



Groundswell News

Newspaper of The Go-Back Club, a Simple-Living/Action Brigade

We Are One Family. These are OUR stories: www.gobackclub.org

Our Motto: Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without.

A Celebration of Youth, Issue No. 45: December 2018

Iona's Column: Hopes and Dreams and Talent and Money



Dear Reader,

Long ago, I was talking with my friend and Milk Basket partner in Nigeria, Ekwe Chiwundu Charles, about his football (soccer) games and he told me,

“There is a lot of talent here going to waste.” And the more I learn about the amazing people in Team 54 Project, the more I keep thinking about that fact and knowing it’s true. These amazing young people whose stories are in this paper (as well as their amazing young CEO, Gbujie Daniel Chidubem) have tons of talent and much of it, or most of it, is going to waste for lack of funding.

My older readers will know that I’ve pleaded with them often for money for myself and have had very few respond. Interestingly enough, now it seems as if all I want to do is help others get the money they need to succeed.

First, there is an all-out effort to raise enough money for Team 54 Project to become an official U.S. 501(c)(3) non-profit so they can apply for large grants and tax-deductible donations. Once they are fully funded, they will be in a strong position to help others in their network, but that time hasn’t arrived yet so I keep plugging away here with my newspaper, hoping always that these young people’s dreams will touch your heart and you will get out your check-book or charge card and give as much as you can afford.

When I told my oldest friend that one of these amazing young people needed \$100 for seeds, she agreed instantly! That’s the sort of response I’m hoping these stories will elicit.

For the Earth Always,

Iona



Photo Robin Loznak/ZUMA as found in *Mother Jones* Plaintiffs in the climate change lawsuit rally outside federal courthouse in Eugene, Oregon on October 29.

Supreme Court Allows Major Climate Lawsuit to Go Ahead

Submitted by Allen Hengst
Washington DC and

Fran Staret, Philadelphia, PA (both USA)

Children are suing the
government for failing to act
on climate change. Now the
case may head to trial.

By Umair Irfan, *excerpt*
Vox: November 2, 2018

In a surprise decision late Friday, the Supreme Court cleared the way for *Juliana v. U.S.*, a major lawsuit filed by young people against the U.S. government for failing to limit the effects of climate change. The case may now go to trial in a lower court after the Supreme Court’s extremely unusual move last month to temporarily block the proceeding.

The case includes 21 plaintiffs between the ages of 11 and 22, who began testing the idea that a safe climate is a civil right when the suit was first filed in 2015. It argues that the U.S. government pursued policies that harmed the climate, thereby robbing the children of a “climate system capable of sustaining human life.”

As redress, they want the government to take action to fight climate change.

“The youth of our nation won an important decision today from the Supreme Court that shows even the most powerful government in the world must follow the rules and process of litigation in our democracy,” the plaintiffs said Friday in a statement. “We have asked the District Court for an immediate status conference to get *Juliana v. U.S.* back on track for trial in the next week.”

A lower court ruled earlier this year that the case could go to trial, and that trial was expected begin at the United States District Court in Oregon on Monday, October 29.

But then late last month, Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts issued a temporary stay of the case to consider a request from the Justice Department for a stay to halt the case. The Supreme Court’s temporary stay sent the plaintiffs scrambling to put together a brief in time to keep the case moving forward on schedule.

On Friday, the court denied the government’s request for a stay, though Justices Clarence Thomas and Neil Gorsuch would have granted the application, according to the

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What on Earth is The Go-Back Club?

A Simple-Living/Action Brigade

Our Motto: *Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without.*

Founder/Editor: Iona Conner

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Established: September 2013

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What is The Go-Back Club all about?

We want to change people's hearts. Our members live simply (or try to) so that our collective carbon footprint grows smaller and smaller every day. We are working toward a common goal of reducing our individual im-

pacts on climate change to protect future generations and all life.

Who are we trying to attract?

We hope to reach people who are concerned about global warming and realize that they are part of the problem but don't know what to do. We invite them to join our Club. Please tell your family and friends about us. They can go to www.gobackclub.org to learn more.

What are we trying to achieve?

Our members are part of the global movement of people who know that global warming is an immediate threat and who want to prevent further harm and even reverse the situation.

We look to others for inspiration.

People are "like a blind man walking randomly toward a cliff. The only thing that will save him is to go backwards." Michael Mann (GBC board member, climate scientist, member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change), told us a couple of years ago referring to tipping points on a visit to Penn State, where Mann is director of the Earth Systems Science Center

"Our life is frittered away by detail. Simplify, simplify, simplify! Simplicity of life and elevation of purpose." Henry David Thoreau

Please send me your stories and photos. I rely on our members' contributions. I'm not looking for ugly. I'm not looking for dark. I'm not looking for hatred. I'm looking for the opposites to help raise our readers' spirits. There is enough ugly and dark and hateful in the world. This newspaper provides an antidote – BEAUTY, LIGHT, LOVE. (Funny is OK, too!) Thank you for sending me your material for consideration.

Guidelines for Submissions

Please send stories directly via email to ionacconner@pa.net and include jpg photos with captions and photo credits. Don't worry about grammar or punctuation; I proofread and edit everything without changing the content.

It's very hard for me to work on Facebook, although I find many great stories there. That's why I want you to send everything to me through email. I often will ask questions on Facebook after I receive your material, but that's not how I want to receive your work initially.

Fair Use Law: <http://copyright.gov/fair-use/more-info.html>

Fair use is a legal doctrine that promotes freedom of expression by permitting the unlicensed use of copyright-protected works in certain circumstances. Section 107 of the Copyright Act provides the statutory framework for determining whether something is a fair use and identifies certain types of uses—such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching, scholarship, and research—as examples of activities that may qualify as fair use. Section 107 calls for consideration of the following four factors in evaluating a question of fair use:

(1) Purpose and character of the use, including whether the use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes: Courts look at how the party claiming fair use is using the copyrighted work and are more likely to find that nonprofit educational and noncommercial uses are fair. This does not mean, however, that all nonprofit educational and noncommercial uses are fair and all

commercial uses are not fair; instead, courts will balance the purpose and character of the use against the other factors below. Additionally, "transformative" uses are more likely to be considered fair. Transformative uses are those that add something new, with a further purpose or different character, and do not substitute for the original use of the work.

(2) Nature of the copyrighted work: This factor analyzes the degree to which the work that was used relates to copyright's purpose of encouraging creative expression. . . .

(3) Amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole: Under this factor, courts look at both the quantity and quality of the copyrighted material that was used. If the use includes a large portion of the copyrighted work, fair use is less likely to be found; if the use employs only a small amount of copyrighted material, fair use is more likely. . . .

(4) Effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work: Here, courts review whether, and to what extent, the unlicensed use harms the existing or future market for the copyright owner's original work. In assessing this factor, courts consider whether the use is hurting the current market for the original work (for example, by displacing sales of the original) and/or whether the use could cause substantial harm if it were to become widespread. . . .

Please note that the Copyright Office is unable to provide specific legal advice to individual members of the public about questions of fair use. See 37 C.F.R. 201.2(a)(3). For further information, see <https://www.copyright.gov/fair-use/more-info.html>.



Fair Use Logo

Letter from TEAM 54 Project CEO Dr. Daniel

As we prepare to end the year 2018 and leave behind the unrelenting stories of political intrigue and maneuvering happening locally and internationally, let us not forget that the IPCC report released in October gives us a clear indication of what lies ahead for mankind ecologically.

Mankind will need to rise up and fully moderate the ways it has been engaging the environment. It is obviously clear that our environment has become much more polluted and our actions as humans are primarily causing extinction of other species.

We now are fighting against time to repair the environmental damages which will soon define our socio-economic system globally.

I must commend the *Groundswell* publishers for the timely intervention of constantly putting the climate change topic out there for all to read. If we are to live a sustainable life, it must be centered around practices that can give socio-economic development without depletion of natural resources.

Hence, the reason humans must do the needful by taking climate actions and, more importantly, exploring innovative ways to integrate primary energy sources with the current technology knowledge, which will support the preservation of all natural biodiversities. It is not a tall order, humans have been through a similar threat that almost eliminated a large percentage on Earth. It was called The Great Plague, or simply the Plague, it was one of the most devastating events on Earth because it caused the deaths of 30 to 60% of Europe's total population.

The plague created a series of religious, social, and economic upheavals, as climate change is causing now, if not worse, because of the profound effects on other species.

With the plague reducing the world pop-

ulation from an estimated 450 million down to 350 to 375 million in the 14th century, mankind started working together to find and address the root cause of the deaths. They immediately succeeded and the disease was contained.

We require that same global unity to be able to address the climate change challenges. Mankind has done it before and I am hopeful we will work together to address climate change issues.

Team 54 Project and our partners believe deeply that we can meet all our earthly organizing human developmental goals, while at the same time sustaining the ability of natural systems to provide the natural resources and ecosystems for the current and future generations, if we start to sincerely address globally all our environmental challenges that climate change brings.

More than ever before we must all rise together to protect the last place we call Planet



Photo by Daniel Gbuje

Dr. Gbuje Daniel visiting the Ecopark in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA during a trip there to give a presentation.

Earth, home to the human race.

In conclusion, taking care of the environment around us will help preserve Biodiversity, which in the long run is essential to the stability of ecosystems around the world and will help mitigate climate change; hence, the need to act now.

Let's all strive to make Earth green again.

Dr. Gbuje Daniel, CEO Team 54 Project

Trial *continued from page 1*

court order. The Supreme Court also suggested that a federal appeals court should consider appeals on other grounds before the case heads to trial in district court.

Several legal analysts told Vox that the Supreme Court's temporary stay of a case in a lower court was unusual, but the action signaled that the high court is very interested in the issues at play and that the justices expect the case could have significant ripple effects.

"It reflects the unfortunate politicization of climate change," said Michael Burger, executive director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University. "[It's] such a hotly political issue that Justice Roberts feels empowered to

reach down and interfere with the normal proceedings of the courts because of that."

Now the federal government will head to court to argue that there is no constitutional right to an environment free of climate change and that the children don't have standing to make such a claim. But both sides agree that the case is not a question of the science.

"This is not an environmental case, it's a civil rights case," wrote Our Children's Trust, the nonprofit that is backing the lawsuit, in a press release. . . .

Source: <https://www.vox.com/2018/11/2/18029146/climate-change-lawsuit-children-scotus-supreme-court-juliana>

NEWS FLASH FROM OUR CHILDREN'S TRUST

November 8, 2018

Today, a panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals granted, in part, the Trump administration's motion for a temporary stay of District Court trial proceedings in *Juliana v. United States*.

The Ninth Circuit panel only placed a stay on the trial, but not discovery and trial preparations. The stay will be in place until the Ninth Circuit decides the federal defendants' petition for writ of mandamus, which was filed on Monday.

This is the federal government's TWELFTH "stay" request in the federal courts. This is the FOURTH time that the Trump administration has gone to the Ninth Circuit in this case before a final judgment is entered by the trial court, when the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals would ordinarily have jurisdiction to hear the case. They have twice petitioned the U.S. Supreme Court for early review. . . .

Letter from TEAM 54 Project Board Chair We Are A Global Family

By Matthew Bonnstetter, Serbia

I am doing my part to help our world become more balanced. I first started riding a Unicycle in the late '70s. Haven't ridden one in so long I can't even remember the last time, might have been in the '80s. I found this one for a very low price at an open market here in Novi Sad, Serbia, bought it many months ago, and finally pumped up the tire, put on a jacket for protection, and gave it a shot.

It was just like riding a bike; I was able to ride it without any assistance within minutes. The local kids and neighbors had a great time watching me and a few tried it unsuccessfully, but we had lots of laughs as they tried.

I shared a video recently called Nationalism vs. Patriotism at <https://www.facebook.com/attn/videos/1854688428172741> with this invitation, "Powerful 2-minute video that I'd recommend everyone stop and watch now. Yep, I know most people won't. Yet if they did, our world could change overnight if they watched and shared."

There will be far-left and far-right people who hate the other side for a while, I don't have a clue as to how long. I'd love it to stop now, yet it won't.

Part of the challenge we have is we don't listen to the other side, we don't listen to the extreme sides. We try and shout them down, ignore them, or try and change them, or say, "You are wrong and I am right," etc...

I am optimistic that America and our world will shift towards enough people coming together to make America Great for all of us and for the world.

We can't fight the world and win, we are the world.

What?

Yes, America is special in one way, in that we have people from almost all, if not all, countries living in America. We are the melting pot of the world. So many people have mixed blood in them in America and many don't realize they have some Black Blood, Red Blood, White Blood, and or Yellow Blood in them.

With the DNA testing scaling up, many are learning so much about their ancestors – it's wonderful. Some who thought they were all White, have Black Blood in them. That tends to stop the hatred when they learn that they are what they might have hated. Yes, some people who thought they were only from African ancestors had White Blood in them. Shocked them. We

have so many mixed-raced people now, and of course not just in America. Happens in a lot of places, and war and travel had a lot to do with that.

We are at a tipping point, we can't keep fighting each other for much longer. We have to come together to work on solutions or our children won't have any future (or will have a very challenging one), much more than we have right now, and it is hard for billions right now.

I remain optimistic that amazing things will happen to settle our world down in the next few weeks and then over the next few years and decades so we can try that 1,000 Years of Peace thing some of us have heard, is a potential for us.

Wishing you all a peaceful now unless you have other plans.

(Encouragement message to Team 54 members)

I for one was also not supported by my immediate family for my love for Environmental and Social Justice issues. They made jokes about me being a tree hugger. That is ok, I didn't do what I did for their approval. I've been at this hard core since the late 1990's. I have been up and down so many times, I lost count. I have been depressed so many times because I knew how bad things were.

Now, I can tell you the world is getting us, they are listening. Well, enough people are listening. We have a massive movement going on right now, has been going on for a long time, even before I was born. So, stay strong, do what you love, and do it with as much joy and love in your heart. Your actions will attract others to you. Don't judge others or talk down to them if they don't get it yet.

My father passed away a little over two years ago and we did finally connect on a deep level and he supported me a lot more before he passed.

We never know when someone will get it and join us. They won't join us if we don't listen to them or if we disrespect them.



Photo by Sylvia Bonnstetter

Matthew Bonnstetter, an American, rides down the streets in Serbia (where he is currently living) on a – what??? – UNICYCLE??? Yep!

Love them as much as you can and do your best to stay positive. 2019 will be an amazing year, in part due to everything each of you does, there are millions and millions of people doing things now and many more will keep joining each year. Our collective future is very bright.

Thanks for all you are doing, it is my goal to reward as many of you with some great things, experiences etc... when our funding comes in. The more you are active with Team 54 Project and do the little things, the quicker we will attract all we require to do so much. Peace be with all of you now.

P.S. Basically what I wrote were things I learned from many other people and wisdom traditions, so my ego really shouldn't get any credit for passing it along. Just happy to share wisdom with our younger generations when I can.

Groundswell News Finds Artist

Note from the Editor: Some of you already know that when I used a photo back in January 2016 and relied on the Fair Use Law (see page 2), the Agence France-Presse owned the rights and tried to have me pay \$1,695 for using it. I am a very low income person and this horrified and scared me. That's when I decided to try to find "safer" photos and artwork.

Finding Art Pascual Antonio Pur was a thrill, so let me introduce you to him in his own words. His artwork speaks for itself and this is my first attempt to help a young artist become better known in the world. I call him "Art" because he lives and breathes art, as you can readily see.

HISTORY OF THE LIFE OF PASCUAL ANTONIO PUR QUIACAIN

Through my parents, José Antonio Pur González and María Etelvina Quiacain Navichoc, God allowed me to be physically born in the Pacuchá canton of San Pedro La Laguna, department of Sololá, Guatemala.

As a child when I began to realize what was happening around me, I noticed that

my father was a painter. I grew up, then they sent me to school there, we did classroom work and then they left us drawing tasks to do at home. I used to ask my father for ideas of how to draw and he taught me. In the realization of my school work, he and I realized that he could draw without major difficulties.

I continued to grow and through time, as I played, drawing at the same time, I continued to help my father a little. Soon, always with the support of my father, I began to formally work on the painting, I realized that I had the ability to paint soon, I concluded that I had it as an inheritance.

My parents gave me the opportunity to study, but for reasons that I do not explain now, I did not benefit before and I only got to the third grade and I dedicated myself to painting. Always with the help of God I have been dedicated to painting for several years and I say again that my talent is my heritage and my vocation.

As the song says everyone changes in life, realizing the need to study, in this year 2018 I am continuing my studies and first God will get my diploma of Bachelor of Science and Letters, for the same I need to fight to have what involves studying. I think this will help me a lot to improve my

ability and life.

Currently I am 24 years old. I am grateful because with the blessing of the high and the support of my father, I have the ability to see what exists on Mother Earth and in the heights, observe and live the culture of my parents and Mayan ancestors Tz'utujiles, that allows me to focus my work on the aspects and riches of our culture – mostly work, clothing, customs, landscapes – in their daily life and in the cuisine of my beloved country, which I myself see reflected in my work; I admire it.

Specific themes I work with: Bird's eye view, Ant view, Navel view, and others

Techniques: Observation, tracing, calculation, intensity and density, time, color, proportionality, appearance, aesthetics, and others

Materials that I use: Oil on canvas

My dream: To improve as a painter, putting into practice my gift and artistic ability, to publicize my work as an artist nationally and internationally through art, beauty and natural wealth of the place where the Tz'utujil Mayan descendants lived, and exhibit and sell my artwork in any country.



Art makes life bearable. It isn't a luxury. Like our capacity for understanding, and our experience of love, it is a vitally important part of life.

- Gillian Pederson Krag -

<https://www.facebook.com/lasolasrecovery/photos/art-makes-life-bearable-it-isnt-a-luxury-like-our-capacity-for-understanding-and/1913810605368796/>



Fundraiser for TEAM 54 Project

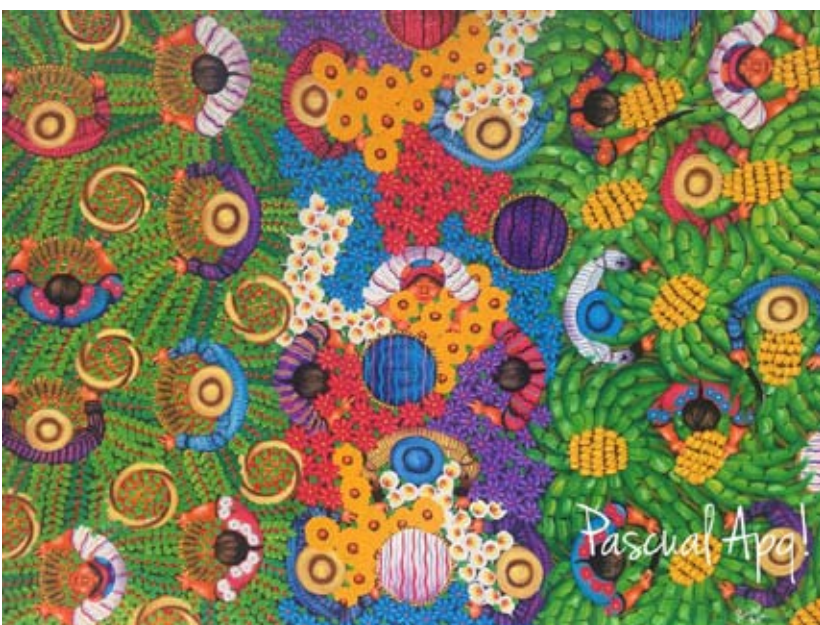
These three paintings are for sale at \$500 each and Art will donate 10% of his profits to TEAM 54 Project.

Top: view of ant (market day)

Middle: harvest day (tapisca-corn)



Bottom: bird's eye view
(harvest of coffee, flowers and bananas)



I roll my paintings and put them in a plastic tube so that they are very safe. Prices vary depending on the measurements, but the three oil canvases shown are all 24 by 32 inches.

