



## CYCN FEBRUARY REPORT

Date: March 1, 2021

### SUMMARY:

CYCN has confirmed a total of 38 National and Deputy National Coordinators. Regional Coordinators and Committee Chairs by the end of February 2021. CYCN also moved to establishing committees of which 120 members expressed an interest in joining 1 or 2 committees. The network has been engaged in a number of multi-national projects, and members will be representing the network at the various forums and conferences to come.

### MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- CYCN Celebrated World Wetland Day
- CYCN confirmed 21 National Coordinators, and 17 Deputy National Coordinators.
- CYCN Committee Groups established.

**HIGHLIGHT:** CYCN Nigeria conducted their elections using a very organized and systematic process led by Ibrahim Moshood (Electoral Umpire), Amos Paul Bidoli, Nwoha Solomon, Michael Ameh and Miss Chidumebi Judith [*See Appendix 4*]

### BREAKDOWN:

DATE	ACTIVITY/PROJECT	REPRESENTATIVE (S)	DETAILS
Tuesday, February 2, 2021	World Wetlands Day Video	1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)	Video created using CANVA with Wetland ecosystem in backdrop and modern afro-beat as overlay music. Video was shared on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter by CYCN Official pages and members personal accounts amounting to over 10,000 engagements on social media.
Friday, February 5, 2021	Member Highlight Form	1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)	This form was created to capture information from CYCN members for showcasing the work of our

			members on social media platforms.
Tuesday, February 6, 2021	Reviewed Grant Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Isaac Timilehin (CYCN Nigeria)</li> <li>2. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)</li> </ol>	Isaac submitted a grant proposal for the National Project “Recycle to Educate (R2E)” to CYCN for technical review. The project is geared towards environmental conservation using a circular economic model approach. Proposal was reviewed and comments made to improve its quality and feasibility. <i>[See Appendix 1]</i>
Tuesday, February 9, 2021	TOR for National Coordinators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)</li> <li>2. Ms. Aurelia Bruce (Commonwealth Secretariat)</li> </ol>	Terms of Reference (TOR) for National Coordinators developed, reviewed and approved. The TOR included description of role, summary of duties, and requirements. <i>[See Appendix 3]</i>
Wednesday, February 10, 2021	Call and Selection of National Coordinators	CYCN Members	Members of all 30 Countries represented in the network were invited to nominate/elect their National Coordinator. The process was finalized after a week.
Thursday, February 18, 2021	CYCN Nigeria	<p>CYCN Nigeria Members</p> <p><b>Executives:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)</li> <li>2. Mr. Anjorin Oluwatobi (CYCN National Coordinator Nigeria)</li> </ol>	Mr. Anjorin Oluwatobi, newly elected National Coordinator of CYCN Nigeria, called a meeting with CYCN Nigeria members. The meeting was introductory, and each member shared their background and how they will be able to play a role in the CYCN. CYCN Coordinator, Ms. Leneka Rhoden, welcomed the team and shared her expectations of the national network.
Wednesday, February 24, 2021	CPAUK - COMSEC (CYCN) Meeting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator)</li> <li>2. Mr. Sushil Ram (Programme Manager, CYP)</li> </ol>	The primary reason of the meeting was to discuss the participation of CYCN in CPAUK. CYCN will be represented by two members

		3. Emma Hansen, (UK Parliament)	in a Roundtable Discussion at the Forum, and two members will also be highlighted for their work in the field of the environment and climate action.
Thursday, February 25, 2021	CYCN Grenada	1. Ms. Leneka Rhoden (CYCN Coordinator) 2. Raheem Smith (CYCN Grenada)	The meeting was an introductory meeting. Mr. Smith wanted to understand more about the work of the CYCN and how he can play a role. Mr. Smith shared his passion for Climate Change and Climate Education, and expressed a interest in being involved in CYCN Climate Edu projects.
Thursday, February 25, 2021	CYCN Committees	CYCN Members	Committee Members were selected for the following committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects, Events and Competitions</li> <li>• Policy and Advocacy</li> <li>• Communications and Public Relations</li> <li>• Partnerships and Engagements</li> <li>• Participation and Grassroots Engagements</li> </ul>

### SOCIAL MEDIA PROGRESS REPORT

Facebook	3,417 Likes, 3,518 Followers
Instagram	41 Followers
Twitter	17 Followers

### UPCOMING FOR MARCH:

Meeting with National Coordinators	Saturday, March 6, 2021 5PM GMT/ 12noon EST Microsoft Teams
Video for Commonwealth Day	To be Published on Social Media on March 8, 2021

