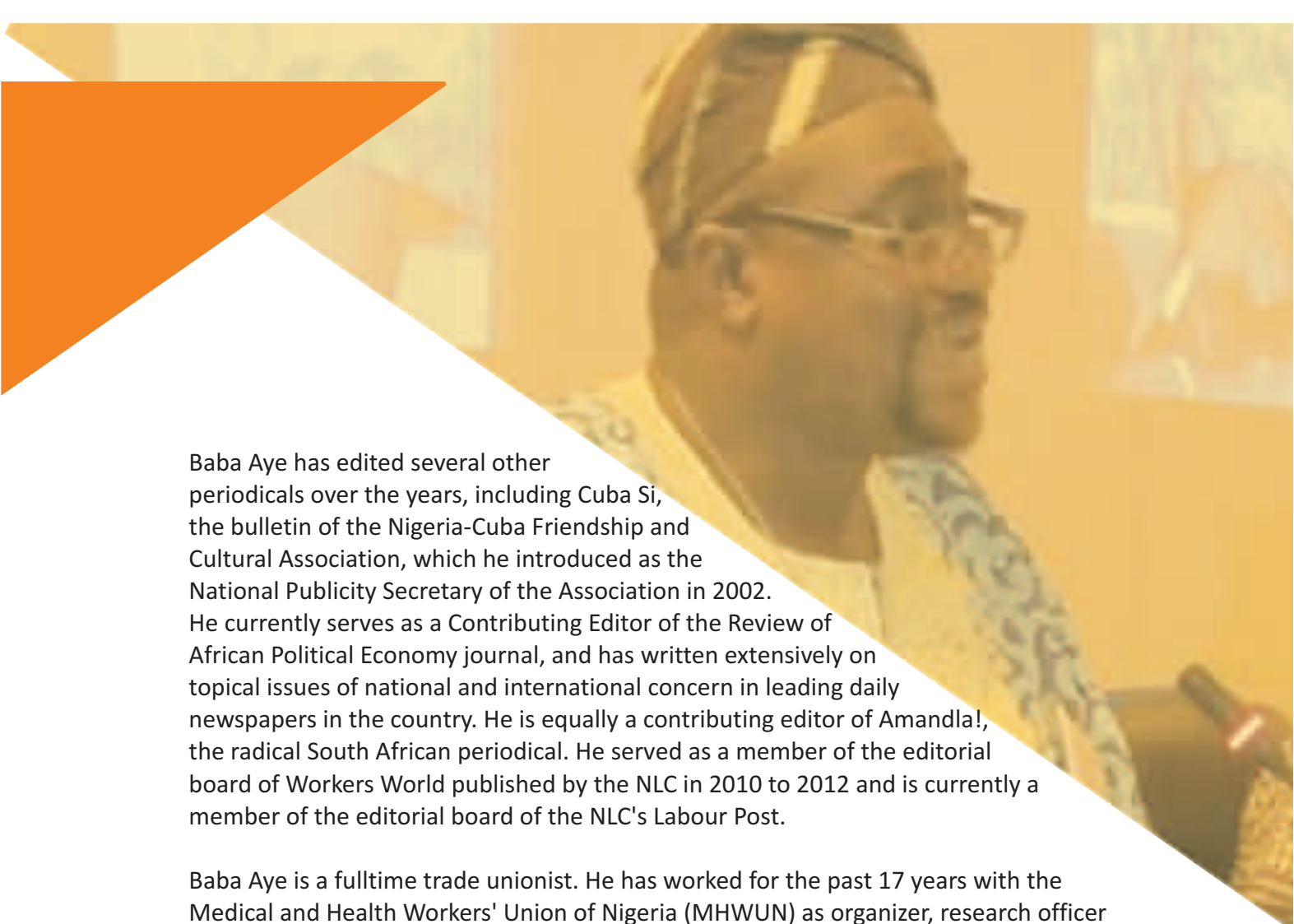
Two new Fellows were inducted in 2015:

HSA Fellow #05

Baba Aye

Baba Aye was born on Tuesday, October 12, 1971, in Lagos. He had his elementary education at; Rose Cottage Nursery & Primary School, Akoka Primary School and CMS Primary School. His secondary education was at; Howell's Memorial Grammar School Bariga, Federal Government College Odogbolu, Ikeja High School, Anwar Ul Islam College Agege and State College Isolo. He subsequently attended; University of Ilorin, University of Lagos, University of Nigeria Enugu Campus, University of Kassel, University of Campinas and the Berlin School of Economics. He has a BSc in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management, and an MA in Labour Policy and Globalisation, from the Global Labour Univeristy.

