

HEALTH OF MOTHER EARTH FOUNDATION

# OUR REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2022

The Ecological Think Tank

FEBRUARY 2023

# OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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- **Abuja**, House 10, Cowries Estate, Emmanuel Mbaka Boulevard, Airport Road, Lugbe, Abuja, FCT
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## HOMEF Affiliates

- **HOMEF South Sudan**— PAPA PET BUILDING,3RD FLOOR, ROOM NO 5, opposite National Credit Bank, Juba, South Sudan
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— La Route des Frères Franciscains, derrière l'Eglise des Assemblées de Dieu, Lome

# The Ecological Think Tank



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# KNOWING HOMEF

HOMEF is an ecological think tank and advocacy organization promoting environmental/climate justice as well as food sovereignty in Nigeria and Africa. Our work is rooted in solidarity and in the building and protection of human and collective dignity.

We believe that neoliberal agendas driven by the globalization of exploitation of the weak, despoliation of ecosystems, and lack of respect for Mother Earth thrive most because of the ascendancy of enforced creed of *might is right*. This ethic permits the powerful to pollute, grab resources and degrade/destroy the rest simply because they can do so.

HOMEF recognizes that this reign of (t)error can best be tackled through a conscious examination of circumstances by which the trend crept in and got entrenched.

HOMEF's work track is continuous political education that examines the roots of exploitation of resources, labour, peoples, territories, nations and regions.

Through this HOMEF contributes to building of movements for the recovery of memory, dignity and harmonious living with full respect for the natural cycles of Mother Earth.

Four key areas of focus are fossil politics, hunger politics, alliance building and creating spaces for knowledge generation and sharing.







## Our Vision

An ecologically just world where all beings live in harmony with Mother Earth

## Our Mission

To build ecological knowledge, propagate re-source democracy, and support wholesome socio-ecologically cohesive communities where people live in solidarity and dignity.







# OUR KEY OBJECTIVES

**Build Knowledge**

**Enhance Social Justice.**

Enhance participation for change in environment and resource ownership/governance (ownership is critical to good governance and the usurper of ownership cannot implement governance). We work to propagate re-source democracy.

**Maintain The Dignity Of The People And The Planet.**

**Build Solidarity**



# OUR PROJECT AREAS



## Fossil Politics

(climate justice, environmental governance, ecocide etc.)



## Hunger Politics

( Food sovereignty, biosafety, forests and biodiversity)



## Ikike

( Arena for contestation of ideas and knowledge generation)



## Community and Culture



## Communications, Research & Publications

# OUR TOOLS

1. Community Diagnostic Dialogues and Workshops
2. Ecological Defense
3. Knowledge Instigation (Sustainability Academy, School of Ecology)
4. Trainings and conferences
5. Popular direct actions
6. Litigations



**HOMEF**  
WWW.HOMEF.ORG



# OUR ADVISORY BOARD

**Chris Allan (USA)** - Environmental health campaigner and philanthropist activist, USA.

**Siziwe Mota (South Africa)** – Environmental justice campaigner and Programme Director with International Rivers, South Africa.

**George Awudi (Ghana)** – Environmental Justice activist, Ghana

**Evelyn Nkanga (Nigeria)** – Environmental campaigner, HOMEf, Nigeria.

**Esperanza Martinez (Ecuador)** – Environmental justice/political ecologist, Accion Ecologica, Ecuador.

**Pablo Solon (Bolivia)** – Climate justice campaigner, diplomat and movement builder, Executive Director, Fundacion Solon, Bolivia

**Liz Hosken (UK)** – Mother Earth rights advocate, Executive Director of the Gaia Foundation, UK.

**Lim Li Ching (Malaysia)** – Agroecologist and rights advocate with Third World Network.

**Akinbode Oluwafemi (Nigeria)** – Environmental justice campaigner, Director, Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa, Nigeria.

**Mariann Bassey-Orovwuje (Nigeria)** - Coordinator, Food Sovereignty Programme, Friends of the Earth, Nigeria/Africa.

**Kwami Kpondzo (Togo)** – Friends of the Earth, Togo.

# MANAGEMENT BOARD

<b>Akinbode Oluwafemi</b>	– Chair
<b>Babawale Obayanju</b>	– Secretary
<b>Elsie Ifon</b>	– Treasurer
<b>Mariann Bassey-Orovwuje</b>	-- Member
<b>Evelyn Nkanga</b>	-- Member
<b>Nnimmo Bassey</b>	-- Member

# HOMEF TEAM

1. **Nnimmo Bassey**  
Director
2. **Evelyn Nkanga**  
Deputy Director, Administration
3. **Joyce Brown**  
Director of Programmes/Project Lead  
(Hunger Politics)
4. **Olatundun Dotun-Davids**  
Administrative Manager
5. **Stephen Oduware**  
Programme Manager (Fossil Politics)
6. **Mfoniso Antia**  
Programme Manager (Ikike)
7. **Cadmus Atake-Enade**  
Project Lead (Community and  
Culture)
8. **Oghenekome Odhomor**  
Lead, Communications (Media)
9. **Ogechi Cookey**  
Lead, Research and Publications
10. **Kelechi Okoede**  
Finance Lead
11. **Elvis Omorogbe**  
Finance Assistant
12. **Shehu Akowe**  
Project Officer (Fossil Politics/Mining)
13. **Magdalene Ime Idiang**  
Project Officer (M&E/ Gender)
14. **Mabel Obaseki**  
Administration Assistant
15. **Esele Ojeanelo**  
Administration Assistant (Logistics)
16. **Stanley Godspower Egholo**  
Project Assistant
17. **Jasper Koikoibo**  
Project Assistant (Legal/Rights)
18. **Ukpono Bassey**  
Project Officer (Media/Youths)
19. **Oduduabasi Asuquo**  
Administration Assistant (Oilwatch)
20. **Pach Ayuen Pach**  
Project Coordinator (South Sudan)
21. **Harrison Ohuabunwa**  
Administration Officer
22. **Oluwale Yusuf**  
Premises Manager







# HOMEF FELLOWS

Our fellows provide a store of knowledge, wisdom and experience to inspire our peoples and to provide intellectual resources and backstopping in the areas of our work.

Here's the full list:

1. Pablo Solon (2013) Former Ambassador of Bolivia to the United Nations/climate justice advocate (Bolivia)
2. Monica Griefahn (2013) Sociologist and former Minister for the Environment in the German State of Lower Saxony. Co-chair of the Right Livelihood Award Foundation (Germany)
3. Noble Wadzah (2013) Environmental Justice Activist (Ghana)
4. Firoze Manji (2014) Dental surgeon, editor at Daraja Press and pan-Africanist (Kenya)
5. Baba Aye (2015) Labour Activist (Nigeria)
6. Vandana Shiva (2015) World renowned environmentalist, physicist, philosopher, feminist and author. Right Livelihood Laureate (1993) (India)
7. Ruth Nyambura (2016) Eco-feminist (Kenya)
8. Hilma Mote (2016) Labour researcher/activist (Namibia)
9. Alyn Ware (2017) Anti-nuclear campaigner and Right Livelihood Award laureate (2009) (New Zealand)
10. Nkoyo Toyo (2017) Gender activist, politician and ambassador (Nigeria)
11. Chris Ekong (2017) Professor of Economics (Nigeria)
12. G.G. Darah (2017) Professor of Literature, writer and political activist (Nigeria)
13. Ikal Angelei (2017) Environmental justice advocate (Kenya)
14. Priscilla Achakpa (2017) Gender, development and environmental activist (Nigeria)
15. Mohammed Bello Tukur (2017) Lawyer and campaigner on pastoralism (Nigeria)
16. Jacqueline Moudeina (2018) Lawyer, Human rights campaigner and Right Livelihood Laureate (2011) (Chad)
17. Babatunde Bolaji (2018) Academic and environmentalist (Nigeria)
18. Ruth Manorama (2019) Dalit social activist and human rights defender (India) Rights Livelihood Laureate (2006)
19. Raul Montenegro (2019) Professor at University of Cordoba, Argentina, Biologist and environmental activist



(Argentina) Light Livelihood  
Laureate (2004)

20. Rene Ngogo (2020) Biologist,  
environmental and political  
activist, Right Livelihood  
Laureate (2009) (Democratic  
Republic of Congo)

21. Hans Herren (2021)  
Entomologist, farmer and  
development specialist.  
Co-founder of Biovision,  
Switzerland. Recipient of the  
World Food Prize (1995) Right  
Livelihood Laureate (2013)





