

**THE 2019 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT OF  
GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISK REDUCTION INITIATIVE (GERI)**



**Motto: Building Resilience for Sustainable Development**

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## **Abbreviations**

ASF- Angels Support Foundation

CLTS- Community Led Total Sanitation

COP-Conference of Parties

CSOs- Civil Society Organizations

CSR- Corporate Social Responsibility

CSDevNET- Climate Change and Sustainable Development Network

ECCAI- Environment and Climate Change Amelioration Initiative

GEF SGP- Global Environmental Facility, Small Grants Programed

GECOME- Gender and Community Empowerment Initiative

GERI- Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative

GHOLEF- Good Health Living and Environmental Foundation

GTM- Glorious Teens Ministry

IBB- Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida

IDP- Internally Displaced Person

LGA- Local Government Area

LGEA- Local Government Education Area

NEWSAN- Society for Water and Sanitation

MHN- Menstrual Hygiene Management

NDC- Nationally Determined Contributions

NGOs- Non-Governmental Organisation

NKST-Nongo U Kristu U Sudan hen Tiv Translated to Universal Reformed Christian Church

NURTW- Nigerian Union of Road Transport Workers

SDGs-Sustainable Development Goals

UNICEF- United Children Education Fund

WASH- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

WEP-Women Environmental Programme

WSSCC- Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council

ToT- Training of Trainers

## **ABOUT GERI**

### **Who we are**

Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, GERI was founded in 2010 and is registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) of Nigeria as a non-political, non-profit making and non-governmental organization. In the recent past decades, man has been faced with a rapidly deteriorating environment that daily draws a very disturbing attention. The world today is faced by global warming and climate change, flooding, deforestation, land misuse leading to gully erosion, solid waste disposal problems, excessive gaming, marine and atmospheric pollution. The importance of environment to the development of individuals, communities and nations is enormous. It provides the resource for physical, economic and social development with attendant gender dimensions. Increasing evidence reveals that there is a strong linkage between the natural environment and livelihoods of people especially the poor men and women and other vulnerable groups. Currently, this issue of global environmental change has drawn more attention than in the past. Informed by the depth of environmental problems and deplorable livelihood conditions of men and women, GERI is set out to help build resilience and facilitate the reduction of risk resulting from environmental change and associated problems on livelihoods of especially women, youths and children in Nigeria and Africa.

### **Our Vision**

To create a future for Nigerians and Africans in which men and women's ability to adapt to a changing environment is enhanced.

### **OUR MISSION**

To promote the core values and tenets of environmental sustainability and a healthy relationship between gender, environment and sustainable development in Nigeria and Africa.

**The GERI Team**

Elizabeth Jeiyol- Executive Director

SewueseAgbendeh- Monitoring and Evaluation Officer

TerverAtighir- Finance and Administrative Officer

ChivirUkange– SeniorProgramme Officer

Raymond Terban – Programme Officer

**The GERI Board of Directors**

Grace Atim- Acting Chair

Elizabeth Jeiyol- Secretary

Dr James Aper- Member (Deceased)

DrUmaruGerdarh- Member

Theresa EzembaIyala- Member

Sabo Kente- Member

DrOyije Lilian Abah- Member

## **FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The year 2019 has been a significant one for GERI as it marked a decade of service for the organization. We learned, unlearned and are still relearning for improved programme design and implementation.

We have once again been able to increase the value of services delivered directly in the field with technical support from our funders.

A few program highlights include: Sensitization of school pupils and the public on the importance of tackling climate change by planting trees and proper waste separation and disposal, Hands-On Training of IDPs on the Production of Energy Efficient Cooking Stoves and tree planting as an efficient means of mitigating climate crises for Peaceful co-existence, Awareness creation on the importance of hand washing with soap/ash and water at critical times as an effective means of disease prevention, sensitization of school pupils on dangers of open defecation in rural areas.

Our ongoing goal to create an environment where men and women are able to adapt to a changing environment has kept us focused while increasing our service in the field there by maximizing impact. Our Board of Directors have also helped play a commendable oversight role which has helped keep the organization on track.

Thank you for wholeheartedly being a part of Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative movement for a building a resilient and sustainable society. We are looking forward to much more in 2020!