He is a consummate activist, becoming convinced of the need for struggle to bring to birth a better world, when he was 13 years old. Realising that struggle is collective and thus requires organisation, he has been a unionist since his university days when he served at different periods in several capacities from the hall/departmental level to the national platform. Some of the positions he served in were as; Speaker of the Students Parliament (at both Unilorin and Unilag) and Public Relations Officer of the National Association of Nigerian Students.



Baba Aye has edited several other periodicals over the years, including Cuba Si, the bulletin of the Nigeria-Cuba Friendship and Cultural Association, which he introduced as the National Publicity Secretary of the Association in 2002. He currently serves as a Contributing Editor of the Review of African Political Economy journal, and has written extensively on topical issues of national and international concern in leading daily newspapers in the country. He is equally a contributing editor of Amandla!, the radical South African periodical. He served as a member of the editorial board of Workers World published by the NLC in 2010 to 2012 and is currently a member of the editorial board of the NLC's Labour Post.

Baba Aye is a fulltime trade unionist. He has worked for the past 17 years with the Medical and Health Workers' Union of Nigeria (MHWUN) as organizer, research officer and for the past dozen years (which included a 1 and half years deployment to the NLC at the request of Congress), he has been the Head of the union's Education, Planning, Research and Statistics Department. He has utilized this office and his being a member of the NLC National Education & Training Coordination Group to help a number of sister -unions build and staff education departments or capacity for these where they already have such. He also served as the Chairperson of the NLC Lagos State Council Caretaker Committee in 2003 where he helped midwife the emergence of a new leadership out of a moment of crisis.

As a socialist, Baba Aye is resolute in fighting against all forms of oppression and degradation of humanity and the earth. This is the point of departure for his activities as radical feminist and environmental rights activist. Baba Aye blogs at: <http://solidarityandstruggle.blogspot.com> where a number of his writings from 2008 can be found.

HSA Fellow #06

Vandana Shiva

Dr. Vandana Shiva is a world-renowned environmentalist, physicist, philosopher, feminist, activist, and author.

Born in 1952 in Uttarakhand, India, her parents were staunch supporters of Mahatma Gandhi, and Gandhi remains a profound influence on her thought. She earned her PhD in nuclear physics on “Hidden Variables and Non-locality in Quantum Theory” at the University of Western Ontario. Rather than pursue an academic career, she chose instead to dedicate her life to the protection of nature and defence of small farmers' rights and the rights of people to nature's resources – forests, biodiversity, water, and seeds and land.

Alarmed by the threat to biodiversity posed by agri-business interests and biotechnology, she founded the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology in 1982 dedicated to independent research to address the most significant ecological and social issues of our times. In 1991, Dr. Shiva founded Navdanya (which means 'Nine Seeds' in Hindi, www.navdanya.org) a national movement to protect the diversity and integrity of living resources and the rights of small farmers. In 2004 she founded 'Bija Vidyapeeth, the Earth University, an international college for sustainable living in Deradhun, India and in 2011, Navdanya International in Florence, Italy.

She is a long-time defender of the freedom of farmers and of seeds, working to prevent the patenting of life itself. "I don't want to live in a world where five giant companies control our health and our food." She is a vocal critic of industrial agriculture and a global model which exploits the world's natural resources and desertifies earth's soils and land, and believes the only way forward is to create a new paradigm which puts ecology at the centre of a new economic model as solution to climate change chaos and the world's food security. She is an advisor to numerous governments on sustainable development for the solutions she offers to some of the most critical problems posed by the effects of globalization and climate change on the poorest and most populous nations.

Time Magazine has identified Dr. Shiva as an environmental “hero” and Asia Week has called her one of the five most powerful communicators of Asia.

She is a prolific writer and author of numerous books. Among her awards are the Right Livelihood Award - also known as the “Alternative Nobel Prize” in 1992, the Sydney Peace Prize in 2010 “For courageous leadership of movements for social justice – the empowerment of women in developing countries, advocacy of the human rights of small farming communities and for her scientific analysis of environmental sustainability” and the Fukuoka Prize in 2012, bestowed by the Fukuoka city government, Japan to people who contribute to academia, arts, and culture in Asia.