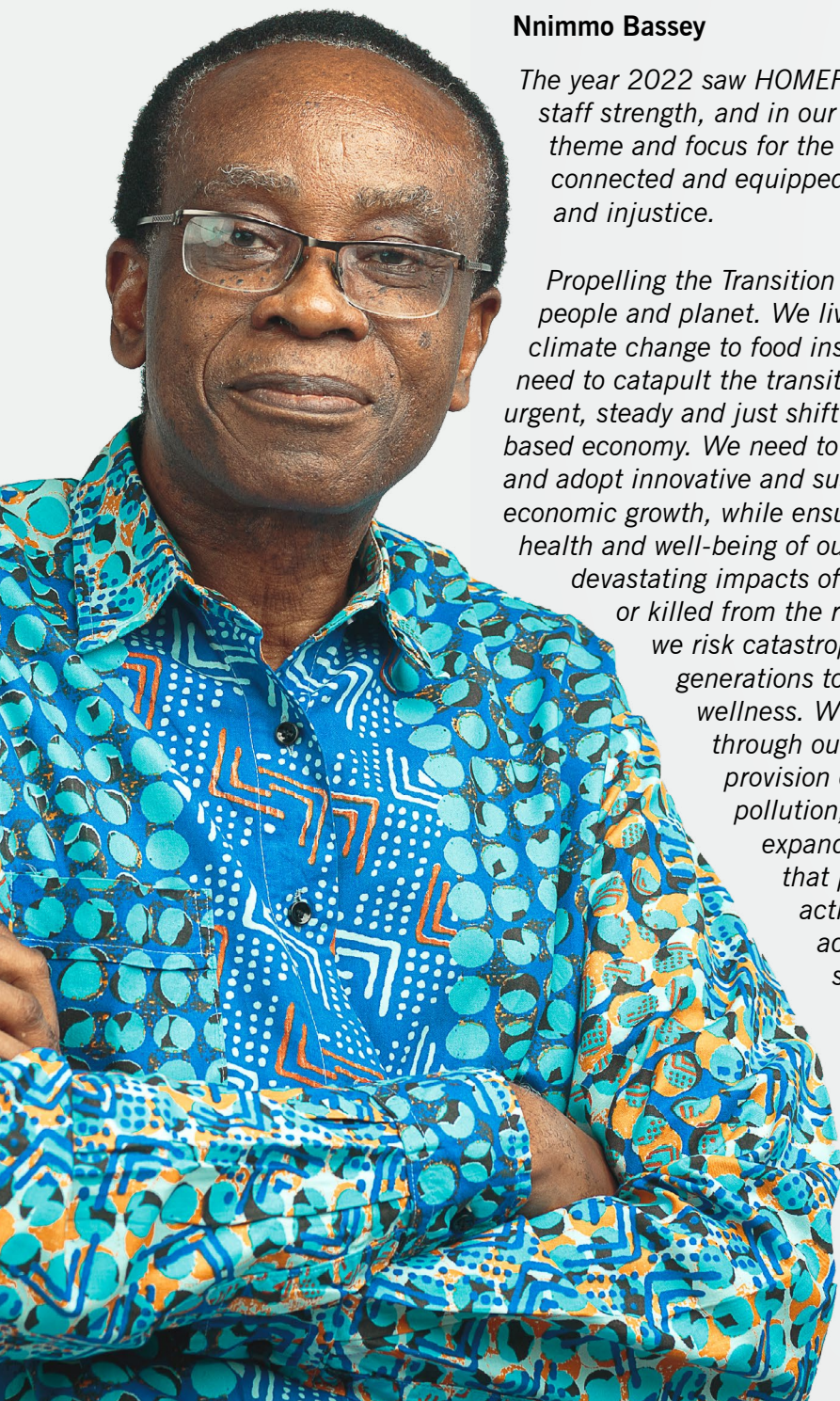
# PROPELLING THE TRANSITION

**Nnimmo Bassey**

*The year 2022 saw HOMEf expanding in various dimensions - in capacity, partnerships, staff strength, and in our reach. This expansion was instrumental to the actualisation of our theme and focus for the year - Propelling the transition. We were strategically positioned, connected and equipped to drive the needed transition away from systems of exploitation and injustice.*

*Propelling the Transition is of utmost importance for the survival and prosperity of our people and planet. We live in a time when the world is facing multiple crises - from climate change to food insecurity, to social inequality. To overcome these challenges, we need to catapult the transition towards a sustain-able and equitable future. We need an urgent, steady and just shift from a fossil-fuel based economy to a clean, renewable energy-based economy. We need to move away from the old and polluting ways of generating energy and adopt innovative and sustainable solutions that can provide us with the same level of economic growth, while ensuring that we do not harm the environment or jeopardize the health and well-being of our peoples and communities. The year 2022 further exposed the devastating impacts of climate change as thousands of people were displaced, injured or killed from the recurrent flooding episode. If we do not act now and act together, we risk catastrophic consequences that will affect not only our generation but also generations to come. It is high time we set about the journey to recovery and wellness. Within the year, we deepened our engagement at community level through our diagnostic dialogues, monitoring and advocacy training as well as provision of relief materials in various coastal communities impacted by oil pollution, climate change and other such disasters. Our knowledge base was expanded to include space for Learning from the Wise (LftW) - a space that promotes transgenerational knowledge sharing by affording young activists an opportunity to sit and learn under older/knowledgeable activists in a very informal, traditional tales-by-moonlight-like setting. In this year we had very impactful sessions with King Bubaraye Dakolo, Comrade Che Ibegwura, and Comrade Jonathan Ihonde.*

*Our research and publications were increased and so did our tenacity at resisting systems of corruption, injustice and*



# HOME NOTE

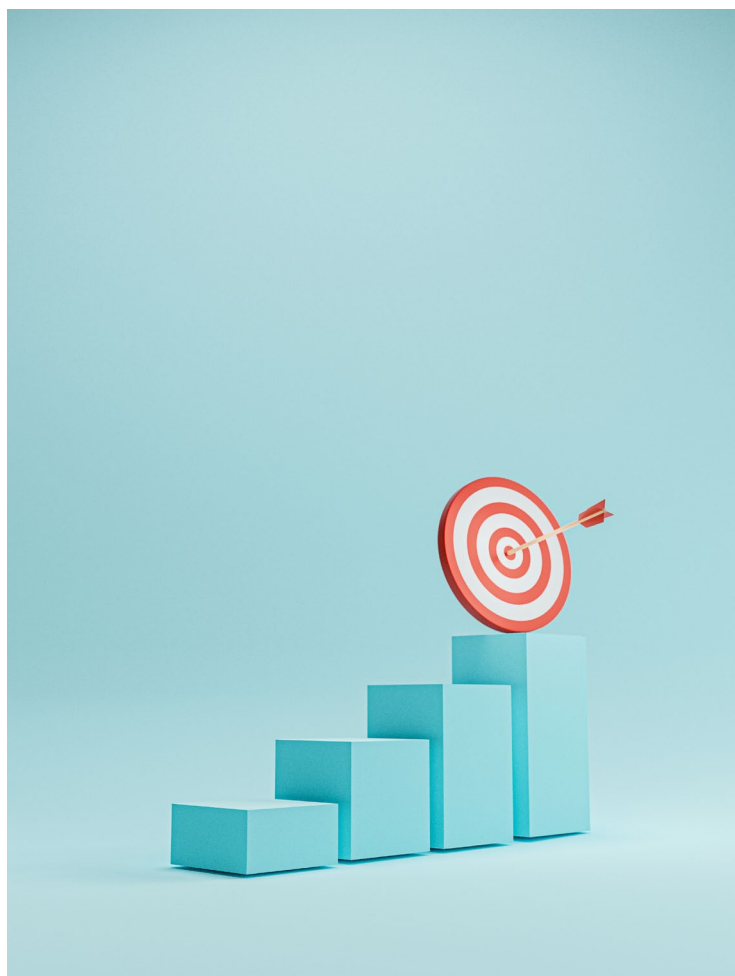


*colonialism in our food system and environment. One key event of the year was the maiden session of the Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence (NDAC) - which was convoked as an inclusive platform for the individuals, civil society groups, political players, community groups, women, ethnic nationalities, and business to come together to address the nagging problems that continue to plague the region. The NDAC will be held annually as a space for the interrogation of the outputs of research, community dialogues and the search for alternative resource management pathways as well as examination of laws governing mining and petroleum sectors in Nigeria. The space for engagements of this nature has often been rigged against our communities, but this is a peoples-driven engagement designed to ensure that the communities are heard.*