Sincerely,

**Elizabeth Jeiyol**

## INTRODUCTION

The year under review has been a remarkable one, it was a process filled with learning, unlearning and relearning. The year started with the annual retreat with all staff and volunteers in attendance. The previous years' activities were reviewed, Success stories and challenges shared with steps taken to control those challenges in future. Capacity building trainings were attended by staff to improve delivery skills in project management, proposal writing and monitoring and evaluation. GERI was also a beneficiary of the first ever TOT on Menstrual Hygiene in Nigeria organized by Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council(WSSCC) with the mandate to train many others to spread the word and break the barriers on menstruation. The Executive Director of our organization, Elizabeth Jeiyol was also appointed the National Coordinator of WSSCC in Nigeria in recognition of her zeal to end issues related to water sanitation and hygiene in Nigeria. GERI also implemented series of self-funded activities to loud the course of its establishment in the area of Environment, Water Sanitation and Hygiene, Governance, Women and Youth Empowerment.

## ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHT

### WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

- **NEWSAN PREPARATION OF WORK PLAN IN MAKURDI BENUE STATE:** GERI joined NEWSAN at First Step from 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January to deliberate and draw out a strategic plan for the Network. This was aimed at setting goals, determining actions to achieve the goals, and resource mobilization to execute planned goals within the year 2019.



- **RURAL SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION IN NIGERIA(RUSHPIN)LGA**  
**STAKEHOLDERS MEETING FOR AN OPEN DEFECATION FREE LGA :** GERI attended the stakeholders meeting organized by United Purpose in Benue State on 16<sup>th</sup> January preparatory to attainment and sustainability of the local government's open defecation free



status. The meeting was well attended by CSOs and Community gate keepers.

- **COALITION OF WASH VOLUNTEERS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNICEF:**



GERI as a member of Benue Coalition of WASH Volunteers operating with technical support from UNICEF rounded up the provision of WASH services at IDP Camp Ugba II in the first quarter of the year. Activities implemented by our team included sensitization of IDPs on importance of good hygiene practices, monitoring and supervision of sanitary condition at the camp, which has ensured proper cleaning of rooms, courtyards,

toilets and bathrooms and the general surrounding.

- **WORLD WATER DAY:** Water is an important component of our thematic areas besides being one of the core needs for human existence. Against this backdrop, GERI carried out a one-week social media campaign to emphasize the need for clean and safe water which is a human right for all. The campaign covered inculcating gender in the process of design and maintenance of water channels, the process of water purification, and access to water. In fulfillment of this year's theme of leaving no one behind, GERI as the coordinating body of CSDevNet in Benue state, planned and executed a sensitization activity at AgwanJukun Community of Awe Street



Makurdi. The activity was aimed at paying advocacy visits to stakeholders of the community, to sensitize the community on how to protect their water source and also sensitize the community members on domestic water management. This was done successfully as the community members listened keenly with valid contributions and commitment to adapt to suggestions made by the

CSDevNet Team to keeping their major source of water (River Benue) clean by adapting cleaning drainages, disposing wastes properly. The exercise had in attendance women groups and youths from the

Community who made up a population of 75persons 42females, 33males

- **MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT DAY 2019:** Menstrual Hygiene Management Day is a day set aside to break the taboos surrounding menstruation, raise awareness of the importance of good menstrual hygiene management worldwide. This year was not an





exception, GERI having pledged to uphold and spread the word on menstrual hygiene partnered with Women Environmental Programme (WEP) Benue to carry out a sensitization in two schools within Makurdi metropolis viz: Salam Progressive Academy Wadata and NKST Junior Secondary School Wadata. 177 students (142 female, 35 male) were sensitized not to be ashamed but to break the silence on menstruation and also exposed to alternative menstrual collection materials with environmental friendly ways of disposing menstrual waste.