Her books include: Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Survival in India (1988), Ecology and the Politics of Survival: Conflicts Over Natural Resources in India (1991), The Violence of the [Green Revolution](#): Ecological degradation and political conflict in Punjab(1992), Monocultures of the Mind: Biodiversity, Biotechnology and Agriculture(1993), Ecofeminism, Maria Mies and Vandana Shiva (1993), Biopolitics (with Ingunn Moser), 1995), Biopiracy: the Plunder of Nature and Knowledge(1997), Stolen Harvest: The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply(2000), Patents, Myths and Reality(2001), Earth Democracy (2005), Manifestos on the Future of Food and Seed, editor(2007), Soil Not Oil: Environmental Justice in an Age of Climate Crisis (2008), Staying Alive: Women, Ecology and Development (2010) and Making Peace With Earth (2013).

COMMUNITY DIALOGUES KICK OFF

Our Community Diagnostic Environmental Dialogues kicked off with sessions at Erema (Egi) community in Ahoada East Local Government Area and at Goi, Ogoni in Gokana LGA of Rivers state, 17-18th February 2015. The communities' major sources of livelihood are threatened by pollution from petroleum extractive industries.

Community Dialogues are diagnostic exercises that provide space for community members to review environmental situations of their communities and to identify needed areas of action to preserve and defend their heritage. The Dialogues are aimed at discussing issues affecting their environment and drawing up possible action directions. They provide space for local communities to build and share knowledge for wide application in advocacy, networking and other actions.

The Community Dialogue (CD) is a two-step exercise that commences with the identification of environmental "assets" in the community, the concerns and the concerns of the people. The second step includes identification of areas in which action needs to be taken by all stakeholders. To ensure community

participation in the actions, there would be trainings so that members would acquire knowledge / competence in ecological monitoring and defence.

The Dialogue at Goi took place at the Goi Community Hall. This hall is the only building that is still usable in what remains of the creek-side part of Goi community after the massive oil spills and fire of 2004. This part of Goi was sacked by the ecological disaster and because the environment is yet to be remediated, the people are currently environmental refugees in other Ogoni communities.

Though we expected 200 persons at the Dialogue, about 1000 participants turned up. The hall was filled to capacity 30 minutes before the Dialogue was to commence. Indeed, by the time HOMEF team departed Goi that afternoon more community people were still arriving for the event. They came on foot, by cars and bicycles and motorbikes. We could not ascertain weather some came by boat because it was low tide and the usually wide creek had shrunk into a narrow strip.



It was obvious that the people of Goi had been yearning for a space to examine their problems and find solutions to them.

Action Areas Identified at EREMA and GOI

The key environmental problems are oil pollution, deforestation and loss of biodiversity. Other problems include a rise in illnesses and a high mortality rate.

- 1) **Remediation of land:** Environmental Impact Assessment should be done to assess the degree of risk at the beginning of any project.
- 2) **Need for Community Health Monitoring:** there should be adequate community health monitoring and requisite healthcare facilities in the communities.
- 3) **Issues that require legal actions:** Illegal land acquisition, oil/gas spillages and flaring (Egi).
- 4) **Issues that require advocacy:** illegal land acquisition, oil spillages, gas flaring (Egi), and refusal to negotiate with and to ensure engagement of local communities in jobs and contracts by transnational corporations.
- 5) **Issues that require mobilizing and dialogue:** forceful land acquisition, oil & gas spillages (gas flaring at Egi) and land grabbing.
- 6) **Need for detail study of the situations:** There should be thorough Environmental and Social Impact Assessment to enable communities ascertain the degree of the effects of the oil/gas exploration and exploitation business in the communities.
- 7) **Experts are needed for samples collection and analysis.**
- 8) **Legal advice needed to enable communities decide on best ways to seek redress for harm caused them.**

Communities would benefit from the following:

- a) Seminars, awareness campaigns, symposia, resource and pollution mapping
 - b) Environmental audit
 - c) Environmental and health monitoring training
 - d) Reforestation
 - e) Remediation of polluted sites
- Community Ecological Defence Action Committees (CEDAC)

Participants at both Erema and Goi unanimously agreed to set up Community Ecological Defence Action Committees in the communities.