*Overall, 2022 was a year of repositioning, strengthening, and driving the all-important just transition. In this review you will find [among others] our key accomplishment in the year, highlights of our activities as well as projections for our future work.*

*Read on!*





## OUR KEY ACCOMPLISHMENT IN 2022

- Expansion of the FishNet Alliance to new countries including Chad and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In general membership grew by over 70 persons.
- Our knowledge space was expanded with the addition of the Learning from the Wise platform.
- The book Akamba Mfina was produced as well as several other reports and training guides
- Over 100 farmers were trained on agroecological principles and practice
- Relief items were provided for communities/ internally displaced persons in six states that were impacted by the flooding incident.
- In collaboration with key partners, the maiden edition of the Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence was held which culminated in a manifesto that is widely endorsed and used as an advocacy resource.
- Collaborated with partners to trigger the building of the West Africa Climate Justice Movement with over 70 member groups so far.
- We have expanded our work tracks for more focus on Community and Culture as well as Communication, Research and Publications
- HOMEF has remained a frontline organisation championing the course for Agroecology and resisting the entrenchment of GMOs and other forms of rights/ nature abuse through modern biotechnology in our food system in Nigeria.
- Oil impacted communities were equipped with capacity for monitoring, organising and advocacy. HOMEF has helped to amplify the voices of these communities to resist oppression and destruction of their livelihoods.

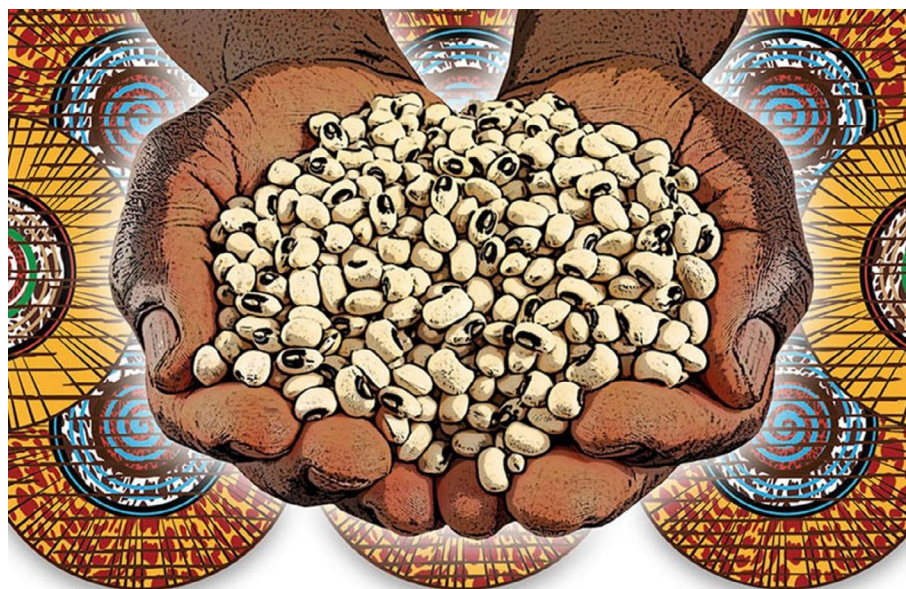
# HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS IN THE YEAR

## HUNGER POLITICS

This work track covers food sovereignty, biosafety, biodiversity/forests, and pesticide action.

It asks the basic question: why are people hungry? HOMEf works in the paradigm of food sovereignty and exposes the false premises of food aid as well as its exploitative and contaminating linkages.

Here are stories/highlights of some of our activities in the year.



### I. **International Press Conference: Pushing Back Bt Cowpea in Nigeria and Neighbouring West African Countries**

A coalition of non-governmental organisations, farmer groups and research experts from various African countries called on the Nigerian government to revoke the permits granted by Nigeria's National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA) to the Institute for Agricultural Research (IAR), Zaria, for the commercial release of genetically modified (Bt) Cowpea (PBR-Cowpea).

This call was made on 7 March 2022 in an online international press conference tagged Pushing Back Bt Cowpea in Africa, organised by HOMEf in collaboration with the African Center for Biodiversity (ACBio).

It was demanded that distribution of the cowpea variety to farmers be stopped immediately, as this is bound to have severe long-term negative implications on the environment and farmers' seed and populations, and production practices. Further, Nigerian farmers could become trapped in unsustainable, unsuitable, and unaffordable farming practices, deepening the threat to food and nutritional security and ultimately farmers' rights. Other African governments were admonished to desist from the use of this variety and other GM crops on the continent, which represent continued agrarian extractivism and exploitation of smallholder farmers.



Cowpea – popularly known as beans – is an indigenous African crop and major source of protein. As a staple food for humans, as well as an essential animal feed, Cowpea plays a crucial role in food and nutritional security, as well as providing an important source of income. Nigeria is the prime producer, with a yearly average production of about 2.7 million metric tons over the last 10 years.

Disappointingly, Nigeria is the first country to commercially release Bt Cowpea, with approval granted in 2019, despite concerns expressed by stakeholders with regard to the environmental, socio-economic and health implications. Other countries under pressure to adopt this technology are Ghana and Burkina Faso.

Pod Borer-Resistant Cowpea (PBR-Cowpea), also known as *Vigna unguiculata*, is modified to express the Cry1Ab protein, which is expected to “confer protection from certain lepidopteran insect pests of cowpea, principally the pod borer (*Maruca vitrata* Fabricius). This transgene Cry1Ab has been shown by scientists to be toxic to human and animal liver cells, and also alters the immune system. The use of this transgene was banned in South Africa, where the cultivation of genetically modified maize led to enormous pest resistance and infestation.

According to Nnimmo Bassey,

environmental activist and director of HOMEF, “the release of this GM variety will utterly contaminate natural varieties through cross pollination, posing a threat to their preservation. The loss of varieties means that rather than promote food security, Africa is stepping into an era of uncertainty, of gross unpredictability and food supply instability. We must also consider the fact that the insecticidal beans can also kill non-target organisms and lead to the development of super bugs.”

A recent review of the risk assessment document on which the approval was based reveals deficiencies in the safety assessment of the Bt toxins produced in the plants, which pertain to the expression of the additionally inserted genes, the impact on non-target organisms, and the impact on biogeochemical processes and food safety

According to Lovelyn Ejim, a farmer and president of the Network of Women and Youth in Agriculture, most farmers are completely uninformed on this variety and its environmental and health implications. Consumers are denied the right of choice as labelling isn't feasible, especially in Nigeria, where food is sold in cups and measures, and the product is processed in various forms. Farmers, when they understand the implications of these genetically modified varieties refuse to plant them.

Read the full statement here: [https://homef.org/2022/03/07/coalition-demands-a-ban-of-bt-cowpea-in-](https://homef.org/2022/03/07/coalition-demands-a-ban-of-bt-cowpea-in-nigeria-and-neighbouring-west-african-countries/)

[nigeria-and-neighbouring-west-african-countries/](https://homef.org/2022/03/07/coalition-demands-a-ban-of-bt-cowpea-in-nigeria-and-neighbouring-west-african-countries/)



## **II. Agroecology As a Real Climate Change Solution**

The significance of Agroecology in our food system and in climate change resilience/adaptation has been proven in recent research. Governments are increasingly recognizing the importance of supporting family farms, of transforming food systems to align with Nature and applying ecological and social principles to farming. The



world is currently battling climate change relying on growing list of false solutions such as the so called



climate smart agriculture, agricultural intensification, carbon capture and carbon offsetting rather than cutting emissions at source. These solutions have serious adverse implications for local communities and ecosystem balance. To promote understanding on the importance of Agroecology as a viable solution to the climate crisis and foster its inclusion in Nigeria's climate change mitigation and adaptation plans/policies, Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) held a training for journalists in Lagos on 22 September 2022. It was stressed

that agriculture and agrarian reforms rooted in agroecological practice and principles help to cool the planet and



ensure climate resilience.

Climate smart agriculture, geoengineering and agrofuels do not tackle climate change, but rather maintain business as usual. Countries which have been on the receiving end of climate change have to carefully examine narratives driving the conversations and negotiations at the Conference of Parties (COP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This is important because for years the debates have regressed from demanding real actions to defending lifestyles and dominant geopolitical power positions. Although the COP is presented as a democratic space it has always been clear that it is actually a space for imperial and indeed colonial domination.