CYCN Committees Meeting	TBD
Schedule Member Highlight Posts	First Post- Week of March 8
Participation in Youth Climate Dialogue (Tanzania)	Youth Climate Dialogue will be a series of meetings of various stakeholders such as Government leaders, Political parties, NGOs, Scientists, Youth, Civil Society and Business Men. 200 people will be trained in climate change based on the causes, impacts, vulnerability and response. CYCN Coordinator will make a presentation alongside the CYCN National Coordinator of Tanzania.
Participation in CPAUK - COMSEC	March 22-24
Participation in Stop Ecocide (Nigeria)	<p>The project seeks to engage more than 500 youths in Nigeria in learning about the climate crisis, develop a solution for an issue they are passionate about and take action to lead real, powerful environmental change in their communities e.g Tree Planting, Plastic recycling. CYCN Coordinator, Ms. Leneka Rhoden, will present on the following at the specified dates and times:</p> <p>Topics: What is Climate Change? What is the causes of climate change? How can I get involved in the climate change action? Who are Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network (CYCN) and what are they doing to address climate change and other environmental issues, and advocate on climate change? How can I become an Earth protector?</p> <p>Date: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, March, 2021 Time: 10:00 pm Prompt (WAT) [See Appendix 2]</p>
Annual One Young World Bath Caucus	<p>Date: 7 March 2021.</p> <p>The Caucus will be centred around the theme: unity and the power to create positive change. Throughout the day, there will be speakers, panellists and interactive workshops addressing issues surrounding the Sustainable Development Goals – Reduced Inequalities, Good Health &amp; Wellbeing and Climate Action.</p> <p>Invitees: CYCN Members</p>
Increase Social Media Presence	<p><b>Target:</b> Facebook: 3,500 Likes Instagram: 100 Followers Twitter: 50 Followers</p>

## **APPENDIX:**

## RECYCLE TO EDUCATE (R2E)

Isaac Oloruntimilehin

Ilorin, Nigeria

*SDG 11 and target 6. By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management.)*



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project aims to conserve the environment and bring about a circular economy, where funds raised from the exchange of recycling waste materials would be used to sponsor children to school, thereby promoting SDG 11 (environmental sustainability in our cities) and SDG 4 (quality education among the indigent population).

The project is using social impact to advance the sustainable development goals in the city of Ilorin by implementing a waste to wealth program, where the funds raised from recycling will be used to support the education of indigent children among the vulnerable population in Ilorin City.

Plastic waste and pollution poses a great threat to the environment, ecosystem and planet. Thus this project arose out of the need to promote sustainable consumption, promote a circular economy, prevent environmental degradation and provide quality education to indigent children in our community.

Some of the activities to be implemented during this project include:

- The setting up of a volunteer working group and an advisory committee for the project
- Mapping out the city into various zones and districts
- Setting up collection points within each district/zone
- Assigning volunteers as coordinators for each district/zone
- Securing partnerships with corporate organizations and business entities by setting up collection points and reducing waste generated
- Advocacy campaigns via social media, mass media (radio) and walks to markets, religious centres and other public places to promote the project
- Weekly collation of waste from all the collection points

## CONTEXT

In recent times KWMC and KWEPA has been facing many challenges such as coping with the huge amount of solid waste generation, high operation and maintenance costs, accessibility challenges and proper disposal of collected wastes. Another major challenge is inadequate funding from the State Government which hinders the efficiency and effectiveness of the operations of this agencies.

There exists some formal and informal waste operators in the city who collect waste from door-to-door and neighbourhoods. But the greatest challenge of all, is lack of a comprehensive broad based policy statement on waste management in the city that is in tandem with current realities of urbanization, modern technology and population explosion.

This project would be primarily implemented by a team of volunteers and coordinators. The coordinators are co-founders of the project who are undergraduate students at the University of Ilorin and residents in Ilorin city, while the volunteers will be recruited to ensure that the waste collection points are monitored and that the waste is delivered to the processing point. There will also be an awareness campaign to encourage people to drop off their waste at our waste collection points. We will be securing partnership with relevant institutions, organisations, corporate bodies and business entities to supply us with their waste materials. The initiative will be partnering with Vicfolds recyclers and Kam Aluminum to recycle the waste materials into reusable materials.

Some non-governmental stakeholders that contribute to a cleaner environment in Ilorin city includes Pick That Trash, Plogging Nigeria and Vicfold Recyclers. While, Sponsor a Beske Child, Yattir Scholarship Initiative are some of the initiatives promoting quality education for indigent children.

## STATEMENT OF NEED

With increasing urbanization in Nigeria, waste management is a major global issue that countries face daily. The overproduction of waste has been causing negative impacts on our environment, hence the need to convert this waste into usable materials.

One out of every five of the World's out-of-school children is in Nigeria and there exists over 11 million out of school children, which is equal to the population of Portugal. (UNICEF Nigeria)

Nigeria was recently declared as the World poverty capital by the Brookings Institute. Thus, there is a need to tackle this menace, by promoting quality education among the indigent population.

In the city of Ilorin, Nigeria, there exists a problem of out of school children hawking wares on the streets during school period which exposes them to social vices and various forms of juvenile delinquencies. This is as a result of the limited financial resources to sponsor formal education of this children, thus resulting in high level of illiteracy.

According to the World Literacy Foundation (2012), the cost of illiteracy to the global economy is estimated at USD \$1.19 trillion. The effects of illiteracy are very similar in developing and developed countries. This includes illiterate people trapped in a cycle of poverty with limited opportunities for employment or income generation and higher chances of poor health, turning to crime and dependence on social welfare or charity.

Thus this initiative arose out of the need to promote sustainable consumption, promote a circular economy, prevent environmental degradation and provide quality education to indigent children in our community.

Until the advent of the SDGs, NGO's played a limited role in promoting environmental sustainability and access to quality education. In November 2019, AREAi and Ecowarriors partnered together to build alternative community learning centers in under resourced communities in Katampe in the federal capital territory of Nigeria by raising over 300,000 plastic bottles.

