



# **Community Research and Development Centre**

2008

**Annual Report**

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## **Management Committee**

Etiosa Uyigue – Executive Director

Matthew Agho – Deputy Director

Agharese Edevbaro (Miss) – Programme Director

## **Advisory Committee**

Ose Golden Okungbowa (Esq) - Legal

Dr. J. Ese-Onakewhor (Mrs.) - Health

Nosakhare Queen Uyigue (Mrs.) – Human Resources

Dr. A. E. Ogbeibu - Environment

Prof. C. E. Okaka - Biodiversity

## **Our Mandate**

**“To ensure the  
sustainable  
management of  
the environment  
and environmental  
resources”**

# Who we are

## **Our Mission**

Community Research and Development Centre (CREDC) is a non-governmental, non-profit organization established in March, 2006. CREDC is registered in Nigeria to provide services to ensure that people have access to safe and healthy environment and that environmental resources are managed in the most sustainable way to achieve socio-economic development of our communities. CREDC will help to provide up-to-date information on the state of the environment and environmental resources. CREDC will also embark on activities that will bring about infrastructural, socio-economic and human development.

## **Our vision**

CREDC is working towards the attainment of sustainable development at local, national and regional levels and to have up-to-date information on the state of the environment and environmental resources.

## **To achieve our mission, CREDC will:**

- Embark on advocacy activities and work in partnership with local and international organizations.
- Carrying out researches on the state of the environment and the lives of the local peoples and embark on direct intervention projects
- Build capacity in the local people to enable them participate actively in decision-making processes and developmental issues in general
- Carry out local campaigns to oppose anthropogenic activities that are injurious to the environment and support efficient environmental management practices.
- Act as the voice of the local people especially women and children in local, national and international conventions
- Help to mainstream gender in decision making processes involving environmental issues, health and development

## **Areas of Focus**

- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Public Health and Environmental Researches
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
- Environmental & Health Education
- Water Supply and Sanitation
- Disaster Management
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Wetlands Resources Conservation
- Gender and Charity

## Acknowledgements

We are sincerely grateful to our partners, supporters and individual volunteers who made the year 2008 successful for us. Our gratitude goes to the Global Greengrants Fund, the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the British Council Nigeria for all their inputs and supports.

We appreciate the following persons for their contributions: Rev. Nnimmo Bassey (Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria), Alois Mhlanga (UNIDO), Terri Hathaway, Lori Pottinger (International Rivers), Dr. Victor Fodeke (Special Climate Change Unit, Federal Ministry of Environment), Dr. Idris Muslim, Ewah Eleri (ICEED), Dr. Daniel Yawson (IUCN, Nigeria), Ahmed Yahaya (DARE, Kaduna), Mr. Uba Ikechukwu and the Honorable Minister, Federal Ministry of Environment.

## A Year of Great Achievements



**F**or us in the Community Research and Development Centre, the year 2008 was a year of great achievements. With the supports of all our partners, volunteer individuals and members, it was really a great year. Despite the astronomical allocation to the energy sector (electricity) in Nigeria by the Federal Government, the crisis in the energy sector continued to deepen. The Nigerian government has continued to invest in centralized generation of electricity with little or no attention given to the way energy is being used. The answer to the energy crisis in Nigeria goes beyond mere generation of electricity. This we recognized in the CREDC and decided to campaign for energy efficiency and renewable energy at the local and national level. There is also no energy efficiency policy in Nigeria and the concept is very poorly developed.

After our campaign for sustainable energy in the south-south and south-east of Nigeria in 2006 and 2007 respectively, we decided to take the campaign to northern Nigeria. We organized a conference in Kano City. The objectives of the conference were to create awareness on the project Promoting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Nigeria (PREEEN) and to enable stakeholders in northern Nigeria to participate in the Project. It was also designed to create awareness on renewable energy and energy efficiency among stakeholders in Northern Nigeria; and enhance stakeholders' capacity to advocate for renewable energy and energy efficiency. The conference was attended by participants drawn from the government, NGOs, private sector and academic.

Energy efficiency has become a major driver of sustainable development worldwide. In the year 2008, we took the campaign for energy efficiency to the national level. The **National Dialogue to Promote Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Nigeria** held in the month of November. The event was attended by stakeholders from different parts of Nigeria and participants were drawn from government, civil society organizations, NGOs, religious organizations, academic institutions, private sector, government and the media. The conference was organized to enhance stakeholders' capacity to advocate for energy efficiency and promote renewable energy technologies; to create awareness on the concept of energy efficiency; and to develop strategies to integrate energy efficiency policy into Nigeria's policy framework.