It was also pointed out that “rather than taking the glaring global heating pathways as real threats to life, and

leaving fossil fuels in the ground, the world is locking itself on the path of voluntary emissions reduction and weakly whispering a commitment to “phase down” the continued use of coal. The COP has transformed itself into a platform for avoidance of actions and the appropriation of ideas and ideals of indigenous peoples of the world who have been fighting for the respect of the rights of Mother Earth with a clear understanding that to do otherwise spells doom for humans and other species on this Blue Planet.”

Agroecology as a science studies and leverages on the inter-connectedness of different components of ecosystems; as a practice it comprises of a set of practices that help to optimize and stabilize yield; and as a movement it recognizes and promotes the rights of women, youth and food producers in general to what they grow and how. Agroecology combines scientific knowledge with practical, traditional and local knowledge of food producers. With adequate support in terms of access to land, better extension service, provision of storage and processing infrastructure and accessible roads, farmers who practice agroecology would do even better in terms of yields/overall output. We must move beyond seeing the climate crisis only from the point of view of greenhouse gases to seeing the injustices and inequality the market based systems have imposed. We must decide to make a quick and just transition to Agroecology.



### III. Practical Agroecology Training for Rivers State Farmers

To enable small-scale farmers, produce food optimally with methods that are ecologically sound and economically viable, and in response to the overwhelming dominance of huge transnational conglomerates in agriculture, who are monopolizing food in Africa and beyond, Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) on 12 and 13 of October 2022 hosted a practical training on Agroecology with farmers in Rivers State.

The two-day training was both discussion-based and practical. Participants included farmers from communities in five local government areas in Rivers state, journalists and HOMEF team members. The training

exposed the myths and implications of GMOs and inorganic pesticides, provided space for farmer-to-farmer learning, and equipped the farmers with practical knowledge on Agroecology.

Discussions were centered on GMOs and their implications for our food system, health and environment; Agroecology as a viable solution for the food and climate crises; and the dangers of chemical intensive Agriculture. Day 2 of the event featured practical preparation of organic fertilizer from Neem leaves and organic Pesticides from Neem seed. Farmers also learnt how to prepare Garlic, Onion and Chilli pesticides as well as how to prepare compost.

It was noted that Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) crops / foods are being released into our food system

and are increasingly being alluded to as the future of our agricultural system although evidence about connecting GMOs with health disorders, environmental damage and violations of consumers' and farmers' rights.

Agroecology is a system of farming that aligns well with nature. It sustains the health of soils, builds biodiversity and nourishes ecosystems while assuring food sovereignty – ensuring that all people have access, at all times to food that is safe, healthy and produced using sound ecological methods. It relies on ecological processes and nutrient cycles adapted to local conditions rather than use of external inputs with adverse effects. It was emphasized that agroecology is the real solution to food system challenges including climate change.

The documentary (Agroecology and Climate Change) was screened and it was revealed how industrial agriculture impacts the environment through erosion of indigenous farming practices, the marginalization of smallholder farmers, degradation of soils and loss of biodiversity. Industrial agriculture significantly contributes to climate change which is a big threat to food security and food sovereignty. In conclusion, the video identified Agroecology as a viable solution to the climate and food crises stressing that it cools the planet while ensuring stable and optimum food productivity.

Further in the programme, the farmers considered the following questions in





groups: Are there species of crops that have gone extinct? How does your farming community preserve resources e.g seed? What are the major challenges with farming now? What are the challenges with markets, roads? The challenges identified include bad roads, insecurity, theft of farm produce, high cost of transportation of farm produce, excess taxation, lack of storage facilities etc. The farmers also listed some species of crops that have gone extinct including cocoyam, water yam and red cassava. It was emphasized in this

session that the government and all concerned stakeholders should ensure the protection of indigenous seeds/ varieties.

Day-two gave space for farmer-to-farmer knowledge transfer on best practices and solutions to common problems. Thereafter the production of organic fertilisers and pesticides were demonstrated practically. At the end, the farmers expressed their gratitude for the training and shared excellent feedback. One of the successes

was the huge turnout of farmers at the training. Evidently, there was increased knowledge and capacity to produce food Agroecologically. Farmers denounced the use of GMOs and inorganic chemicals, made commitment to embrace agroecology, and work in solidarity to promote, a safe, resilient and profitable food system.

**Read the full story here:** <https://homef.org/2022/11/02/homef-trains-farmers-in-rivers-state-on-agroecology/>



## FOSSIL POLITICS

This track investigates our massive dependence on fossil fuels and builds from the power of communities who subsidize this perverse industry and who suffer gross despoliation. We believe that a transition from fossil fuels must be rapid and urgent and devoid of distractions by way of fixes that depend on the status quo. The track covers climate change, extractivism — fossil fuels, mining and eco-defence.

See events highlight below.



### I. The Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence

Development Commission and the 13% derivation, etc.

On June 23, 2022, frontline civil society organizations, socio-cultural groups, academics, traditional rulers and individuals drawn from the Niger Delta states of Abia, Akwa Ibom, Bayelsa, Cross River, Delta, Edo, Imo, Ondo and Rivers gathered at the city of Uyo in Akwa Ibom state to discuss the socio ecological issues that currently confront the region and its people. The Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence interrogated the current realities and impacts facing the region including impacts of oil extraction on the people and environment, the moves by oil companies to sell off their assets and leave the region, the emerging threats of climate change, the Petroleum Industry Act and its failure in addressing community issues, the failure of benefits transfer structures like the Niger Delta

The Convergence was chaired by his Excellency Obong Victor Attah, former Governor of Akwa Ibom state, and had a keynote presented by Professor G.G Darah. The above socio-ecological and economic issues facing the region were thoroughly examined and it was noted that: While the world is transitioning from the use of fossil fuels, Nigeria does not seem to be making any serious plans in that regard. Without a transition plan, the Niger Delta risks being stranded with derelict oil infrastructure and its attendant pollution impacts.

The region has become an ecological wasteland, utterly devastated by the mindless pollution which has attended the activities of multi-national oil companies. The Convergence also noted





that the contamination of soil, air and water in the region has resulted in the poisoning of its people, which has in turn manifested in an alarming increase of illness and a reduction in life expectancy in the area, far below the national average.

The impacts of reckless extraction in the Niger Delta have been worsened by climate change among coastline communities, manifesting as sea level rises, sea encroachment, coastal erosion and disruption of farming systems.

Participants at the Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence endorsed the Niger Delta Manifesto for Socio-ecological Justice and resolved to work in unity and deliberately to drive the following demands therein;

- An immediate and comprehensive audit of the entire Niger Delta region. This audit should cover environmental, livelihood, health, social and economic impacts of crude oil and gas extraction, and should be immediately followed by the remediation of impacted places, restoration of the human and ecological damages caused by extraction activities, and reparations for the irreversible damages caused by oil extraction.



- That the federal government immediately produces a framework and guide for how oil companies disengage from areas where they have operated.
- An immediate review of the PIA by the National Assembly to do the following;
- Provide a definite deadline for gas flaring by oil companies and eliminate powers to permit flaring.
- Review gas flare fines to reflect the same amount as commercial value of natural gas in the international market, while transferring flare fines to host communities.
- Eliminate the section of the PIA that places the responsibility to protect oil installations on host communities.

**Here is the full report and manifesto:** <https://homef.org/2022/07/06/communique-issued-at-the-end-of-the-niger-delta-alternatives-convergence-in-uyo-akwa-ibom-state-on-the-23rd-of-june-2022/>





## II. The PIA and Oil Company Divestments

HOMEF and *We the People* held a dialogue with Niger Delta communities and civil society activists on the recently approved Nigerian Petroleum Industry Act. The event which held at the Ken Saro Wiwa foundation innovation Hub in Port Harcourt provided an open space to discuss recent happenings around divestments, where the biggest oil companies in the Niger Delta are selling off their assets and going farther offshore.

The business of oil extraction is operated as a mix of corporate greed and state backed repression. While it is important that people living in locations where investors, governments or institutions carry out



projects are consulted, in the Niger Delta, this has never been the case. The free, prior and informed consent of the people have never been sought or received. These relations of production have remained largely the same from pre-colonial to colonial and present neo-colonial times.

Even in decisions regarding investments, development, or infrastructural projects, there is wilful neglect and refusal to consult or engage the people in decision making processes. Projects are often thrown at communities even when they are not the priority needs of the people. Little wonder that the projects get abandoned during construction or are left to rot after completion.