This initiative would reduce plastic pollution in the environment and promote quality education in under resourced communities in Katampe. The plastics would be used in building the learning centers at a cheaper rate.

## SOLUTION IDEATION

The solution adopted by this project is centered on sustainability which discourages linear economy model, hereby adopting the circular economic model.

Adopting a circular economy would deliver benefits such as reducing pressure on the environment, reducing pollution, improving the security of the supply of raw materials, increasing competitiveness, stimulating innovation, boosting economic growth, creating jobs and generally promoting a productive economy.

This project aims to tackle the problem of environmental degradation and poor education in Nigeria, leveraging on the large quantity of waste generated with poor disposal and management procedures. These wastes would be converted to reusable resources to generate funds to support education among indigent citizens. This in turn has ripple effects on the economy of the Nation by increasing individual's employ-ability rate, literacy level and income of citizens who are beneficiaries of this project.

Recycle to Educate (R2E) is a relatively new self-sustaining social enterprise and not for profit project in Ilorin city, Kwara State, Nigeria that would not totally rely on donations in providing quality education to indigent children in Nigeria. It is the first initiative in the state to incorporate recycling, education and sustainability in promoting a decent environment, literacy and a productive economy. However most recycling projects in Nigeria are concerned with the recycling of plastics, we intend to recycle other materials such as glass bottles, paper, fabric, aluminium cans etc.

This project would be primarily implemented by a team of volunteers.

Some of the potential partners include:

- Pick That Trash
- Plogging Nigeria
- Vicfold Recyclers
- Sponsor a Beske Child Initiative
- Yattir Scholarship Initiative
- Commonwealth Youth Climate Network
- United Nations Development Programme
- Young African Leaders Initiative (Kwara Hub)
- Kwara State Ministry of Environment

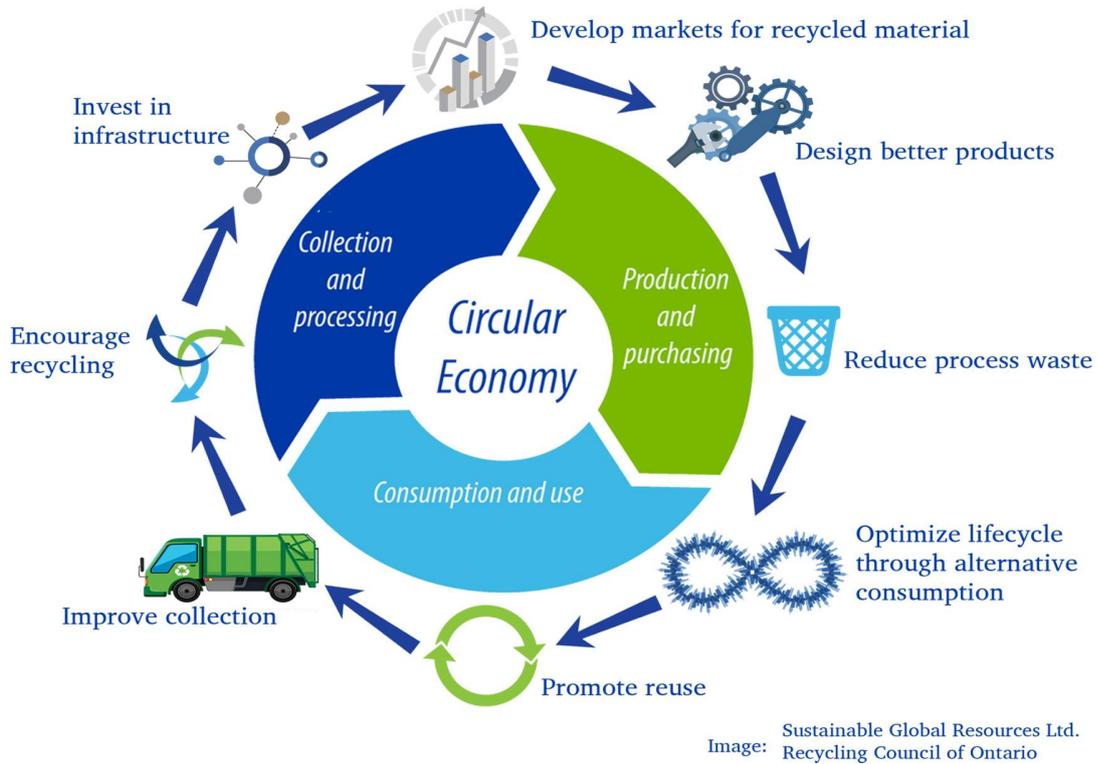


Figure 1: The concept of Circular Economy in Plastic recycling



Figure 2: Waste collection point in Freiburg, Germany

## ACTIVITIES

The activities to be implemented during this project include:

- The setting up of a volunteer working group and an advisory committee for the project
- Mapping out the city
- Setting up collection points within each district/zone
- Assigning volunteers as coordinators for each district/zone
- Securing partnerships with corporate organizations and business entities by setting up collection points and reducing waste generated
- Advocacy campaigns via social media, mass media (radio) and walks to markets, religious centres and other public places to promote the project
- Weekly collation of waste from all the collection points

## DURATION and MILESTONES

This project would run for an initial period of twelve months from January to December 2021. However the timeline of this project is highly flexible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