- **MENSTRUAL HYGIENE MANAGEMENT STEP DOWN TRAINING:** GERI embarked on step down training for menstrual hygiene management for her staff and



other members of Civil Society Organisations in Benue State. The first was hosted at GERI office premises with 13 members(4males 9females) in attendance from three different organisations(Gender and Environmental Risk Reduction Initiative, Gender and Community Empowerment Initiative, Aunty Meg Foundation and Women Environmental Programme) The training exposed participants to the need to break the silence

on menstruation, different materials for collecting menstrual blood, the need to provide safe spaces for girls in school and public places for managing menstruation, and proper disposal of menstrual waste. The training ended with an action plan to further step down the training to more beneficiaries and a pledge to break the silence on menstruation. The second step down training was organized by the Civil Society Organisations-Benue at Elohim Development Foundation Makurdi where GERI co facilitated the training for further step down at IDP camps in Benue State. The step down training had in attendance 90 (57 females, 33 Males) IDPs in attendance. Experiences were shared and they were sensitized on the how to manage menstruation, the role of men during menstruation which is supporting girls and women, the various disposal methods of menstrual waste, the relationship between menstruation and hygiene. The IDPs welcomed the training as it exposed them to the importance of speaking about menstruation and maintaining a good hygiene during and after menstruation. The men and women pledged to manage menstruation in and outside the camp.



- **Global HandWashing Day:** This is the day set aside to re echo the importance of hand washing with



water and ash/soap as an effective means of preventing diseases. As part of the mandate for GERI to facilitate the reduction of risk from the environment and associated problems, a social media campaign was launched where messages depicting importance of proper handwashing were made. This campaign reached a total of 5338 people and generated 92 likes, 5 comments and 31 shares. GERI also took the message to four(4) schools in Makurdi viz: St Mary's Primary School Northbank, Police Children School North Bank, NKST Primamry School High Level, Makurdi and Erdoo Memorial School High Level, Makurdi. A total of 671 Pupils were reached during sensitization across the schools 375 Females, 296 males with the message of lifestyle. Washing hand bowls were also shared across the four schools, 2per school with rows of soap. GERI also collaborated with Grace to Amazing Favour Foundation (GRAFF) to sensitize pupils of Ecwa GoodNews Academy, Makurdi and as a member of the Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN) Benue State Chapter at LGEA Primary School Wurukum Makurdi on the importance of proper handwashing with Water and soap/ash at critical times as an easy and effective means of preventing diseases.

- **World Toilet Day:** This year's world Toilet Day had the theme: "Leave No One Behind". GERI embarked on a social media campaign aimed at portraying the dangers of open defecation thereby encouraging all to own and manage toilets in their homes, schools, work places e.t.c. GERI knowing the importance of children as change agents also extended the sensitization to two schools in Ikpayongo community



of Gwer East LGA; LGEA Primary School Ikpayongo with a total number of 1200 Pupils (1050 Females, 1150 males) and RCM Primary School Ikpayongo with a total number of 460 pupils (190 Females 270 males). The message of maintaining proper sanitation at all times was made key during the sensitization exercise as the benefits of open defecation free society were highlighted

alongside dangers of open defecation. They were tasked to be agents of change by promoting hygiene where ever they go.

## ENVIRONMENT (CLIMATE CHANGE)



- **INAUGURATION INTO THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE:** GERI was inaugurated into the Climate Change Forum by the Honourable Commissioner of



Ministry of Environment and Water Resources. This followed after the inauguration into the committee set up for the distribution of Climate friendly items donated to Benue State by the Federal Ministry of Environment to end users. This was to tackle climate change challenges experienced currently. The items were made up of Gas Cylinders(6kg , 870 pieces), Envirofit(Charcoal, 75 pieces) stove, Improved wood stove(90 pieces)and wonder

bag (12 pieces)

- **WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2019:** GERI led Climate Change and Sustainable Development Network in collaboration with African Clean Up Initiative to mark this year's World Environment Day. The sensitization activity amplified the voices of Environment and Climate Change advocates to "Beat Air Pollution" The campaign held at NURTW Motor Park Wurukum and NURTW Lafia Motor Park Northbank, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria was a huge success. Four members of CSDevNet (organizations pulled in 24 volunteers to achieve the result. More than 84 people excluding mobile population were enlightened on air pollution and the mitigation measures. Also 10 economic tree seedlings were provided to kick start tree planting campaign. The NURTW officials made commitments to come up with regulation that will check vehicular exhaust emissions.