All efforts to placate and assuage the massive harms inflicted on the Niger Delta has been carried out through various means including oil company driven Memoranda of Understanding with communities, and various government interventions through agencies such as Niger Delta Development Board (NDDDB) established in 1961, the Niger Delta Basin and Rural Development Authority (NDBRDA) established in 1976, the Oil Mineral Producing Areas Development Commission (OMPADEC) established in 1992, the Petroleum Trust Fund (PTF) in 1995, Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) established in 2000 and the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs created in 2008. These bandages have only sought to cover up festering wounds, without dealing with the fundamental ailments that over six decades of disastrous exploitation has wrought. And they have mostly failed.

With over 1,481 wells, 275 flow stations, over 7,000 kilometres length of oil/gas pipelines and over 120 gas flare furnaces, the Niger Delta is an ecological bomb and one of the most polluted places in the world.

That the PIA pays no heed to issues of climate change, despite Nigeria's NDCs, and aims to plunge the country further into fossil extraction is a major source of concern.

**Read more:** <https://homef.org/2022/03/18/the-pia-and-oil-company-divestments-a-time-to-act/>

### III. After COP27, Africa Risks Being a Stranded Continent

COP 27 ended without any other significant shining light besides the Loss and Damage proposal. Hopes that the COP would call for a phase out of all fossil fuels were dashed. The payment of climate debt has been campaigned for by civil societies for years. This demand is historical and current harms being suffered by vulnerable nations and regions due to climate change triggered by actions of industrialised nations.

Rather than recognize and pay the climate debt, the COP had proposed a Green Climate Fund at COP15 and acceded to payments for Loss and Damage at COP27. Hopes for the recovery of damaged environment were shattered by the usual lack of seriousness in the discussions.

COP27 did not rise up to even the weak attempts to call it an African COP. The outcome confirmed that this was just another COP with nothing substantial in terms of reparations for centuries of harms and ongoing ones. The COP could not be termed *African COP* because of its mere geographical location, as Africans could not attend due to diverse restrictions while the corridors of the COP were filled with fossil fuels promoters who attended to block decisions that would rescue the world from the clutches of the industry.

As an organization we saw the COP as mainly a space for civil society organisations to meet, prepare and share ideas on the way forward. Although the COP ought to find ways to stop climate change, it has become a carbon trade fair where false solutions including carbon trading and carbon capture and storage are being promoted.

COP27 leaves vulnerable nations to contend with climate impacts without any serious help that can be counted as additionalities. Delaying action on Loss and Damage simply means tossing nations into more famine, fires, and floods. Climate change continues to be driven by development based on exploitation of peoples and the destruction of Nature made in the guise of fighting global warming.



HOMEF is concerned that precious time is being wasted on non-solutions such as the promotion of unproven and risky technologies including geoengineering.

If we must have a livable future, the COP must be bold to act, especially with regard to phasing out fossil fuels. This is not even being discussed! Rather, false solutions are being propagated. The COP has transformed itself into a platform for avoidance of climate action. We have come to an inescapable moment when avoidance of real climate action can no longer be accepted. Pay the Climate debt and leave the fossils in the ground!

HOMEF urges that the loss and damage agenda should not be considered as charity but as reparations for centuries of ecocide and damaging activities. Nigerian negotiators should see COP28 holding in the United Arab Emirates as a moment to press industrialized nations and polluting entities to accept liability for the climate catastrophe and to make adequate annual payments for it.

This should be addressed as a climate debt and in clear terms.

HOMEF believes that fossil fuels are responsible for wars, climate harms and human rights abuses and that the funds invested in warfare should be channeled to funding the needed just energy transition and for tackling the manifestations of climate change.

We urge Nigeria and other African nations to realize that the 1.5 degrees temperature target set in the Paris Agreement is on track to be exceeded judging from the Emissions Gap Report issued by UNEP. To close that gap, the world will ultimately exit the petroleum era. This is the time to get off the fossil train rather than risk stranded fossil fuel assets by the coming decade.

Africa cannot afford to be a stranded continent loaded with stranded fossil assets.

A 1.5 degrees Celsius temperature increase above pre-industrial levels will be disastrous for Africa as the continent has temperatures above global averages. This reality makes taking climate action more urgent for us than for most others.

## IKIKE

Ikike is the fundamental vehicle for the attainment of the change HOMEf seeks to build by creating spaces for knowledge development, interrogation and sharing. Our Ikike spaces include sessions of Sustain-Ability Academy, School of Ecology, Community Dialogues/Trainings, Conversations and Learning from the Wise.

See highlights of our sessions:

## Learning from the Wise

The wise is a knowledge holder and keeper.

Learning is a lifelong process. In other words, we never graduate from the schools of life as long as we are still on planet earth. We learn to walk, to speak intelligibly and we learn to be part of our communities. Many factors affect our learning and some of these are personal, others are social, cultural, and economic. In this information age, we need guidance to navigate the rapidly changing situations with virtually everything around us. There must be few things that are not in a flux around us. We struggle to keep up with changes in our culture, social norms, environment, politics, education, the arts and even spirituality

In the midst of the stormy changes, we note that the changes are propelled by humans and human institutions, including corporations. Wisdom requires a rethink of current modes of production, reproduction, and consumption. Consciously retaining understanding of our being, as humans, in the community of other beings is essential in an age such as we are in. To do otherwise is to become beings that have lost both memory and mind. We need information and we are having more than we can analyze and sift for our purposes. This state of things require that we pause, sit, and learn. We need to learn from the wise, the proverbial seated elders who see far beyond what the youths can see standing on top of palm trees.

Although the wise do have information, information on its own is not wisdom. Information is like tools in a box. Anyone could own or access the toolbox, but only the trained or schooled would know what tools to use and for what purpose. Mere information is not wisdom. Having a pouch filled with information does not make anyone wise. Knowing what to do with gathered information per time, makes one wise.

Our elders hold a vast array of knowledge about our forests, ocean, and biodiversity generally. As we know, some of the knowledge are not accessible to all and could get lost if the holders are not available or willing to share such. Why sit at the feet of the wise and the knowledge holders in natural and less formal settings? We do this with the aim of bridging the gap and building relationships between the learner and the teacher. It is essential to build relationships of trust to facilitate knowledge sharing, interrogation and understanding.

Through Learning from the Wise (LftW) we hope to tap into the reservoir of the abundant knowledge of our people from especially knowledgeable and respected individuals.





What are the questions plaguing the youths? How are they interpreting the objective conditions around them? What is their reading of the state of the environment and energy systems? We don't just want our youths to know the solutions, we want them to know how to find solutions to known problems and even to those yet to occur.

Our hope is that our youths will not only be recipients but agents and broadcasters of knowledge and wisdom using contemporary tools such as those available on social media

platforms which are readily utilized by them.

It is our desire that the youths bear in mind that, as is the case with all teachers, knowledge holders are often not self taught. They learn from other knowledge holders and understand that they hold the knowledge as a sacred trust, as something to be shared with others. The knowledge cuts across all spectrums of knowing and include those on environment, traditional medicine, varieties of crops and animals, value systems, ceremonials, values, and language.



Our knowledge keepers are custodians of our tangible and intangible cultural heritage embodied and manifested in our knowledge system, including fishing and farming systems, customs, poetry, songs, architecture, and other art forms. The fact that the tangible and intangible are closely intertwined as a multilayered tapestry of life urges us to fundamentally look at our learning processes and spaces. What are the available spaces for learning? Universities? Why not Multiversities? How come our polytechnics are more like monotronics? What are our youths educated for? Are they educated for life steeped in solidarity, dignity, and respect, or are they trained to be mere economic beings, sold and bought by the highest bidder? Can such narrow educational pathways prepare a people for the increasingly complex challenges they must face?

*LftW is a platform for active acquisition of knowledge, bearing in mind the urgent need to propel changes in our society, the kind of change we desire and need. The change that is for the people and from the people. This space was birthed in 2022.* It is our desire that the youths bear in mind that, as is the case with all teachers, knowledge holders are often not self taught. They learn from other knowledge holders and understand that they hold the knowledge as a sacred trust, as something to be shared with others. The knowledge cuts across all spectrums of knowing and include those on environment, traditional medicine, varieties of crops and animals, value systems, ceremonials, values, and language.

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## II. Wake Up to Emerging Technologies, Nigeria/Africa

Emerging technologies in the areas of genomics, artificial intelligence, automaton, and block chains are driving new forms of extraction and re-ordering African societies, economics and ecosystems with similar disruptive shocks to previous colonization waves. Due to the weak or no regulatory systems in African countries, corporations now see and use Africa as a petri dish for technological adventurism while making her the dumping ground for unwanted technological mistakes.

