

REPORT ON LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK (LSW) CALABAR, NIGERIA FROM 19TH - 23RD and 27TH April 2021

LSW Calabar, which was sponsored by Sustainability Week International under the mentorship of Patrick Senn, who supported us with his time, energy and resources. Our LSW took place in the University of Calabar, Nigeria, organized by group of students from the University of Calabar, from the 19th to the 23rd and 27th of April 2021. It featured some activities like Symposium, exhibition, Advocacy visit, Tour, green hangout, sanitation, distribution of waste bins and baskets and earth day celebration. The event also featured distinguished personalities like the Vice Chancellor of the institution, The two deputy Vice Chancellors (DVC Administration and DVC Academics), the Registrar of the University, Director of Physical planning of the University, The University Media and Information Unit, Deans of Faculty of the Institution, Professors, Head of Departments (HOD) Security officers of the institution and students. LSW Calabar was led by Samuel C. Okorie with major goal on promoting climate Action and Sustainability through Climate Education.

Local Sustainability Week Calabar in partnership with Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), Transformation Home Africa, with support from the POP (Protect Our Planet) movement, and The University of Calabar, River State came together this year to mark the Sustainability Week Calabar in Nigeria tagged **GO CLEAN UNICAL "Environmental Welfare; an essential aspect of tackling Global Warming, Eco Sanitation, Eco Tourism and Climate Change"**. The event was a week-long program which commenced with two days Advocacy visit from Monday 19 to Tuesday 20/4/2021. We started with advocacy visits led by Samuel C. Okorie (Team lead; Sustainability Week Calabar) to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Calabar Prof Florence Obi who was represented by the DVC Admin Prof Michael Okom. The DVC in his remark stated how eager the University was willing to work with us and to provide us with all necessary support for the facilitation a successful Sustainability Week, while also noting the importance of the preservation of the earth and need for conservation of our forest with respect to tree planting, living species, and sustainability. Other visits also included visit to the Dean of Faculty of Environmental Sciences Prof I.J. Ekpok, Head of Department for Environmental Resource Management and other Heads of departments in the University. The team also visited the Cross River State Ministry of Environment. We also had an advocacy visit to the management team of Drill Ranch in preparation of our tour to the ranch which they affirmed and supported us with some nose mask. We also paid visit to other civil society groups in the state to create awareness on the need to protect the earth through sustainable actions and engagements.

After the visit was followed by a symposium on the 3rd day held at the GIS E Resource Centre of the department of Geography, University of Calabar where a lecture and a panel

discussion was held for students and other members of the university community on the topic Climate Education and Environmental Welfare; an essential aspect of tackling Global Warming, Eco Sanitation, Eco Tourism and Climate Change. Mr. Emmanuel Owan, a representative of the NCF noted during his presentation as one of the panelist stated that the important of managing the earth as the only habitat of man cannot be overemphasized as failure to do so will spell doom for mankind. He nevertheless highlighted the importance of living in harmony with nature while also outlining the negative effect of man's interaction with mother earth and encouraged participants at the workshop to utilize the earth resources sustainably. Other speakers and panelist at the workshop include Mr. Samuel Okorie (a UN ambassador of Climate Change) Coordinator for Sustainability Week Calabar and Mr. Kenedy Omojefe (founder, Transformation Home Africa). This session also featured some exhibition of sustainable products and local recycling and upcycling products. We had workshop a workshop session on upcycling and recycling by an eco-recycler Etteh Isaiah, who thought the participants how to recycle single use plastic.

The 4th day was a clean-up exercise Tagged **GO CLEAN UNICAL** "Leave no Dirt Behind" within the university environment which was accompanied with presentation of some waste bins and baskets by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Calabar, Professor Florence Obi who was represented by the Director of Planning University of Calabar for Sustainability Week Calabar, to be placed in offices and on strategic location of the institution.

The 5th day was our tour to drill, it was a wonderful experience that no one will forget in hurry. We had an awesome at the ranch as we were attended to by Mr. Kufere, the tour guide. Thanks to Drill Ranch for accommodating us in our numbers and also making sure we observe the Covid19 protocols. Our special thanks goes to Liza, the executive Director of Drill Ranch.

Part of peak of Sustainability Week Calabar was the presentation of Branded waste bins, baskets and the branded Sustainability Week Calabar T-Shirt to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Calabar and some principal staff of the university like the Deputy Vice Chancellor Administration, Deputy Vice Chancellor Academics, and the Registrar by LSW Calabar Team, Sustainability Week Calabar on April 26, 2021.

The weeklong event ended with a visit to the drill ranch for youths and students to be able to appreciate nature and the importance of conservation.

Challenges:

- Access to venue
- Adhering to COVID19 Protocols
- Late receipt of funds
- Little response from partners
- Cost of Transportation

- Insufficient fund to carry out all the outlined activities

PHOTO GALLERY

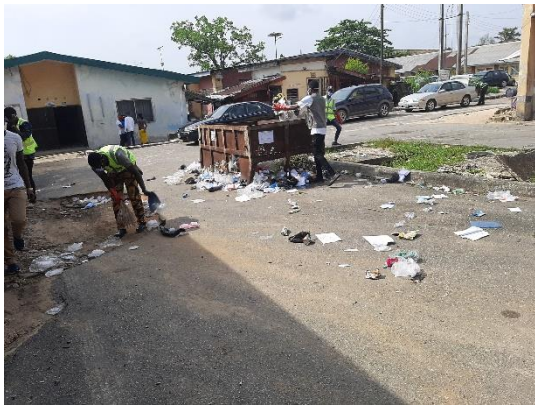
Advocacy Visits



Symposium and Workshop



GO CLEAN UNICAL "leave no dirt behind"



TOUR to Drill Ranch and Hangout



Presentations



Meeting with DVC Admin Prof. Michael Okom

PRESENTATIONS

Presentation of office waste bins and lecture waste baskets and Branded LSW T-Shirt to the Vice Chancellor and her team By LSW Calabar Team



From left. Mr Keneth (THA), Mr Samuel (Lead, Sustainability Week Calabra), Mr. Owan (NCF), Unical VC (Prof F. Obi), DVC Accademics (Prof. A. Oyo-Ita) and Dir of Planning Arc. J. Ikpi



Pictures showing a visit to the drill ranch in Calabar by Sustainability Week Calabar and to celebrate the World Earth Day, among other presentations made to the school authority and management by LSW Calabar Team.



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