#### **Notable impact/evaluation from the sensitization campaigninclude.**

1. Awareness and knowledge level of more than 84 NURTW members in Makurdi Town on what air pollution is, causes, effects and mitigation of air pollution was increased.
2. Awareness and knowledge level of more than 84 NURTW members in Makurdi Town on the role of NURTW in facilitating reduction of Air Pollution from vehicular emissions enhanced.
3. Awareness and knowledge level of more than 84 NURTW members in MakurdiTown on the role of NURTW on importance of trees and danger of indiscriminate dumping of waste increased
4. 10 economic tree seedlings (Elaeisqueensis-African oil palm and Anacardiumoccidentale-cashew tree) were provided to the NURTW Branch 1 WurukumMakurdi to kick start tree planting campaign.
5. A total number of 4054 persons were reached during social media engagement
6. NURTW Official pledged commitment to enforce regulation that will check Vehicular exhaust emissions especially deterioration of emissions characteristics linked to maintenance practices of vehicle owners.

- **NATIONAL POST –COP24 CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP:** GERI participated in the National Post- COP24 consultative workshop at the Henrich Boll Foundation Hall, Jabi Abuja held 18<sup>th</sup> June. The goal of the workshop was to examine the outcomes of COP24 Paris agreements and the current state of government in implementing the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). Issues that bothered on climate change adaptation measure that are pro-people and gender sensitive were raised. Reason being that, the poor will have to pay through their nose if they are to adapt to these mitigation measures. The catastrophic expenditure they may incur in trying to adapt to climate mitigation measures, which might make the transition not feasible. The workshop enlightened CSO's on current adaptive measures that seek to be gender balanced and sensitive to the plight of the poor. CSO's were advised to be more cohesive and organized in order to make more impacts nationally and globally. And now that parties have worked out measures and agreed on how this agreements will function, it has finally become a legal tool for advocacy by organised CSO's to ensure commitments of their respective governments.
- **CLIMATE WEEK OF ACTION**

As part of buildup and contribution to the decision to be made at the conference of parties (COP 25), GERI as the North Central Zonal Coordinator of Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNet) joined other climate activist across Nigeria to mark series of planned activities termed “Climate Week of Action” in Benue State. This week of action was aimed to inspire a unique and collaborative platform where both the government and non-actors in countries would gather to address the diverse but relevant climate issues under one umbrella

Two major activities were carried out in Benue State to mark 2019 climate week of action. These include Focus group discussion with Igboor Community Leaders on Deforestation and Reforestation of Ikwe Forest Reserve and Sensitization of the community leaders on the importance of Forest and their role in the forest resources management of Ikwe forests reserve. Another activity was roundtable discussion with State and Non State Actors on Climate Change. The following lessons were learnt from the climate week of Action



- Indigenous people and their communities have a vital role in environmental management and development because of their traditional knowledge and practices. Encouraging community participation in forests resources management could enhance sustainable use of forests resources that serve as carbon sequestration.







- Rural communities are already experiencing the negative impacts of climate change and are willing to take action but they lack the requisite knowledge to respond to the changes

- Stakeholders both state and non state actors are willing to contribute to combating climate change but they lack the political and capacity impetus to approach the relevant authorities on taking action.

The following recommendations were made from the activity to ensure greater impact and sustainability

- Follow up with community leaders in Igboor community to ensure that actions

promised to be taken are fulfilled and feedback received for subsequent action.

- Actions resolved during stakeholders roundtable discussion in a communiqué should be followed up and acted upon
- The strategy of reinforcing local community members to attend community development discourse should be discouraged. Rather, the community members should be made to understand that the programs are meant for their development to encourage ownership of such initiatives.

## PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

### INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY

This is an annual event GERI commemorates to loud the importance of peace and the need for peaceful co-existence in the society. The theme for this year was “Climate Action for Peace” which had GERI launch series of activities to mark the dayviz: Sensitization to schools, Training on the production of energy efficient Cooking Stoves, Launching and Distribution of energy efficient cooking stoves and Tree planting

#### Sensitization to Schools

GERI embarked on sensitization exercise to two schools in Makurdi: St Catherine Primary