Sectors such as agriculture, health, finance and energy are being upturned by a wave of automaton, artificial intelligence, biotechnology, big data, synthetic biology and geoengineering. While these technologies are often presented as being beneficial to Africa's development, they have the potential to disrupt and threaten ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.

HOMEF's first Conversation in 2022 held in collaboration with Africa Technology Assessment Platform (AfriTAP) highlighted the implications of unregulated entry of emerging technologies in Africa. This meeting exposed these technologies as new ways of colonizing parts of the world especially Africa. The Conversation was held with Mamadou GOÏTA, a development socio-economist and specialist in education and training systems. He is the Executive Director of the Institute for Research and Promotion of Alternatives in Development (IRPAD) based in Bamako, Mali.

We are not anti-technology. Rather, we are for technologies that do not jeopardize our interests as individuals or continent. We are firmly convinced that technologies are introduced as ways to improve people's lives. Since they impact our lives, we should not be forced into accepting them without adequate assessment. We should be concerned with technologies such as gene editing



because we are becoming dumping grounds for such experimentations.

As an organization that is concerned about the health of the earth, we have noted negative changes in our culture and traditions due to the intrusion of rapidly deployed technologies. Some of these threaten to upturn our livelihoods and human rights across the continent with great impacts on agriculture, health and climate. We cannot sit and digest all that we get without examining the implication for our health, our environment, and our future. African governments should come together to say no to unproven technologies, otherwise we would be lost in the new technologies. Nigeria and other countries that are on the path of rapidly admitting genetic engineering should retrace their steps and ask questions from countries such as Burkina Faso who have tried it and have rejected it.

Technologies such as gene drives can easily exterminate valuable species. Others such as geo-engineering pose unique threats to Africa as the continent will play second fiddle in the technological geo-politics and will end up being exposed to worse climate change impacts. HOMEF agrees that science is not neutral, and it is dangerous for policy makers to claim to have certainty of safety of technological products developed outside the continent and presented as though they were developed here. AfriTAP insists that new technologies require careful assessment and interrogation, by Africans themselves.



### III. The End of the Fossil Age

The wave of divestment by oil and gas companies manifesting in companies selling off their assets in the Niger Delta is raising deep concerns as these companies' intent to move further into the deep appears to be attempts to avoid regulatory oversight and accountability. The companies seek to heap the burden of the pollution, health issues, and degradation caused by their activities on the communities.

Our School of Ecology on Blue Economy, Divestment and the End of Fossil Age, which held on the 26th and 27th of September in Uyo, Akwa Ibom Nigeria, x-rayed the

technicalities and politics of the Blue Economy concept and the dangers of divestment by IOCs on impacted communities.

Blue Economy as a term sounds beautiful, but in reality aims to commoditize the world's oceans and water bodies.

Peoples' recurrent concerns of how we can run the world without fossil fuels fail to recognize the fact that the fossil fuel age has not lasted more than 200 years and that the petroleum civilization will end just as previous civilizations



ended. Unfortunately, as the fossil age is coming to end corporations are digging for more fossils in Africa where oil companies plan to sink \$230 billion in the next decade on new oil and gas projects and \$1.4 trillion by 2050. Recently, Nigeria signed an MoU with Morocco proposing to build a 5,600 kilometers gas pipeline to begin from Brass and end in Europe, even as we are yet to begin the cleanup of the mess in the Niger Delta.

Ken Henshaw, the Executive Director of We the People, spoke on “Examining Policies and Policy Frameworks for Oil Companies in Nigeria.” He noted in his presentation that “The fear of accountability and rising court losses to victims and communities is making these companies run away. Oil extraction is tremendously challenging for communities, this is why we need to take action before these companies leave. We must stand on no divestment without restoration; put an end to gas flaring and its health impacts on ecosystem and humans”

In his paper titled “Privatization of the NNPC: Socio-Economic Implications,” Prof. Sofri Peterside stressed that “one of implications of the transmutation into NNPC Ltd. is that NNPC Ltd will no longer contribute to Single Treasury Account, even though the ownership of NNPC is vested in the government.” His conclusion was that the change will create more problems for the nation as it was more of nomenclature change than the much needed accountability and restructuring.

The SoE noted that the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) fails to account for climate change, energy transition, and a true overhaul of Nigeria’s petroleum industry. The PIA promotes investments that may not yield the expected returns as the world decarbonizes. Those funds could have been used to address social needs or invest in renewables. For oil-producing and impacted communities, divestment means more remote possibilities of holding corporations accountable for pollution, as well as fewer economic opportunities for communities.



The following recommendations were made:

- ☐ Review the National Energy Transition Plan and make it compatible with imperatives of decarbonization
- ☐ Nigerian citizens and climate activists must continue to denounce the presentation of fossil gas as a bridge fuel
- ☐ Strengthen our movement to resist the new wave of green washing and market environmentalism that is sweeping over Africa.
- ☐ We cannot solve problems created by the failure of markets. The carbon-budget-centric approach to Nigeria’s climate change response is all about false solutions such as carbon offsets, geoengineering, Carbon Capture and Sequestration.
- ☐ There shouldn’t be any discussion on divestment without an inclusion of the host communities. If this move happens without cleaning and restoration of impacted communities, these communities will be left stranded with pollution and degraded environment. This move as well as the Blue Economy concept if enforced will impact mostly on community people who are predominantly fishers and farmers.

# ENVIRONMENT, WAR, AND THE GLOBAL ENERGY SYSTEM

The Right Livelihood College Lecture 2022 was co-hosted by Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) and the University of Port Harcourt on 30 November 2022, at the faculty of Social Science with over 250 physical participants and virtual attendees. The Lecture with the theme “Environment, War, and the Global Energy System” was delivered by Jamila Raqib, executive director of Albert Einstein Institution, USA. This was the 8th of the annual lecture series delivered by Right Livelihood laureates at the campus.

In her lecture, Jamila Raqib urged communities to protect their environment and protest against human pollution while she urged governments to use power to bring about positive changes globally. “The feeling of powerlessness around the world in the face of the world’s crises is sad and dangerous, because it leaves people thinking how they can change their situation. We are seeing increased engagement of movements around the world, challenging the destructive energy system of the world.

“The real power comes from knowing how these actions can be coordinated. Knowing when to act and how to act is vital. The most effective movements are those who take seriously the importance of training and educating those involved. We need to make sure people have access to the right training and information, so they won’t have to reinvent the wheel. People who advocate for violence are sometimes doing it to protect other people, but they also endanger the lives of those people. We need to also reflect on what, when and how we do what we do and how it’s undermining the power of those who cause these harms,” she said.

Another lecture was given by Prof Ben Naanen of the University of Port Harcourt. In his lecture, the erudite professor stated among other things that the concepts are all linked. “When we talk about the environment, we talk about exploitation, and when you talk about exploitation, we talk about conflict. This is about environmental crime were people are carting away environmental resources, it’s about criminal gangs operating across the border, this is the basis of environmental crime and the struggle over environmental resources leading to conflict”.



“The lecture on non-violent resistance helped the students understand the various ways to creatively protest harmful activities. It offered avenues to creatively prepare and build resilience and capacity to resist harmful activities and to prepare people for their liberty. The lectures are organized in a university setting for students to appreciate that their education does not end in classrooms, rather these exercises help them to broaden their vision to see what is happening elsewhere in the world and to generally stand up for what is right.

Nnimmo Bassey stated that the Niger Delta region, Nigeria and the world at large would be free from environmental and climate change issues if investment in renewable energy are more. “Nigeria as a country should begin to invest more in renewable energy, using solar, wind, heat in the air or the waves. This is where we should invest our resources on and that is the future of energy in the world. We have a lot

of war being fought over resources. Africa is now a focus for extraction of fossil fuel and that means that we may expect more conflicts on the African continent”

Prof Fidelis Allen stated that the environmental problems in the Niger Delta region are systemic and driven by economic development models that have been adopted over the years. Nigeria has focused on economic growth with strategies that do not consider the environment as a crucial factor. “What we are seeing over the years is more money from the environment at the expense of the integrity of the environment. If we can think about development holistically in terms of how the Niger Delta can be preserved with its swamps and rivers preserved; if we can think about modest economic development, think about the non-oil sector as drivers of economic growth and development, it will be better for us. We need an approach that will take incremental steps away from fossil fuels.”



# GENERAL

## I. Relief to Flood Victims

HOMEF donated relief materials to flood victims in Nigeria's six impacted states. The gesture was to show solidarity and support for the victims who were displaced from their homes by the recent flooding across the country. The states include Bayelsa, Benue, Delta, Edo, Kogi and Rivers.