SOIL, Not OIL Sustainability Academy and Rightlivelihood Lecture

Building the Age of Soil

The sixth edition of HOMEF's Sustainability Academy had the theme SOIL, NOT OIL. The theme was taken from a book of same title written by Vandana Shiva who was the instigator for the sessions. This HSA was held alongside the Annual Lecture of the Right Livelihood College (RLC) campus.

Vandana Shiva, a 1993 Right Livelihood Award laureate was the instigator at the lecture held on the 23rd July 2015 at the International Students Conference Hall, University Park, University of Port Harcourt (UNIPORT), Nigeria.

Her lecture was well attended by deans of faculties, lecturers, students and heads of Departments. Among those present were – Prof Henry Alipiki, Prof. Sam Arakogu - associate Dean, Prof. Charles Oyegun - former Dean faculty of social sciences, Prof T.Agrobenibo, Dr. Fidelis Allen- Coordinator RLC, UNIPORT, Mr. Festus Eguaioje- Federal Ministry of Environment,

Prof. Joe Jaja - Carnegie fellow at UNIPORT, and M. O. Chifor – Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP) representative.

In her lecture, Dr. Vandana Shiva expressed her delight to be in Nigeria and to be in the home town of Late Ken Saro-Wiwa – something she had been dreaming of for the past 20 years. She recalled that she was in a RLC lecture in US, when she heard the news of Saro-Wiwa's execution and that she had to automatically turn her lecture for that day into a memorial/tribute lecture in his honour.

Shiva explained that extraction of our natural resources has brought a separation between man and nature and it has destroyed our environment and our seeds. Multi-national corporations and the oil sectors are the causes of the deadly violence and wars in the world, such as the ones ongoing in Syria and other parts of the world. The struggle to control petroleum resources has brought about wars, violence, environmental pollution and deaths. She urged everyone to remember that we all are from the soil and that soil brings life.

Dr Shiva spoke passionately about how

multinational companies are rapidly turning people into commodities, displacing smallholder farmers, grabbing lands and depriving them of their resources and rights. She added that fossil-driven agriculture destroys soils and creates crises, pain and death. She went on to say that our foods are literally filled with fossil fuels and that they are unhealthy compared to those from organic productions. Industrial farming produces less but causes more wastage and generates violence. The culture of soil, on the other hand, produces life. In her Rightlivelihood lecture as well as in the workshops she led at Ogoni and Egi, Dr Shiva stressed the need for everyone to care for our environment because the word “care” is linked to life and nature, but “carelessness” is inextricably connected to fossil fuels.

She named the three major threats confronting humanity today as: violence/wars; pollution/environmental degradation and hunger/poverty. The soil holds the key to solving the problems that oil has created. To escape the trap, we must rise as one and ensure an end to the age of oil and work together to build the age of the soil.

2015 NATIONAL EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. Community Diagnostic Environmental Dialogues were held in Erema, Egi and at Goi, Ogoni both in the Niger Delta in February
2. Natural Resource Governance Town Hall Meeting organized by Centre for Democracy and Development, Abuja - February
3. Sustainability Academy (HSA05) on Health and the Extractive Sector Workers addressed by Baba Aye, held at the Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Abuja on June.
4. Right Livelihood Lecture at University of Port Harcourt- addressed by Vandana Shiva - June
5. Sustainability Academy (HSA06) on Soil, Not Oil – addressed by Vandana Shiva at Bori (Ogoni), Erema (Egi)– June
6. Press Conference on the State of the Nigerian Environment addressed by Vandana Shiva and Nnimmo Bassey, Abuja- June
7. National Steering Committee on GEF hosted by Federal Ministry of Environment, Abuja - June
8. Participation in 3-day National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) stakeholders meeting, Markurdi – August
9. Water Summit hosted by ERA, Lagos – August
10. Training workshop for Climate Negotiators, Federal Ministry of Environment/UNDP, Abuja - September
11. Participation in Nigeria Labour Congress' workshop on Climate Change, Abuja – October
12. Facilitation of preparation of NLC's Climate Change Policy- November
13. Workshop on Building Community Resilience towards the implementation of the UNEP Report, Bori, Ogoni – October
14. Stakeholder Consultation Workshop hosted by SDN, Yenagoa - November
15. Participation in No Where to Run- Nigeria's Environmental and Climate Crisis – a documentary film by Yar'Adua Centre
16. Ake Book Festival, Abeokuta – November