Contact: Art Pasqual at pascual15@hotmail.es, facebook as Art Pasqual Antonio Pur or call +502 55565902 (WhatsApp)

**IF WE ARE TO CHANGE OUR
WORLD VIEW, IMAGES HAVE
TO CHANGE. THE ARTIST NOW
HAS A VERY IMPORTANT JOB
TO DO. HE'S NOT A LITTLE
PERIPHERAL FIGURE
ENTERTAINING RICH PEOPLE,
HE'S REALLY NEEDED.**

- Vaclav Havel -

www.brainyquote.com/quotes/vaclav_havel_120731



Young Nigerian Artist Discovered by UK's Nexus Exchange



(left) Photo of Mr. Kennedy Kwuelum by Alison Greenwood [CEO of Alison Greenwood Photography] Mr. Kennedy is wearing an outfit he designed for a recent wedding. His fashion line is scheduled to be revealed in 2020.

(middle) Photo of Timmy's drawing by Francis Precious Obioma

(right) Timmy (Olusola Temitope Prince, or "Prince Timmy") is holding the portrait he drew of Mr. Kennedy and delivered it before his deadline. His dream is to become a global artist.

Here's the story as told by Mr. Kennedy...

"Timmy sent a friend request on Facebook to Mr. Kennedy Kwuelum, Founder and CEO of Nexus Exchange Ltd. [an innovative century 21 youth social enterprise company, headquartered in Preston, Lancashire, United Kingdom, which is committed to nurturing young people and building a sustainable ecosystem for young entrepreneurs and young employees all around the world] and soon after the duo shared a conversation on messenger where Timmy expressed his dreams of becoming a global artist to Mr. Kennedy.

Mr. Kennedy then asked Timmy to surprise him with a portrait of what Mr. Kennedy will look like in Timmy's art world.

Timmy promised the work will be ready in a week but delivered this magnificent masterpiece a day earlier.

Nineteen-year-old Timmy is a raw talent living in Lagos, Nigeria without any formal training in his craft and has since joined the Nexus Exchange as protégé and an artist apprentice under the tutelage of the Nexus Exchange Director of Fine Arts – Akaninyene Ubong".

Here are links to NEXUS Exchange so you can keep in touch with them and follow Timmy's progress in the world of art.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/664164760648522/>

<https://www.facebook.com/thenexusexchange/>

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Contact Timmy: Princetimmyogp@gmail.com

So, Who Is This Mr. Kennedy Anyhow? (excerpt from his profile)

Kennedy KWULEUM [Mr. Kennedy as he is known] is the husband to a gorgeous young lady – Gina Kwuelum – who is his rock, soul mate and executive assistant. He is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Nexus Exchange Limited.

Nexus Exchange seeks to co-found more young social enterprises around the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, that will provide innovative home-grown solutions to regional and local problems. He is leading the global youth work space in the area of innovative volunteerism, a creative concept that allows young people to contribute effectively to the global work space whilst learning and honing their skills at these companies and organizations.

This initiative also seeks to promote inter-generational transfer of skills and diversity through mentorships and international cultural exchanges and to bring the youth work centerground closer to the youths. The Nexus Exchange youth operations currently spans five continents and is

Timmy continued on next page

Timmy continued from previous page working with just under 60,000 young people from all around the world.

Mr. Kennedy is also the Founder & CEO of Nexus Analytica & Digital Estates Limited – an innovate digital economy consulting firm which combines ethical data mining, data brokerage, and data analysis with strategic communication to provide unprecedented consumer and market data for businesses of all types and in different conomic sectors.

He is the host of “Moments With Mr. Kennedy,” a webinar-series-style show that discusses youth entrepreneurship, climate change, climate reality, climate action, carbon finance, innovative volunteerism, health and wellbeing, and innovative recruitment.

Mr. Kennedy draws from his life experience to share the true story of his entrepreneurship journey from age 10 as a high school photographer to running a global youth social enterprise, with young people from all around the world. He started this show purely on demand from young people globally after they read his blog on “Resilience, My Superpower” which talked about in very sincere details, his struggles and dark moments along his entrepreneurship journey and how he came through.

Mr. Kennedy is now helping other young people to get through their various



Photo Courtesy NEXUS Exchange

Here are the Originals: (L-R) Kennedy Kwuelum (Founder & CEO), Gina Kwuelum (Director of Welfare & Emotional Choreographer), Back – Cathy Boyer (South East Asia Regional Representative & Language Specialist), Tochukwu Okwuosa (Director of R&D)”.

struggles and situations at no charge. Mr. Kennedy is the diasporan coordinator of Commonwealth Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs – West Africa [CAYE – WA], a network of young entrepreneurs from across the Commonwealth countries of West Africa [Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone].

The network is a representative voice for young entrepreneurs within the region – it advocates and works with stakeholders to improve the entrepreneurial ecosystem for youths, share best practices, collaborate, and advance business development op-

portunities.

He sits on the Board of Directors of Global Peace Chain – an international organization whose mission is to cultivate the culture of tolerance, inclusivity and social peace-building across the world through peace camps in universities, focused group discussions with society stakeholders, diplomats, ambassadors, influential community groups, religious scholars, and community-based organizations across the globe by engaging Global Peace ambassadors in their respective communities. . . .



Action outside Royal Courts of Justice in London, to support the now-freed fracking activists.

Photo: Fossil Free UK

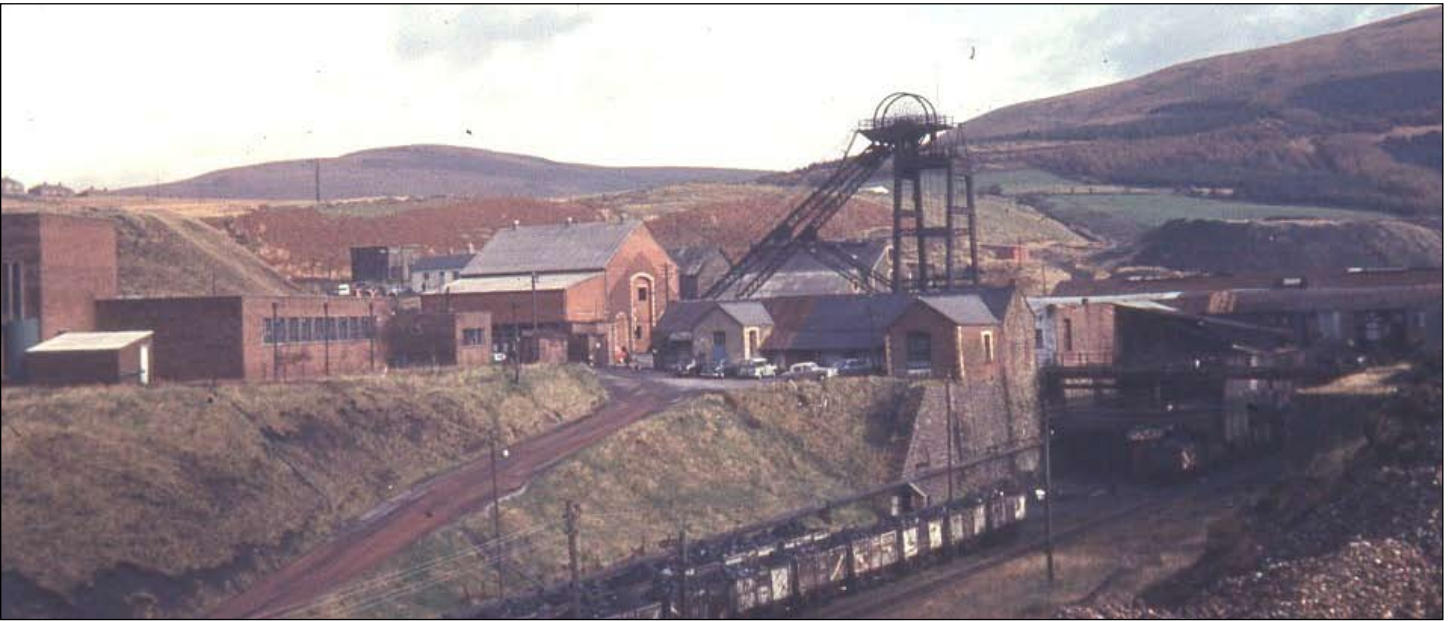


Photo: Walt Jabsco/Flickr/cc

“More countries must rapidly follow the path of Wales in leaving fossil fuels in the ground and transitioning to renewables,” said Haf Elgar, director of Friends of the Earth Cymru.

In ‘Historic Moment’ for Climate Action, Wales Pledges to Leave Its Remaining Coal in the Ground

Submitted by John Conner
Pennsylvania, USA

By Julia Conley

Common Dreams: October 22, 2018

Breaking with its past as one of the world’s top coal users, Wales announced it would end its use of all fossil fuels following the IPCC’s report on the climate crisis.

Climate action groups on Monday applauded the government of Wales for demonstrating that it is taking seriously the existential and planetary threat posed by fossil fuels by announcing that the country would end its extraction of coal.

Wales’ new proposed plan to reject all future coal mining applications is set to be finalized by the end of the year, a government spokesperson told the BBC last week, as part of the country’s new energy strategy, which will aim to ensure that 70 percent of Wales’ energy is derived from renewable sources by 2030.

“We applaud the Welsh government in taking these vital steps for a climate safe future. Their actions are in direct contrast to its English neighbor, who this week has given the green light to start fracking and created an unfavorable environment for renewable energy,” said Anna Vickerstaff, spokesperson for 350.org, referring to fracking operations which restarted in Blackpool, England recently – days before five small earthquakes

were recorded in the area.

The announcement came days after the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released a harrowing report on the steps the world’s governments must take immediately in order to avoid the catastrophic effects of the climate crisis which would come about by 2040 if the Earth warms more than 1.5 degrees Celsius (or 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit).

“We have to be aware of our global responsibility and the impact all of the coal has had over the years and to make sure that we really do play our part in Wales now to be globally responsible and to reduce our carbon emissions,” Haf Elgar, director of Friends of the Earth Cymru, told the BBC.

Payal Parekh, program director for 350.org, praised Wales for heeding the call of the IPCC and expressed urgent hope that other countries follow in its footsteps.

“The IPCC report released last week should act as a wake-up call for leaders worldwide. More countries must rapidly follow the path of Wales in leaving fossil fuels in the ground and transitioning to renewables,” said Parekh in a statement.

The government’s decision was significant for a country which once counted the coal industry as its single biggest employer, producing 57 million tons of coal in one year at the beginning of the last century. Production has slowed significantly over the last 100 years, with the country extracting

2.5 million tons in 2014 – but green groups expressed optimism about the plan to eliminate the fossil fuel from Wales’ economy.

“It is a historic moment. This is the end of coal in Wales after a long association and history,” said Elgar.

The announcement makes Wales one of a small but growing group of nations which have pledged to take bold action and abandon long-relied-upon energy sources for the sake of the planet and future generations.

Earlier this year, Costa Rica announced it would shift to 100 percent renewable energy by 2021, and fracking has been banned in Uruguay, Scotland, Germany, Australia, and a number of U.S. states.

The IPCC’s report noted that putting a stop to fossil fuel emissions could feasibly be achieved, but that successfully limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius “would require rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban, and infrastructure (including transport and buildings), and industrial systems “– the kind of change to which the Welsh government has now committed.

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Source: <https://www.commondreams.org/news/2018/10/22/historic-moment-climate-action-wales-pledges-leave-its-remaining-coal-ground>

Climate Change 2018: A Brief Summary

By John Conner, Pennsylvania USA

The world stands on the brink of failure when it comes to holding global warming to moderate levels, and nations will need to make unprecedented sacrifices to cut their carbon emissions over the next decade, according to a landmark report from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), written by scientists from 40 countries and released on October 6, 2018. Findings from that report are incorporated into this Summary.

1. Several gases, called greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrogen oxide, water vapor, CFCs, HFCs and perfluorocarbons – are produced/increased by human activities. These gases rise up into the atmosphere and trap in heat. Carbon dioxide, produced by the burning of fossil fuels, is responsible for 70% of this heat. The increase of heat is causing extreme weather events, drought, famine, migrations, melting ice caps and glaciers, rising seas, flooding of coastal areas, acidic oceans, mass die-offs of tropical coral reefs, wildfires, annihilation of wildlife, diseases and deaths, and will continue to do so for the indefinite future.

2. In the words of the environmentalist Bill McKibben: “Our old familiar globe is suddenly melting, drying, acidifying, flooding and burning in ways that no human has ever seen. We’ve created, in a very short order, a new planet, still recognizable but fundamentally different. Change – fundamental change – is our best hope on a planet suddenly and violently out of balance.”

3. 2.7 degrees F rise in global mean temperature since the mid-1850s is the line that scientists agree we must not cross, because if we do, the world will experience ecological and social disaster. At present, we are halfway there, due to greed of the few and indifference of the many. To avoid racing past warming of 2.7 degrees F over preindustrial levels would require a “rapid and far-reaching transformation of human civilization of a magnitude that has never happened before.”

4. Regardless of this unprecedented danger, we are constantly increasing our burning of fossil fuels because of: A) great profits by the corporate sector and wealthy individuals; B) lawmakers who receive great sums from those corporations and individuals in return for favorable legislation; and C) indifference of the majority due to ignorance, apathy and a strong focus on the here and now. Suffering that’s geographically distant or far into the future matters little or not at

all to that majority. As of late 2018, there is no effort in sight capable of bringing greenhouse gas emissions to a halt and then reversing them.

5. Human activities have caused warming of about 1.8 degrees F since the 1850s, the beginning of large-scale industrial coal burning. Most of that rise has occurred in recent decades, due to extraordinary growth in the last several decades of the economy, population, affluence and technology.

6. To prevent this rise of 2.7 degrees F, emissions of greenhouse gases must be reduced by 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, and by 100 percent from 2010 levels by 2050. The IPCC also found that the use of coal as an electricity source would have to drop from nearly 40 percent today to between 1 and 7 percent by 2050. Renewable energy – solar and wind – would have to increase from 20 percent of the electricity mix today to as much as 67 percent “We’ve got a decade or so to get Climate Change under control, and there is no such thing as a gentle glide path. We have to take a firm grip on the emissions curve and wrench it downward.”

7. At this point in time (2018), we humans are increasing our production of carbon dioxide every year. From 2005 to 2017, global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions rose by 21 percent. Today, global carbon emissions are 60% higher than in 1990. Developing countries represent the largest increases in fossil fuel demand. Much of future demand will come from China, India and Indonesia, whose peoples much prefer economic growth to environmental health. Which is understandable, since they yearn for the higher standard of living that they see in developed countries and can be obtained only, in their eyes, by burning more fossil fuels.

8. To make all of this worse, carbon dioxide, the most consequential of the greenhouse gases, accumulates in the atmosphere for decades, if not centuries.

9. Which means that since the fossil fuels we are burning now are producing carbon dioxide that will accumulate during the coming decades, and since, in addition to the accumulated carbon dioxide, we will burn more fossil fuels during those decades than we are burning now, the global mean temperature during and after those coming decades will far surpass that of 2018, inflicting on us ever-worsening consequences unless we undertake radical measures very soon to halt and reverse our burning of fossil fuels – a complete mobilization of the world’s resources. Unfortunately, such radi-

cal measures are not on the horizon. The bottom line is that the world is woefully off-target.

10. To exacerbate this situation, President Trump has mocked the science of human-caused Climate Change, eviscerated the EPA, scorned the IPCC, acted to increase the burning of fossil fuels, especially coal, and withdrawn from the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

11. In addition, control of certain conditions (methane escaping from Arctic permafrost and seabeds, carbon escaping from burning forests, rapid melting of Arctic ice sheets) which are currently propelled by humans is on track to shift out of our hands (tipping points) and be taken over by irreversible, natural forces which will steadily worsen those conditions until they have devastated our planet. Only 7-10 years remain before several of these tipping points kick in and then it will be too late to halt the steady intensification of those conditions. Our only recourse then will be to stand on the sidelines and watch helplessly, lamenting the departure of the Earth we once knew and loved.

12. In light of the above, what makes sense now is to halt the production of fossil fuels as soon as possible and replace them with 1) renewable sources of energy – solar, wind, nuclear and hydro power; and 2) energy conservation in buildings, transportation and industry. We can only hope that if at some point the champions of ecological justice will prevail, a good portion of life will remain and a more responsible human nature will emerge. That point will be reached when the number of committed participants becomes sufficiently large.

13. Essential activities for committed participants include:

A) Keeping abreast of climate change developments.

B) Taking control of federal, state and local governments and using their resources to radically increase conservation of energy and renewable sources of energy. The path to control of the U.S. federal government is control of state governments. Many state governments are currently making beneficial changes which the federal government refuses to make.

C) Altering our personal lifestyle with respect to – population size, solar and wind energy, home and building insulation, size and location of homes, public transportation, fuel-efficient cars and appliances, diet, organic food, traveling (especially by air), socially responsible investing, patronizing

Climate continued on page 12



Photo: The Climate Mobilization

Oakland's vote marks growing regional momentum and a movement of cities to treat global warming as the emergency it is. Oakland joins Berkeley and Richmond in launching an emergency-speed Climate Mobilization and Just Transition effort.

Oakland, CA Declares Climate Emergency

City by city, we can mobilize to fight the climate threat. Last night, the City of Oakland, Local Government, unanimously declared a climate emergency joining many other communities across the country.

The Climate Mobilization: October 31, 2018

Last night, the city of Oakland, California (USA) followed Berkeley and Richmond, becoming the third California city to declare a Climate Emergency, voting unanimously to pass a "Resolution Endorsing the Declaration of a Climate Emergency and Requesting Regional Collaboration on an Immediate Just Transition and Emergency Mobilization Effort to Restore a Safe Climate."

Oakland's vote marks growing regional momentum and a movement of cities to treat global warming as the emergency it is. Oakland joins Berkeley and Richmond in launching an emergency-speed Climate

Mobilization and Just Transition effort.

This means that the City will:

- Rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and seek to reach zero net emissions at emergency speed;
- Create plans to protect residents, especially frontline communities, from worsening climate disaster; and
- Work with local cities, counties, and public agencies around the San Francisco Bay Area to bring them into a rapid Just Transition mobilization as well.

The City of Los Angeles is also gearing up for an equitable emergency response to global warming as it considers a motion from LA Councilmember Paul Koretz to create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Department.

As Councilmember Koretz wrote in his letter to Oakland City Councilmembers yesterday, "The UN IPCC Report from earlier this month confirms what we have already known: we need to stop messing around with our greenhouse gas emissions immediately or we will face a climate catastrophe, the likes of whose impacts we are already feeling. Severe climate disruption is not happening to our children and grandchildren, it is happening to us right here in California, and around the world in real time. This is

an emergency like nothing humankind has ever faced before, and we must be up to the task if civilization is to survive."

Hoboken, New Jersey and Montgomery County, Maryland have also passed similar Climate Emergency Declarations.

Oakland's Resolution combines the need to stop climate change in its tracks with a commitment to social justice, calling for a rapid, Just Transition from an extractive, destructive, and racist economy towards equitable, regenerative and local living economies that uphold human rights and the Earth's life support systems.

Passing Climate Emergency Declarations is a new and growing strategy for the climate movement, and an effective way for cities to act while the Federal government is motivated by fossil-fuel-funded denial.

Notes Margaret Klein Salamon, director of The Climate Mobilization: "The growing emergency climate movement calls for an all-hands-on-deck climate mobilization to eliminate emissions as quickly as possible, in 10 years or less, through a World War II-scale economic mobilization."

As Oakland Climate Action Coalition (OCAC) Coordinator Colin Cook-Miller

Mobilize continued on next page

Bureau of Land Management Pulls One Million Acres for Oil/Gas Leasing



Center for Biological Diversity: November 1, 2018

Good news for greater sage grouse, the West's dancing birds. Obeying a court order, the feds had to pull more than a million acres of grouse habitat from oil and gas lease auctions next month. The order followed a lawsuit by the Center for Biological Diversity and allies.

The auctions were planned under a Trump policy curtailing public participation in leasing decisions on public lands. In September a judge halted use of that policy for future leases across sage grouse habitat in 11 western states.

The iconic birds have lost about 95 percent of their population; oil and gas development threatens the species' existence.

"We're pleased the Bureau of Land Management is protecting large swaths of greater sage grouse habitat, at least temporarily," said the Center's Taylor McKinnon. "But Trump's people are doing all they can to put millions of acres of public lands into the fossil fuel industry's hands. This fight's far from over."