A total of seven communities were reached in the six states between November 8 and November 13, 2022.

While receiving the items, community members expressed appreciation to HOMEF for always remembering them in their ecological travails.

Members of Ikarama, Okordia clan in the Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa State heaved a sigh of relief as relief materials were handed to them. The paramount ruler of Ikarama, Chief Gospel Okah, and the CDC Chairman, Mr. Joel Ebi expressed gratitude to HOMEF for identifying with them in their time of need.

"We appreciate the organisation for delivering the items to us; these things came at a time when we need them the most. We have lost food items, mattresses, and all our belonging but these items have brought joy to our heart knowing that other well-meaning Nigerians see the pain we go through. Ikarama community is not new to this organization following all the monitoring training it has held for us. We are grateful for such a gift."

The same gesture was extended to, Iwherekhan and Otu-Jeremi communities in Delta State. A community member, Mrs Otomewo said, "In this last three weeks, the experience we have had is something that we will never forget in a hurry. We woke up in the night to find ourselves right inside the river in our bedrooms. I had to run with my family to another community that was not as affected as ours by the flood. Today, we thank HOMEF for the kind gesture of providing food items and relief materials to us and identifying with us in our time of need. We will not forget in a hurry those who came to dry our tears when it mattered most".

Comrade Che Ibegwura while receiving the support for Erema people in ONELGA, Rivers State, thanked the organisation saying that "NGO's are there to help people but HOMEF has shown that it is a family that sticks with the people it associates with. I cannot thank HOMEF enough for this gesture. I encourage them to keep up with the spirit of







solidarity and comradeship in their advocacy for environmental and climate justice.”HOMEF also provided relieve materials to internally displaced persons’ camp (IDP) at Oghomere, in Etsako Central Local Government Area of Edo State and to Odogu in Ibaji LGA of Kogi State and Akpeko community in Benue State.

Director of HOMEF, Nnimmo Bassey noted that the move was part of the organisation’s effort to cushion the effect of this year’s flood disaster on the people and to show that they were not alone in their travails.

“These food items and materials donated will not replace what has been lost or destroyed by the floods. With intensifying extreme weather events more climate disasters may come in the coming years. We are using this opportunity to call on government to take steps to holistically climate-proof our communities to ensure that infrastructure and livelihoods are resilient enough to survive the extreme weather events. We must support each other and also commit to be better defenders of our environment.”

Items distributed included bags of rice, beans, garri, onions, tubers of yams, cartons of noodles, palm oil, water, mattresses, and diapers, disinfectant amongst others.

## 05. HOMEF AT EVENTS:

### (PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS)

#### African Women at the Frontline of Climate Crisis

As the Conference of Parties (COP27) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Egypt drew apace, it was increasingly important to strengthen and unify women-led struggle against destructive large-scale climate projects, false solutions to climate crisis and offer a powerful platform for women to propose and shine a light on the REAL development that Africa and their communities need to survive now and into the future. African women are at the frontline of the Climate Crisis.

To amplify women's voices, WoMIN African Alliance in collaboration with Kebetkache Women Development & Resource Centre organised a Women's Climate Assembly which took place from the 17th -20th of October 2022, at the Port Harcourt Diocesan Pastoral Centre in Rivers state, Nigeria.

The gathering offered African women a space to share experience and organize strategies, learn from each other, deepen their knowledge, build solidarity, and define women's position ahead of COP27. A first of its kind, the assembly represents the start of a permanent assembly of African women for Climate and Development justice.



Over 150 women activists including young people from 14 countries across West and Central Africa were in attendance. Represented countries include Guinea Conakry, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, South Africa, Niger and Nigeria. The struggle of African women against Climate Change, forced evictions, extractive industry, industrial agriculture, and to protect their lands, territories, seed, and breeds are all struggles for Climate Justice.

All over Africa, especially the oil producing Niger Delta, floods ravage, pipelines spill on and gas is still flared. We are in danger of annihilation.. and yet, for decades, African women, who have done the least in creating the climate problem continue to suffer the worst burdens of the crisis. They carry the costs of extractive activities including ill-health, violence, hunger, and displacement so that the world's most powerful corporations,





the wealthy and middle class in the global North can enjoy unlimited energy supplies and development possibilities. Given the division of labour which assigns women the primary responsibility for household food production and preparation, water and energy harvesting, care for the elderly, the young and the sick, women suffer the brunt of climate impact even more than men. They represent the majority of the world's poor and are proportionally more dependent on threatened natural resources.

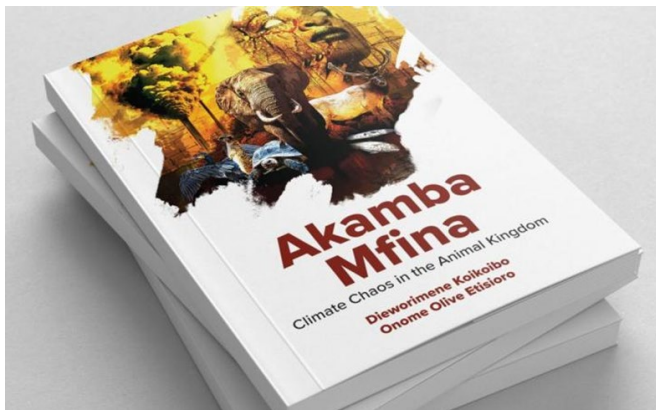
According to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 2021, women experience higher risks and greater burdens from the impacts of climate change in situations of poverty and gender inequality. It is against this background that African women gathered to build a force for Climate Justice — a force that seeks to develop the voices of African women enmeshed in the present, a voice that says NO to powerful multinational corporations responsible for the climate crisis and demands for sovereign debt cancellation, a voice that is prepared to break with the past, a voice that seeks an economy that serves the peoples first.

At the end of the gathering, the women resolved and demanded that:

- ☐ Women must be involved in negotiations wherever and whenever there are decisions to be made about oil and resources.

- ☐ Towards COP27, African women expect unconditional respect for Women's rights, and the integration of women into the decision-making process.
- ☐ The rules and principles of our local conventions are respected and that the various declarations be accepted and applied.
- ☐ African leaders adopt a return to organic agriculture (use of traditional seeds) and put an end to chemical fertilizers and genetically modified food items.
- ☐ Women are at the heart of development programs emanating from COP27.
- ☐ All victims of flood, oil spillage and fire disaster be compensated and treated.
- ☐ Niger Delta women and other African women are empowered economically, so they may claim their right to political empowerment.
- ☐ Forthwith, any act that will further devastate the environment (aquatic and ecological environment) be stopped immediately and all devastated environments be cleaned up.
- ☐ Women are represented in all decision-making processes that affect the environment in Niger Delta and Africa at large.

## 06. RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS



### A. Akamba Mfina: Climate Chaos in the Animal Kingdom

Discussions on the climate crisis often centre on the extreme weather events that humans experience, and on how global warming impacts countries' economies. The world has hardly considered how the crisis is affecting the many other beings who suffer the brunt of humans' reckless and disrespectful dealings with the Earth. If the world had soberly considered the extensive impacts of the climate crisis, perhaps we would not be busy extracting and burning fossil fuels and then trading in the carbon pollution or grabbing forests to supposedly capture the carbon.



In conceiving this publication, we reminded ourselves that the solutions we frame for the climate crisis would be retrogressive and counterproductive if we do not frame them in a holistic manner that considers the well-being of the other beings.

Download and read the book here: <https://homef.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/AKAMBA-MFINA.pdf>



## B. Fossil Futures Built on a House of Cards

The demand for carbon offsets is forecast to skyrocket in the coming years, for several reasons: COP26 in 2021 gave the green light to a global carbon trading mechanism (Article 6); more and more countries are chasing ‘net zero’ targets; new shipping and aviation offset schemes are emerging; and fossil fuel corporations are greenwashing their continued emissions with “nature-based” offsets.

The only way we will successfully keep temperature rise below 1.5°C is a rapid, just, and equitable transition to a peoples-centred, renewable energy system. There is no room for offsets on the path to fossil-free futures.

This report is written by Professor Doreen Stabinsky, author of 2021 report Chasing Carbon Unicorns. It is published by Friends of the Earth International, with the support of 32 allied organisations from the climate justice movement.