OUR PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN 2015

- • Soil and Land Manifesto, Florence, Italy -January 2015
- • ITUC Labour School, Lome, Togo - January
- • COPAC Food Sovereignty Assembly, Johannesburg, South Africa- February
- • World Social Forum, Tunis, Tunisia – March
- • Environmental Justice conference, Maputo, Mozambique – April
- • GMO Free World conference, Berlin, Germany – May
- • Fossil Fuel tour- Kampala, Uganda – May
- • World Village Festival, Helsinki, Finland – May
- • WE-Africa conference, Pretoria, South Africa – June
- • Oilwatch Africa conference, Lome, Togo – June
- • Climate Change/Refugees Conference- Berlin, Germany – July
- • ISSC Steering Committee Meeting, Paris, France – July
- • Conference of the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa, Accra, Ghana – August
- • Natural Resource Governance workshop, Accra, Ghana – August
- • ATTAC Summer School, Marseilles, France – August
- • Civil Society Alternative Programme, (CSAP), Durban, South Africa – September
- • WOMIN conference, Port Harcourt, Nigeria – October
- • 3rd African Organic Conference, Lagos, Nigeria – October
- • Ken Saro-Wiwa Anniversary Events, Gothenburg, Lund, Oslo, Lagos – November
- • ITUC Climate Conference, Dakar, Senegal- November
- • UNFCCC (COP21), Paris, France – December

HOMEF WAS ACTIVE IN THE FOLLOWING INFLUENTIAL REGIONAL /GLOBAL NETWORKS AND ORGANISATIONS:

1. Yes to Life, No to Mining – www.yestolifenotomining.org
2. International Social Science Council (ISCC)
3. The SParc – A Floating Knowledge Archive for the Survival of People and Planet – www.thesparc.net
4. Climate Space – <https://climatespace2013.wordpress.com>
5. Oilwatch International – www.oilwatch.org
6. No REDD in Africa Network (NRAN) – www.no-redd-africa.org
7. Daraja – A Pan African space set to rally the global majority towards a path of radical social transformation and power.
8. WOMIN - An African gender and extractives alliance working alongside national and regional movements and popular organizations of women, mining-impacted communities and peasants.
9. Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature – An alliance with members committed to creating human communities that respect and defend the rights of Nature
10. WE-Africa – An alliance of scholars and practitioners working to promote a transition to a wellbeing-based economy for Africa.

HOMEF IN SOCIAL MEDIA

HOMEF remained active on social media with presence on Facebook, Twitter, Vimeo, Flickr and YouTube.

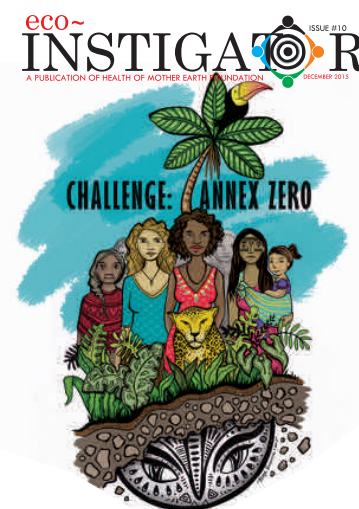
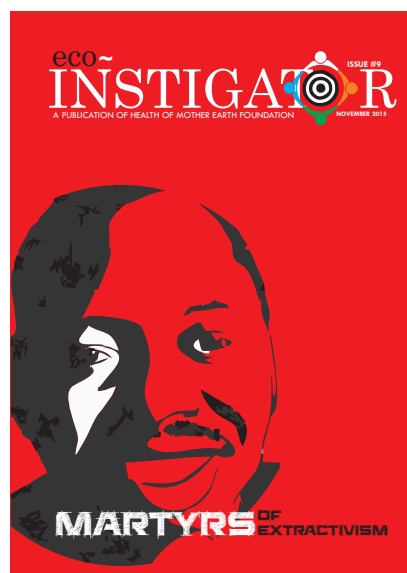
Our activities and projects at Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) during the year 2015 went more viral due to our renewed social media engagement strategy. Unlike the previous year where we reached over a million people on Facebook and Twitter combined, 2015 saw us potentially reaching almost ten million (9,817,768) people on Twitter alone!

Additionally, we gained 157 more followers on our Facebook page from 45 countries with 35% women and 65% men. While we plan to double up on our effort especially on Facebook, we also intend to use other social media platforms to get the word out, change the narrative and bring our local actions to the attention of international scene.