Read more in *Deseret News* at <https://www.deseretnews.com/article/900039004/bureau-of-land-management-pulls-1-million-acres-for-oilgas-leasing.html>.

Mobilize *continued from previous page*

said, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. In this time we must go both fast and far, together. Our movement for a rapid Just Transition mobilization must be coordinated, strategic and unified, with leadership from the most-impacted frontline communities who are at the forefront of change."

The OCAC led the effort to pass the Resolution in Oakland, with support from The Climate Mobilization. 42 local and national organizations and coalitions signed on to the OCAC's letter of support calling on Councilmembers to pass the "Climate Emergency Declaration & Just Transition Resolution" without delay.

Incoming Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez has also called on the United States to treat the climate crisis as it did WWII. What is more, the Extinction Rebellion launched in London today (10/31).

This campaign of escalating civil disobedience – backed by more than 100 prominent climate scientists, elected officials, and intellectuals – calls for the UK to eliminate emissions by 2025 and remove excess green-



Photo Courtesy The Climate Mobilization

The team at The Climate Mobilization. Their mission is to transform America into a 100% clean energy and net zero emissions economy in a decade, and restore a safe climate for generations to come.

house gases from the atmosphere through a WWII-scale climate mobilization.

Congratulations to the City of Oakland on this critical vote to lead the State of California, the United States and the world to-

ward zero emissions at emergency speed!

Source: <https://www.theclimatemobilization.org/blog/2018/10/31/oakland-ca-declares-climate-emergency>

Climate *continued from page 10*

companies that operate in an environmentally just manner and shunning those that don't, reusing and recycling, planting trees, energy-efficient lighting, food (especially organic). Every change in these activities, however small, makes a difference.

D) Enlisting additional participants from relatives, friends, neighbors, church and school members, business associates.

E) Engaging in these activities in Small Groups, for the sake of mutual support, sharing of knowledge, experiences and resources, persistence, and joint activities. If not in a Small Group, then individually.

14. A significant effect of our gaining control

of government is that those whom we elect to prevent the calamitous consequences of Climate Change will be disposed to create in every respect a just, caring and democratic society, thus eliminating the other grave injustices which afflict American society – economic, political, environmental, military, racist, imperialistic and sexist.

15. The prospects for not only our children and grandchildren, but also for all of humanity and nature, are not bright. We have an Administration in Washington which, in league with much of the corporate world and wealthy individuals, scorns and derides the findings, policies and programs of the

world's climate scientists. We must do our best to counter that Administration's efforts, as well as the efforts of all the other powerful forces which are intensifying the consequences of Climate Change. Our brothers and sisters across the globe, and all of nature, call upon us for a maximum commitment, today and in the future.

To learn more about participating in this effort, either in a Small Group or alone, contact John Conner at The Grassroots Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice, 21431 Marlin Circle, Shade Gap, PA 17255; 814-259-3680; grassroots1@pa.net.

DEP Announces 61 Watershed Restoration and Stormwater Management Projects Funded by Landmark Penalty Against Sunoco

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection: October 16, 2018, *excerpt*

Grants resulted from landmark penalty against Sunoco for Mariner East 2 pipeline.

HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania – The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has selected 61 projects to receive grants from the historic \$12.6 million penalty assessed to Sunoco for violations related to the Mariner East 2 pipeline project. The selected projects improve water quality, restore watersheds, and improve stormwater management.

“One thing that all of these projects have in common is that they will improve Pennsylvania’s water – whether that is through reducing runoff pollution, restoring watersheds, or other means,” said DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell.

In February 2018, DEP collected the \$12.6 million penalty for numerous violations along the Mariner East 2 pipeline and began accepting grant applications in April.

Grants were awarded for stormwater management, invasive species removal, forest restoration, farm runoff reduction, streambank restoration, and many other projects that ultimately improve water quality in Pennsylvania. Grantees include County Conservation Districts, municipalities, school districts, and non-profit organizations.

“These projects do not absolve Sunoco of its responsibility to restore any damage to Pennsylvania waters and wetlands through the construction of the pipeline. But it is nice that this penalty could be put directly towards other deserving improvement projects in the communities along the right-of-way,” said McDonnell. “DEP has been vigilant in holding Sunoco accountable for violations and will continue to do so.”

List of selected projects, alphabetically by county:

Allegheny:

Allegheny County Conservation District - \$40,000 – Multiple projects to reduce runoff pollution from Round Hill Park in Elizabeth Township.

Berks:

Berks County Conservation District - \$372,896 – Project to reduce nutrient and

sediment runoff from a farm in Caernarvon Township.

American Rivers – \$275,441 – Removal of the Paper Mill Dam on Cacoosing Creek and riparian corridor and streambank restoration in Spring Township.

Spring Township – \$317,000 – Stormwater runoff management project in the Wyoming Creek watershed in Spring Township.

Spring Township – \$440,000 – Stormwater runoff management project in the Cacoosing Creek watershed in Spring Township.

Caernarvon Township – \$100,000 – Stormwater runoff management project at the Twin Valley High School in Caernarvon Township.

Birdsboro Municipal Authority – \$750,000 – Rehabilitation of the Indian Run Dam in Robeson Township.

Cumru Township – \$118,000 – Urban stormwater management in Cumru Township.

Cumru Township – \$238,115 – Connecting noncommunity water systems to a public water supply in Cumru Township.

Blair County:

The Trust for Tomorrow – \$223,713 – Restoring 4,000 feet of Halter Creek and Frankstown Branch stream in Blair Township.

The Trust for Tomorrow – \$17,300 – Restoring 100 linear feet of stream and 3,500 square feet of riparian buffer on Piney Creek in Woodbury Township.

Cambria County:

Cambria County Conservation District – \$592,407 – Installation of features to reduce agricultural runoff from Vale Wood Farms in Munster Township.

Washington Township – \$340,000 – Restoration of an abandoned mine spoil pile to reduce mine drainage into the Little Cone-maugh River in Washington Township.

Chester County:

Green Valley Association of Southeastern PA – \$168,212 – Riparian buffers and other features to reduce agricultural runoff in East Nantmeal Township.

West Chester Area School District – \$61,656 – Removing invasive species and restoring natural diverse forest in Westtown Township.

West Whiteland Township – \$223,325 – Urban stormwater management in West Whiteland Township.

West Goshen Township – \$215,273 – Urban stormwater management that will reduce impacts to Taylor Run in West Goshen Township.

Uwchlan Township – \$117,324 – Urban stormwater management that will reduce impacts to impaired tributary to Shamona Creek in Uwchlan Township.

Uwchlan Township – \$123,824 – Urban stormwater management that will reduce runoff pollution into a tributary of the East Branch of Brandywine Creek in Uwchlan Township.

Uwchlan Township – \$99,401 – Urban stormwater management to reduce runoff pollution to a tributary to Valley Creek in Uwchlan Township.

East Goshen Township – \$350,000 – Stream restoration to enhance water resources and recreation opportunities in East Goshen Township.

Wallace Township – \$118,500 – Managing stormwater from nearby ballfields and parking lots to reduce pollution to Brandywine Creek in Wallace Township.

Upper Uwchlan Township – \$282,432 – Restoration of the Marsh Creek Watershed in Upper Uwchlan Township.

West Goshen Township – \$110,142 – Restoration of riparian buffer in the Chester Creek watershed in West Goshen Township.

Cumberland County:

Cumberland County Conservation District – \$90,000 – Technical assistance for Cumberland County farmers to plant cover crops that will reduce nutrient and sediment runoff pollution across Cumberland County.

Middlesex Township – \$631,600 – Stream restoration and stormwater management to reduce pollution into Wertz Run and Hoge-stown Run in Middlesex Township.

Cumberland County Conservation District – \$91,211 – Pollution reduction from farm fields in Lower Frankford Township.

Lower Allen Township – \$122,358 – Improved stormwater management to reduce runoff pollution into the Yellow Breeches Creek in Lower Allen Township.

Lower Allen Township – \$60,536 – Improved stormwater management to reduce runoff pollution into Cedar Run Creek in Lower Allen Township. . . .

Source: https://www.media.pa.gov/Pages/DEP_details.aspx?newsid=1084

Part II: "Greening Burundi" Tree Nursery Being Created by 24-Year-Old and His Team

(Part I ran in our November 2018 issue of Groundswell News. If you'd like to see a copy, please email Iona at ionaconner@pa.net.)

By Emmanuel Niyoyabikoze, Burundi
(24 years old)

The environment is a wealth for the world's population. It made me do my best to protect it. From one, the environment contributes in the fight against poverty, hunger, diseases, and others. Even if I am not able to contribute totally to preserve our dear planet, I remain active doing my best to show my effort on the desire to protect our dear planet and preserve our health. The protection of the environment is everyone's business. Everyone will have to contribute to ensure its preservation and change our world more viable.

My project to multiply the trees continues even if certain barriers and/or challenges to achieve it do not miss. Those which deprive me of doing so effectively are the financial means, materials, and other needs necessary to achieve a great success of my project named "Greening Burundi."

Even if these problems prevent its setting up, I tried to use with my best so that a number of trees will be planted, as I have already done, but the number to set up will not be reached regarding to my means available.

I have already started to set up a nursery of 100,000 fruit trees and protection but it will prove impossible given the means I have available. The establishment of this nursery is in progress.

I need Supporters because this wonderful act is of paramount importance to everyone. I ask you for financial or material help to make this project a success. Given the importance of this project of Greening Burundi on the preservation of our planet and the health of the Population, I pray everyone who sees my actions to help me so that I can implement this project and make it successful.

"Plant a tree and save millions of lives and others alive."

This project will cost me a lot and I'm asking for material, financial, and technical support. If it's feasible, you can help me with this project, such as fundraising.

There are other activities I'm doing in order to make our world a better place to live. Burundi has recognized a civil war more than 10 years and more than 300,000 persons lost their lives. I take often occasion to exchange with my community about Peace and Reconciliation.

(new day, new pictures)

Leading, I would like to set up a nursery of more than 300,000 trees of different types including fruit trees to contribute in the fight against climate change and hunger because the population will consume these fruits. It is environmental protection project named "GREENING BURUNDI TO PRESERVE OUR DEAR PLANET AND PROTECT OUR HEALTH."

I. Geographical Environment: Burundi is a country located in East and Central Africa, with an area of 27,834 km², and membership of the East African Community (EAC) contributes greatly to its opening up. It is surrounded by three countries: Tanzania to the east, Rwanda to the north, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the west and is bordered by Lake Tanganyika to the southwest.

The Province piloting this project is Bubanza Province located in western Burundi, and after that we will continue to implement this project throughout Burundi and elsewhere. What prevents me now is the lack of supporters because even trees already planted on different mountains here in Burundi, I did it with my own without any support that it is financial or material.

Economic, environment, agriculture, is the main economic activity in Burundi: it occupies more than 80% of the active population. A majority of Burundians live on small-scale food crops (maize, rice, sorghum, beans, tubers) that are grown on small farms with very low yields due to intense soil erosion and climate change. In addition, the clearing of new lands causes the rapid decline of the forest, which covers only 3% of the country's area. There is therefore a serious problem of protecting the environment.

In this, I have been convinced and very motivated to protect our dear planet and fight against climate change. Agricultural production becomes insufficient, poverty occurs, and malnutrition-related diseases increase in communities due to lack of adequate and balanced nutrition.

II. Overall Objective: Contribute to the protection of the environment through the realization of the nurseries of different trees and putting them on earth as well as the planting of the grass and the drawing of the contours on the mountains

III. Specific Objectives

- Establishment of a nursery of fruit trees and protection that will in turn be planted on different places such as mountains,

roadsides, and rivers. (I plan to start to make a nursery of 30,000 fruit trees and 70,000 trees of protection for the first phase and will continue through the second phase until my goal will be reached.)

- Educate the population to love, protect, respect, and improve the environment.
- Sensitize the inhabitants to take appropriate measures for the conservation of the environment (reforestation) Fruits are important foods for the health of the population. These fruit trees will play a dual role, preserving the environment and preventing diseases related to malnutrition in the community. They have a positive impact on the population.

I have already set up more than 30,000 bags of trees and the step is good but the barriers to achieve it effectively do not miss as lack of the financial means, materials, and technical means.

Nursery of trees is being done without receiving any Supporter but I see that I travel a long distance to reach my goal to achieve.

The tree nursery will contain different types of trees as fruit trees and Protection trees. I plan also to introduce Medicinal trees as Moringa. The fruit trees that I would like to plant are: Avocado, Mango, Orange, Mandarin, and others. The trees of Protection are Eucalyptus, Pines, and others.

This could be a Hub for all Africans, now more than 15,000 bags. We will put seeds in each bag after we get a number of bags I need. In one or two weeks, we hope to put in seeds, but the seeds are very expensive and I'm missing some other additional bags.

Preserving the environment is everyone's business and has a positive impact on our planet and the population.

"Together for the protection of our dear Planet and the preservation of our health."

My motto: "Protect our dear planet and preserve our health."

#Burundi

#GreeningBurundiProject

Contact Emmanuel at niyoyabikozeemmanuel@gmail.com.



Tree Nursery continued on next page

Tree Nursery *continued from previous page*



Tree Nursery *continued on next page*

Tree Nursery *continued from previous page*



Photo by Emmanurel Niyoyabikoze
Baby trees coming to Burundu after a lot of TLC in preparation.



Photo Courtesy PAVON

#PAVON™ Was well represented at the Youth Dialogue on Voluntarism organized by UNV Liberia at the Murex Plaza. Our representatives learned from both National and International UN Volunteers who shared with them the risks and benefits of Voluntarism.

By Kromah Usman Socrates II, Liberia
(19 years old)

I'm the founder of an amazing Youth Network that was established through the social media, purposely, PAVON as a bridge connecting community volunteers, youth activists and community based volunteers to take collective, social, environmental and economic actions in their communities.

Invitation:

On September 25, 2015, 193 countries adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide the social, economic, and environmental actions of the world to sustainability by 2030. Today, #PAVON joins thousands of institutions across the world to #Act4SDGs (Quality Education)!

On Saturday, September 29, our Team will be celebrating the day through a well-loaded and educative youth dialogue raising more awareness about these goals and placing emphasis on the Impact of Coastal Communities on the Lives of marine species (Life Under Water) in support of #CleanOceans in Liberia.

You're invited!

Venue: Light International School Auditorium, 24th street, Sinkor.

Time: 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Please share with friends.

#Thought_Leader

#Legal_Luminary

#Fearless_Thinking_Man

Actual Event

A few weeks ago, I honored an invitation from PAVON-TeamLiberia, a progressive Liberian youth organization, to discuss the impact of volunteerism on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a cross section of Liberian youths at the U.S. Embassy Monrovia, Liberia in Monrovia.

It was a most interactive dialogue and I absolutely enjoyed the conversation. However, what was most profound to me was the fact that Liberian youths like PAVON-TeamLiberia were seizing the moment and defining the new developmental narratives of our country in the face of humongous challenges.

Another profound observation was the generosity of the U.S. Embassy Monrovia, Liberia to provide its comfortable, state-of-the-art facilities to these young people. We seldom see such opportunities coming from our own government. Through this medium, I like to encourage the Ministry of Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism and the Ministry of Youth and Sports under the watchful eyes of Senior Brother D. Zeogar Wilson to consider such endeavors.

On the whole, I encouraged the youths assembled to focus on personal development as the key to achieving the SDGs. I believe we can all make the world a better place if we start one person at a time. And what person does one have the most control over? Oneself of course!

Pan-African Volunteers Network

Greetings Africa!

PAVON is an African youth network established to connect community volunteers, youth activists, and community-based organizations to network, partner, and collaboratively drive changes in their communities. Our volunteers take collective environmental, social, and economic actions for the common good of our communities.

We bring you greetings from this conscious and fast growing volunteer network in Africa. We are currently active in #Liberia, #Nigeria, #Ghana, and #Togo and our aim is to cover the entire Africa as we promote civic involvement in the developmental process of our continent!

If you're not from any of the above countries mentioned, and you are willing to be one of our active country coordinators in your country, please drop your name, contact and country. Our team will get to you!

Don't also forget to join our network on Facebook by clicking on PAVON - TeamAfrica to connect with thousands of youth Volunteers from across Africa.

Let's make our world green again.

Contact Kromah: +231777939292

Email: kromahusman@gmail.com

Liberian Man Wants Help to Organize Climate Activists in Local Communities

By Charles Bioma Freeman, Liberia
(20 years old)

Some of us are volunteers but we are not working. Some of us are high school graduates but we don't have the opportunity to obtain a higher education, so we need some method to be in place so some of us can benefit, too.

That is our work we do to save the lives of our fishes in the sea.

Am running after support from people to sponsor me in obtaining an IT course.

I want to establish a new organization to help implement the Goal 13 Climate Action and to help other youth that are in the rural areas because all of the organizations I am member of only operate in the capital city so this is the reason i want to established an organization that will affect everyone in the local community.

The aims of my idea are:

1. To help get every clean environment,
2. To help the handicapped,
3. To help the poor with food, clothing, etc.,
4. To help the orphans go back to school, and
5. To help the girls children get back to school.

But this can't be done if I don't get international partners to help implement those goals.

I really need this answer and the project am applying for. The project I am applying for is for the communities to benefit from cleanliness and for climate change to effect the rural areas that are abandoned from those organizations in my country. There are over 100 communities in my country that don't know what the word climate change means or the benefits of this goal.

My project is to educate every community and youths about the necessity of working on climate change. I want every community to be beautify with the color green.

My projects cover the following:

1. Communities roadside brushing,
2. Communities cleaning up,
3. Planting trees in every community,
4. Cleaning and picking up plastics from the beaches to save the life of natural marines in the sea,
5. Educating the rural areas about climate change, and
6. Planting trees/flowers along the roads.



Photos Supplied by Charles Bioma Freeman

These are the people Charles helped organize a massive beach cleanup. The results are shown on the following page. He received The YALI Network (Young African Leaders Initiative) award for completing Responsibility Leadership on Transparency and Good Governance and one from the Youth & Sustainable Development Goals Conference in Liberia on September 11, 2018.

I estimated that this project will cost 30,000 to 50,000 USD.

Note from the Editor: Keep your eye on Charles; he's going places!

Contact Charles at
+231778783668/+231881217668 or
charlesbfreeman1998@gmail.com.

Communities continued on next page

Communities *continued from previous page*



Photo by Mike Diakpo, Jr.
How the beach looked after Charles and his team cleaned it up.



Photo by Mike Diakpo, Jr.
Charles Bioma Freeman standing on the nice, clean beach.





Images supplied by Matthew Patricks

These pictures are examples of the proposed earth buildings Matthew Patricks and his team will be erecting.

TEAM 54 Member Building Earth Homes...

EARTH HOUSES – HOBBIT HOUSES -
ECOLOGICAL HOUSES –
SUSITAINABLE HOUSES -
(ECO-FRIENDLY HOUSES)

By Matthew Patricks, CEO - Agro Ecologist
- Peace & Earth Ambassador - Regenera-
tive Farmer - Environmentalist - Creativist

We understand the importance and benefits of Earth shelters and we would like to use this medium to share a little about it.

As an ecological organization, we are very passionate about nature, having ecological, sustainable building as an arm of our ecological project.

Earth sheltering is a natural, creative, architectural practice of using earth against building walls for external thermal mass, to reduce heat loss, and easily maintain a steady indoor air temperature. Earth sheltering has become relatively more popular in modern times, especially among environmentalists and advocates of passive solar and sustainable architecture. However, the practices have been around for nearly as long as humans have been constructing their own shelters.

Earth shelters progress has been very slow because a lot of people lack the knowledge and many architects, engineers, and public alike see it as unconventional; therefore, feel no need to encourage and



Photo by Matthew Patricks

(Front) Matthew Patricks. (back row, left to right) Simon, Niklas, and Marco are three volunteers from Germany who came to work with Matthew building an earth home.

embrace this golden gift that can be mimicked from nature, traceable to the caves and related.

