

REPORT OF THE RCE MINNA YOUTH NETWORK ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION 16TH AUGUST, 2015 HELD AT RCE MINNA RESOURCE CENTER MINNA, NIGERIA

THEME: Volunteering Towards Achieving ESD: The Role of RCE Minna Youth

RCE Minna Round Table Discussion was organised by the RCE Minna Youth Network on 16th August, 2015 at the RCE Minna Resource Center. The program was aimed at bringing together RCE Youth and other youth organisation to foster strong youth commitment and action through volunteering to achieve Education for Sustainable Development (ESD).

The program was attended by the Coordinator RCE Minna, Dr. Abdul Husaini, RCE Minna research expert and Deputy Director with Islamic Education Trust Nigeria, Mal. Nurudeen Lemu, representative of RCE Minna at the Community-to-Community Exchange and Capacity Development Workshop for Traditional Knowledge Holders coming up on 28 September-4 October Bangalore, India, Dr. Abdullahi Mann of the Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria. Others include RCE Minna youth, Founder and Co-founder of African Center for Extra-Curricular Research and Development (ACERAD) Global Resource Nigeria, Center for Disaster Risk Management Federal University of Technology Minna, Nigeria, Niger State Geographic Information System (NIGIS) and Coordinator Movement for Youth and Peace Initiative (MYPI).

The Round Table Discussion started with an opening remark by Dr. Adbul Husaini who highlighted the need for youth to be active in civic engagement. He charged the youth to make use of the available resources within RCE Minna to come up with quality programs for sustainable development. This was followed by presentation of RCE at a glance, beyond YUVA and Volunteering towards achieving ESD by Ibrahim Akibu Ja'afaru, Coordinator RCE Minna Youth Network. This was done in order to stimulate the youth in collective actions towards ESD.

After the presentation, Mal Nuruddeen Lemu advised the youth to come up with an idea that is beneficial to the community which they are passionate about. He sighted example with the research work of RCE Minna on the use of Used Baby Diapers, which has reduced the rate at which the number of used diapers are dumped within Minna. He also plays a documentary of Canoe Project by RCE Minna which is under review. The project was on a balanced canoe that enables safe water transportation. The documentary highly raised the moral of the youth. Also, Dr. Abdullahi Mann encouraged the youth to take up responsibility for positive innovations and harness the abandon indigenous knowledge within their community.

In the second session of the Round Table Discussion there was RCE Minna Youth Network Meeting. The meeting was chaired by Ibrahim Akibu Ja'afaru, Coordinator RCE Minna Youth Network. Matters arising from the first session were deliberated and the following action points were discussed during the meeting.

- 1. Organised a 2-day capacity building workshop for RCE Minna Youth on 19-20th September, 2015 at RCE Minna resource center. Details will be shared soon.
- 2. The workshop will center on Personal Development and Leadership, Public Speaking and Communication and Youth Civic Engagement.
- 3. Agreed to improve active collaboration between other youth NGOs such as ACERAD and MYPI.
- 4. RCE Minna Youth Network, ACERAD and Young People for African Development (YPAD) to organise an Inter-Secondary School debating competition by 1st October, 2015.
- 5. Identify areas of collaboration with schools and government institutions.
- 6. Improve participation at international level, through the global RCE youth Network and RCE youth network Africa Forum.
- 7. Applying for sponsorship to attend international exchange programs.
- 8. Renewed commitment to develop a workable action plan for quality programs and activities in short, medium and long terms.

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