PUBLICATIONS

1. We published 4 editions of our Eco-Instigator in the year focusing on the following areas:
March edition: Environmental Justice and Activism
June Edition: Our Soil, Our Commons, Our Future
September edition: Martyrs of Extractivism
December edition: Climate Change
2. Community Dialogues Guide
3. Community Guide to Environmental Monitoring and Reporting
4. Resistance to the Military-Corporate Wedlock in Nigeria and Beyond (with Transnational Institute)
5. Nigeria's National Biosafety Management Agency Act 2015- A Review



GROWING OUR STAKES IN THE YEAR OF THE SOIL

Oluwafunmilayo Oyatogun,

From the Inside:
Rear views of 2015
Milestones

I cannot believe how quickly the year 2015 went by. Every year seems to be shorter than the last and more eventful, which says a lot about our activity levels. While I worked remotely throughout the year, I was able to stay connected to HOMEF activities through our internal mailing list, Skype conference calls, phone calls and reports.

On the political front, many predicted that this year will be the end of the Nigerian State but to the dismay of naysayers, we welcomed in a new government that brought hope and positivity to the citizenry. At the end of last year, our team expressed optimism towards the opportunity to project our voices against environmental and social injustices and the consistency paid off. One of the most substantial milestones was the government's mandate to begin the clean-up process of oil spills in Ogoniland.

Personally, I completed my MSc in 2015 and the experience helped direct my interest towards sustainable agricultural development. I look forward to employing these enhanced skills within the Nigerian context.

As we go into the year 2016, I look forward to our Sustainability Academies and publications. I believe that Nigeria is ripe for a focus on actions on bio-safety, agriculture and GMOs. It is also critical at this time in Nigeria's history for an organization like HOMEF to share knowledge to ensure we help drive the discourse on agricultural development in our country's future. I also look forward to working with team on improving the quality of newsletters and all-round communication from HOMEF in 2016. I've taken up the challenge to reach 500 email subscribers and sync with our website to ensure that the bulletin content reaches website, social media and Nnimmo Bassey's new blog (Earthy Tales).



Cadmus Atake-Enade

2015 is a year to always remember as it brought wonderful and amazing experiences to me professionally and personally, been part of the vibrant team of wonderful and fearless environmental advocates and ecological defenders at HOMEF gladdens my heart and gives me more courage and boldness to defend Mother Earth.

The year's activities began in February with Community Dialogues (CDs) an interactive space where community representatives from Egi-Erema and Goi in Ogoniland both in Rivers state were trained on how to monitor their environment and also given the opportunity to share their experiences and identify the impacts of oil exploration in their communities.

Following the CDs we had the fifth edition of Sustainability Academy in Abuja with Comrade Baba Aye. The theme was Health and the Extractive Sector Workers. It was a moment to learn about the impacts of the extractive sectors operations on the health of its workers as well as to communities located around these extractive sites.

In July we had the sixth edition of the Sustainability Academy and the Right Livelihood College (RLC) held in Rivers State with the renowned environmentalist Dr. Vandana Shiva. The theme for the series of activities was Soil Not Oil.

In August 2015 I had another amazing experience when represented HOMEF in a 3-day National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) stakeholders meeting in Markurdi, Benue State, Nigeria. It was a remarkable time as I had the privilege of interacting with other stakeholders from various sectors of the nation in addressing issues relating to emergency response and its impact on our environment.

Another important experience for me was at the Regional African Women conference in September 2015, with Women from many African nations in attendance. The women shared their experiences about the impact of the extractive industries in their environments. Hearing their stories made me realize that African women are at the frontline of ecological disasters and the challenges are the same in the different countries.

In October 2015 we had a workshop on building community resilience towards the implementation of the UNEP report. The focus was on the skills and tools needed to monitor the environment successful and accurately.

To wrap it up I got married in November 2015. It was a loaded year to remember forever. Recounting these great experiences and success in 2015 gives me the hope and assurance that year 2016 promises to be greater in all aspects.



Zaid Shopeju

I spent 365 days of the year 2015 in the diaspora; over 5,000 miles away from home and from the operational base of HOMEF but thanks to the internet and technology I never felt one bit away from home. However, I greatly miss going out to our daily tranches of activism with my colleagues to the Ogoniland or meeting with lawmakers, the media or training and empowering community people on how to protect their lands from pollution and land-grabs by greedy corporations like SHELL or sharing information on dangers of GMOs.