BENEFITS OF EARTH SHELTERS

The Benefits of Earth shelters are innumerable, but let me mention a few: economical, energy efficient, extra protection from natural elements, substantial

privacy in comparison to more conventional homes, low maintenance requirements, ability to take advantage of passive solar design, usage of earth as a thermal mass, efficient use of land in urban settings, soundproofing, eco-friendly, icy temperature, etc.

Here's how our first construction project is going. First was getting the plan mea-

Earth Homes continued on next page

Earth Homes *continued from previous page*
sured and designed, and the next step was getting the metal poles and installing them, thereafter, making the roofing skeleton with woods. The next step is to roof it with roofing sheets or any available eco roof.

Later we would be moulding some bricks and using them to make the walls; after that we would be making the floors, etc...

After the flooring, we would plaster the whole structure with mortar or any eco plaster.... After that, we move to the doors and window frames, etc...

All of this is done as materials and aid avails itself.

(Facebook post)

“Only after the last tree has been cut down...the last river has been poisoned... the last fish caught, only then will you find that money cannot be eaten.”

- Cree Indian Prophecy -

Matthew is a Nigerian living in Ghana. He is a Peace advocate for International Cities of Peace representing his locality, and an Earth Ambassador, which he explains as, “Like an Earth warrior representing to save the Earth through eco works.”



Photo by Matthew Patricks

Work has started on the first earth home with German volunteers Simon, Niklas, and Marco.

...and Running Mattlawie Ecological Regenerative Center: “Regenerating Humanity & The World”

By Matthew Patricks, Peace Advocate, Climate-Change Activist, Regenerative Farmer, Permaculturist, Eco designer, Creative Artist and Sportsman living and working in Ghana, West Africa

Methods/Techniques for Land Restoration/Soil Rehabilitation/Soil Conservation/Plant Systems

Mulching Systems (photos below): With Ecological Regenerative Concepts and Permaculture techniques, we have been able to provide solutions that enable the growth of our plants, improve soil fertility, and main-

tain a healthy, vibrant ecosystem.

One of these techniques is the use of mulch. Mulch is a layer of material applied to the surface of an area of the soil. Its purposes are any or all of the following:

- To conserve moisture by reducing the soils’ exposure to the sun;
- Protecting soil from water and wind erosion;
- To reduce weed growth by creating a physical barrier;
- To improve the fertility and health of the soil by providing a suitable habitat for soil microorganism which in turn breakdown the mulch, turning it into plant-available nutrients and increas-

ing the soils’ organic matter content and improving its structure;

- Improving the population of natural enemies of crop pests; and
- To enhance the visual appeal of the area

We use both living and dead organic mulching systems to provide solution to degraded soils.

- Living organic mulching is a natural system where we use cover crops: creeping plants such as sweet potato, pumpkin, wild spinach, etc.
- Dead organic mulching systems use dead leaves, wood chips (wood shavings) or other organic matter.

Biochar (Terra Preta): We also use Biochar (Terra Preta) to help improve the soil fertility.

Biochar, also known as Terra Preta, is a technique of using biological charcoal to improve soil fertility. It has its origin in the Amazon basin some 2,600 years ago. It protects plants by the biological power of the soil and offers a considerably better range of nutrients than the traditional peat substrates. The extremely high level of organic activities in this substrate strengthens plants and make them more resistant to disease. Through highly efficient nutrient



Regeneration *continued on next page*

Regeneration *continued from previous page.*



Photo by Matthew Patricks

Biochar in the making.

dynamics, a high quality harvest can be expected and for lesser carbon emissions than when using peat substrates.

Biochar, with its large surface area, provides habitat for the microorganisms which make up the soil food web that naturally stores and releases plant-available nutrients which can be taken up by the roots of plants, such as they are needed.

The substrate is able to retain moisture, helping plants to survive drought more easily and encouraging smooth, continuous, growth. Fruits, vegetables, and cut flowers grown in the soil amended with Biochar can be stored longer and show a high concentration of organic matter, especially trace elements, suggesting that using Biochar can make plants healthier and increase their nutrient value.

Biochar use fosters micro-bacterial activity and biodiversity wherever it is used, increasing the level of humus in the ground and improving the fertility year after year. Biochar is also under investigation as an approach to carbon sequestration, potentially producing negative carbon dioxide emissions.

How to Make Biochar

Like most charcoal, Biochar-Terra Preta is created by pyrolysis of biomass.

The following materials are needed:

- Char burner (chimney): It is an instrument used in burning biochar.
- Dry biomass such as:
 - *Wood and wood chips,
 - *Wheat Bran,
 - * Rice Chaff,
 - * Corn Husk,
 - * Cassava Peel,
 - * Poultry Droppings, etc.

Preparation

- Get your chimney (char burner) and set up a fire under it using woods.
- Spread at least 100kg of rice chaff, wheat bran, cassava peel, wood chips, etc.
- Turn materials constantly around the burner.

- When everything turns black, remove the chimney (char burner) and quench with a little amount of water.
- Add about 200kg of poultry manure (poultry droppings).
- Allow it to cool.

Applying Biochar – Terra Preta

Fetch at least a hand-full to a plant. Biochar – Terra Preta can be used pure mixed with earth or coir, creating a fertile, climate-friendly soil onto which you can sow and plant out directly. For use in greenhouses, it can be mixed with your own soil at a rate of 1:1 through 1:10, depending on fertility. We also use Biochar when planting trees and bushes by putting 1kg under the roots into the holes you have prepared.

A Few Facts About Bamboo

Bamboo is a great renewable resource that should encourage and embrace against wood in most cases. Bamboo is one of the quickest growing plants in the world and very durable. It can reach up to a meter of growths per day! That also means it can be harvested a lot more frequently than the average crop, making it a great sustainable resource. Instead of the unreasonable cutting of trees/wood causing deforestation and other related devastating effects.

Bamboo also grows incredibly densely, absorbs up five times CO₂, and produces 35 percent more oxygen than other plants in the same amount of space. It helps decrease the amount of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere.

Bamboo is cut and not uprooted when it is harvest. The plant can regenerate itself without having to be replanted. This brings about great aid in soil sustainability. The extensive root system holds soil together preventing soil erosion and helps to retain



Jonas, a volunteer from Germany, works with bamboo.

water. This is the more reason why bamboo requires less water than the average plant and can rely solely on rain water.

The best beautiful thing about Bamboo is that, since it is naturally bacteria- and pest-resistant, there is no need of using pesticides or any other chemicals. It also means that it can be composted or disposed in an environmentally friendly way at the end of its useful life circle.

Uses of Bamboo

We use bamboo to make designs/decorations, utensils, instruments, weapons. The early shoots are used as food in Asian culture, ecological/sustainable buildings, fabrics, clothing, cooking, agriculture, fences, hedges, chairs, tables, etc.

Mattlawie Ecological Regenerative Center is a registered non-profit here in Ghana. Our vision is for humans and nature to coexist peacefully with a well-functioning ecosystem. We teach, empower, and promote peace and culture, restoring, improving, and protecting tropical ecosystems. All we do is guided by regenerative/permaculture principles, ethics, and design systems.

Get Involved

Get involved today by providing donations for more tools, land, etc., or by partnering or volunteering with us.

Postal Address: P.O.Box HP 1420, HO, Volta Region, Ghana, West Africa.

Ecological Center Address: Have Atsiame - Wortoe, Volta Region, Ghana, West Africa.

Website: <https://www.mattlawieecological-regenerativecenter.yolasite.com>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mattlawieecologicalregenerativecenter

Instagram: @mattlawieecological

Whatsapp: +233203011642

Mob: +233545824003



Regeneration *continued on next page*

Regeneration *continued from previous page*



Group photo by Star Lolz. (left to right) Matthew, Marco, Kosi, Niklas, and Simon.

Matthew's team wearing a branded T-shirt for his organization, which he created to sensitize people about the need to go green.

Photo of the backs of the T-shirts by Matthew Patricks. Matthew's design on the back saying Matlawie Ecological Regenerating Humanity and the World.

To learn more about the Matlawie Ecological center Regenerating Humanity and the World, go to <https://matlawieecologicalregenerativecenter.yolasite.com/>.

20-Year-Old Starting Own Graphic Design Company

STARDESIGN

By Davidstar Donald, Lagos, Nigeria

I want to start up my own company and would be launched next year.

Company Description:

We are a team of creatives beyond imagination and ideas. What we do best is design; we are a very creative team.

I'm trying to build up a team of nine creative individuals in the design world. We have the graphic designers, photographers, interior designers.

What we need now is:

- UI designer
- Multimedia artist and animator
- Art director
- Advertisement
- Fashion designer
- Video editor

I am the founder and CEO. My biggest dream is creating jobs for people in these nine sectors and I want the company to be the biggest designing company in the world!

Contact: Davidstar at donalddavidstar19@yahoo.com and facebook at davidstar Donald

Graphic at right by Davidstar Donald using a photo when he was younger.



TEAM 54 Members Fight Plastic

By Anup Khadka, Nepal

I am 21 years old studying for a bachelor's of pharmacy and also an environmental activist as well as country coordinator of Bye Bye Plastic Bags (BBPB) Nepal. Me and my brother (Suman Khadka), who is also an environmentalist as well as a social activist working together to save our Mother Earth for future generations. We started volunteering and working as environmental activists at the early age.

As you know Nepal is underdeveloped country and we didn't get any support from the government; also we ourselves have to find sponsors and other people who can support our project and work from other countries to run our organization and projects on a regular basis and long term. But still we are doing our best from our side whatever we can do.

Bye Bye Plastic Bags - Nepal

Bye Bye Plastic Bags (BBPB) is a social initiative driven by youth, to get people around the world to say NO to plastic bags. BBPB was founded by Melati and Isabel Wijsen in 2013 on the island of Bali. Today, in 2017, more than 20 BBPB chapters have been launched across the world and this number keeps growing. BBPB Nepal is one of the chapters of Bye Bye Plastic Bags.

Project

The government of Nepal has made A law to ban plastic bags from April 14, 2015, which is not implemented till date. Our aim is to benefit our environment and our community by becoming conscious on reducing and banning of plastics bags, by education, awareness campaigns, and providing alternative bags in affordable price. In other side we will have a recycling habit, waste management and minimize the waste to send in landfill site. In the meantime, will be creating jobs.

Your contribution will help us to purchase sewing machines, scissors, thread, needles, bobbins, and some basic supplies, to organize different environmental campaigns. And some amount to develop a mobile application.

Do you know?

1. At least 5.25 trillion plastic particles are currently floating at sea.
2. By 2025, for every three tons of finfish swimming in the oceans, there could be one ton of plastic in marine waters as well.
3. Plastics are already negatively affecting over 660 marine wildlife species.
4. An estimated 20 million tons of plastic litter enter the ocean each year.

5. Plastic debris in the area popularly known as the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" has increased by 100 times in the past 40 years.

6. The amount of plastic produced from 2000 to 2010 exceeds the amount produced during the entire last century.

7. Though there are no official estimates, campaign groups claim Kathmandu uses five million plastic bags every day.

We need your support to achieve our goals:

1. Launch an environmental awareness campaign in Nepal. We organize different environmental awareness programs like cleanup campaigns, workshops, trainings, etc. Also, in some festivals and occasions we will provide free reusable bags, reusable water bottles, and reusable straws to children to make a habit of using reusable and biodegradable materials.

2. Produce reusable bags and making af-

fordable to everyone. We will manufacture reusable bags which are durable, made in different shapes, sizes, colors, and styles, made from a variety of materials, such as cotton, jeans, hemp, etc. The more people we reach, the greater our impact to reduce plastic bag use. This is why we want to keep the price for bags as low as possible. With your funding, we can reduce costs for production while securing ethical and sustainable standards.

3. Recycling: For recycling we are in the process of making a mobile application which helps to make a pickup request of waste, and we will be notified and our staff will go and collect the waste and bring it to our recycling center. We recycle and from degradable waste we make compost.

ContactanupatWhatsApp+9779826165233 or khadkaanup197@gmail.com.

BBPB continued on next page

Initial Funds Needed to Produce Bags

S.N.	Items	Qty	Rate (\$)	Total Amount (\$)
1.	Stitching Machine	5	300	1500
2.	Raw Material			
2.i	Cotton	1000Meter	0.5	500
2.ii	Canvas	1000Meter	1	1000
2.iii	Hemp	1000Meter	0.75	750
3.	Scissors, Measuring Tapes			100
4.	Thread	5	50	250
5.	Chair	7	25	175
6.	Cupboard	2	100	200
7.	Cutting Table	2	50	100
8.	Working Table	5	50	250
9.	Salaries and Wages	5People * 2 months	100/person	1000
10.	Office Space Rent	2 Months	150	300
11.	Utilities: Phone, Internet, Transportation	2 Months	100	200
	Total			6325



BBPB continued from previous page



Photo: News24 TV

After the uncontrolled use of Tibetan wine, started increasing pollution in the river Seti and in the Himalayas, Sibal village villagers banned alcohol imports from Tibet to Nepal. Tibetan imported wine not yet stopped, Seti River of Nepal has been polluted.

The locals have started to worry about pollution in the Seti River, which is situated near Sibal Mountain. The tourists coming to observe and travel the beautiful Sibal Mountain will also be negatively affected after the arrival of Tibetan wine in the district. The number of visitors coming to Sibal Mountain is increasing day by day. Despite the increasing daylight, increased the worth of Tibetan wine growing in the country. The Yarsa Gumba and herbs compiler, passengers who travel to Tibet of China through the way

of this area and the temporary hotels opened on the riverside used to sell liquor and throw garbage and bottles everywhere.

The empty bottles of wine and waste products in the rivers and it decreases the attraction and beauty for tourists. Due to the flow of lead bottles and corrosion and unwanted waste in the Seti river, the waste and empty bottles makes the river polluted day by day. If this order is not controlled and Tibetan wine is not able to control, the river Seti can be one of the most polluted river in Nepal.

Map Courtesy www.byebyeplasticbags.org

www.byebyeplasticbags.org

org

Events Bye Bye

Plastic Bags

(BBPB) has

Spoken At: 231;

BBPB Teams

Globally: 25;

Educational

Booklets Donated

to Schools: 1750;

Alternative Bags

Given to Local

Communities:

16800 ([www.byebye-](http://www.byebyeplasticbags.org)

[plasticbags.org](http://www.byebyeplasticbags.org))

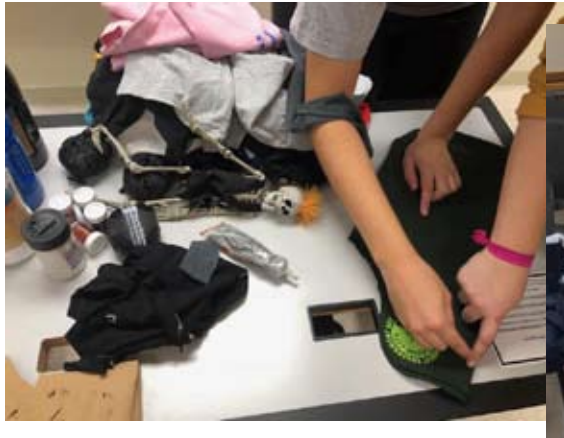


Photo Story: College Students Make Reusable Bags Out of Old T-Shirts

Submitted by Alyssa Bowles (20 years old)
Students for a Sustainable Campus at Ohio State University

Hi, here are some pictures from our meeting last night. We followed along with a no-sew video found on YouTube and used Gorilla Glue that indicated it would bond fabric and was washer safe.

Alyssa is the Administrative Assistant at The Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the Ohio State University and a former intern at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. She is studying Pre-Engineering: Environmental at The Ohio State University, USA. Contact Alyssa at 9373014293 or Bowles.112@osu.edu.



Photos by student Jeannie Meurer, the club's Social Media Chair





Photos Courtesy Umuntu Movement

Clean water is a human right and not a private privilege.

TEAM 54 Member and Umuntu Movement Founder Invents Clean Water Filtration for Everyone

By Fabio Hüther, Founder of Umuntu
Switzerland (23 years old), <http://www.umuntu.ch>

Umuntu is a Zulu word meaning, “I am because we are/humanity/human being/**WE ARE ALL ONE.**”

The Umuntu Movement enables this human right to go globally for everyone: for consumers, businesses, and governments – through an innovative sustainable eco-system for revitalized water. We bring back the power of water to the people. I am because we are. Made with love, filled with spirit.

We have an eco-friendly water filter with new patented technology invented by me. For every bottle of water, we plant a tree and sponsor a project, for every water filter we plant 10 trees and give some child the chance for clean water.

This all started with my illness (bone cancer) when I was eight years old. I founded my first NGO at 14 because I wanted to make a change. After I lost my godchild because of dirty water, I started with environmental studies. According to WHO and UNICEF, every day 1,500 to 2,000 children die.

Water is a very special substance, “the blood of the planet,” as Leonardo da Vinci described the vital elixir. Water was for the history of our Earth the primary matter of

all life. About 400 million years ago, the first living creatures came from the water and by the country.

We work exclusively by hand and dispense with automated production processes. On the one hand we protect the environment and on the other hand it shows the respect and dedication to the product. The CO₂ Balance Sheet of water is alarming. Usual water needs up to 1,000 times more energy than tap water. For Water, 0.3 liter of oil is required per liter bottle water. Tap water with our Umuntu PureNature-Water requires a thousand times less oil.

Thanks to our environmental management, we reach a comparable life cycle like tap water. As a sustainable company, we provide our customers with an active contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions.

About six to ten percent of the world’s world population land, according to study in the Worldwide, around 300 million tons of plastics are produced per year (Booth 2013). It is expected that up to 30 million tons per year will be in the sea worldwide - of which in Europe alone 3.4 to 5.7 million tons a year.

I researched two years ago and now I have a finished product, which can filter water from all pollutants (tested from more than 500 pollutants). The goal is to manu-

facture in Africa to create jobs there and bring clean water to everyone.

Why? Because most water is dirty and makes the people sick. And the water filters from most companies just filter bacteria and viruses but not pollutants like microplastic, nitrate, pesticides, uranium, medications, estrogens, heavy metals. I do it. Because I want African people to have the best water quality. My motto is: “Clean water is a human right - and not just a private privilege.”

On facebook you will also see what we do with my NGO. We planted 40,000 trees since one year, collected 35l plastic wastes per week, helped in over 10 countries for organic food and clean water.

(LinkedIn message) Dear visitors, we are still in the start-up phase for our charitable organization. The non-profit organization Umuntu Movement is represented internationally. So far, we are located in Switzerland, Gambia, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Kenya, Burundi, Uganda, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Palestine, Italy, and Nepal. Further collaborations are planned.

Our projects are financed by the sale of the unique Umuntu ‘Revitalized Swiss

Umuntu *continued on next page*

Umuntu *continued from previous page*



Photos by Fabio Hüther

(left) A bottle of clean, filtered drinking water in glass, not plastic. (right) A typical Umuntu display.

Water, 10 percent of every bottle sold goes directly to our international projects. We also have commercial and private sponsors. As a sponsor you get your own tree, which is planted in a third world country. Our projects are extremely diverse. The goal is to live the Umuntu philosophy – I am because we are.

We carry out groundwater drilling with subsequent water filtration, permaculture, refugee projects, renewable, and ecological energy systems, coaching on Ecopreneur and many other topics. We would look forward to your support. Be it as an active member, as an ambassador, or as a financial sponsor.

Do something good for you and the world – with Umuntu.

The Umuntu Movement sees itself as responsible for supplying people and nature with clean water. For us, clean water is not a private privilege of some corporations, but a human right for all people. Implementing and promoting this is both a vision and a mission for us.

In particular, we want to sustainably reduce the increasing “plastification” and pollutant accumulation of the water and food cycle. For this, Umuntu has developed a unique, new filter technology that is able to remove 99% of all microplastic and all known harmful substances and toxins. This makes it possible to offer a clean and naturalized water that meets all ecological principles.

While others discuss permissible limits, Umuntu lives sustainability. Umuntu sees clean water as a central, all-connecting medium, which is used in almost all production processes and is vital for life in general.

Umuntu is committed to sustainable eco-

logical awareness, social responsibility, and social commitment. Umuntu defines this as “Ecopreneurship” and we invite everyone to become part of our movement.

Umuntu is a non-profit company because of the manufacture of water filters and is an international NGO.