School Makurdi and Holy Family Primary School Kanshio. The pupils were enlightened on the need for peace in the society, the need to tackle climate change now as it is prone to affect the peace of the world in the nearest future if not well tackled. The pupils were also exposed to the concept of climate change, causes of climate change, its effects on the environment and how to tackle climate Change. A total of 120 Pupils were reached (64 females, 56 males). Twelve trees were planted at the end of the sensitization exercise by representatives of schools and the pupils. Selected

pupils were assigned to each tree and charged with the responsibility of nurturing the trees to maturity

#### Training on the Production of Energy Efficient Cooking Stoves

GERI with technical Support from the Global Environment Facility(GEF)- Small Grant Programme (SGP) organized a Two-Day Practical Hands-on Training on the production of



energy efficient cooking stoves at IDP Camp Daudu 1 in Guma LGA , Benue State from 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> October 2019. These IDPs were displaced by the herdsmen/farmers conflict over natural environment in Benue State. They were chosen in appreciation of the hardship in sourcing for energy for cooking which has made them clear the available trees around their camps. These energy efficient stoves consume less firewood and will reduce the number of trees cut down. The IDPS were selected by household and had 100 households represented (70 Females, 30 Males) living each participant to produce one stove. The energy efficient cooking stove had a steel material as the base, and clay was sourced from a neighbouring community with the IDPs bringing water and Mortar for pounding the clay to reach a smooth texture for moulding.

### Launch and Distribution of Energy Efficient Cooking Stoves

GERI organized a ceremony to further enlighten the IDPs on the importance of peaceful coexistence and the need to climate change. The ceremony attendance representatives Funders: Global Environment Small Grant Programme (GEF-SGP), government: the First Lady Benue State, Planning Commission, of Water Resources and Environment, Civil Society Organisation: CSO- Benue, GHOLEF, ECCAI, ASF, GECOME, GTM., Traditional



mitigate had in from the Facility- Nigeria Office of Ministry

Council: Acting TyoorMbawar, Youth Association: Youth Leader and Women Association (Women Leader) Good will messages were delivered by guests and IDPs motivate to also use the stoves as a means of livelihood by making and selling and also teaching others on how to make them. 100 stoves were shared among the beneficiaries of the programme

### GOVERNANCE

Governance be it formal or informal is paramount to the growth of every nation or association. Being one of our thematic areas, GERI participated actively as a CSO in this year's general election. This was done through active participation in stakeholders meeting with INEC along other CSOs for the conduct of a free and fair election in





the state and Nigeria at large. GERI also facilitated mobilization of observers for the Nigerian civil society situation room for both the Presidential/National Assembly election and the Gubernatorial/State Assembly race. This had observers in the 23 Local Government Areas reporting on the day of the election to the situation room

GERI also joined GEcome and other CSOs with technical support from Search for Common Ground to organize a peaceful rally to promote peace during the gubernatorial elections in the state. This had over 122 persons comprising of 52 females and 70 males in attendance. The following achievements were also recorded:

- i. A total number of 3149 bulk SMS were sent to youth to enlighten them on non-violent elections
- ii. A large number of audience covering 9km were sensitized on non-violent elections
- iii. A total number of 4015 persons were reached during the social media engagement
- iv. A peace agreement was signed with the Sarki Hausa Wa of Wadata for commitment to peace and violence free election

## **Women and Youth Empowerment**

### **Internship/ Mentorship Programme**

Knowledge they say is power and who ever is armed with the right information can conquer the world. With this, GERI commenced an Internship/Mentorship Programme for youths within Benue State who are interested in development work but do not have a platform to practice. The programme had 12 Interns who were selected from applications submitted in response to the call made for Interns by GERI on Facebook. A total of 26 applications were received 12 Females, 14 males. A total of 15 Interns were shortlisted 7 Females 8 Males. The programme Commenced on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at GERI premises. The 12 Interns who successfully completed their programme received training/mentorship in Programme design/Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation, Resource Mobilization, Proposal Writing. They were also introduced to all the thematic areas of the organization and operations within the NGO setting. The programme was highly participatory and practical as they also did hands-on practical on activity planning and implementation. The programme duration was two months (August- September).