Read the report [here](https://homef.org/2022/06/30/fossil-futures-built-on-a-house-of-cards/): <https://homef.org/2022/06/30/fossil-futures-built-on-a-house-of-cards/>



C. More publications

- **COP: Damaged and Lost**  
<https://homef.org/2022/11/07/cop-damaged-and-lost/>
- **Eco-Instigator 35:** <https://homef.org/2022/04/12/eco-instigator-35/>
- **Eco-Instigator 36:** <https://homef.org/2022/06/30/eco-instigator-36/>
- **Eco-Instigator 37:** <https://homef.org/2022/10/18/eco-instigator-37/>







## **Our Projection (2023-2028)**

In the year 2023, we will focus on *Healing Territories*. Our work will be guided by the key words: healing, wellness, wellbeing, peace, solidarity, love and selflessness. See below, our projection/strategy for the next five years on our various desks.

## **Fossil Politics**

- ☐ Expansion of the FishNet Alliance and the West Africa Climate Justice Movement (WACMo) across Nigeria/ Africa - with various units at local and country levels active and functioning optimally.
- ☐ National/regional climate change summit held yearly (before the COPs)-to advance REAL climate solutions.
- ☐ Become a leading voice in CBD spaces.
- ☐ Barefoot Guide to Biological Diversity Hot-spots in Nigeria/Africa produced and widely used in Nigeria and Africa.
- ☐ EcoDefenders networks strengthened across Nigeria.
- ☐ Annually organise the Niger Delta Alternatives Convergence (NDAC) and a continental version started.

## **Hunger Politics**

- ☐ GMO-Free Nigeria becomes an active national force (with at least 5,000 members) against GMOs - commanding food justice and food sovereignty in Nigeria
- ☐ GMO-Free Africa set up and active with at least 20,000 members
- ☐ Moratorium on GMOs and other forms of gene editing in Nigeria/ Africa
- ☐ The government of Nigeria actively support agroecology with a policy/ implementation plan on agroecology

set up.

- ☐ Handbook on Agroecology developed and actively used by NGOs, farmers groups and government in training of farmers on Agroecology principles and practice.
- ☐ Biosafety and biodiversity brief developed and widely used to engage government and other relevant stakeholders
- ☐ Impact of GM Cowpea and others in Nigeria researched and documented
- ☐ A local network of Agroecology/ organic agriculture farmers set up

## **Ikike**

- ☐ Ikike (School of Ecology and Sustainability Academy) firmly structured as a one-stop Africa Center for Ecological, Environmental, and Climate Justice studies and re-source center - with the possibility of having exchange programmes
- ☐ Increased and strengthened collaborations with institutes of higher learning (in and outside Nigeria)
- ☐ Cohorts of environmental justice advocates built through our Sustainability Platform
- ☐ A pool of like-minded instigators/ fellows built for our learning spaces

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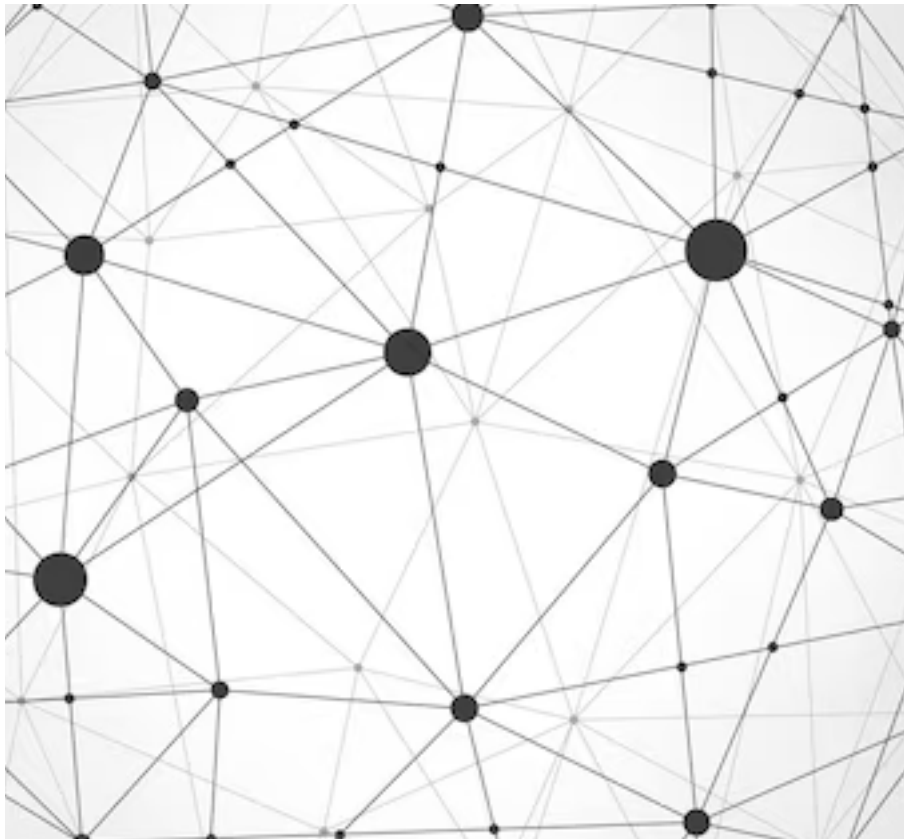
## **Communications, Research and Publications**

- ☐ Running and expansion of ecological and research centres
- ☐ HOMEF communication and visibility in the international space strengthened
- ☐ Consistent publication of Ecoinstigator/ making it a global resource for knowledge/updates on the environment and food systems
- ☐ At least 5 research publications on key environmental and food issues
- ☐ HOMEF TV set up and running
- ☐ Podcasts produced and released at least on a quarterly basis

## **Community and Culture**

- ☐ Local communities empowered to actively participate in multilateral spaces.
- ☐ Annual celebration of culture and art exhibitions
- ☐ Stronger links to oilimpacted communities across Nigeria
- ☐ A barefoot guide on food and culture developed





## HOMEF IN NETWORKS



**Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA)** (<https://afsafira.org/>)

**Yes to Life, no to Mining** (<https://vestolifenotomining.org/>)

**Climate Space** (<https://climatespace2013.wordpress.com/>)

**No REDD in Africa Network (NRAN)** (<https://no-redd.africa>)

**Oilwatch Africa/International** (<https://www.oilwatch.org/>)

**Daraja – A Pan African space set to rally the global majority towards a path of radical social transformation and power** (<https://darajapress.com/>)

**Global Alliance for Rights of Nature (GARN)** (<https://www.garn.org/>)

**Alliance for Pesticide Action in Nigeria (AAPN)** (<https://aapn.org.ng/>)

# OUR PARTNERS



HOMEF is thankful for the support received in various forms from these esteemed institutions:

- Thousand Currents
- Grassroots International
- Bread for the World
- Ford Foundation
- Rosa Luxembourg Stiftung
- Full Circle Foundation
- Oak Foundation
- Base Consult
- Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa
- Energy Transition Fund
- African Centre for Biodiversity
- Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation
- ETC Group
- EU

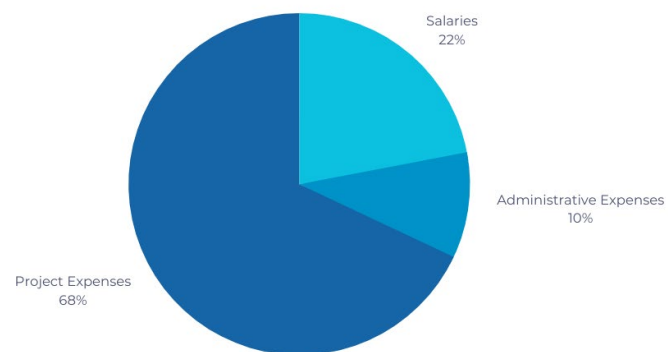




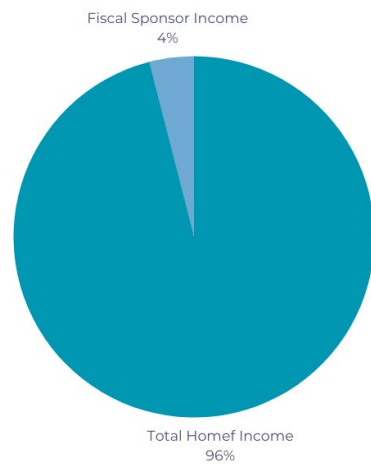
Description of Expenses	Amount in NGN	%
Salaries	131,258,175.24	22
Administrative Expenses	58,189,583.74	10
Project Expenses	396,754,154.02	68
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>587,400,731.00</b>	<b>100</b>
Total HOMEF Income	688,650,481.00	96
Fiscal Sponsor Income	25,268,869.00	4
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>713,919,350.00</b>	<b>100</b>



## HOMEF 2022 FINANCIAL SUMMARY



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