Access to information is fundamental to the empowerment of local communities, building their capacity to participate in development processes. Still in 2008, we organized a training program titled “**Understanding Development**” which held on the 9th October 2008 at the Ken Saro-Wiwa Gallery, at the office of the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth (ERA/FoEN) in Benin City. Attendees were representatives from various NGOs and faith-based organizations from Benin City. The objectives of the program were to build capacity on the participants to effectively participate in development programmes and meetings and embark on development projects. The idea behind the training program was to bring representatives from different organizations together to learn about development issues, share their experiences and to be trained to become trainers themselves.

In the year 2008, CREDC participated actively in the national and International conferences. One of them is the International Conferences on Renewable Energy in Africa (ICREA) which held from the 16-18 April 2008 in Dakar, Senegal. In preparation for the conference, CREDC coordinated the drafting of an NGO position paper titled “Strategies to Scale-up Renewable Energy Market in Africa. The process attracted the participation of several stakeholders from different parts of the world. The policy document was distributed during the ICREA conference

**Etiosa Uyigue**  
*Executive Director*

## Sustainable Energy Campaign in Northern Nigeria

Despite Nigeria's position as the sixth oil producing nation in the world, the country suffers from intensive energy crisis which has lingered on for several years and appears to have defied all governmental solutions. The Previous administration invested huge sum of money into the sector and yielded little or no result. The Nigerian government continued to spend so much money on unsustainable ways of generating electricity which are contributing to the emission of greenhouse gases. Moreover, the government has continued to invest solely on the generation of electricity with little or no attention given to the ways the energy generated is being used.

An estimated 60-70% of the Nigerian populations do not have access to electricity and most of these people reside in the rural areas. In many communities, especially those in the riverine areas of the Niger Delta, extending the electricity grid to them may be prohibitively expensive. The use of renewable energy technologies such as solar photovoltaic, wind turbines etc are promising to bring succor to them because these are decentralized energy systems. We promote a decentralized energy system where energy is used where it is generated. This can be achieved by the use of renewable energy technologies.

The Community Research and Development Centre initiated the project "Promoting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Nigeria (PREEEN) to address the energy crisis in Nigeria. The goals of the project are to increase Nigerian's access to electricity and modern energy services using renewable energy facilities and to promote energy efficiency. Under the PREEEN Project, CREDC has organized conferences in different regions of Nigeria (south-south and south-east) to create awareness and to train stakeholders to advocate for sustainable energy.

In the year 2008, it was time to take the campaign to the northern part of Nigeria. So on the 24th of April, 2008 at the Kano Educational Resource Centre (KERC), Kano City, we organized a conference to create awareness on the PREEEN Project and enhance stakeholders in northern Nigeria to participate in the Project. It was also designed to create awareness on renewable energy and energy efficiency among stakeholders in Northern Nigeria and enhance stakeholders' capacity to advocate for renewable energy and energy efficiency. The conference was attended by participants drawn from the government, NGOs, private sector and academic. The conference featured paper presentation from experts and demonstration of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency cook stove.



**Stakeholders during the Kano conference**



**Participants listening keenly**

Participants in the conference resolved that:

- To compliment the strategies to achieve the Millennium Development Goals especially the goal on environmental sustainability, the use of renewable energy should be encouraged
- Government should develop policies and strategies to promote the use renewable energy and promote energy efficiency practices and technology

- Government should establish an agency under the Ministry of Energy for the development and promotion of renewable energy and ensure proper utilization of available technologies to harness renewable energies
- An apex agency be set up for running and coordinating forestation programmes
- Establish an awareness programme to help stakeholders harness international potentialities on renewable energy and sustainability and transfer such to state and local government level
- Government should invest in the renewable energy sector and make the products affordable to the Nigerian people
- Local Government Councils in collaboration with state and federal government should establish renewable energy departments to access various community tangible and sustainable energy
- More research and training centre should be established by the federal and state governments to ensure speedy development of renewable energy and energy efficiency practices
- The Federal Government through the relevant ministries and the Nigerian University Commission should put in place mechanisms to ensure effective collaboration between research institutions, universities and relevant government agencies to develop renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Private sector should be given the right environment and encouragement by the Government to engage in the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Government, NGOs and development agencies should sensitize and encourage stakeholders to adopt the use of renewable energy and energy efficiency technology and practices
- Government should develop a school curriculum that will teach stakeholders to shun the degradation of the environment and use energy more efficiently

## Campaign at the National Level

The need to address the issue of sustainable energy at the national level inspired us to take a step further in our campaign. It was clear that we need to enlighten stakeholders at the national level. Policy makers at the national level can be effective instruments of change that will trickle down to the grassroots. The national campaign focused more on energy efficiency, since we are aware that there is yet no policy on energy efficiency in Nigeria. Nigeria, with a large population growth rate and relatively high rate of urbanization, energy efficiency will help to drive development sustainably.



