

# Climate Change: The community context

## A case study of the Eco Green Initiative

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## Curbing catastrophe: Presentation outline

- Introducing CEDSI Nigeria
- Defining Climate Change
- Climate change: Global rage, local action
- Consequences of Climate Change
- Evidence of Climate change
- Climate change and the Nigerian state
- Action on climate change
- Issues, challenges and opportunities
- Role of policy makers
- The Eco Green Model

# Defining Climate Change

Climate is the synthesis of weather in a given place for over a period of 30 years.

A change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere In addition to natural climate variability

Climate change has become a growing environmental challenge that has triggered more questions than answers

# Climate change: signs of the times

- Noticeable unusual weather-lined phenomena
- Disasters caused by unusually heavy downpours
- Bush fires
- Floods and ocean surge
- Late arrival of rains etc
- Accelerated rise in sea level

## Key Alert

Since climate change has the potential to affect all natural and human systems and may in fact be a threat to human development and survival, it is important that all segments of society get adequate information on the phenomenon

# Climate change: Global rage, local action

Climate change is one of the global changes happening around us mostly driven by human activities.

Key local action often works on the 'precautionary principle' which states that where there is a strong risk of something undesirable happening, we should take action to prevent it rather than wait for all the questions to be answered.

# Consequences of climate change

- The resulting natural disasters as earlier mentioned cause
- economic losses to the financial sector,
- population displacements,
- ecological refugees,
- stresses on resource sharing,
- social conflicts and
- general destabilization of social systems

## Why is climate change of serious concern to communities/Nigeria?

- Our high vulnerability and little capacity to adapt,
- Strategic coastal regions-with a coastline more than 800mlong for banks in the Niger Delta it is worthy of note that any ASLR would sink a huge part of it with Nigeria losing over \$9billion as a result of the catastrophe
- Proneness to drought and desertification
- Threat to water resources
- Threat to food security and livelihoods
- Threat to health security
- Threat to energy, industry and transport
- Impact of fossil fuel combustion-the search for alternatives

# Issues, challenges and opportunities

Nigeria is currently faced with key challenges viz:

- Security of lives
- Reoccurring concerns on national security
- Resource scarcity and conflicts-Perhaps the greatest source of insecurity and instability in Nigeria today are resource and environmental conflicts

## The challenge of climate change and 'climate of opportunities'

- The challenge of Climate change creates opportunities to tackle some critical concerns:
- 1.action needed to address Climate change provides an impetus to embark on reforms and activities that assist in solving the country's local environment and development problem
- International efforts to stem climate change would create opportunities for increased direct investments through technology and financial transfer
- Climate change helps to stimulate partnership and mobilise resources from the financial and other sectors

# Roles for policy makers

- **Towards an effective representation**-international leadership and negotiations demands both participation and representation at the proper levels
- **Developing an enabling legal and policy Framework**-.g a climate change policy, regular national communications
- **Building virile institutions**-proper consolidation and coordination
- Financing climate activities-funds currently inadequate. triggering international financing

# Roles continue

- **Building partnership-cross** sector partnership could advance the Country's preparedness in tackling climate change.
- **Finance institutions** could facilitate the development of a National Business Council on Sustainable development where the business community takes responsibility and develops investment opportunities that benefit the local and global environments
- **Promoting research-to** build and maintain knowledge base
- Increasing public awareness
- Inclusion in school curricular

# About CEDSI Nigeria

- CEDSI is a development institution committed to promoting innovative solution to local environment problems
- We have significant past and present presence in over 500 communities preaching 'green'
- We believe also that sustainable finance and responsible investment should not just be a marketing concept but we need to keep it real
- We are development advocates and serve to bridge the development divide in the environment and development sector
- According to the doyen of the banking industry-we are the vehicle to clean out the 'dirty' part of the rough tasks
- We want to build a strong brand for innovative change as we green our society etc

## Current Efforts: The ECO Green Model

This works on three principles ;

- Climate change is a multisectoral,international,multidisciplinary,intergenerational challenge
- It involves complex interactions between climatic,financial,institutional,social and technological processes
- Community level Awareness and participation would enhance the overall visibility and understanding of the complex issues involved in addressing climate change and move all from debate to action

Sir David King ,Britain's chief scientific adviser and warned that cc is more serious threat than terrorism and a weapon of mass destruction...I say that with all hands on board, we can translate this to a weapon of mass reconstruction

# Key Goal

Ensuing appropriate and alternative energy consumption and promoting awareness at the rural level on preventing climate change

Connecting 'communities' to knowledge and resources and co-ordinate broader donor efforts at the community level on environmental issues

# Objectives

- To promote capacity building and institutional strengthening
- Promoting Private sector participation
- Promoting advocacy for appropriate legal and institutional frameworks
- To promote knowledge sharing and facilitate the radical transformation in the way we use resources, land and energy
- To democratize this knowledge through a one stop resource center to meet the information needs of both the financial sector and others

# Strategy Deployed-technical services

- Training
- Sensitization on possibilities and coping mechanisms
- Research and documentation
- Advocacy-IEC materials devt
- PPP
- PRA/PVA

# Products and Packages

- Gender policy and climate change project(GPC)
- Rural Enterprise for Energy Promotion(REEP)
- Climate impact Research series
- Community Leaders Environmental Advocacy Networks on climate change (CLEAN)
- Eco Green Monthly roundtable(EGMR)
- Network on climate change

# Growing change-Key packages

- Green Rural Endowment Funds-to support green communities and projects across the Niger Delta as pilot. we only need .000001 of your annual profits!
- G-Triple A-(Green Annual Achievers Award)
- This would be managed by the Green social Performance Monitoring Committee headed by a member of the Banking industry
- Site location is a key outstanding assignment

# Brainstorming on the role and benefits of the financial sector

- They can play the needed critical role in regional economic community
- Put your statement of business principle into practice to enhance sustainable investment
- Support livelihood and shared responsibility to host communities through addressing social issues which are core challenges as we strive to achieve the MDG
- Support innovative solutions for sustainability like the eco green initiative
- Enhance capacity building and curriculum deployment
- Provide better access to financial services for communities etc

# Look Ahead

# Conclusion

We are all responsible as individuals for generating GHGs and financial institutions can do lots to change that too. but real leadership is key.

There must be a commitment to prevent a climate chaos!

I'm sure no one wants to be a part of the grime of the industrial past but a clean, green, well governed positive future'

Thank you

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