Notwithstanding I was able to provide technical support to the team and also monitor our digital footprint on social media in order to ensure effective engagement and communication with our supporters and the general public. This aspect of our work gives voice to the voiceless and rewrites the narrative from the washed-up mainstream media biases to the truth on the ground account of the state of our environment and telling the stories of daily challenges of people living on the frontline of environmental pollution whose stories wouldn't have made national headline if not for the work of HOMEF and its partners.

HOMEF through the use of effective social media engagement echoes the plight of the Niger Delta, highlights the hardship of people living in places like Makoko and exposing the misrepresentation of facts by GMOs protagonists and the clear and present danger it presents to the agricultural landscape of Nigeria.

In the year under review, we posted over a 1,000 posts on our Facebook page and over 3,500 tweets from our official Twitter account in combination with Nnimmo's and other teammates' accounts which include sharing of high resolution photos and short video clips of our activities (including Nnimmo's interviews at local and international engagements), and our interventions in different parts of the world up to the UNFCCC meetings. This year saw a sharp increase in our followership on social media and far greater reach especially of new and unique visitors to our website and Facebook page. Our monthly Eco-Digest newsletter became a hit on social media and photos of people in different parts of the world reading Eco-Instigator publications shows new level of acceptance of our work. I would say despite not having my boots on the ground, 2015 was a successful year for me being part of this conservative cum progressive group and I look forward to an exceedingly better 2016.



Shehu Akowe

Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) was involved in several campaigns on environmental Justice both at home and abroad in 2015. This expanded our reach throughout the world. It was quite an experience as we prepared for the Sustainability Academy / HOME School #05 instigated by Comrade Baba Aye. Following the session, the event was covered by several television stations, newspapers and online media outlets. In similar fashion, the 6th HOME School session in July, 2015 tagged: Soil, Not Oil and instigated by Dr. Vandana Shiva, was another stentorian event.

Our Director, Nnimmo Bassey, was featured in a documentary, No Where to Run to, produced by Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Center and the recognition of his extensive activism for environmental justice was much welcome. The Conference of Parties (COP 21) held in Paris in December, 2015 fell short of expectations but the small steps taken by governments to cut down the emission

of greenhouse gases is acknowledged.

While the activities of this year were carried out smoothly, the demise of our trusted trustee – Oronto Douglas, was a gloomy moment in the year. However, our morale was not diminished as we are determined to continue from where the late OND stopped.

In 2016, I aim to contribute my efforts to the improvement of HOMEF and her activities.



PARTNERS

HOMEF had the pleasure of receiving support in various forms from these esteemed institutions:

1. Tikva Grassroots Empowerment Foundation/Tides Foundation
2. Grassroots Foundation
3. LUSH
4. Federal Ministry of Environment/United Nations Development Programme
5. Grassroots International
6. FOSTER
7. University of Port Harcourt
8. Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation
9. Base Consult



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

HEALTH OF MOTHER EARTH FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2015					
STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES					
	SUSTAINABILITY ACADEMY	BUILDING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE	COMMUNITY DIALOGUES & MONITORING TRAINING	MANAGEMENT GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	TOTAL
	N	N	N	N	N
Rent/Hire of Venue	120,000	90,000	131,000		341,000
Advocacy Visits	883,052	80,000	30,000		993,052
Transp & Travelling	1,624,388	501,439		1,665,846	3,791,673
Depreciation				131,350	
Publicity	355,500	215,000			570,500
Accommodation	890,000				
Living & Refreshment	1,549,500	1,400,000	395,000		3,344,500
Honorarium	230,000				230,000
Project Admin.	529,875	378,056			907,931
Printing and					
Stationery	150,000				
Publications	935,000	644,000	1,657,800		3,236,800
Consultancy Fees	400,000				
Campaign materials	286,900		390,000		676,900
Project coordination/ Salaries	1,740,000	52,500	753,000		2,545,500
Shipping& Postage	133,489				
Follow-up Activities		680,000			680,000
Equipment			590,500		590,500
Audit fees				500,000	500,000
Office Rent				430,000	430,000
Research				876,124	876,124
Bank Charges				111,649	111,649
	9,827,704	4,040,995	3,947,300	3,714,969	21,530,968

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
HEALTH OF MOTHER EARTH FOUNDATION