As a startup, we want to help bring about a paradigm shift. Our aim is to sustainably revolutionize the consumption behavior of us humans. Humans and the environment are our top priority. Accordingly, our actions provide full protection for humanity and the environment. Environmental protection is becoming more and more important in the present time.



Fabio Hüther, Founder of Umuntu

Just as people are connected with one another, be it on a social, political, or other level – our actions also affect our fellow human beings. Umuntu sees just that and shows how we should behave morally right in the sense of the common good, because everything and no matter what we do also has consequences for the people around us.

The power lies in the hands of the consumer.

Facebook: Umuntu GmbH & Umuntu Movement (Switzerland)

Email: fabiohuether@umuntu.ch

Clean water is a human right.
And not a private privilege.

Water filters for naturalized clean water by Umuntu GmbH.



- Free of microplastics
- 99% less pollutants
- Soft and tasty water
- Eco-friendly – zero CO₂
- With a social cause

Providing clean water to: restaurants and hotels, hospitals, companies and industries, agriculture and the public sector. And to private households.

Drink & Change.
Umuntu – I am because we are

www.umuntu.ch

Umuntu *continued on next page*

Umuntu *continued from previous page*

SAVE THE OCEAN

DRINK UMUNTU

1 Umuntu Eco Bottle = 50 Plastic Bottles less in Nature



Image Courtesy Fabio Hüther

Watch for a continuation of the Umuntu story in our next issue describing how the operation works with Ambassadors in different countries.



India: TEAM 54 Member Wins Press Club Award, Fights Plastic, Gathers Youth and Others



Photo Courtesy Voice of Environment

Poster reads "Mission for Clean Environment, Plastic Free Basistha Temple." This is indicative of the work Moharana Choudhury is doing in Indai.

Note from the Editor: I received the email below on October 23 about one of the Team 54 Youth Leaders being honored in India.

Dear Madam,

We are please to inform you that a young Environmentalist from Assam received "INDIA'S GREAT LEADER'S AWARD-2018" at Press Club of India, Raisina Road, New Delhi, from our organization. Herewith we are sending you the report and photographs of said event.

So please kindly publish the report so that, more youths come forward for such Environmental national building activities further.

Please kindly find the attachments.

Thank You.

With Regards

Team Voice of Environment

<https://twitter.com/voiceofenvirom>

www.voiceofenvironment.org

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/+VoiceofEnvironment>

<https://www.facebook.com/Voiceofenvironment/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW-1arDauhriUt3lApBC-8ZQ>

Moharana has written many scholarly papers, one of which was published this year in the *Open Access Journal of Waste Management & Xenobiotics* titled "Plastic Pollution: A Global Problem from a Local Perspective."

Here are Moharana's words from a chat: [I am] working for environmental field so wish it should reach to all, especially the youths so that they should get motivation for environmental



Photo Courtesy Voice of Environment

Angel Moharana Choudhury speaks at the event where he received his award.

works. I wish more youths and people should come forward for environmental conservation activities.

This Floating Pipe is Trying to Clean Up All the Plastic in the Ocean

Submitted by C.B., Pennsylvania USA

A young inventor's audacious plan to rid oceans of plastic.

By Ahiza Garcia 
CNN Business: October 16, 2018

SAN FRANCISCO, California – A 2,000-foot-long floating pipe nicknamed Wilson is about to start its mission to collect all the plastic in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

Last month, the Ocean Cleanup Foundation launched the world's first ocean cleanup system out of San Francisco to take on the notorious "Great Pacific Garbage Patch," a giant floating trash pile between San Francisco and Hawaii that is twice the size of Texas. It's the largest of five ocean trash piles on Earth.

The pipe is set to arrive at its destination in the ocean on Tuesday and begin the cleanup process soon after, according to a company spokesperson.

The pipe, which is in the shape of a U, features a 3-meter deep net underneath it to trap floating plastic under the water's surface. A boat will return to the spot every couple of months to remove the debris – like a garbage truck for the ocean – and return it to shore. The goal is to recycle the plastic and create new products.

The Ocean Cleanup uses a U-shaped pipe to collect plastic. The company's goal is to clean the world's oceans. With about 150 million tons of plastic in the world's oceans – and that number expected to triple in the next decade – this type of trash disposal has real implications for climate change, the safety of sea life, and industries such as fishing and tourism. It can also affect our health if plastic ends up in the food we eat.

"That plastic is still going to be there in one year. It's still going to be there in 10 years," said 24-year-old Ocean Cleanup founder and CEO Boyan Slat. "It's probably still going to be there in 100 years, so really only if we go out there and clean it up, this amount of plastic is going to go down."

The trash collects in the middle of the U-shaped pipe until a garbage boat comes to collect it. The device has satellite pods that communicate with the company's headquarters in the Netherlands and other boats



Photo Courtesy The Ocean Cleanup

The Ocean Cleanup uses a U-shaped pipe to collect plastic. The company's goal is to clean the world's oceans.

to share its location. It's controlled remotely and has two cameras located in the center.

The Ocean Cleanup team has been researching and testing the pipe for the past five years. In 2013, the project raised over \$2 million through crowdfunding and has since raised over \$30 million.

The group hopes the pipe will collect 50 tons of trash by April 2019 and clean 90% of the world's ocean plastic by the year 2040.

But some experts question whether how much a system like this can be a real impact on such large oceans. It's also faced criticism for its inability to capture small pieces of debris and the possibility of some sea life getting trapped inside. Some critics also worry if the device could break down, whether due to malfunction or storms, and create even more ocean garbage.

The Ocean Cleanup's device floats and sends data back to the company's headquarters from wherever it is in the ocean.

Eben Schwartz, the marine debris program manager at the California Coastal Commission, said his main concern is the percentage of plastic that floats and could be collected this way is too small to make a difference. He believes focusing on trash reduction with land-based efforts will be more effective. "It's much more effective from a cost and prevention effort to stop trash from entering in the first place," Schwartz said.

Schwartz added that his water and beach cleanup volunteer group collected between 7 and 10 times the amount of trash Ocean Cleanup wants to capture by spring 2019. "We did it in three hours and for a fraction of the cost of The Ocean Cleanup's project."

Although Schwartz said that cleaning up the oceans is important, he believes the attention around the project could curb other efforts to reduce waste. "If this makes people feel like they don't need to worry about recycling because this thing is out there, that's a serious negative consequence," he said.

The need to clean up our oceans is getting attention beyond this project. Last week, President Donald Trump signed the Save Our Seas Act, which aims to help clean ocean waste by extending its own ocean cleanup initiative, the Marine Debris Program, for five more years.

It may not be the only effort around, but Slat believes his pipe will make a big difference.

"Back in the day, people said, 'Well, there's no way to clean this up. The best thing we could do is not make it worse,'" Slat said. "But to me that's a very uninspiring message. Everyone wants the future to be better than the present, and that's what we hope to achieve."

Source: <https://www.cnn.com/2018/10/15/tech/ocean-cleanup-project/index.html>

Use it Up, Wear it Out, Make it Do, Or Do Without!

- Go-Back Club Motto -



Photos by Klonnatae P. Dalieh

These children did not ask to become orphans, but there are people with warm hearts who raise them with tender, loving care.

TEAM 54 Member Cares for Orphans in Liberia: Why Should Orphans Be Supported Sufficiently?

Submitted by Ahmed A. Paasewe
Orphans Advocate, Liberia

Background about Amos Sawboh, Founder and Executive Director of Orphans Concern – Liberia, (Ahmed's Administrator and Mentor)

Amb. Amos Sawboh is the Founder and Executive Director of Orphans Concern-Liberia, a certificated and Commissioned Peace Ambassador by the Universal Peace Federation, and a Commissioned Peace Messenger of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). Amos lost his father and mother during the civil war in Liberia and was taken to the African Christian Fellowship (ACFI) Orphanage.

At the Orphanage he served as one of the leaders for the students. In 2012 Amos felt the need to put together a group of youth who grew up in orphanages to give back to children that are currently living at orphanages across Liberia. During the Ebola outbreak Amos and his team provided support and food care to children that survived Ebola through their "Gift for Smile Program."

A Call for Support to the Orphans Communities

Here in Liberia, there are 64 accredited orphanages and amongst them, we work with 12 consistently. Within the 12 orphanages, it is estimated approximately that there are more than 500 orphans residing in them.



Orphans *continued on next page*

Orphans *continued from previous page*

Death, as a natural phenomenon that everyone must taste its pains, leaving more than half of the affected Orphans Population with Inadequate Support and Care is the most reasonable and answerable reason for which orphans should be supported. Those thousands of children affected today didn't ask, neither called until the deaths of their parents for partnership nor friendship but suddenly they are victims. Today, more than half of the Orphans Communities still stand to face problems both socially and economically.

Death, which came as an unexpected guest, accidentally created gaps of unpleasant and suffering factors that children who have been affected continue to suffer immensely and painfully. They still lack Adequate Educational Supplies, Good Healthcare, Comfortable Households, and many more. Some Children were victimized by AIDS while some were victimized by Ebola, and many were victimized by other unknown factors, but these children are still members of the orphans that are faced with huge problems.

Illness, as the main cause of children being victimized, is still a problem that confronts children in and outside of the orphanages. Humans in general, whom most often are faced with this problem, can only be cured if there's an urgent Medical Care or by God's magnificence, then what more about

these children who are less supported? Orphans are not exceptional to this factor and there's a need for Medical Care. Paracetamol has been the most frequently taken drug given to children living in orphanages when they are ill and has less impact on their lives because many of their bodies have gotten adjusted or suited to the drug so it has less power to keep them healthy and stronger.

Inadequate Education Supplies: Half of the many orphanages in Liberia are still faced with a salary problem. More than half of the many teachers teaching in orphanage-run schools are rendering free services on the basis of goodwill, but this has not been the perfect solution for the orphanage-run schools. 95% of orphanage-run schools are members of the network, "No Modern Library, No Sufficient Text Books, and above all Inadequate School Supplies."

Hospitality: Beds made of cement, which create pain, also spark illnesses in their bodies. Sleeping under roofs that rain infiltrates, living in homes that mosquitoes and insects are their close door neighbor, and covering bed sheets that have been kept dirty for more than three weeks or more are problems that orphans are still encountering.

Therefore, to minimize these problems confronting the Growing Children Population, there must be a sustainable measure

to aid them. Solving problems such as Health, Education, and Hospitality are the major ways to create a smooth and healthy Orphans Environment.

Our Government Officials, Goodwill Individuals, International Partners and sympathizers of the Orphans Communities, if solutions and effective actions are taken against the above-mentioned problems, the children of former living-beings will need not worry and struggle from poverty, hunger, and instability.

The struggle to create peaceful and happy homes for all orphans continues!

Orphans Concern-Liberia, the lead Local Orphans Focus Institution that is championing the cause of orphans in Liberia, remains constant to its Code Value "Making Orphans Smile."

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December 13-15



Photo by Klonnatae P. Dalieh
Ahmed A. Paasewe, Orphans Advocate in Liberia. "I talk to orphans most often. I am an orphan. Currently, I'm volunteering with an Orphans Focus Institution where I make my voice louder for the benefit of the orphans' communities."

TEAM 54 Member and Youth Charity Network Help Orphans in Liberia

By Amara Beyan Kamara, Liberia

My Team is Youth Charity Network (YCN). At YCN, we say poverty is created and can be eliminated through collectively seeking the interest of everyone. Our target is broad and will be achieved by implementing Goal#2 of the Sustainable Development

We, as members of the YCN, have chosen to target poverty as our major opponent. We believe that with collaborative efforts, we can make a difference. In our quest to do so, we are committed to achieving said vision. In this note, we are considering one of the 17 goals stated by the Sustainable Development Goal which has to do with Goal #1 (Zero Hunger).

International Day of Charity.

The international Day of Charity is observed annually on September 5. It was declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012. The prime purpose of the International Day of Charity is to raise awareness and provide a common platform for charity-related activities all over the world for individuals, charitable, philanthropic, and volunteer organizations for their own purposes on the local, national, regional, and international level.

History:

The International Day of Charity was conceived as a Hungarian Civil Society initiative supported by the Hungarian Parliament and Government in 2011, to enhance visibility, organize special events, and in this way to increase solidarity, social responsibility, and public support for charity.

September 5 was chosen in order to commemorate the anniversary of the passing away of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in

1979 for work undertaken in the struggle to overcome poverty and distress, which also constitute a threat to peace.

In this light, we appreciate your role as humanitarian and youth working to see a better Liberia through volunteerism. In commemoration of September 5, which is World Charity Day, we hope to link with Sis. Aye Orphanage that is situated in the Barnersville, Kebbah. Our intent is

to jointly work on the compound of the Orphanage home and at least give our little contribution as a newly established organization.

Thanks for your commitment. I just need some want support our charity Chair (YCN)
Cell#: 0776847181/0888629816



YOUTH CHARITY NETWORK (YCN)
Lower Johnsonville Township
Monrovia, Liberia
SERVING HUMANITY
0776847181/0775053163
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TEAM 54 Project Uganda: Women's Roles in the Climate Movement

By Tamale Paul, Uganda (21 years old)

CHAPTER TWO: JUSTICE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

2.1 Why justice consideration

• Without justice, the fight against climate change shall never be a success. One of the major injustices in climate change is gender inequality which has been covered in chapter one of this article. (See *Groundswell News* November 2018, pages 12 to 14.) You find that due to denial to women in terms of chance to participate in climate-change projects, more knowledge is left behind. In addition, considering justice ensures that the resources allocated to the climate-change-control projects are well utilized and managed, this will ensure an effective and successful climate-change-control project. Climate change does not only affect a certain kind of people but also affects other classes of people say for instance, the poor, disabled, the youth, the elderly, etc. Neglecting such people is a big injustice since the impact of climate change shall act on them all terribly. The fact that climate change is directly linked to poverty, anything that encourages climate change, encourages poverty. Therefore we need to avoid injustice in climate change to eradicate poverty attributed to climate change.

2.2 Injustices in climate change

• **Gender inequality:** This has been covered in chapter one of this article. This includes neglect to certain kinds of people for example, the youths, children, elderly, illiterate, the disabled persons, and people living in poverty. The neglect may include among other things, denial to participate in climate-change initiatives, failure to support certain kinds of people acted upon by climate change, yet supporting other classes.

• **Embezzlement of funds:** I have heard of people misusing the resources extended to climate-change initiatives for use in running their activities; they end up using the resources for their own satisfaction, giving up on the intended project activities. This is so terrible and worrying because it causes a bigger challenge to the whole world since a successful fight over climate change may not be attained.

2.3 Why the need to involve youth largely in climate change initiatives

Often, the youth have been neglected in climate-change-control projects. Yet they are at a big risk of climate change impacts.



They are the Earth men [and women] of the coming generation who will suffer most after the elderly are all gone. Following the report by the United Nations joint framework initiative on children, youth, and climate in May 2013, the youth constitute the majority of the population in many countries and have an increasingly strong social and environmental awareness, which has the power to transform our society towards a low-carbon and climate-resilient future.

Human activities such as the use of fossil fuels, deforestation, and unsustainable agriculture contribute to climate change, which decreases the availability of nutritious food and clean water and destroys ecosystems. This leads to malnutrition, ill health, and migration, rendering youth particularly vulnerable.

Ban Ki-Moon, Secretary General of UN at the International Youth Day, 2008 under the theme "Youth and Climate Change," stressed that, "Young people who are adapted at spreading habit and technologies are well placed to contribute to the fight against climate change. They are adaptable and can quickly make low-carbon lifestyles and career choices a part of their daily lives.

Youth should therefore be given a chance to take an active part in the decision making of local, national, and global level. They actively support limitations that will lead to the passage of far reaching legislation."

2.4 Why we need to involve the elderly in climate change initiatives

They know much more about the past climate change status than the youth. They can describe how much the world has changed via climate terms, and can act as sources of knowledge and empowerment to youth. Today, and a few decades back, political, religious, and cultural platforms are dominated by the elderly, which platforms are the ones that make and implement policies. With clear sensitization and involvement of the elderly, the world can become green again. **"I LOVE A CLEAN WORLD."**

According to Prince Chiemeka, Department of Social Work, University of Nigeria, Nsukka. in his study on the effects of climate change on the elderly population, reported that older persons are dependent on significant others for support. This makes them susceptible to human easily, and they

Gender Justice continued on next page

Gender Justice *continued from previous page*



Photo by Kweteireho Solomon

(left to right) Demintrious Brady's Jr., Akugiziwe Enock, Abaho Emmanuel, Kusima Amon, Kiconco Bridget Mafaari, Doryn Chaiz, and others who are members of Team 54 and also students who showed love for our planet!!

are generally less resilient in coping with the effects of the changing climate than the rest of the population. Therefore neglecting them in climate-change initiatives is like cleaning the outside of the water drum leaving the inside dirty, the water quality shall stay poor!!

In the survey I conducted in Kyaitamba village, Kijura sub-county, Fort portal-Kabarole District, out of the 100 citizens sampled, 35 were youth male, 15 were elderly male, 40 were youth female and 10 were elderly female. When interviewed about climate change, and whether they know of any climate change initiatives, the results obtained are in the chart on page 38.

The results indicate that the awareness concerning climate change is still generally poor, lower in the youth than the elderly yet the future lies in the hands of the youth! It is the youth to suffer consequence of a dirty world in future. A big range in awareness between the male youths and female youths exist with a range of – male youth aware greater than the female youth. This puts more questions on girl-child education. It is still lacking! However, even the awareness of the elderly still lacks since it is not 100%, yet they are the very source of knowledge and empowerment to the youth. Therefore much has to be done. All aspects of human kind must be considered, and Equality is the only way to go.

2.5 Climate and the rich-poor relationship

Often the poor have been looked at as people who just need help, it is the rich who have always been put at the side of providing, fixing policies, and implementing actions to be done by the poor who know well how climate affects them. Good

to involve the rich, their efforts are highly needed in terms of funding, policy implementation, sensitization, and empowerment. The poor also need to be involved for a successful climate-change initiative. We need to engage the poor in the process of policy implementation on climate change; they know the field and their local environment better than rich people, for it is them that fully depend on natural resources for a livelihood. They should not only be on the side of receiving or characters unto which actions happen, but also be used as sources of knowledge to the climate-change initiative.

2.5.1 Why we involve the poor

People living under poverty directly evolve their livelihood from local natural resources, it is them that fully engage with the natural environment, and therefore they fully understand the local environment and have much impact on the environment. Without checking their activities, the small mismanagements they do can add up to a very huge impact. They must be sensitized and used as crucial sources of knowledge, not just specimens unto which actions and policies shall act.

The poor are highly vulnerable to the effect of climate change compared to any other status of people. If it is too much heat waves, they lack protective gears, their shelters are in poor condition to protect them from waves, and in case of health hazards due to lack of access to health facilities, they suffer. With depletion of water sources and land quality, livelihood becomes hard, food security fails, pushing the poor more into poverty. Even in cases of displacement, they will not have enough money to

establish new homes. Research shows that the number of people affected by natural disasters doubled from approximately 102m in 2015 to 204m in 2016 and this was more affecting the poor. **“Poverty does not mean lack of knowledge; knowledge is from experience not belonging.”**

Following the fact that climate change affects agriculture the most, from which most local poor people derive their livelihood, the poor need to be strongly looked at when tackling climate change. A 2016 World Bank report, “Shock Waves, Managing the Impact of Climate Change on Poverty,” states, “Climate impacts will affect agriculture the most, a key sector in the poorest countries and major source of income, food security, nutrition, jobs, livelihood, and export economy. By 2030, crop yield losses could mean that food prices would be 12% higher on average in sub-Saharan Africa. The stress on poor households, who spend as much as 60% of their income on food, could be acute. The malnutrition could lead to an increase in severe stunting in Africa of 23% at a global level, warming of 2 degrees Celcius would increase the number of people at risk for malaria by up to 5%, or more then 150m more people affected. Diarrhea would be more prevalent and increased water scarcity would have an effect on water quality and hygiene. The result would be an estimated 48,000 additional deaths among children under the age of 15 resulting from diarrheal illness by 2030.”