S/N	Activities	Timelines
1.	Setting up the working group	December 2020
2.	Awareness	January 2021
3.	Volunteer recruitment	January 2021
4.	Advocacy campaigns and visit to communities, market and public places	February 2021
5.	Monthly collation of recyclables	March – November 2021
6.	Organizing a symposium/workshop/review	December 2021

## INDICATOR of ACHIEVEMENTS

- Achieving a citywide coverage for the project
- Recruiting volunteers for the projects
- Securing funding to offset the cost of logistics and support other miscellaneous expenses
- Collecting at least 50 tonnes (50,000 Kg) of plastics in the first three months
- Securing partnership with corporate entities, NGO's, CBO's and FBO's
- Promoting the recycling culture in Ilorin city, by increasing the quantity of waste recycled
- Securing a statement and commitment from the government and waste management agencies
- Organising a workshop/symposium/summit where stakeholders can come together and chart the way forward for sustainable waste management
- Establishing a recycling firm (social enterprise)

## STRATEGIC APPROACH & BENEFICIARIES

The approach to this project is one centred on citizen participation, as all members of the community will be sensitised on the benefits of the project and the various roles they can play to make it a successful and sustainable one. This approach has been tried and tested by various projects and initiatives which has resulted in a lots of success. The AREAi educate in bottles project has successfully built schools for underserved rural communities in Nigeria's Federal capital territory through active support from the communities.

The approach is a suitable one as it requires every member of the community to actively participate and support it, in order for it to be successful project. The project needs to collect the largest amount of waste that can be recycled in order to raise funds to support the education of children and also to set up a sustainable waste management system.

This approach will help the communities to be clean, sustainable, safe and also help to bridge the inequality within the communities by educating indigent children of school age.

The beneficiaries of this project are the vulnerable communities in the low income and high density area of the city. This areas are mostly overlooked, neglected, and unserved/underserved by government agencies, thus the project has a greater benefit to the community as they are disadvantaged already. This project also offers opportunity to fund the education of indigent children in this communities, thus giving them a better chance at life.

Finally, this project will help to protect the natural environment in this communities, as bad practices like open burning of waste, disposing of refuse into waterways and dumping of waste in public places will be put to an end.

## IDEA PROTOTYPE

The prototype for this project would involve setting up a working committee (made up of individuals with a track record of social impact, non-profit strategy, environmental action, sustainable development and community building) between now and December 2019 to identify a community for the test run of the project.

The committee will then proceed to a community to establish a relationship and hold a town hall meeting on what the project is set to achieve and how it would be beneficial to the community, potential stakeholders in the community will be identified as well.

Resources needed and resources available would also be identified and taken stock of, while potential sponsors and supporters would also be contacted and brought on board for the project implementation in the community.

The critical assumptions of the project that needed to be tested with the community include:

- Would the communities be interested in letting the resources/funds earned from recycling be used to train school children or they prefer to keep the funds to themselves?
- Do they generate sufficient amount of waste that would be financially viable to recycle?
- Would they be willing to learn to upcycle waste materials in order to raise funds for themselves?
- Would they be willing to sort the various types of waste that they generate?
- Would weekly collation of waste from all the collection points be possible?

## COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

The target group of this project are underserved communities in term of waste management and vulnerable out of school children in Ilorin City, Kwara State. However, all citizens are also targeted as there would be a call to proper collection, disposal and management of waste in the city, but funds raised from recycling drives would be used to offset costs incurred and to sponsor the education of indigent children.

There is a need for communities to support the vision of educating their children, while support from the recycling companies is also critical to the success of the project. Corporate organisations, businesses, schools also have a major role to play as they could help reach out to more people and also set up waste collection points at their various locations, while also practicing effective use of resources.

Social media would be used in combination with traditional media such as newspapers, radios and television stations. This will ensure that no one or group is excluded by any means of communication.

There will be mass sensitization through community outreaches to the various communities to explain to them the concept of sustainable development and the various roles they could play. There could also be webinars, focus group discussions, surveys, talk shows on radio and TV to achieve this as well.

Communication will be done on a regular basis through the various platforms and channels as well as with the various stakeholders involved in this project on the progress, key milestones, partnerships and achievements made during the implementation of the project.

There would be an announcement for the official commencement of the project/campaign, while a call for applications for volunteers and working group members will also be made. This first steps are very crucial to the completion of this project.

There would be advocacy campaigns on social media, traditional media and also in the various communities, this is necessary to the functioning of the intents of the project which is promote proper waste management and recycling as well as the education of indigent out of school children.

There would be communications on the mode of waste collection, pickup points, recycling procedure and payment as well as the frequency of collection of recyclables.

Towards the end of the project, there would be communications towards hosting a workshop/ symposium to get feedback towards making the process and procedure better.

## RESOURCE ASSESSMENT AND BUDGETING

S/N	NEEDS	BUDGET	SOURCES
1.	Partnerships with businesses, organisations, markets, communities and schools.	Not applicable	Ilorin city
2.	Logistics, rentals, travel and equipment	\$1,500	Donors and partners
3.	Advocacy and campaign	\$500	Donors and partners
4.	Organizing a symposium/workshop/review	\$1,000	Donors and partners
6.	Volunteers and human resources	Not applicable	Ilorin city

The project will require approximately three thousand US Dollars (\$3,000) to offer a minimum viable product.