**Dr. Victor Fodeke (Standing)**

On the 10 – 11 November 2008, with the support of our partners we organized a conference we titled “**National Dialogue to Promote Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Nigeria**” at the Parkview Hotels, Abuja. The event attracted 50 participants from different parts of Nigeria. The Special Guest of Honour was the Honorable Minister of the Federal Ministry of Environment represented by Dr. Victor Fodeke, Head of Special Climate Change Unit who delivered the Keynote address.

Participants in the conference were representatives of civil society organizations, NGOs, religious organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, government and the media. The conference featured paper presentations, exhibitions, discussions, resolutions and the development of a roadmap to integrate energy efficiency into Nigeria’s policy framework. The conference was

organized to enhance stakeholders' capacity to advocate for energy efficiency and promote renewable energy technologies; to create awareness on the concept of energy efficiency; and to develop strategies to integrate energy efficiency policy into Nigeria's policy framework.



**Group Photograph**

The conference recorded tremendous outcomes which include awareness creation on the concept of energy efficiency among policy makers and other stakeholders at the national level and the development of a road map to integrate energy efficiency policy into Nigeria's policy framework. During the conference participants also develop strategies to promote the concept of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies at the institutional, local, state and national levels. Participants formed themselves into network named Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Network (REEEN) that will promote renewable energy and energy efficiency in Nigeria. It was an opportunity for us to enter into partnership with government to achieve the goals and outcomes of the conference.

It was thus resolved by the participants that:

- Government should partner with the civil society and other stakeholders to develop policies on energy efficiency and integrate them into current energy policy
- The government should partner with civil society organizations and other stakeholders to implement energy efficiency policy in Nigeria.
- There is need for NGOs/government/civil society/media partnership to create awareness on the concept of energy efficiency in Nigeria.

- NGOs and relevant stakeholders should carry out pilot projects to enhance the awareness creation process.
- Government and organizers of trade fairs around the country should create renewable energy and energy efficiency stands during trade fairs.
- NGO and civil society groups should partner with Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) and the Ministry of Environment and Urban Development to promote energy efficiency.
- Policy should be made to ban the importation and manufacturing of incandescent bulbs and encourage the use of energy saving light bulbs such as compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs).
- Government should encourage the use of public transportation over private transportation.
- Government should develop efficient transport schemes to enhance the efficient use of fuel thus reducing the emission of greenhouse gases.
- Government, NGOs and relevant stakeholders to embark on one-on-one awareness creation on energy saving tips.
- Stakeholders should target religious organizations to educate them on renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- The legislative arm of government should make laws to back up energy efficiency policy.
- Multinational companies should deemphasize on activities that are environmentally unfriendly and use technologies that are energy efficient.
- Government and relevant stakeholders should integrate energy efficiency courses into school curriculum in Nigeria.
- Civil society organizations should develop strategies to mainstream energy efficiency and renewable energy into manifestos of political parties in Nigeria
- Government should establish agency to promote the use of energy efficiency products and ensure energy efficiency practices
- Government should develop appropriate drivers for the implementation of energy efficiency policy
- Government should commit more funds to the development of renewable energy technologies to provide electricity for many Nigerians that do not have access to electricity especially those in the rural areas.

## Empowering Community People

The Community Research and Development Centre subscribe to the philosophy that for local people to participate actively in decision-making processes, they need to have access to information. Access to information is fundamental to the empowerment of local communities, building their capacity to participate in development processes. We are committed to the development of the local communities. Development will be most sustainable if the local communities are adequately integrated into development projects.

As part of our activities to build capacity in local people, we organized a training programme in Benin City. The programme was embarked upon in partnership with the Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria (ERA/FoEN) on the 9th October 2008 at the Ken Saro-Wiwa Gallery, in Benin City. Attendees were representatives from various NGOs and faith-based organizations from Benin City. The objectives of the program were to build capacity on the participants to effectively participate in development issues and embark on development projects. The fundamental idea behind the training program is to bring representatives from different organizations together to learn about development issues, share their experiences and to be trained to become trainers themselves.