From the survey I conducted at Kyaitamba Village, Kijura sub-county, Fort portal-Kabarole district, concerning how much they know about climate change, climate-

Gender Justice *continued on next page*

Gender Justice *continued from previous page*

change initiatives, and local environment, out of the 100 citizens sampled, 79 were people living in poverty, 11 were averagely rich people. The results obtained are shown on the chart on page 38.

From the obtained results above, it indicates that climate change awareness is still generally low although the awareness is much lower in poor people than in rich people due to limited education attained by the poor people. However, the poor are much more aware of the local environment in which they live than the rich since the poor directly rely on local natural resources for their livelihood much more than the rich who can afford already processed food in markets and shops. Meaning the poor can be used as source of better local knowledgeable concerning the environment. Generally, the awareness on environment is also still not 100%, meaning much needs to be done in sensitizing people of all class. Involving both the poor and the rich is very crucial as far as climate change is concerned. **“Show me a poor person, I show you a successful climate change activist.”**

2.6 Why we should greatly involve people with disabilities

In most cases, people with disabilities are left in highly vulnerable situations. When climate change severely affects the population, climate change causes more illness to them, reducing their lasting period. They are often vulnerable to extreme heat events because of asserted disabilities which makes it hard to regulate body temperature and other social factors such as poverty that hinders them from constructing quality shelters to protect them from climate-change hazards such as flooding, and their ability to escape disasters such as storms, landslides, is very low and whenever displacement demands, it becomes difficult in accessing transport and social services. This is why, in all initiatives on climate change, people with disabilities should be equally recognized and well sensitized on what to do in case of a hazard. **“Disability is not inability.”** In this chapter of this paper, recommendations are given on what to do to have a fair treatment of people with disability as far as climate change is concerned.

2.7 Consideration for the literate and illiterate in climate change

It is quite often that in most of the events organized on climate change, learned people have been involved more than the unlearned (illiterate). This is to a certain extent not proper. We call for a balance between the learned and the unlearned, the

learned have contributed much since they mainly make up the greatest percentage of the rich, who are able to fund climate-change projects, be a source of knowledge, they make up the biggest percentage of businessmen who get involved in either clean or unclean businesses with an impact on climate change and provide other kinds of support. Therefore, a need to sensitize them on climate change and involve them in climate-change initiatives. The illiterate, in an analytical basis, make up the local class of people and the highest percentage of the poor, given the fact that the local people derive their livelihood on local resources, they have a greater impact on climate change. This is why we should have them, too, involved in the fight against climate change since the knowledge on the local resources that they have, too, can be a wonderful tool in the fight against climate change.

In my research conducted in Kyayitamba village, Kijura sub-county of Karole district, out of the 100 citizens sampled, 50 female and 50 male, the results obtained in the level of literacy and change awareness in two sexes; male and female are shown on page 39.

Recommendations

Involve every aspect of gender in climate-change initiatives. Concern should be broader than looking at man and woman as the aspects of gender but a broad way of sex consideration (man, woman, boy or girl) and justice [considering poor-rich, literate-illiterate, youth-elder, and disability relationship]. In both sensitization and empowerment, all aspects of gender and justice in climate change should be embraced even in seeking for knowledge all parties in the above considerations should be looked at. As the fact is, most of the aspects in gender that are disadvantaged are the people with the greatest kind of experience and influence to the local environment. They are the very people who highly engage with natural resources. This kind of empowerment can include equal education to girl and boy child, youth and elderly, rich and poor, disabilities and all other aspects that pertain to gender and justice in climate change. Even in appointing the scholars, I mean the people sensitizing people, should have gender and justice considerations; that is to say, having some youths, women and men, rich and poor, literate and illiterate, plus the disabled. This will help ensure an effective sensitization since each category can handle the kind of people in their category. Control over the funds allocated to climate-change initiatives should be ensured, this is to reduce any form of fund embezzlement. The youths should be

empowered, made environment champions of their communities and ambassadors for different climate-change initiatives in their communities.

Conclusion

For an effective fight against climate change, gender, and justice in climate change should be also highly looked at and tackled. Women have proved to be capable of playing the roles men play in climate change, the disabled need justice since they are also affected by climate change, the poor have more engagement to local resources, more than the youth and more of which are illiterate, climate issue is not a one-man's issue, it is an issue that needs a joint action involving all aspects of people.

Truly there isn't anywhere in the world where 100% gender and justice has been considered in climate change. There is hope, however, with the wonderful initiatives formed, to mention but a few: Team 54 Project, Fika Africa Advocacy Foundation, Parvati, Umuntu, WHISAfrica Green, etc., which have done great work in considering gender and justice in the fight against climate change.

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Gender Justice *continued from previous page*

CHARACTER	SIZE PER SAMPLE	AWARE	PERCENTAGE AWARENESS	LESS AWARE	PERCENTAGE LESS AWARENESS
Youth male	35	15	42.9	20	57.1
Youth female	40	15	37.5	25	62.5
Elderly male	15	11	73.3	4	26.7
Elderly female	10	4	40	6	60
Range between youth males and female	5	0	5.4	-5	-5.4
Range between the elderly male and elderly female	5	7	33.3	-2	-33.3
Total youth	75	30	40	45	60
Total elderly	25	15	60	10	40
Range between the youth and the elderly	50	15	-20	35	20

The results above indicate that the awareness concerning climate change is still generally poor, lower in the youth than the elderly, yet the future lies in the hands of the youth! It is the youth to suffer consequence of a dirty world in future. A big range in awareness between the male youths and female youths exists with a range of - male youth aware greater than the female youth. This puts more questions on girl child education. It is still lacking! However, even the awareness of the elderly still lacks since it is not 100%, yet they are the very source of knowledge and empowerment to the youth. Therefore much has to be done, all aspects of humankind must be considered, and Equality is the only way to go.

CHARACTER	SIZE PER SAMPLE	AWARE OF CLIMATE CHSNG E	PERCENTAGE AWARENESS ON CLIMATE CHANGE	LESS AWARE ON CLIMATE CHANGE	PERCENTAGE LESS AWARE ON CLIMATE CHANGE	AWARE ON LOCAL ENVIRONME NT	PERCENTAG E AWARENESS ON LOCAL ENVIRONME NT	LESS AWARE ON LOCAL ENVIRONME NT	PERCENTAGE LESS AWARENESS ON LOCAL ENVIRONVIRONM ENT
POOR	79	35	44.3	44	55.7	72	91.1	7	8.9
RICH	21	14	66.7	7	33.3	8	38.1	13	61.9
RANGE	58	21	-22.4	37	22.4	64	53	-6	-53

From the obtained results above, it indicates that climate-change awareness is still generally low although the awareness is much lower in the poor people than in rich people due to limited education attained by the poor people. However, the poor are much more aware of the local environment in which they live than the rich since the poor directly rely on local natural resources for their livelihood much more than the rich, who can afford already processed in markets and shops. Meaning the poor can be used as a source of better local knowledge concerning the environment. Generally the awareness on environment is also still not 100%, meaning much needs to be done in sensitizing people of all classes. Involving both the poor and the rich is very crucial as far as climate change is concerned. **“Show me a poor person, I show you a successful climate-change activist.”**

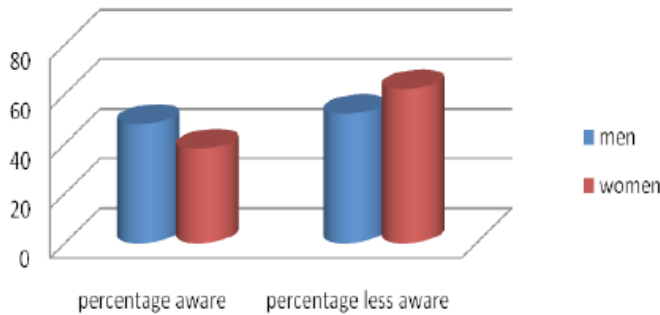
Gender Justice *continued from previous page*

CHARACTER	SIZE PER SAMPLE	AWARE	PERCENTAGE AWARENESS	LESS AWARE	PERCENTAGE LESS AWARE
LITERATE MEN	15	14	93.3	1	6.7
LITERATE WOMEN	10	8	80	2	20
ILITERATE MEN	35	10	28.6	25	71.4
ILITERATE WOMEN	40	11	27.5	29	72.5
TOTAL LITERATE	25	22	88	3	12
TOTAL ILLITERATE	75	21	28	54	72
RANGE(LITERATE AND ILITERATE CITIZENS)	-50	1	60	-51	-60

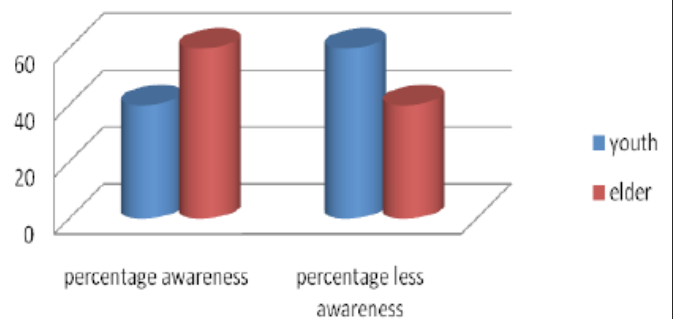
In my research above conducted in Kyaitamba village, Kijura sub-county of Karole district, out of the 100 citizens sampled, 50 female and 50 male, the following results were obtained in the level of literacy and climate change awareness in two sexes; male and female.

Appendix

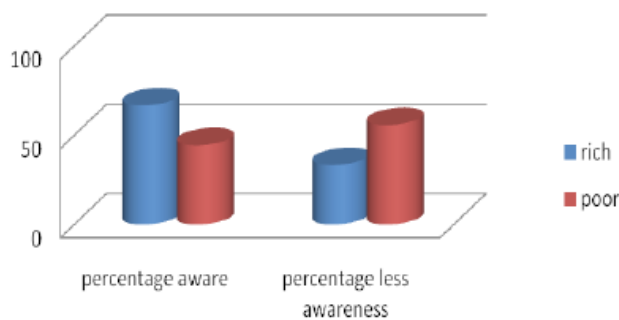
A graph showing difference in awareness on climate change between sexes



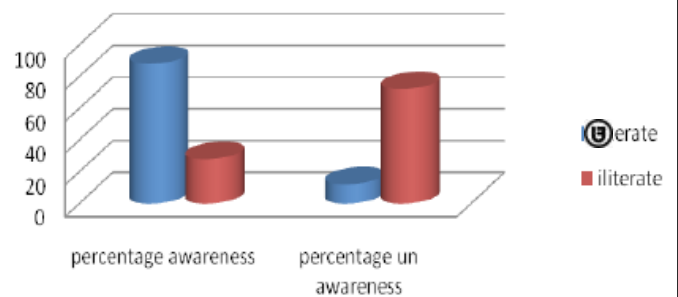
A graph showing difference in awareness to climate change between youth and elderly



A graph showing difference in awareness between the rich and the poor



A graph showing difference in percentage awareness between literate and iliterates



Above graphs show differences in percentage of awareness levels to climate change for different disciplines of Kyaitamba village citizens.

Colombia: TEAM 54 Member Fighting Air Pollution

By Angel Torres, Bogata, Colombia

I'm retired from Government Defense Ministry – Pensioned. I'm an environmentalist, an innovative and entrepreneur member of the National Inventor Association here in my country. I have patented an Environmental Technology Innovation to eliminate the gases CO₂ and carbon pollution, to eliminate the toxic industrial emissions of oil fuels and coal emissions and others. It's a right way to reduce the origin of global warming and climate change.

All environmental people must to TAKE NOW a serious ACTION to give a solution. For individual Action, share the environmental info.

To mitigate our environmental crisis, we must reduce this toxic origin, we must reduce and eliminate the toxic industrial emissions-gases CO₂ and carbón pollution. I want to contribute with this innovation. All environmentalist Friends in this group are invited for take a real commitment. STOP NOW THE TÓXIC EMISSIONS.

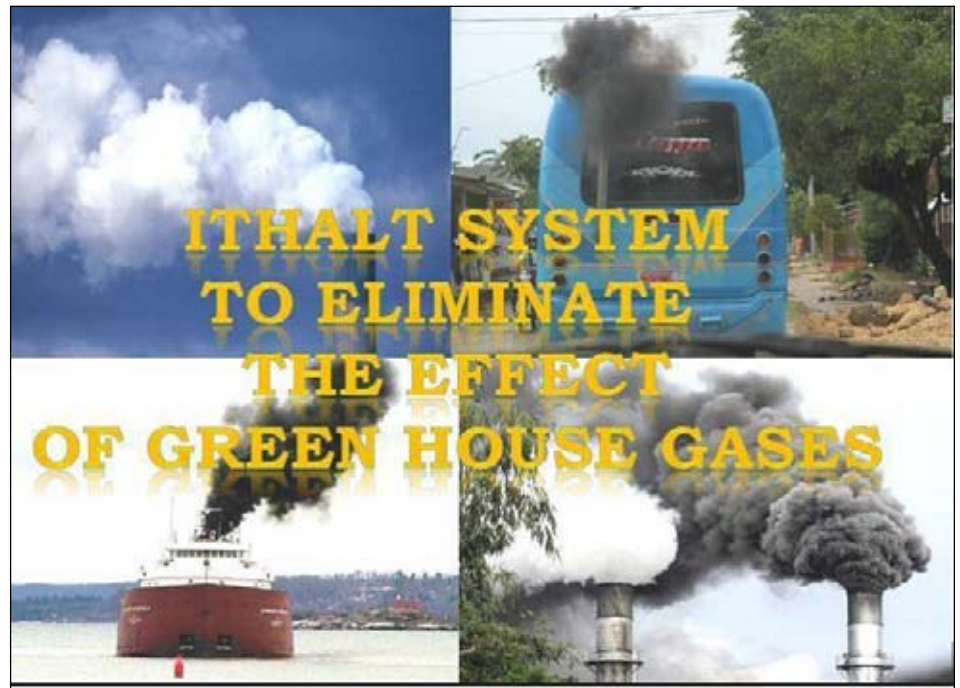
All is possible with our REAL commitment and ACTION.

All environmental people must to work together for work in real actions to mitigate the origin of our environmental crisis, to help to our contaminated planet.

This is my commitment.

The Technology Innovation project, a filters system for making a condensation process of the toxic emissions (gases CO₂ and pollution of industries' chimneys and others). This is a clean project to eliminate toxic pollution and in next future time have clean air, a clean atmosphere without contamination with immense benefits for all society, immense benefits for our health, our environment, and our life. Working together with our cooperation it is possible to make reality this environmental dream.

We must work hard together (all people)



Collage by Angel Torres

Angel Tores posted this encouraging notice on his Facebook page: *Environmentalist... with our real commitment, we can reduce this pollution crisis.*

to save the life of thousands of animals, to save human life and thousands species and people that die every day for the immense environmental crisis of air pollution. With our real commitment we can save the life and health of thousands of children who died from contaminated air, but other IMPORTANT and right way is to reduce the origin of the global warming and climate change.

We can make a GOOD EXPANSION ON THE WORLD for installing the system in all industries' chimneys and others. The big toxic problem in the world is NOT the coal or the petroleum use or exploitation, the big and dangerous problem is the immense pollution and air contamination, the atmosphere contamination.

Sincerely you're invited to work together, to build a good and better environmental group for work all people in this environmental mission. This is NOT my project – it is YOUR project, it is OUR project – to build and have a good and nice lifestyle, good health for us and our family, for a better and happy life for our next generations.

WORKING TOGETHER WITH OUR REAL COMMITMENT AND ACTION, WE CAN CHANGE THE HISTORY!!!!

With your cooperation everything will be possible soon!!

Contact Angel at angball40@yahoo.es.

Judge Blocks Keystone XL Pipeline, Setback for Trump

Submitted by John Conner and Fran Staret, both from USA

By Lisa Friedman and Coral Davenport, *excerpt* 
The New York Times: November 9, 2018

WASHINGTON – As the Trump administration has moved aggressively to roll back environmental protections and speed up oil and coal projects, it has repeatedly been blocked by courts finding that the administration did not follow longstanding rules in making its sweeping changes.

Now, a federal judge has issued a repudiation of one of President Trump's first

acts as president, his decision to allow the disputed Keystone XL oil pipeline to proceed, saying that the administration failed to present a "reasoned explanation" for the move and "simply discarded" the effect the project would have on climate change.

The decision could thrust the White House into a contentious new legal battle over climate change. The judge's finding quickly drew fire from Mr. Trump, who has elevated the pipeline as a prominent symbol of his administration's effort to encourage fossil fuel use. "It was a political decision made by a judge," said Mr. Trump

on Friday, speaking to reporters at the White House. "I think it's a disgrace."

The ruling, by Judge Brian Morris of United States District Court for Montana, blocked construction on the 1,179-mile pipeline, which would carry 800,000 barrels a day of petroleum from the Canadian oil sands to the Gulf Coast and has, over the past decade, become a lightning rod in broader political battles over energy, the environment and climate change. . . .

Source: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/09/climate/judge-blocks-keystone-pipeline.html>

GBC Member Invents New Energy System to Replace Fossil Fuels

ADOPTING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY BUSINESS MODEL

By Les Blevins, Jr.
Inventor of Sequential Grates System

Les Blevins Jr. was born and raised in Kansas. His background is in the mechanical trades, and he is currently developing innovative concepts to address multiple energy and environmental problems through offering cleaner distributed energy technology with an emphasis on practicality and economy.

Blevins believes humans and the environment are on a collision course. Our activities are inflicting harsh and irreversible damage on the environment and on critical resources. Many of humanity's current practices put at serious risk the future that we all wish for humanity and raise it to unprecedented degrees.

Blevins believes that more than ever some fundamental changes are urgent this decade if we are to avoid the life-altering environmental collision our present course is now bringing about. Indeed, our bad practices may so alter the world that it will be unable to sustain life in the manner we now know ever again if we don't immediately begin making the changes we all know are needed.

Blevins became concerned about the future during the 1970s upon reading about oil and coal issues and President Carter's position on our unwise dependency on fossil fuels and the likely effects of our growing energy consumption, as well as alarming predictions about the results of fossil fuels burning on the Earth's climate and environment.

Blevins believed advancements in energy generation and conservation can play a major role in solving the problem. And he favors developing improved combustion, pyrolysis, and gasification methods and in implementing these new concept systems in distributed and on-site installations as the best means to better utilize diverse biomass resources and better manage solid wastes, and produce from these a source of heat, power, liquid fuels like ethanol, alcohol, biogasoline, and biodeisel, as well as methane and hydrogen gas.

Blevins decided to look at what he could do to advance the scope of human knowledge and understanding on how humanity could address these complex issues and he decided that he could best contribute



by researching fuels conversion systems designed to reduce dependence on fossil fuels by utilizing diverse, low value, and widely available biomass and wastes as fuel instead. Blevins initially perceived increasing need for improved biomass conversion technology in the 1970s.

This led to the invention and development of a new concept appliance that is capable of using bulky biomass fuels such as small, square and large, round bales of agricultural by-products like straws, stems, stalks, husks, and leaves as well as dedicated biomass fuel crops like elephant grass and switchgrass, miscanthus, sugar cane bagasse, etc. The new system can also use new and older processes in the conversion of these feedstocks into liquid fuels as well. The processes include combustion, pyrolysis, and gasification.

Advanced Alternative Energy is developing an advanced system technology for utilizing a wider range of renewable biomass forms in space heating, heating industrial processes, for use in power generation, and in production of biofuels and other valuable products to help achieve sustainability.

This approach offers multiple benefits to society such as reduced demand for finite fossil fuels and, in turn, lower market prices for such fuels, reduced emissions of carbon dioxide (the primary greenhouse gas), additional cash crops for our farmers and landowners, which would in turn benefit the farm sector and assist rural areas maintain economic viability.

Blevins, seeing increased government dedication to using the technological approach to addressing the nation's addiction to oil and fixing the climate, and seeing the recently-completed Oak Ridge National Laboratory report outlining a national bio-energy strategy, indications one billion dry tons of biomass, meaning any organic matter that is currently available on a sustainable basis for displacement of up to 30% of our nation's petroleum consumption as transportation fuel, now plans to seek funding from the government and from investors for comprehensive technology development, testing and validation of the



Photo Courtesy Les Blevins, Jr.
Les Blevins, Jr. and his 'Sequential Grates' fuels conversion and biorefining system, currently patented and under further development.