Getting additional funding would ensure that the continuity of the project is assured and the possible establishment of a social enterprise tackling the problem of poor waste management practices and providing funding to support the education of indigent out of school children in Ilorin city. The possibility of hosting public discussions in form of workshops and symposium is also assured if additional funding is secured.

### FUNDRAISING AND VALUE PROPOSITION

This project is very unique in the sense that it promotes environmental protection, circular economy, public health, combats climate change and promotes illiteracy of indigent out of school children in vulnerable communities in Ilorin city. The project intends to primarily raise funds from waste collected and recycled. Supporting this project with donations in form of funds, human resources and logistics would ensure that the project is able to make impact on a large scale and have a wider reach.

The project is led by young urban leaders and a fellow of the local pathways of class 2020, who has been exposed to training and innovations from urban experts from all around the world. This project has been able to identify stakeholders and interested parties who are pivotal to the success of the project.

This project would be advancing the sustainable development goals in Ilorin city and supporting/investing in this project would help hasten the actualisation of the goals, whilst also ensuring that young children are educated and have a better chance at life and breaking out of the vicious intergenerational cycle of poverty by investing in their human capital through this project.

## APPENDIX

Only one of the stakeholders has responded so far; a staff at Vicfold recyclers (the leading recycling company in Ilorin city) made some recommendations to the project proposal. The recommendations include:

- Using digital technology (a mobile app) to highlight and show collection points in the various districts across the city to make waste collection easier.
- Advocating to residents to sort their waste.
- Carrying out collection campaigns in specific seasons to further promote the campaign and to increase the amount of waste collected.
- Reaching out to other similar project organisers who have implemented similar projects in other cities across Nigeria.



## REFERENCES

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3. Chen C.C. (2010), A performance evaluation of MSW management practice in Taiwan, Resources, Conservation and Recycling, 54, 1353-1361.
4. Education in Nigeria <https://www.unicef.org/nigeria/education>
5. Illiteracy and Unemployment: A Global Crisis  
<https://www.worldliteracyfoundation.org/unemployment-global-crisis>
6. Circular economy: solutions for a sustainable future  
<https://www.solarimpulse.com/circular-economy-solutions>
7. <https://twitter.com/Educ8InBottles>

## MY PROJECT

**Your name:** Anyanwu Joseph

**Is this an original project or will you expand upon an existing project?** *I will be expanding on an existing project.*

**Project title:** *Stop Ecocide*

**Goal:** Teaching Youths about Climate change in the communities, Churches and Schools.

**Project location:** Nigeria.

### **Brief project description (Under 250 words):**

The goal of my project is to teach, encourage youths in schools and communities to learn about the climate crisis, develop a solution for an issue they are passionate about and take action to lead real, powerful environmental change in their communities. I will create a local and stakeholders around the communities to plan for change and achieve goals aimed at addressing climate change and ecosystem destruction. It will assist all efforts to shift into regeneration. It will assist in changing the legal and thus also policy environment where all this takes place. I will be reaching out directly to different communities in order to have their input and see if they want to collaborate altogether.

Engaging more than 500 youths in one community in learning about the climate crisis, develop a solution for an issue they are passionate about and take action to lead real, powerful environmental change in their communities e.g Tree Planting, Plastic recycling, Ocean clean up and others will immensely in helping the world to meet climate change targets. It will help in limiting global warming below 2 degrees pre industrial level. It helps a transformative shift in thinking among people. It also helps reawaken our consciousness to a sustainable behavioural change. It helps send message that our way of living sends a corrupt signal and Stop Ecocide will help us just change that.

### **Motivation (why does this project matter?)**

It matters to me because I want to put an end to the rates in damage and destruction to the Earth and its inhabitants should stop. It will be used in as evidence that youths are not acting to cause harm but to prevent our Planet. When science is telling us that Our Planet is in trouble, and we want to protect our people and planet, then using this right is both justified and necessary. I think teaching youths about climate crisis and how to take action is the way to do that as it would allow Youths to learn about climate crisis and understand why it matters on so many levels, especially sustainable wise. Youths have prioritized the environment and we could really teach them and work with them by letting them do the decision-making when it comes to Climate change. My goal is to have future generations with mindset and expectation of the ability to take initiatives and create positive climate change. I will train more volunteers and collaborate with other young active minds with ideas, innovations and talents within and outside my network to help move forward my project to the next level.

### **What specific solution(s) are you seeking? What activities will you be performing.**

**I will be** contacting various Indigenous communities around Rivers State in order to set up a plan for reform and have their assistance, if possible, and work as it is their culture and history. I will then, once I have reached out to the various communities and gotten far into curriculum planning with them, be discussing what to send to policy makers and schools around the province. I will be collecting documents to mail and email to a list of contacts while also making a social media page, TV show and Radio Station talk (shared with my contacts from various Indigenous communities) for my project in order to get public attention and support as well.