## **Reproductive/Family Health**

### **Breast cancer awareness**



GERI partnered with Medical Women Association Benue State Chapter on the wear it pink campaign to create awareness on breast cancer. The activity was in form of an awareness walk and a symposium. The awareness walk began from the Tito gate restaurant with a brief stopover at

strategic points to talk to people about breast cancer using a sound system to ensure a wide spread of the information. The walk also served as a means of exercise for all participants as exercise is a means of reducing the risk of contracting breast cancer. The awareness walk got the attention of individuals that needed to confirm the signs and symptoms mentioned and they needed to check medically to determine their status. At the symposium, Individuals that were present at the activity that needed to be checked and examined for any sign of breast cancer were examined and counseled appropriately with experts on ground to render further assistance to such individuals.

## CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building is an important aspect of development work as team members obtain, improve and retain skills, knowledge, tools, equipment and other resources needed to deliver efficiently on the job. In this regard, GERI participated in the following trainings:

**i. Training on Building Potentials for Project Management Capacity:** These capacity building sessions were organized by AyatutuKa Se Foundation from 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> January and from 31<sup>st</sup> January-2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019. The aim of the capacity building was to train CSOs as potential partners for the following reasons:

- Partnering for the purpose of funding, program implementation and service delivery as well as referrals and technical support
- Partnering for the purpose of increasing and sustaining the impact of the work and outcomes already achieved.
- Partnering to reduce duplication as well as to provide useful linkages with other organizations.
- Partnering for the reason of acquiring skills, resources, experience and influence. The training was timely as it set the pace for improved planning, decision making and programme implementation of activities for the year.



**ii. ToT on Menstrual Hygiene Management:** The training is first of its kind in Nigeria. It housed about 80 participants from across the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria drawn from various fields of endeavor. It is established that menstrual hygiene issues are interwoven. It is also noted that menstrual hygiene issues needs corroboration. It is graphically encapsulated that menstrual hygiene issues are all embracing more so that menstrual issues have no defined field.





UNICEF and United Purpose. The first lady of Benue state Dr Eunice Erdoortom declared the event open.

Dr Eunice Ortom was made the pioneer leader on Menstrual Hygiene Management nationwide. She promised to liaise with the wives of other Governors in the country to rise up in addressing the challenges girls and women face during the periods of menstruation. The commissioner for Women Affairs, Benue state also created time for the event.

The training witnessed participatory interaction, group works, Laboratory tent lectures on Menstrual Hygiene Management and field practice for participants in two communities of IKPAYONGO in Gwer East Local Government Area of Benue state.

In Benue state, Dr Eunice Ortom promised to liaise with traditional leaders, church leaders and local government authorities in the state to help break the silence about menstrual hygiene management and address menstrual hygiene issues. She organized a dinner party at the end of the training for participants at Government House Benue State.

In the end, the training hoped to meet the desires and unvoiced feelings of most young, abled and disabled females in Nigeria who are suffering or might have suffered in silence of this menstrual hygiene management phenomenon. The following were therefore brought to bear. The training assessed key concepts and concerns including sex and gender, gender roles, gender relations, gender inequality and patriarchy as well as Equality, discrimination, stigma and rights, particularly human rights to water and sanitation were explored on day one. Day two identified inequalities, stigma and discrimination in the course of human life particularly as it affect women in WASH sector and proffered suggestions to enhance impressive



The National Coordinator Dr Priscilla M Achakpa secured not only the attention and services of experts in the field of menstrual hygiene but also their physical presence. Master trainers/Facilitators were drawn from Geneva, Kenya and Malawi, prominent among them are Virginia Kamowa(PHD),Irene AjurGai,NevilleOkaro,DeepaShakya and AsayireKapire.In addition, the Federal Ministries of Women Affairs, Health, Environment and Water Resources, Finance, Education ,Justice etc as well as the media, and Non-Governmental Organizations braced up and graced the event. Partners present included WSSCC,

improvement in the near future. This include breaking the silence, safe and hygienic management and safe disposal of sanitary materials. Menstrual lab was also set up for effective discussion and demonstration of the process of menstruation. The role of men and boys in supporting Menstrual Hygiene Management in communities, educational and health institutions was highlighted along with MHM tools for people with disabilities. There was also a follow up of Yammer and other social media channels as efforts to create more awareness on MHM. At the end of the training, participants were tasked to step down the training in their various geopolitical zones. Federal Ministry of Women Affairs was made a coordinating unit with other ministries assisting.

