



The Role of Data in Managing Climate Change

By

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Outline

- About RCE Ogun
 - Our Changing Planet
 - The Climate Emergency
 - Role of Data in Climate Change
 - Final Words
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About RCE Ogun

- RCE Ogun is one of the 179 Regional Centers of Expertise (RCEs) in the world.
- RCEs are learning hubs on sustainable development where people at the grass root can learn about the concept of sustainable development and how they can attain the SDGs at their level.
- RCE Ogun was accredited by the United Nations University Institute for Advanced Sustainability (UNU-IAS) in July 2018



On Climate Action



Climate change clubs



Along the Great Wall of Lagos: Climate Change Ambassador's field trip to Eko Atlantic City



Climate Change Learning Manuals

Awards

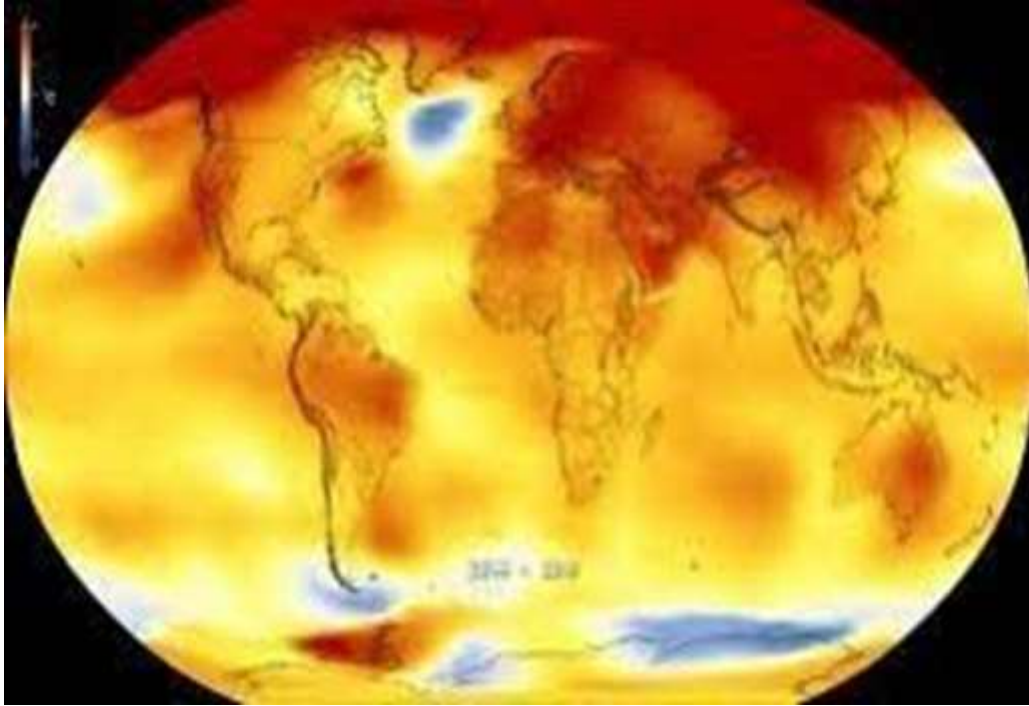
- International Green Gown Award 2021
- Flagship Award, on Minorities Voice up for Climate Change Project, 2021
- Climate Champion, COP 26, Glasgow, Scotland, 2021

Our Changing Planet



- Our planet has always been changing
- But it is the alarming rate at which it is changing that is the cause of concern,
- Triggered by anthropogenic activities
- With further temperature increases our planet may lose its resilience
- Resulting in dire consequences for life forms on planet earth

The Climate Emergency



Global warming 1880-2021
NASA's Scientific Visualization
Studio.

- Our planet is in an environmental distress.
- Almost every part of the planet is experiencing hotter temperatures
- Current average global temperature is at about 1.5 degrees Celsius (NASA, 2021).