## MY PROJECT

**Please provide a project timeline. Include the objectives in the timeline.**

S/n	Description	Date started	Completion
1	October – December 2020: Contacting communities, outreach, and meetings and planning.	23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Completed.
2	January 2021: Finishing up curriculum, data, letters and documents to provide and send to policy makers, communities and schools. Making social media promotion on the side and reaching out to news outlets in order to get our project out in the public.	12 <sup>th</sup> January	Completed
3	February 2021: Recruiting More volunteers	14 <sup>th</sup> January	Completed
4	March 2021: Climate Youth Training, Empowerment, Campaigns and tree Planting exercise with learners and volunteers	1 <sup>st</sup> March	Starting soon

### **What are the major challenges you foresee needing to overcome in order for your project to be successful?**

For my project to be successful, I think outreach to the communities will be difficult as I do not have many contacts within Rivers State, and therefore will be spending a lot of time trying to figure out how to get in contact and who to reach out to. Once that is solved, I think what will be difficult as well will be getting the change to be implemented or taken into consideration. I will be giving all of the information possible; I just think outreach to policy makers and communities will not be easy. I do, however, have direct access to Okrika, Ogubolo, Ota, Eleme, Communities due to personal history with them and therefore think I will most likely start with them.

### **What SPECIFIC type of help are you seeking?**

I am seeking a couple of things, such as

- If contacts can be found or provided for various Indigenous communities leaders within the province of Rivers State, that would be super helpful.
- Funding only needed in order to carry out the project for operational cost.
- Connections to Partners, sponsors and volunteers and policy makers within Rivers State, Nigeria and around the world.

### **What change will occur because of your work?**

- School curriculum change including Climate change
- *Young people will believe in their ability to create change and will take steps towards getting engaged and involved in creating that change in their communities*
- *The environmental sector sees an uptick in youth voices, and there is an increased demand from a younger generation to be involved in decision making*
- Long term solutions are found for challenges that face communities nationally
- *Young people integrate positive environmental practices into their everyday lives and careers, and feel empowered to act on passion*
- It will allow Youths to comprehend the importance of Indigenous traditions and communities in order to help responding to Climate Change.

## MY PROJECT

### BUDGET TO COVER THE 23 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

S/N	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (\$)
1	Guidebooks	600
2	Flyers and Flex Banner	600
3	Event hall/Equipment's	700
4	Trees	1000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,900</b>

**Please list your social media channels that we can follow you on:**

- on Instagram
- @AyanwuJoseph7
- On Facebook
- Anyanwu Joseph.
- Email: [anyanwujoseph7@gmail.com](mailto:anyanwujoseph7@gmail.com)



## **COMMONWEALTH YOUTH CLIMATE CHANGE NETWORK (CYCN)**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

As the principal intergovernmental organisation of the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth Secretariat implements the collective decisions of its 54 member governments. The Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP), working with Commonwealth member governments, youth leaders and youth work professionals to develop and implement policy and programmes for the empowerment of young people. The CYP focuses on areas of major political, economic and social importance to young people, based on mandates received from Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings and the Commonwealth Secretariat Strategic Plan.

The CYP aims to support member governments, youth leaders and youth professionals to create optimal enabling environments for young people to participate as equal partners in development and democracy. The CYP also facilitates and supports representative youth leaders to build national, regional and Pan-Commonwealth networks, drive youth-led action, and have a voice in decision-making. As well as stand-alone initiatives, the CYP includes collaboration with other Commonwealth Secretariat Divisions to integrate a youth perspective across all key facets of the Commonwealth (e.g. economic, political, human rights).

### **About the Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network (CYCN)**

The Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network (CYCN) is a network of young climate leaders and youth-led organisations leading climate action. The objective of the network is to build the capacity of young people in their endeavours to address climate change and other environmental issues, advocate on climate change from a youth perspective. The scope of the network extends to environmental sustainability, oceans and marine life, natural resource utilization etc.

The CYCN supports actions that empower young people to translate climate change programmes into effective policies that have a measurable impact on youth well-being. It also links projects implemented by its members across the Commonwealth in order to develop common actions and campaigns. CYCN advocate within national and local governments, and globally as well. The Network endeavours to make climate change a top priority for young people across the Commonwealth and to engage them as key stakeholders in addressing the threat at a grassroots, national and regional level through individual and collective sustainable solutions.

### **STRUCTURE OF THE CYCN**

The Commonwealth Youth Climate Change Network (CYCN) is led by a youth team comprised of a Network Coordinator, five (5) Executive Committee members, Regional Coordinators, and Country/National Coordinators. The team meets monthly (online) to coordinate, monitor, evaluate, and track progress and achievements of their work, while engaging other young people in the Network activities.

## **NATIONAL COORDINATOR:**

The main role of the National Coordinator is to create and maintain a database of CYCN members and key stakeholders in the climate and sustainable development field within their country. A key feature of the role is to enhance engagement of members and their organizations, and to involve those young persons in the initiatives of the CYCN.

### ***Specific duties include:***

1. Oversee all the Network operational activities at Country level.
2. To drive the Implementation of Network activities/ Programs at the Country level.
3. Coordinate and maintain a database of all members and partners of the CYCN within your country.
4. Initiate creative membership drive activities and develop on-going collaborations with Regional Coordinators for that purpose.
5. Identify and connect members and or organizations to build partnerships within CYCN and create sustainable relationships between partners and members of the CYCN.
6. Coordinate with other members of the Executive on issues that may require feedback and engagement from members.
7. Develop creative initiatives and activities to engage local members and encourage their participation in CYCN.
8. Preparing and submitting monthly reports to the regional coordinator on the activities and updates from the country.
9. Maintaining network, project and member records as and where relevant.
10. Coordinate fundraising, directing, Recruiting, Training and Management of Network members in the country with close Consultation with the Regional Executives Coordinating Committee.
11. Responsible for pre-conference proceeding for Country, and ensures active participation of Network members in Network major Conferences, forum and events.
12. Establish partnership with national organisations and institutions, entrepreneurs, government and other networks within the country.