Training session

The training was a step-down activity under the Debate-to-Action (DTA) capacity building programme which the CREDC benefited from. The DTA Programme is a capacity building programme aimed at youth organizations in Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia and countries in East-West Africa and the UK being embarked upon by the British Council and the World Bank in partnership with governments of participating countries and the civil society. It is designed to bring representatives from youth organizations to learn about development issues, share their experiences and become trainers themselves. The participants will in turn design and implement training plans to share the knowledge and insight gained during the training with others members of their organization. In this way, the DTA program aims to strengthen the development knowledge in their organizations and their network.



**Group photograph**

Participants were taught basic knowledge of what sustainable development entails and the interrelationships between the millennium development goals (MDGs). The trainees were taught the elements of the National Economic Empowerment Development Strategy (NEEDS), which is a document that was developed in Nigeria to enhance the achievement of the MDGs. They were also taught facilitation and brainstorming techniques, proposal writing and writing of conference and project report.

## International Campaign for Sustainable Energy

During the year, we participated in several national and international conferences. In preparation for the International Conference for Renewable Energy in Africa (ICREA) which held on the 16-18 April, 2008 in Dakar Senegal, we coordinated the drafting of position paper which was titled “Strategies to Scale-up Renewable Energy Market in Africa”. The document received contributions from stakeholders from different parts of the world and was distributed during the ICREA conference.

The policy paper enumerated the obstacles to the development of renewable energy in Africa to include:

- *Inadequate policy and lack of implementation of existing policy.*
- *Inadequate funding of government agencies responsible for generation and supply of electricity.*
- *Inadequate access by installers and end-users to funds or financial services necessary to buy, install and operate renewable energy and energy efficiency systems.*
- *Misappropriation of funds allocated to the energy sector.*
- *Poor market for renewable energy products in Africa.*
- *Lack of skilled man-power and skilled local labour to develop the energy sector in Africa.*
- *Lack of exchange of information and experience on what works and what does not within and between countries, given differences in cultural and marketing contexts.*
- *There are no adequate and efficient policies and legislatures that will regulate the activities of the private sector in providing energy services.*
- *Lack of awareness of renewable energy technology’s advances.*
- *The reluctance of policy makers to change from old ways of thinking and to embrace new ways of doing things.*
- *Very little understanding of or emphasis on promoting energy efficiency from within government or industry.*
- *Insufficient international cooperation.*
- *Insufficient financial resources and expertise knowledge with regard to the implementation of modern renewable energy technologies.*
- *Renewable energy technologies are not affordable by many people in Africa.*
- *Existing energy policies are gender neutral and do not consider the genderised nature of energy uses and energy access.*
- *Vested interest of governments, development banks and large (foreign) utilities to develop large scale centralised power plants rather than consider small scale renewable based decentralised power production.*
- *No agencies responsible to promote energy efficiency.*
- *Energy needs are not mainstreamed in sectoral policies.*

- *Lack of enforceable property rights.*

The following strategies were highlighted to scale-up renewable energy market in Africa:

- *Use of informal market instrument*
- *Priority investment on renewable energy*
- *Removal of import tariffs and other trade barriers*
- *Policy formulation*
- *Improve governance on the energy sector*
- *Training of African personnel*
- *Awareness creation*
- *Elaborate regional perspective in renewable energy development*
- *Creation of special agency responsible for renewable energy and energy efficiency*
- *International cooperation and negotiation on raising funds for technological transfer and channeling investments in renewable technologies operating on the African continent.*
- *Gender mainstreaming in the energy sector*
- *Financing*
- *Promote energy sovereignty and energy security*
- *Develop and enforce sustainability criteria for bioenergy*
- *Financial viability*

## Financial Statement

| Community Research and Development Centre (CREDC) Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ending December 2008 |                  |                     |
|--|------------------|---------------------|
|  | Dollars (\$)     | Naira (₦)           |
| <b><u>Income</u></b>   |                  |                     |
| Partners   | 11,624.16        | 1,360,026.32        |
| Internal Revenue   | 1315.30          | 153,890.32          |
| B/d from 2007  | 1861.37          | 217,780.00          |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>14,800.83</b> | <b>1,731,696.64</b> |
| <b><u>Expenditure</u></b>  |                  |                     |
| Remuneration   | 1739.31          | 203,499.28          |
| Communication and Publication  | 2024.36          | 236,850.00          |
| Traveling and Boarding   | 2785.25          | 325,874.32          |
| Meetings and Conferences   | 4589.67          | 536,991.00          |
| Equipment and Maintenance  | 1106.41          | 129,450.00          |
| Administrative Cost  | 202.53           | 23,696.00           |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>  | <b>12,447.53</b> | <b>1,456,360.60</b> |
| <b>Excess Income Over Expenditure</b>  | <b>2,353.30</b>  | <b>275,336.04</b>   |