AAEC patented fuels conversion system.

These funding sources combined with the technology validation process are expected to transform Advanced Alternative Energy Co., from a purely R&D organization to a viable commercial business entity.

AAEC success in finding funding would insure AAEC is able to play a role in achieving an increase in ethanol and other liquid fuels production that would see U.S. transportation fuels from agricultural biomass and wastes increase to 20% in 2030 and electrical power from clean coal processes also increase to 20% by 2030, 30% by 2040, and 40% by 2050.

In fact, depending on several factors, if the company is able to commercialize its new biomass conversion technology, AAEC could be providing similar systems that could provide similar amounts of renewable bioenergy in many developing countries which would improve our chances of

Inventor *continued on next page*

Inventor *continued from previous page* successfully addressing climate change in time to avoid a catastrophe.

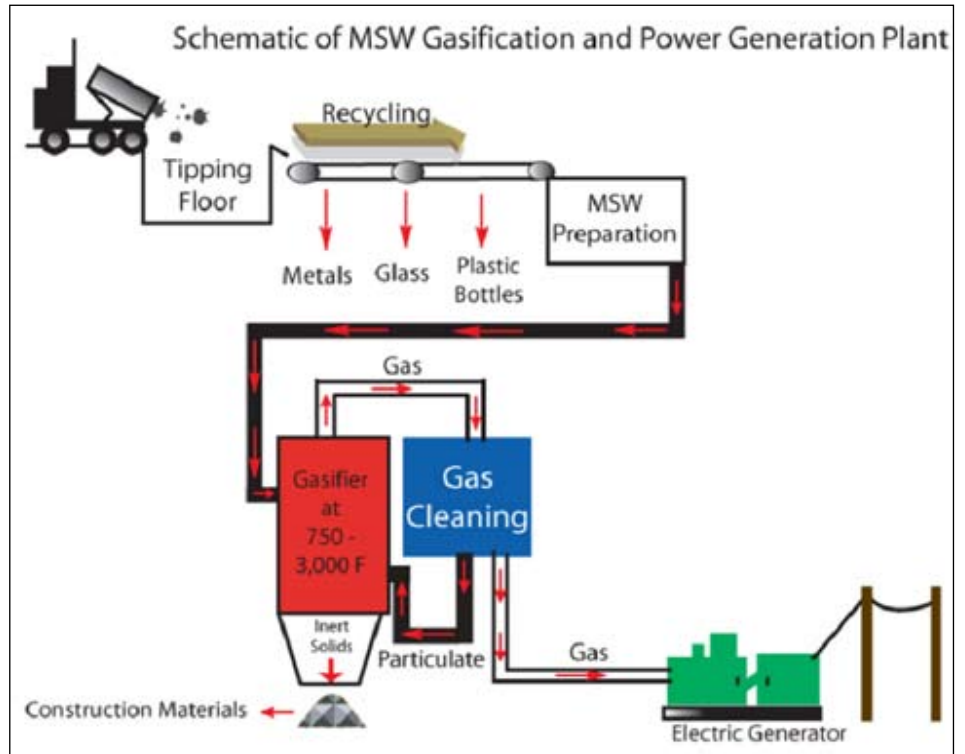
For additional information contact Les Blevins, President & CEO Advanced Alternative Energy
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Email: Lblevins@aaecorp.com
Website: <http://aaecorp.com>

About AAEC's Patented Fuels Conversion Technology

Unlike the conventional waste to energy plants, which are mass burn or incineration units, the novel AAEC conversion process is a thermochemical treatment process. It is a high- or low-heat process which burns the wastes in an oxygen-deprived chamber to produce a synthetic gas (syngas). The syngas is cooled, cleaned, and converted to electricity via a turbine or generator. The syngas can also be converted into a liquid transportation fuel like ethanol or diesel, via a catalyst, i.e. Fischer Tropsch method.

This process produces far fewer emissions than the mass-burn technology, usually about 1/10, and these are well within the limits of the U.S. EPA and State environmental quality standards. Unlike the mass-burn plants, there are no huge smokestacks spewing smoke and noxious emissions.

The conversion technology of waste gasification has been successfully proven on a commercial scale in Europe and Japan. It is a far more efficient – as well as a less-polluting – technology and typically produces up to three times as much electricity as



conventional waste-to-energy plants with much lower emissions. As such, it can be economically deployed in communities with smaller populations, as are scattered over most areas of the world, and it can also be scaled up for larger cities. Heat, power, chemicals, biofuels, and agri-char are the desired end products.

AAEC is seeking partners and alliances in the commercialization of this new concept fuels conversion system. Contact Les Blevins at Lblevins@aaecorp.com for more information.

Biofuels will play an important role in America's clean energy portfolio. These projects will allow us to decrease our dependence on foreign oil, support the growth of the biofuels industry and create jobs here at home."

~ Secretary Steven Chu ~

<https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-selects-biofuels-projects-receive-21-million-funding>

A DIVERSITY OF TACTICS, ONE GOAL: 1.5°C



IPCC report action at Buriganga River, Dhaka, Bangladesh Photo: Riverine People

Secret Chemicals Used in Fracking Endanger Public Health and Drinking Water

Delaware Riverkeeper Network, *excerpt*
September 12, 2018

New Research Report Documents Widespread Use of Potentially Toxic Chemicals

TRENTON, New Jersey – A new report, “Keystone Secrets: Records Show Widespread Use of Secret Fracking Chemicals Is a Looming Risk for Delaware River Basin, Pennsylvania Communities,” by Dusty Horwitt of the Massachusetts-based Partnership for Policy Integrity (PFPI) provides even stronger evidence for a COMPLETE ban on fracking and its activities in the Delaware River Basin, several environmental groups said at a news conference today.

The comprehensive report, released yesterday by PFPI, documents that drilling companies have extensively used loopholes in Pennsylvania rules that allow companies to withhold chemical identities as trade secrets. The report includes an analysis of fracking chemical disclosure data by Pennsylvania-based FracTracker Alliance. The report is available at <http://www.pfpi.net/secret-fracking-chemicals-threaten-delaware-river-basin-pennsylvania>.

Drilling companies employ secret chemicals to frack gas and oil wells, keeping the ingredients of fracking formulas hidden, claiming Trade Secret protections. Regulations at the federal and state level allow for the information about the chemicals injected into drilled wells to be kept from the public and, in some cases, even from emergency responders and regulatory agencies.

According to the report's findings, drilling companies injected secret fracking chemicals 13,632 times into 2,515 “unconventional” gas wells in Pennsylvania, between 2013 and 2017, primarily in Marcellus and Utica shale formations. At least one hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) chemical with an identity kept hidden from the public - and an average of more than five secret fracking chemical injections each - was injected into the 2,515 unconventional natural gas wells drilled in the state, amounting to 55 percent of the more than 4,500 unconventional gas wells drilled during the five-year period.

“Allowing fracking and related activities in the Delaware River Basin would be a huge gamble with people’s health and drinking water” said Horwitt. “People might be unknowingly exposed to the secret and potentially toxic chemicals routinely used in fracking. The Delaware River Basin Commission



Photo Courtesy PFPI

EPA Records Suggest Secret Fracking Chemicals Pose Serious Health Risks but Pennsylvania Law Allows Drilling Companies to Hide Chemical Identities, Even in Emergencies

(DRBC) should take a clear stand against fracking and fracking wastewater disposal.”

“This report clearly shows that what we don’t know will hurt us, affecting the drinking supply for 17 million people. This is an alarm bell going off on how our water supply and public health is threatened by the secret chemicals used in fracking. These companies use the excuse of trade secrets to hide from the public and first responders the different types of toxic chemicals. We can’t treat what we don’t know, so this creates a hidden danger to communities exposed to fracking and fracking waste,” said Jeff Tittel, Director of the New Jersey Sierra Club. “It’s more important than ever for the DRBC to ban fracking as well as fracking waste to protect the people and environment of this Valley. We need Governor Murphy to stand with us to keep these dangerous chemicals the frack out of our water.”

“The danger of fracking and fracking waste isn’t exaggerated. This report exposes what the fracking industry doesn’t want you to know - the secret sauce of fracking is directly linked to serious health risks including harm to the liver, developmental and neurotoxins impacts. Fracking’s chemicals are a direct and silent attack on the body’s health and there’s no reason we should be letting these chemicals anywhere near New Jersey’s waters,” said Doug O’Malley, director of Environment New Jersey. “This report should be a wake-up call to the DRBC and Gov. Murphy, who serves as the DRBC Chair, that we need to be crystal clear that the

DRBC must ban fracking and fracking waste in the entire Delaware River watershed.”

“There’s no longer any room for doubt. This report proves that nothing the fracking industry hides from us is benign. The fact is fracking wastewater is 100% toxic, and that there is absolutely no safe way to regulate, treat, or dispose of it. It is up to the DRBC and their chair, Governor Murphy, to make sure that the fracking industry doesn’t get its hands on the precious resource that is the Delaware River Basin. Just as the fracking industry does not wish to disclose their ‘chemical cocktail’ recipe, we do not wish to place a dollar amount on the lives of the 15 million people who rely on the Delaware for their drinking water. Our watershed and our health are not for sale. We are calling on the DRBC and their chair, Governor Murphy, to not allow fracking wastewater to enter our watershed. Ban fracking 100%, now,” said Alyssa Bradley, Energy Organizer, Clean Water Action.

“Government officials entrusted with protecting the health and safety of our lives and our environment are not entitled to turn a blind eye to the hazards their actions create. But, as this report well demonstrates, that is exactly what the DRBC and the basin states will be doing if they pass their proposed regulation that allows the importation of toxic frack wastewater for storage and disposal in our watershed. But our watershed communities are rising up and turning out to defend ourselves against this looming threat and to hold government accountable for taking responsible protective action; we will not stand for ourselves or others becoming part of the fracking sacrifice zone,” said Maya van Rossum, the Delaware Riverkeeper and leader of the Delaware Riverkeeper Network.

“We already know that fracking is a danger to our air, our water, and our climate. This new report shows that secret fracking chemicals are being used at an astonishing rate in Pennsylvania, which means fracking could be even more dangerous than we thought. The only responsible course of action is a full ban on all fracking-related activities in the Delaware River watershed. Without a complete ban, the health and safety of millions of people who rely on the basin as a source of drinking water will be put at risk. The governors who wield power at the DRBC must take immediate action to protect a source of clean water for millions of residents from the dangers of fracking waste,” said Lena Smith, Food & Water Watch Senior Organizer. . . .

As the Fracking Protesters Show, a People's Rebellion is the Only Way to Fight Climate Breakdown

Submitted by John Conner
Shade Gap, Pennsylvania USA

By George Monbiot

The Guardian: October 18, 2018

It is hard to believe today, but the prevailing ethos among the educated elite was once public service. As the historian Tony Judt documented in *Ill Fares the Land*, the foremost ambition among graduates in the 1950s and '60s was, through government or the liberal professions, to serve their country. Their approach might have been patrician and often blinkered, but their intentions were mostly public and civic, not private and pecuniary.

Today, the notion of public service seems as quaint as a local post office. We expect those who govern us to grab what they can, permitting predatory banks and corporations to fleece the public realm, then collect their reward in the form of lucrative directorships. As the Edelman Corporation's Trust Barometer survey reveals, trust worldwide has collapsed in all major institutions, and government is less trusted than any other.

As for the economic elite, as the consequences of their own greed and self-interest emerge, they seek, like the Roman oligarchs fleeing the collapse of the western empire, only to secure their survival against the indignant mob. An essay by the visionary author Douglas Rushkoff this summer, documenting his discussion with some of the world's richest people, reveals that their most pressing concern is to find a refuge from climate breakdown and economic and societal collapse. Should they move to New Zealand or Alaska? How will they pay their security guards once money is worthless? Could they upload their minds on to super-computers? Survival Condo, the company turning former missile silos in Kansas into fortified bunkers, has so far sold every completed unit.

Most governments, like the UK, Germany, the U.S., and Australia, push us towards the brink on behalf of their friends.

Trust, the Edelman Corporation observes, "is now the deciding factor in whether a society can function." Unfortunately, our mistrust is fully justified. Those who have destroyed belief in governments exploit its collapse, railing against a liberal elite (by which they mean people still engaged in public service) while working for the real and illiberal elite. As the political economist William Davies points out, "sovereignty" is used as a code for rejecting the very notion



Photo from cover of *Keystone Report*

Fracking report Keystone Secrets: Records Show Widespread Use of Secret Fracking Chemicals Is a Looming Risk for Delaware River Basin, Pennsylvania Communities. (See article on previous page.)

of governing as "a complex, modern, fact-based set of activities that requires technical expertise and permanent officials."

Nowhere is the gulf between public and private interests more obvious than in governments' response to the climate crisis. On Monday, UK energy minister Claire Perry announced that she had asked her advisers to produce a roadmap to a zero-carbon economy. On the same day, fracking commenced at Preston New Road in Lancashire, enabled by the permission Perry sneaked through Parliament on the last day before the summer recess.

The minister has justified fracking on the grounds that it helps the country affect a "transition to a lower-carbon economy." But fracked gas has net emissions similar to, or worse than, those released by burning coal.

As we are already emerging from the coal era in the UK without any help from fracking, this is in reality a transition away from renewables and back into fossil fuels. The government has promoted the transition by effectively banning onshore wind farms, while overriding local decisions to impose fracking by central diktat. Now, to prevent people from taking back control, it intends to grant blanket planning permission for frackers to operate.

None of it makes sense, until you remember the intimate relationship between the fossil fuel industry, the City (where Perry made her fortune), and the Tory party, oiled by the political donations flowing from both

sectors into the party's coffers. These people are not serving the nation. They are serving each other.

In Germany, the government that claimed to be undergoing a great green energy transition, instead pours public money into the coal industry and deploys an army of police to evict protesters from an ancient forest to clear it for a lignite mine. On behalf of both polluting power companies and the car industry, it has sabotaged the EU's attempt to improve its carbon emissions target. Before she was re-elected, I argued that Angela Merkel was the world's leading eco-vandal. She might also be the world's most effective spin doctor: she can mislead, cheat, and destroy, and people still call her Mutti.

Other governments shamelessly flaunt their service to private interests, as they evade censure by owning their corruption. A U.S. government report on fuel efficiency published in July concedes, unusually, that global temperatures are likely to rise by 4°C this century. It then uses this forecast to argue that there is no point in producing cleaner cars, because the disaster will happen anyway.

Elsewhere, all talk of climate breakdown within government is censored. Any agency seeking to avert it is captured and redirected.

Source: <http://www.delawariverkeeper.org/sites/default/files/Press%20Release%20Keystone%20Secrets%2009.12.18.pdf>

A Really Scarey Organization: Turning Point USA, Going Against Youth Efforts to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

From the Climate
Disinformation Database:
Charlie Kirk

DeSmogBlog (Clearing the PR Pollution that
Clouds Climate Science)
October 11, 2018, *excerpt*

Charlie Kirk is the founder and executive director of Turning Point USA, a youth conservative activist organization with ties to the petrochemical billionaires, the Koch brothers. Turning Point USA has helped organize opposition to student campaigns pressuring universities to divest from fossil fuels. This week Kirk is in the news for telling pop star Taylor Swift to “stay away from politics” after Swift posted on Instagram about a Tennessee Congressional race and urged her followers to register to vote.

Background

Turning Point USA (TPUSA) is a youth conservative activist organization founded by Charlie Kirk on June 5, 2012. According to its website, TPUSA’s “mission is to identify, educate, train, and organize students to promote the principles of freedom, free markets, and limited government.” They claim a presence on over 1,000 college campuses and high schools across the country, and label themselves the largest and fastest growing youth organization in America.

The organization focuses on building “the most organized, active, and powerful conservative grassroots activist network on college campuses across the country” and has adopted the slogan “Big Government Sucks.”

In lieu of attending college, 18-year-old Charlie Kirk launched TPUSA with the guidance of William Montgomery and seed funding from Foster Friess, a conservative donor with ties to the Koch brothers.

In its 2017–2018 student chapter handbook, TPUSA claims it is non-partisan and focuses strictly on economic issues. The following is from the handbook’s prepared responses to “some commonly asked questions” when setting up a new chapter on campus:

“3. How is your group unique and unlike other clubs already on campus? Turning Point USA is nonpartisan and will never partake in campaign activities of any kind (such as advocating for a specific candidate, making political phone calls, encouraging students to participate in campaign events, etc.). TPUSA does not associate with any political party. We also focus strictly on economic issues (no talk about abortion, gay marriage, etc.)”



While maintaining it is nonpartisan, the organization has close ties to the Trump administration. Kirk worked as a youth outreach specialist for Trump’s campaign, and Trump’s family members have been frequent speakers at TPUSA events. TPUSA also engages students on issues including affirmative action, gender equality, sexual orientation, safe spaces, white privilege, free speech, trigger warnings, abortion, and others. The group has endorsed many controversial speakers such as Milo Yiannopoulos, Ann Coulter, Joe Walsh, and James O’Keefe.

Turning Point USA began as a 501(c)4 nonprofit group and was granted 501(c)3 status in 2014, according to tax disclosures.

In a 2017 investigative piece at *The New Yorker*, Jane Mayer suggested TPUSA “may have skirted campaign-finance laws that bar charitable organizations from participating in political activity” in violation of its 501(c)3 status. The piece exposed direct coordination between TPUSA employees and Ginni Thomas, wife of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, to support Ted Cruz’s presidential campaign. Ginni Thomas is also a member of TPUSA’s advisory council. Email lists of interested students gathered by TPUSA were given to employees of Marco Rubio’s presidential campaign.

TPUSA has been accused of violating spending cap and transparency laws for student government elections at college campuses across the U.S. Critics have called TPUSA a “Super PAC” for student government. At Ohio State University, leaked text messages from a TPUSA director regarding a 2017 student government campaign stated, “Yes TP is funding the campaign but that’s very hush hush. Liberals consistently dominate campus student government and our goal is to take them out secretly without them knowing what’s coming.”

At Ohio State and the University of Maryland, student candidates backed by TPUSA were forced to drop out of campus elections due to violations of campaign spending rules and attempts to hide the help they received from TPUSA.

TPUSA has also been “alleged to have fostered an atmosphere that is hostile to minorities,” and came under fire for connections to alt-right and white supremacist groups.

Professor Watchlist

TPUSA launched Professor Watchlist in November 2016. The website names professors it claims “advance a radical agenda in lecture halls” and promote “leftist propaganda in the classroom.” As reported by *The New York Times*, Professor Watchlist has been seen as a threat to the academic freedom of professors who are personally attacked on the website. It generates much of its content from Campus Reform, a project owned and managed by the Leadership Institute.

Many professors have experienced online harassment and threats after being targeted on Watchlist whose “McCarthy-era tactics” have drawn ridicule and outrage in the academic community.

The Leadership Institute is an official partner of TPUSA, and has received at least \$246,389 from Koch-related foundations between 2003 and 2015. According to its website, The Leadership Institute’s Campus Reform Campus Correspondent Program “recruits, cultivates, and pays conservative student journalists all across the country to investigate and report liberal bias on college campuses throughout their state.” Many Campus Correspondents are also ranking members of TPUSA.