### ***Local/National Networking Partners***

Climate and Sustainable Development Network (CSDevNET)  
Benue State Environmental and Sanitation Authority (BENSESA)  
Benue Humanitarian Actors Forum  
Nigeria Working Group on Armed Violence (NWGAV)  
Society for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN)  
Benue Non-Governmental Organisation Network (BENGONET)  
Nigeria Network of NGOs (NNANGO)  
Eunice Spring of Life Foundation (ESLF)  
Women's Right to Education Programme (WREP)  
Gender and Community Empowerment Initiative (GECOME)  
Welfare Quarters Youth Association, Makurdi  
Sevhage Literary and Development Initiative

### ***International Networking Partners***

Global Alliance Against Terrorism (GAAT)  
Gender and Climate Change Network  
Women Environmental Programme (WEP)

### **Human Resource Development/Project Activity Meetings and Events Attended**

The following are capacity building trainings, workshops and meetings attended by staff/volunteers in 2019

- Building potentials for Project management capacity organized by Ayatutuka se foundation from 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019 and from 31<sup>st</sup> Jan-1<sup>st</sup>feb, 2019
- Rural sanitation and hygiene promotion in Nigeria(RUSHPIN)LGA stakeholders meeting for an open defecation free LGA organized by United Purpose.16<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019
- NEWSAN preparation of work plan in Makurdi Benue State organized by NEWSAN. 18<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019
- Fellowship programme for women in Climate change organized by PACJA. 24<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2019
- Coalition emergency meeting with foreign observers organized by Benue Coalition of CSOs. 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2019
- INEC expanded stakeholders Forum organized by INEC. 12<sup>th</sup> feb,2019
- A one- day stakeholder consultative Forum in Benue State at Hally days Hotel and resorts Makurdi organized by Women, Peace and Security programme in Nigeria. 11<sup>th</sup> feb,2019

- Town Hall Meeting for Peace for the supplementary elections in Benue State organized by National Peace Commission, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.
- Advocacy meeting with Nigerian Health Watch organized by Nigerian Health Watch. 27<sup>th</sup> March
- Pre localization mission meeting with CSOs in Jos, 25<sup>th</sup> March
- ToT on breaking barriers of Menstrual Hygiene Management organized by WSSCC from 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> March, 2019
- Stakeholder's conference on our seeds, our foods and biosafety organized by Health of mother Earth Foundation. 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2019
- Coalition of CSOs General meeting organized by Benue Coalition of CSOs. 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2019
- Step Down Training of MHM organized by GERI, GECOME, WEP. 6-8<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- Inauguration into the Climate Change committee organized by Ministry of Environment and Water Resources. 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- Training on proposal writing organized by Ayatutuka se Foundation. 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- MHM day celebration at Salam Progressive Academy Wadata organized by GERI in partnership with WEP. 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- MHM step down training at EDF organized by Benue Coalition of CSOs. 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- MHM training at IDP Camp Ugba organized by Benue Coalition of CSOs. 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2019
- National Post –COP24 Consultative Workshop at Henrich Boll Foundation Hall, Jabi Abuja organized by CSDevNET and PACJA. 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2019
- Gender and Protection Mainstreaming in Humanitarian Action at Benue Hotels organized by United Nations Human Rights. 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2019
- Training on Monitoring and Evaluation at GERI Office organized to Training on Monitoring and Evaluation at GERI Office. 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2019
- Stakeholders Meeting on sustainability of the Safe Spaces organized by UNPA 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2019
- One- Day High Level Dialogue session on Peace and Preventing Violent Extremism in Benue State organized by Women Environmental Programme at Doo Palace Makurdi. 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2019
- Benue Youth Peace Rally 2019 organised by Women Environmental Programme 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 at IBB Square to Smile view Hotel Makurdi.
- One Day Consultation on Gender and Climate Change Action Plan for Nigeria organized by Women Environmental Programme at Brooksville Hotel Lokogoma Abuja FCT. 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2019
- One Day Donor Conference organized by Civil Society Organisations Benue (CSO-B) at Hally Days Hotel and Resort Makurdi. 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.
- Two Day Training of Women and Girls on Conflict Early Warning Response organized by UNWomen at MT Square Makurdi Benue State. 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> December, 2019.