ROLE OF DATA IN MANAGING CLIMATE CHANGE



Effectiveness of Climate Change Campaigns



- Positive behavioral changes towards climate action
- Environmental stewardship
- Sustainability transformation

Strengthens Evidence on Climate Change



The impacts of climate change are global in nature with local effects that validate its reality.

- 267 giga tones of ice lost every year
- 1 giga tone is like the size of the New York City Park which is about 340 hectares
- 21% of sea level rise
- Life forms on ice include: algae, arctic cod, seals, and polar bears
- Polar bears are marine mammals
- They depend on ice for hunting, travelling, breeding, denning

Climate Change –Voices of Young Nigerians

Effects	Mean
Increase in food prices	4.53
Food shortage	4.34
Rise in temperatures	4.18
Drought	4.11
Flooding	3.96
Scarcity of fresh water	3.68
Poor outdoor air quality	3.66



Source: RCE Ogun Field Survey on Perception of Nigerian Youths on Climate Change, 2021

Data from Stakeholders in the Cassava Value Chain



Mr. James Oyesola Climate Change Desk Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Ogun State



I have been planting cassava for the past 7 years. Last year (2020) there was no rain between June and August.

The first rain came in September and stopped in October. It did not rain again until March 2021". Because most farms in our area are not irrigated majority of the cassava that we planted dried on the farm, and that means less harvest and less income for us"

Farmer




"Due to lack of rain we are experiencing more termite attacks on our cassava and this is affecting the size of the cassava. Although termite attack is not new, it is more now because rainfall is not as much as before"

"At times we experience flooding that soaks our cassava tubers and they rot in the ground leading to losses"

Farmer

Implications

- One of the greatest effects of climate change in Nigeria is food insecurity.
 - This is because food production in Nigeria is mainly rain fed (dependent).
 - Seventy percent of farms in Nigeria are operated on a small scale and with low technology.
 - With a population of over **200 million people**, a food crisis will plunge Nigeria and the entire West African region into a humanitarian crisis.
 - This situation will further strain the resilience of this region which is already threatened by poverty, unemployment and insecurity.
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Builds the Resilience of Cities



- Data can help cities prepare adequately for shocks and disasters
- Data enhances the ability of cities to bounce back or recover quickly from shocks, disasters
- Data facilitates innovative solutions to challenges such as climate change



- What will happen if Ota becomes flooded?
- Who would we blame for the occurrence of a flood in Ota?
- Who would be most vulnerable in the event of a flood in Ota?
- How prepared are we for a flood or any other natural disaster?
- How many of our people can volunteer in the event of a crisis?
- What skills do they have to help/support during a crisis

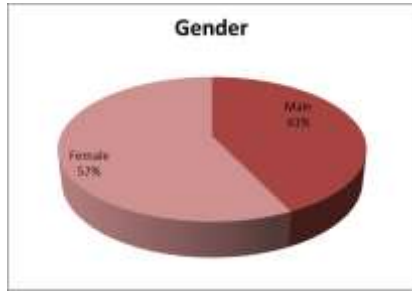
Enhances the Design and Implementation of Climate Change Policies



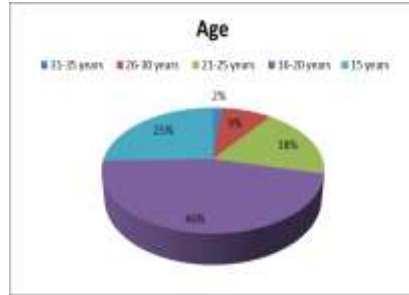
- Data aid policy makers in developing and implementing policies
- Policy makers rely on data (feedback) to assess the effectiveness of their policies

