



FEDERAL MINISTRY
OF ENVIRONMENT

CONCEPT NOTE
ON
SCHOOLS CLIMATE CHANGE
AWARENESS PROGRAMMES
(IN THE SIX (6) GEOPOLITICAL ZONES OF NIGERIA)

Proposed by: Department of Climate Change
Education, Awareness and Outreach Division
Education Branch, 2022.

BACKGROUND:

Nigeria ratified the United Nations Framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC) in 1994, thereby committing the country to proactively take necessary national processes and legislative approval towards ensuring all obligations inclusive of education awareness on climate change issues as mandated by parties are carried out in Article 6 of the convention and article 12 of the Paris Agreement, **Parties Decided:**

“to continue to promote the systematic integration of gender sensitive and participatory education ,training ,public awareness ,public participation ,public access, to information and regional and international cooperation into all mitigation and adaptation activities implemented under the convention as well as under the Paris Agreement as Appropriate ,including into process of designing and implementing their nationally determined contribution” (Decision CMA.1, paragraph 5) ensuring no is left behind ,under the umbrella Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE). The work as mandated by the Doha work programme on Article 6 of the convention has provided a platform for parties and non-party stakeholder to share their Experience, best practices and lessoned learned on ACE implantation. In view of the above, the Federal Ministry of Environment through the Department of Climate change (DCC) proposes SCHOOLS CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS CREATION PRPGRAMME for public and private schools in the six geo-political zones in the country, to primarily capture the young ones and equipped them with tools to address climate change impacts. The programme will encourage socialization and integration of existing programmes and documents which include Climate Change knowledge products. It will cover various thematic areas such as awareness, mitigation, adaptation, vulnerability assessment, gender mainstreaming, renewable energy, waste management and climate science etc.

One of the environmental issues facing our world today is the ever changing climate. It is a menace which the world is currently combating and seeking measures to adapt and mitigate its impacts. Every country is affected by the impacts of climate change, with some more vulnerable, like Nigeria. This vulnerability is due to the Country's fragile ecological environment. The adverse effects of climate change predominant in the region include floods and desertification which eventually leads to droughts.

Consequently, there is need for urgent steps to be taken in tackling this environmental problem. Some of these steps needed are improved education, advocacy, training and public awareness on climate change. All these measures are capable of persuading the society in participating in activities that ensure the mitigation of climate change as well as its adaptation.

STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

In response to climate change, education is an integral part of the global response. This informed the decision of UNESCO in setting up the Climate Change Education for Sustainable Development programme which is aimed at increasing climate literacy among young people by providing quality climate change education (formal and non-formal) and as well as creating awareness through media, networking and partnerships.

Unfortunately, Nigeria is yet to recognize that education is the most effective counter-strategy to climate change. Presently, there is a dearth in climate change education especially in secondary schools in the country.

OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the project is to promote climate change knowledge, create a platform for the training, sharing of knowledge of awareness among secondary school students in the six geo-political zones about climate change.

Specific objectives are:

- To equip the students with the necessary knowledge needed in adapting to climate change
- To educate them to be climate change ambassadors.

JUSTIFICATION

As the impact of climate change bites harder, it is advisory and important to educate the young ones in schools about climate change through advocacy and sensitization since education is part of the response to climate change. This is important because children are agents of change capable of educating their communities in adapting to climate change, and can be involved in the protection of their immediate environment. Also, Climate change and other environmental issues should be a vital aspect of education for Nigerian school children and practical oriented so that the acquired skills and knowledge would be useful to the society.

Climate change awareness is very paramount to achieving reduced emissions both globally and locally, especially if we need to reduce our emissions to 1.5°C below pre-industrial era. Hence, the need for ambassadors who would help propagate awareness about climate change, teach others about the consequences of our actions and how to adapt to the rapidly changing climate. This ambassadorship would give rise to the development of interest in the environment by the younger

Generations which would continue over time in a cycle till our aims and objectives are met.

METHODOLOGY

In order to achieve the objectives of the project, the following activities shall be carried out:

- Selection of 6 Schools in each of the geo- political zones be selected as a pilot phase for the take of the project
- Twelve (12) Modules on climate change shall be developed
- Visitation of schools within the chosen six geo-political zones for Sensitization using the developed modules
- Sensitization of secondary schools in each of the six geo-political zones shall be completed within a quarter of the year (3 months)
- 6 schools shall be visited every week on Monday, Wednesday and Friday respectively with one school on a particular day
- For effective advocacy, sensitization shall target only climate change clubs in the schools and where there is none, a jet club would be formed
- Members of the clubs shall be called climate change ambassadors
- At the end of the 12 modules for each school, quiz shall be held among the schools within the within the geo-political zone
- Winners for each zone shall then contest for the grand prize at the National level at the end of the year that would be televised.

MATERIALS

Materials needed in realizing the project include the following;

- Projector
- Laptop
- Generator
- Pointer
- Flyers
- Educational materials.

OUTCOMES

The proposed project is an effort geared toward the sensitization of secondary school children in the six geo political zone on climate change. The project intends to expose students to first-hand knowledge of climate change, especially, adaptation strategies and ways to mitigate. In particular, the results and outcomes of the project will lead to;

- Development of climate change modules for secondary schools
- Enlightened school children on climate change issues
- Climate change ambassadors that will help the department in creating awareness