Please note that a final report is due at the end of the term of appointment.

## **DURATION OF APPOINTMENT**

The country coordinator will serve a term of one year, subject to performance reviews. The country coordinator is eligible for re-appointment as long as age and nationality criteria are met. The position is home-based, with an estimated time commitment of about 20 hours per week.

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

Candidates must be 29 years and under to be eligible; and must be a citizen of a Commonwealth country.

## **EDUCATION / EXPERIENCE**

### **The ideal candidate has:**

- An undergraduate degree in a relevant field.
- Substantial knowledge of climate science, climate change issues, environmental science, sustainable development and discussions taking place at a global level.
- At least one year of demonstrated work experience in the design and delivery of youth development and/or youth-led development projects or participation programmes related to sustainable development. The work experience may be gained through either paid employment, volunteer, placement or internship positions or a combination of the aforementioned.
- Experience establishing and maintaining productive working partnerships with designated internal and external stakeholders.

More specifically, prospective members of the CYCN Executive Committee should be able to demonstrate the following skills and competencies:

### **SKILLS**

- Demonstrated commitment to Commonwealth values;
- Excellent:
  - Leadership and diplomacy
  - Verbal and written communication skills in English;
  - Interpersonal skills;
  - Creative thinking and solution building abilities;
  - Strategic thinking and operational planning capabilities;
  - Analysis and synthesis skills; and
  - Administrative and organisational abilities, including an eye for detail.
- Experience planning and prioritizing work activities, as well as manage tight deadlines effectively.
- Ability to work autonomously and in teams, and in a multi-cultural work environment;

### **GENERAL COMPETENCIES**

- Respect for diversity
- Working with others
- Managing resources
- Decision Making
- Accountability
- Leadership and Development
- Adapting and Innovating

# **CYCN NIGERIA NATIONAL COORDINATOR CANDIDATES PROFILE**

## **CANDIDATE 1:**

**NAME:** UDOH BENSON UKPE

**LOCATION:** Akwa Ibom

**Academic Qualification(s):** Bsc (Chemistry) Certificate in Civic Leadership

**Work Experience:** Country Director of Projects (Nigeria) - Umuntu Global  
Team Leader - Solidaridad West Africa

### **Skills (top five):**

- Conflict Management / Resolution
- Innovative Design Thinking
- Team Management
- Community Mobilization
- Project Management

### **Why do you want to be the National Coordinator?**

First of all, I wish to positively contribute to the national and global climate discourse through programs and projects that will move the CYCN forward and promote the collective actions, contributions and concerns of the Nigeria chapter at the CYCN global roundtable.

I also want to be the National Coordinator in order to build collective synergy among Nigerian members towards actualizing the goals of the CYCN at both local and international levels, either through mobilizing support for individual projects or collaborations.

And lastly, I want to harness the scope, the impact and the mechanism of global climate action to the Nigeria chapter by promoting inclusion, innovation, sustainable action and collaborations among local and global members/institutions with emphasis on identifying and promoting opportunities of interest to members of CYCN in Nigeria.

**Tell us about a time you showed competency and demonstrated leadership:**

In 2018 I successfully mobilised 350 youths across Nigeria to implement a 10,000-tree planting Initiative. This project was facilitated by U&I Global, a UK-based (UN registered) youth and environmental conservation organization as part of its commitment to promoting a sustainable global environment

**Why do you consider yourself as the best candidate for this position?**

I am passionate about climate action and the prospect of mobilising and supporting Nigerian youths who I see to be proactive agents of change as well as active and intrinsic partners in the global climate discourse. I have successfully led projects that seeks to address short- and long-term climate issues. From directing and managing tree planting projects, promoting sustainable water action and also actively working in the field of environmental conversations, I have the experience, the network and the proactive leadership ability to function effectively as the National Coordinator of the CYCN Nigeria.

**Tell us about an instance you made an effective decision on a subject matter:**

As a facilitator in a community waste management campaign, my team encountered challenges of keeping the project viable after the end of our program.

My decision to promote inclusion by recruiting local community members into the team helped to make the project sustainable and effective.

**What will be your utmost priority if you become the National Coordinator?**

I'll aim to promote the visibility of CYCN in Nigeria and also create programs that will encourage capacity building among members as well as active design and execution of projects nationwide

**LinkedIn profile link:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/benson-udoh-4577aa133>

## **CANDIDATE 2:**

**NAME:** Anyanwu Joseph

**LOCATION:** Rivers State

**Academic Qualification(s):** BSc

### **Work Experience:**

An accomplished and energetic School Administrator with a solid history of achievement in teaching and school administration, a motivated administrator with strong organizational and prioritization abilities. Areas of expertise include teaching, reading and writing English, nursery education and social studies. A seasoned educator with over 7 years professional experience in resource challenged environment, displaying excellent communication and adaptability skills.