Perception of Youths on Climate Change

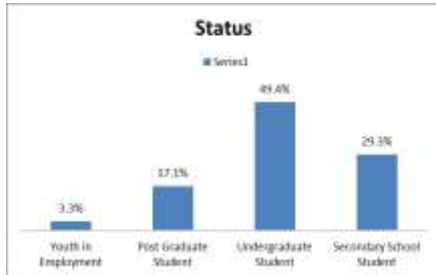
Background Details of Respondents



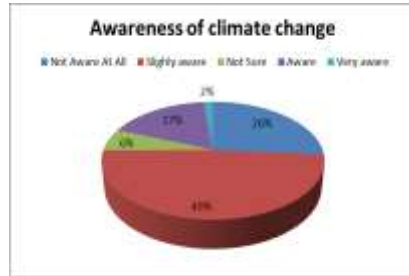
Gender Analysis of Respondents



Age of Respondents



Status of Respondents



Awareness of Climate Change

Effects of Climate Change

Effects	Mean
Increase in food prices	4.53
Food shortage	4.34
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Climate Change Mitigation Strategy

Mitigation Strategies	Mean
Recycling Waste	4.61
Use of Renewable Energy	4.56
Tree Planting	4.51
Climate Smart Agriculture	4.43
Increase Research Activities on Climate Change	4.42
Green Jobs	4.40
Awareness Campaign	4.29
Inclusion of Climate Change in School Curriculum	4.29
Carbon Tariff for Manufacturing Companies	4.22
Reduced Duty for Importers of Climate Friendly Technologies	4.04
High Tariff on Generator Importers	3.81

Data on Climate Change from Persons with Disabilities

Background details of Interviewees

S/N	Interviewee	Gender	Disability	Vocation
1	A	Female	<i>Collage Tanginamo, a form of polio</i>	Teacher and advocate for persons with disabilities
2	B	Male	<i>Congenital deformity on my left leg</i>	Civil servant
3	C	Female	<i>Polio, which affected my left arm and my right leg</i>	Soft drinks business

Major Highlights

- People with disabilities are very vulnerable to climate change effects such as flooding
- They are more prone to further injuries during flooding or excessive rainfall
- They are more susceptible to skin cancer due to harsh weather conditions for example Albinos
- They should be given a voice in climate change mitigation

Comments from Persons with Disabilities



Reality

- “When I went to the village last December, I noticed that there was no harmattan throughout my stay. Normally harmattan comes in December. I was told later that it rained in January in the village. This shows something is definitely wrong with the weather”
- “People take more water because the weather is hot. You just have to keep hydrating your system”


Effects

- “As a woman with disability, it is very challenging for me when it rains I use two walking aids. I can’t hold an umbrella. So, when it rains, except someone follows me, I will be drenched. People without disabilities can easily shield themselves from the rains but it is difficult for someone with my kind of disability”
- “Excessive rains caused by climate change affects my productivity at work. When it rains I have to depend on people because I use crutches. I also get undue sympathy from people. Sometimes I am advised to stay back at home meanwhile I have pending work in the office. I am also allergic to cold, and whenever I am beaten by the rains, I feel pains all over my body”

Strategies

- There should be policies to protect people. Even the open grazing should have a limit. We need to constantly assess our food production level otherwise we will be heading towards famine.
- “People with disabilities should be given a voice at all levels of decision making for climate change mitigation. No one can speak for them except themselves.

Data as Feedback From Climate Change Policy/Strategy

A woman wearing a green headwrap and a patterned orange and black dress is speaking at a meeting. She is looking towards the right. In the background, other people are seated at a table. The setting appears to be an indoor meeting room.

“Some extension workers told us that the use of firewood in processing garri is dangerous to our health and the climate, so we started using gas. But gas is now very expensive. So, we have gone back to using firewood’

“We struggle to make gain from our garri business these days. The cost of 5 bags of garri before can hardly buy 1 bag of garri now. To remain in business, we also hike the price for retailers

Garri Processor

Final Words



Data should be :

- Simple
- Usable
- Factual/Realistic
- Inclusive

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