Source: <https://www.desmogblog.com/turning-point-usa>

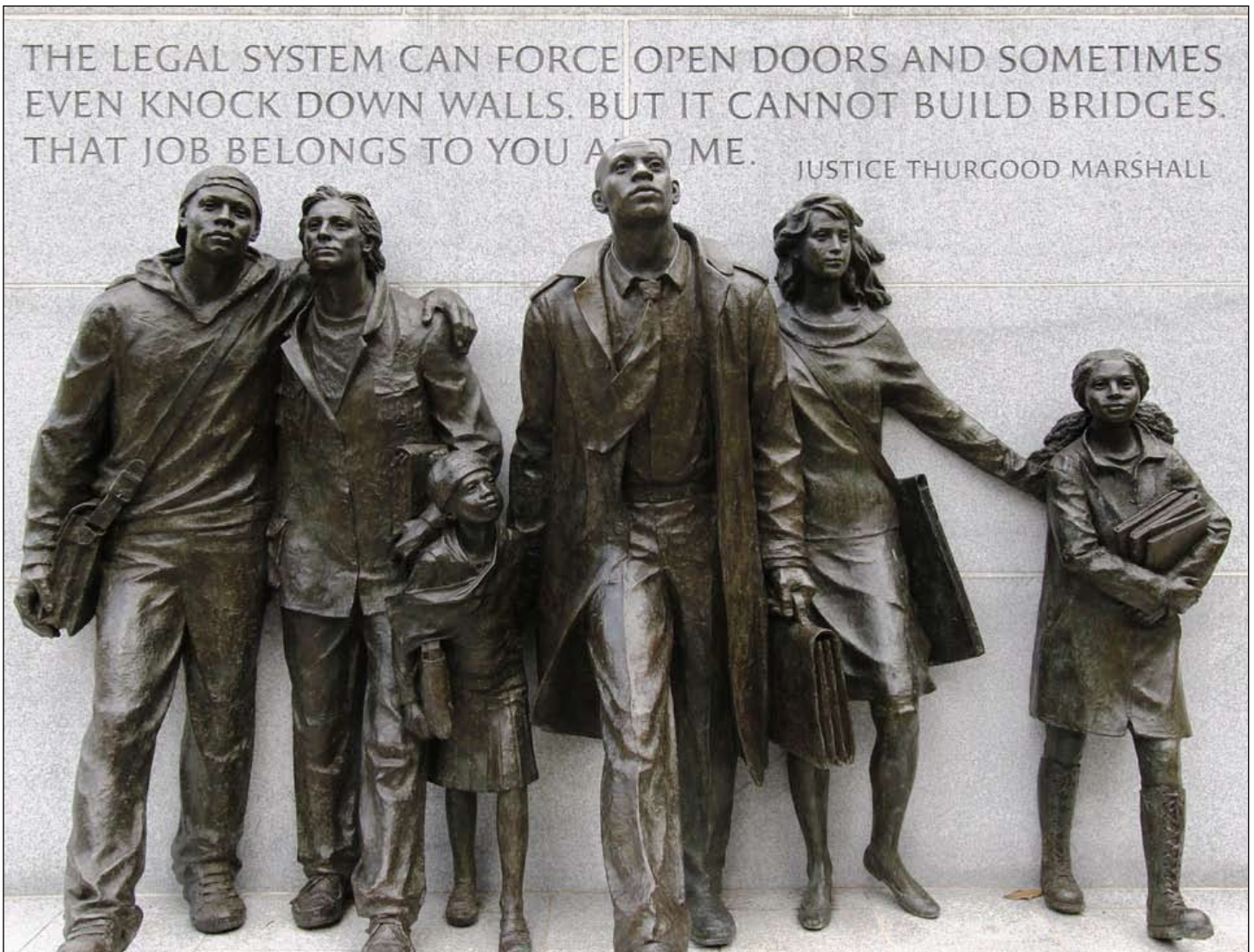


Photo ©
iStock-
photo.

Photo: Ron Cogswell Flickr Creative Commons

Start of an article by the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund on October 11, 2018: "Young activists and organizers today study the civil rights movement. It's our model for organizing. It's our reference point for how to do it right. It defines the unofficial rules for mass organizing." Source: <https://celdf.org/2018/10/blog-with-justice-keavanaugh-forget-everything-you-were-taught-about-how-to-resist-injustice/>

Proposed 28th Amendment: Laws to Apply Equally to Citizens as to Legislators

Submitted by Susan Britton Seyler

OUR PRESENT SITUATION:

- Children of Congress members do not have to pay back their college student loans.
- Staffers of Congress family members are also exempt from having to pay back student loans.
- Members of Congress can retire at full pay after only one term.
- Members of Congress have exempted themselves from many of the laws they have passed, under which ordinary citizens must live. For example, they are exempt from any fear of prosecution for sexual harassment. And as the latest example, they

have exempted themselves from Healthcare Reform, in all of its aspects.

We must not tolerate an elite class of such people, elected as public servants and then putting themselves above the law. I truly don't care if they are Democrat, Republican, Independent, or whatever. The self-serving must stop. Governors of 35 states have filed suit against the Federal Government for imposing unlawful burdens upon their states. It only takes 38 (of the 50) states to convene a Constitutional Convention.

Proposed 28th Amendment to the United States Constitution: "Congress shall make no law that applies to the citizens of the United States that does not apply equally to

the Senators and/or Representatives; and, Congress shall make no law that applies to the Senators and/or Representatives that does not apply equally to the Citizens of the United States ..."

WHAT IF each person that reads this will forward it on to 20 people? In three days most people in The United States of America will have the message.

From our Wire Editor: This article is based on an infamous Internet myth, first documented by Snopes in Jan. 2011 (updated Jan. 2018). Please see <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/congressional-staffers-family-members-exempt-repaying-student-loans/>; also please see <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/28th-amendment/>.



Remember your dreams.



Messages from Our Friends



I forgot to say to you today (U.S. Columbus Day, October 8 this year).... HAPPY INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY! The mayor of Boise officially changed the name of today and from now on it will be called INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY. Anyway, I just was watching the news... which I rarely do... and I saw this news.

Also, Paulette Jordan was there of course. She is a member of the Coeur'd Alene tribe (well-known tribe in Idaho) and is a Democrat running for Governor. I almost want to register to vote just to vote for her!!!! I've been watching her for a while. She's been in politics a while and I really like her. It would be so nice to get rid of the "good old boys" in Idaho!!!!
Linda Lowber, Idaho USA

I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I waited so long for someone to do that for me, publish the story of my life and promote my artistic work, because my dream is that one day I can travel to the United States or any other country in order to exhibit my paintings and to know myself as an artist. Unfortunately in my country, Guatemala does not have much support in art, and that is why I look for support in other countries where they really support me. And again, thank you very much, Iona Conner, for me it is a blessing from God to have known her.

Art Pascual Antonio Pur Quiacain
Guatemala (see pages 5-6)

Thank you very much Iona for your willingness to expose my art and the kind words that you are offered!

It's the little things that can go a long way! Thank you for being able to make my day!!!

Carson Walters, Pennsylvania USA

Yes, this is the world we have now, very polluted. I first studied American's Superfund sites in 1992 at University. While those sites are a mess and very hard to clean up and we don't really have a working plan to deal with all of them.

We must do our best to focus on what we are doing and what we can do. Team 54

Project is one of millions of around the world doing great work.

We will all help spread the message of working with nature to help restore our planet. It is proven that nature can easily clean a little pollution and when we stop polluting as much and work on regenerative farming and eco-restoration we will be creating a different future than the doom and gloom we could have.

Matthew Bonnstetter, Serbia

I'm really happy to have found your address. My name is Ndayishimiye Pacific. I am a Burundian and legal representative of a community-based association called PALEA (Park leaders for self-development). We have just made a project called Project to Reduce Human Pressure on the Forest Area of the Ruvubu National Park by establishing a Kavuruga Maritimme Irrigation System and Repairing the Park with Agroforestry Species and another project called Riverland Soil and Biodiversity Conservation in the Rububu National Park.

But we have a problem of the financial means to be able to execute our projects in order to be able to contribute for the protection of the environment source of the good health. Can you help us to afford? How can our association partner with your club or organization? Good luck in everything.

Pacifique Ndayishimiye, Burundi

Not so much work for your Wire Editor this time around because so much of issue #43 is original content from your African partners. I really liked Adeline Yafi's poem on page 18, entitled "Mother Earth Weeps." For me it invoked that famous passage, noted for being the shortest verse in the King James bible. I look forward to seeing more of her poetry in future editions of *Groundswell News*.

Allen Hengst, Washington, DC, USA

I got your mail and thank you so much. The magazine is really great that I got many knowledge and ideas from it. This magazine really helps the youths like us to learn how to save Mother Earth for

future generations and I'll definitely share this with my organization's members and volunteers too.

As I am being the environmental activist, I found that this magazine helps to change the mindset of the people and they'll be aware of the environmental pollution and global warming. Thank you so much, Iona. With lots of love and support and encouragement from you all makes us to be more responsible and we are trying our best to contribute something to our country. I hope you'll also support our Bye Bye Plastic Bags Nepal in the coming days too and you may help to reach out with more people.

By the help and support from you, we are all able to do something better for the society and the country. Thank you so much for your interest to publish our story in your magazine and if you need more pictures, I can provide you and feel free to message me if you want to know more about our projects and our work. Thank you so much for your love and support towards us and underdeveloped countries like Nepal.

I really appreciate for what you're doing and we'll also try our best to save our Mother Earth for future generations.
Anup Khadka, Bye Bye Plastic Bags Nepal (see pages 24-25)

Thank you for sharing this beautiful labor of love. I just scrolled through the pages and was thrilled to see my feature and images. It has been an honor to associate with so many organizations inspiring change and Team 54 Project is doing awesome work, connecting Africa and the world. I have had the privilege to deliver three online presentations to the Team 54 Project team and I am grateful to Dr. Gbujie Daniel for facilitating the engagements.

My best wishes to all of you wonderful people. Thank you for caring.
Raj Phukan, India

The file you sent me is very exciting. Thank you for that good job you did.
Emmanuel Niyoyabikoze, Burundi (see pages 14-16)

Messages continued on next page

Messages *continued from previous page*

Thanks for the great work.
Emmett Paye, Liberia

Climate change is the defining issue of our time – and we are at a defining moment. If we do not change course by 2020, we could miss our chance to avoid the disastrous consequences of runaway climate change. The time for ambitious #ClimateAction is now. <https://t.co/Ad19hj3zsD>
<https://t.co/VykZtbYDUi> www.UN.org.
Roberto Santi, Liberia (see next page)

Many thanks dear Iona and to all the empowered people. You all are an enrichment for the world. Together we can make a change. Let's work together for a better world.
Fabio Hüther, Switzerland (see pages 27-29)

Hello, Iona Conner, this is so wonderful. Am very pleased and glad to feature in your paper. And the whole content in the paper is awesome... Thank you.
Paul Pawel Tamale, Uganda (see pages 35-39)

Thank you, Iona Conner for the great work! All together for the best work!
Mathias Kpetohoto, Benin

Thank you so much Iona Conner. Together we can make a change and impact great to this world. I'm so much grateful and will be there for you all time.
Maxwell Nana Maankwah, Ghana

Thank you for this, we're pleased to be included in your publication. Your coverage is truly global! Yes, you can add me to your list. Look forward to taking a look.
Emelyn Lybarger, Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund, Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, USA (see page 46)

AFTER SPECIAL IPCC REPORT ISSUE

Reading through you IPCC Issue, I'm inspired to take more action against ills effecting our today's society. Thank you so much for the effort and work. Keeping pushing forward and engaging problem confronting the Society, most especially Climate Change because few years from now the world with face huge challenges. Animals are dying as the result of huge consumption of the sunlight that react upon the Earth surface. Plants are dying as the result of the damages that the climate creates for the Earth.
Act today and be part of history or wait today and attest to history. Our Earth,

animals, and plants need to be protected because they're dying.
Ahmed A. Paasewe, Liberia

This IS really fabulous.
Charles Boima Freeman, Liberia

This is very nice and informative news-letter thanks for sharing.
Moharana Choudhury, India

Thanks for sharing!
Amos Sawboh, Liberia

If it (the planet) cooks* all the humans and leaves all other species including vegetation, bugs, and everything else I adore and love (but not humans), then GREAT, let us fucking cook!!!!!!
Gloria DeSousa, USA
PS Sure. I hope it doesn't offend anyone.
*(NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: When I sent out my special IPCC report to my email list, I started off with this: "Dear Go-Back Club Friend, This is the first Special Issue I've done in 10 years of publishing my own newspaper. We are officially put on notice by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate change that we have only 10 to 12 years to turn the whole world green or we're **cooked**.")

Thanks for the message. I received it on my email. Am happy and I love what you write; it's inspiring and interesting.
Winnie Williams, Uganda

How are you? I received your mail and I almost finished reading and I really love to read and side by side you feel sad about the climate issue of our Mother Earth.

And thank you so much for sharing this wonderful news and I really appreciate you and your work. I am sure this will help a lot of people and they may get aware as well.

I'll share in social media as well to reach out with more people from all corners of the world. I was so excited to message you so I stopped reading and message you and now I'll continue reading. Thank you so much Iona. Have a good day and speak to you soon.
Anup Khadka, Nepal

Good morning from Ghana. Thank you so much for coming out with such relevant update and we hoping it will be on a solid ground to produce good results as we move forward with much consultations and discussions.
Maxwell Nana Amankwah, Ghana

Thank you for coming out with this important update.

Raj Phukan, India

Dear my friend, thank you very much for my letter, you're really motivating. Our planet needs people like you. Have a wonderful weekend.

Evelyn Namuwolo, Uganda

You are an awesome, Earth worrier... thanks a lot for the report
Paul Pawel Tamale, Uganda

Thanks for sharing. Very resourceful!
Sussie-Greene Kwaghdoo, Nigeria

Well done Iona Conner
Uloaku Priscillia, Nigeria

Iona Conner Congratulations on your fabulous work! Great contribution on the Green platform. Thank you Iona Conner. Together we inspire sharing knowledge and experience
Joyce Misoi, Kenya

Dear brothers and sisters,

It's that easy to survive with this type of dream in this kind of society that everyone is seeking self-relevance. All I can say is that let us keep up the courage and know that we are doing this for the good of our country's future

If you were around me right now dear Iona, I would've carried you on my back for your intervention this morning.

I have on my own tried many things in life and have failed about 10 times at this age, but I have never given up one single day, even up to now I have no reason to hold back until I reach my goal.

Not many of us have parents, relatives, or friends who care about what we do, but the courage in us will lead us to our destiny. That's a sure case family.

We will never fall!

Look brothers and sisters, Liberia needs us and likewise the world, too. Just keep doing the little you have been doing, your reward is just around the corner.
Samson Sehgren, Team 54 Liberia

Friends of Sustainability:

U.S. economics professor Jeffrey Sachs recently appeared on Q&A, alongside Senator James Paterson of Australia and slammed the Australian federal government as "unbelievably irresponsible" for its inaction on climate change.

Sachs has good intentions but has little understanding of what can reasonably be accomplished in fixing the climate. He proposed Australia could cover their outback desert with solar panels and send their excess power to Asia via cables under the

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be accomplished in fixing the climate. He proposed: Australia could cover their outback desert with solar panels and send their excess power to Asia via cables under the sea.

Now, whoever believes it's feasible to cover the enormous expanse of Australia's land mass with solar panels and gather that much electrical power with thousands of miles of cables and then lay more thousands of miles of undersea cables to Indonesia and then lay more thousands of miles of cables to throughout Indonesia and then more thousands of miles of cables to other countries in Asia has little understanding of what is feasible.

How much better and more feasible it would be to locate solar panels throughout Indonesia (as is already happening) and augment the power they generate for local needs with locally-available biomass and municipal trash when the sun sets. Indonesia has a vast surplus of biomass from their production of palm oil plantations and coconut husks and the tree trunks and branches. What is needed is a practical means of converting this vast amount of biomass to electrical power and biofuels via gasification of the biomass and municipal trash which contains vast amounts of plastics and other Btu-containing materials that is filling up landfills and being dumped in streams which eventually carry most all this stuff into the oceans.

Les Blevins, Kansas, USA (see pages 41-42)

I hope you are doing well, I thank you for IPCCs reports you have shared, it is really important to spread words, so everyone around the world may know this and take action, it concerns us all.

I'm getting inspired and getting news concerning climate crisis. I'm willing to learn more and know how to get more committed to this global cause, how to raise our local community awareness.

Be blessed

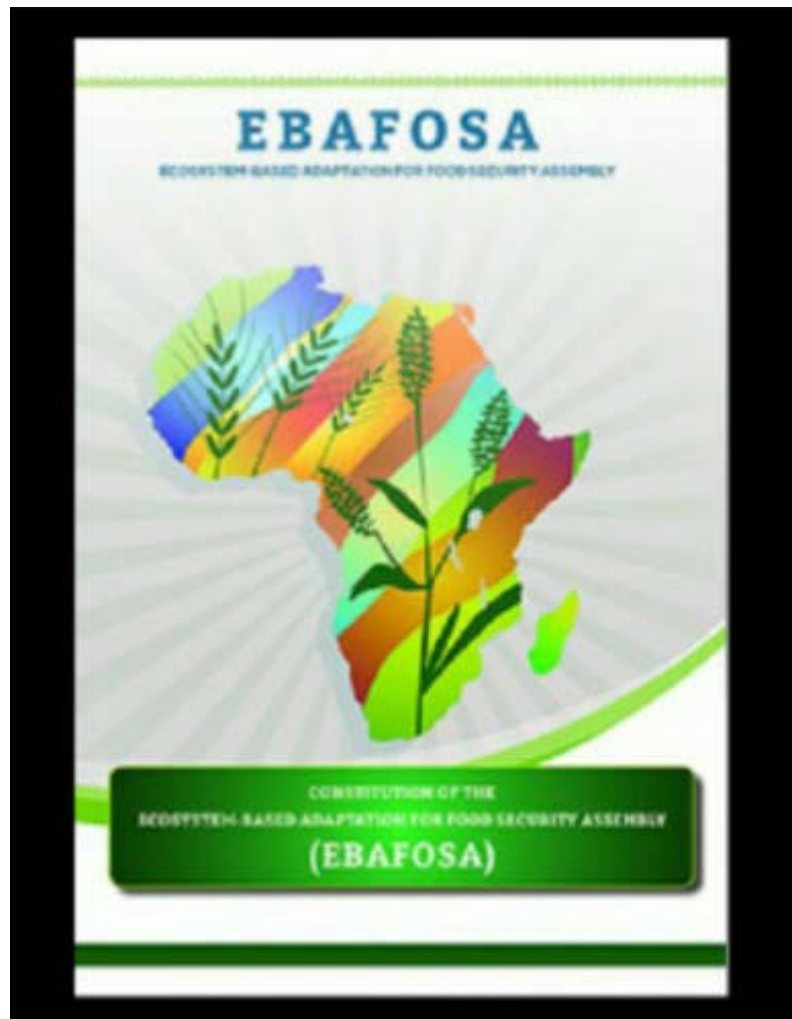
Leon Simwearyi, Congo Green Brigade

Yeah of course Iona I'll share you their email ID as well and I'll share in our Facebook pages and other social medias after this newspaper is published. Thank you so much Iona. You are the inspiration for many youths.

Anup Khadka, Nepal (see pages 24-26)

Glad the check arrived. Thanks for sending me the nice messages from Emmanuel. What a fine project he is heading up. He and his team deserve huge appreciation for their important work for Burundi and for our planet. Please send him my very best.

Anonymous Donor in U.S. (see pages 14-16)



Global Climate Change Threat to the Earth

Irresponsible human activity continues to bring harm to our nature world. More than ever, human society is beginning to see and feel the effects of global warming and climate change.

Today climate change is affecting all sectors of the world; these changes are happening at different rates and in different ways. Climate change is already affecting our lives and the places we live and has the potential to dramatically impact the lives of future generations.

However, Liberia has been plagued with civil conflicts, poverty, and widespread abuse of the environment and unsustainable exploitation of natural resources (livelihood means) in particular. This is manifested in the rapid rates of deforestation, environmental degradation, and rapid erosion of genetic resources and biodiversity.

Liberia needs effective and meaningful leadership from governmental line ministries and other authorities in addressing environmental issues.

The terms global warming and climate change are new phenomenon in Liberia as many people are not aware about the effect of climate change. The average global temperature has increased by 0.74°C, and Humans are further changing the climate by their actions, especially through emissions of greenhouse gases, particularly carbon dioxide (CO₂) which artificially warms the Earth's atmosphere.

I have agreed to Volunteer my professional skills, ongoing initiatives, talents, and network for collective actions toward a shared end-goal of bridging policy and operational gaps to establish a sustainable agriculture, clean-energy-powered, agro-industrial zone with information-communication-technology-enabled linkage to market/supply chain under Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA, map above).

#EBAFOSALiberia

#SDG13 climate action

Roberto Santi (25 years old), Liberia