### **Skills (top five):**

- + Effective leadership and management skills, team player implementing high standards and quality in school's administration, management, and people management.
- + Competence working collaboratively, and independently giving attention to details in program evaluation, appraisal, review and report writing.
- +Excellent skills in written and spoken English language communication, including drafting and contributing inputs to communication toolkits, and press releases
- + Skilled trainer, coach, mentor and training facilitator, researcher
- +Experience using IT tools and computer skills, Microsoft Office, online editing tools.

**Why do you want to be the National Coordinator?**

I am a young climate leader and youth-led organizations leading climate action over 5 years now. I want to lead with my experience carrying out CYCN activities in Nigeria.

**Tell us about a time you showed competency and demonstrated leadership:**

I am the Director of Startup Grind Port-Harcourt (<https://www.startupgrind.com/port-harcourt/>)

Startup Grind Port Harcourt is the world's largest community of startups, founders, innovators, and creators. We bring likeminded yet diverse individuals together to connect, learn, teach, help, build, and belong. We do this through our local events, flagship conferences, startup programs, partnerships, and online media + content - collectively reaching over 3.5 million individuals worldwide.

**Why do you consider yourself as the best candidate for this position?**

I have over five years' experience leading actionable actions towards climate change. As the Ambassador of STOP Ecocide in Nigeria, I have best network of people that will join and support CYCN youth members to make more impacts in their various projects.

**Tell us about an instance you made an effective decision on a subject matter:**

As one of the Amnesty Global Youth Advisory Board Member, I join in making decision for our campaigns and country trip visiting.

**What will be your utmost priority if you become the National Coordinator?**

If I become National Coordinator my utmost priority is make sure all CYCN members receives every necessary information and support/grant to carry out their projects and also making sure using my position to bring more youths to join climate change movement.

**LinkedIn profile link:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/joseph-micheal-718826120/>

## **CANDIDATE 3:**

**NAME:** Anjorin Oluwatobi Emmanuel

**LOCATION:** Lagos

**Academic Qualification(s):** Bsc. Environmental Toxicology and Natural Resources Conservation

### **Work Experience:**

- Project Officer Cityscape Planning Services 10/2020 - Present
- Project Lead EYI\_Africa 02/2020 - 09/2020
- Project Scientist AquaEarth Consulting 12/2017 - 01/2020

### **Skills (top five):**

- Active Communication
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Environmental Monitoring and Audit
- Climate adaptation
- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

### **Why do you want to be the National Coordinator?**

I am passionate about contributing immensely to sustainability and the fight against our changing climate, especially for developing and vulnerable countries.

I have been involved in advocacy and capacity building for climate mitigation and adaptation through projects I lead, co-created, or joined. Some of which includes the

One Better World Collective where I volunteer as a liaison for Lagos state in Nigeria, advancing the SDGs through my works in combatting climate change and The African Digital Climate programme aimed at educating Africans on climate issues through digital platforms.

**Tell us about a time you showed competency and demonstrated leadership:**

Several desktop researches had shown that Africans do not have sufficient information on Climate change, although It holds some of the most vulnerable nations in the world. I created a team under an EY Initiatives programme to close this gap and lead the creation of the African Digital Climate Project, the project since its launch has reached out to a good number of people via digital platforms and have been able to work with different personnel across the globe, including Nisreen Elsaim (chairperson of the UN secretary general youth advisory group), Marie-Claire Graf (YOUNGO), Keroles Riad (Concordia University), Jack Mazingira (Kenya Initiative) among other very knowledgeable and passionate individuals.

The project framework which I put together with a team of 4 is expected to advance a major campaign this year in partnership corporate giants and international advocacy groups.

**Why do you consider yourself as the best candidate for this position?**

My experience and ambitions align well, as I have been involved in the environmental and social footprint of several projects cutting across multiple sectors in Nigeria including the energy sector, and agricultural sector, both of which are very important sectors for climate adaptation in Nigeria and Africa by extension. I am also highly skilled at stakeholder engagement, consequently, I will be able to manage local, regional and international stakeholders in the CYCN to facilitate achievement of our goals.

I am confident I would make a valuable representative for the team.

**Tell us about an instance you made an effective decision on a subject matter:**

I am of the opinion that every decision matter and should be carefully, intentionally and strategically made. In this view, I will say that I make effective decisions every single day.

One of such was during a virtual session that I hosted with one of the selected climate advisors of the UN secretary general. The Individual could not connect to the audience due to technical challenges arising from their location at the time, they could not connect via the conference network as it was not available in Sudan where they were present at that moment. It was quite bad that the only option presented was to cancel the session. Moderator had announced to the audience that the speaker couldn't reach the session due to technical challenges, that was when I decided to harness my technical knowledge base and consulted with her if she would be willing to use a VPN and if it was legal in her region. I downloaded and sent a suitable VPN app to her and we solved the problem.

Another instance where I made an effective decision is in submitting this application to be national coordinator, I strongly believe it holds so much for the Nigerian community and will be a great avenue for effective climate action.

**What will be your utmost priority if you become the National Coordinator?**

SDG17: Partnership for the goals. Nigeria does not exist in isolation, same as the CYCN team in Nigeria. I will facilitate an all-round engagement that seeks active participation with international potential partners and with local initiatives, preferably those represented on the CYCN Nigeria network.

**LinkedIn profile link:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/anjorinoluwatobi-e/>

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