



**REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE (RCE) MINNA IN COLLABORATION WITH
NIGERIAN ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY (NES) NIGER STATE CHAPTER
REPORT OF THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2022
THEME: 'ONLY ONE EARTH'
14TH JUNE, 2022**



Photo: Contestants, invited guest and RCE Minna Team in a group photograph **Credit:** RCE Minna

Introduction

The Regional Centre of Expertise (RCE), Minna has continued to play a leading role in commemorating the World Environment Day (WED) celebration for approximately 10 years in Niger State. The centre has leveraged on the opportunity provided by the day to raise awareness and sensitized people within and outside Minna on the need to protect the environment through several programmes and projects such as the 'Plant a Tree and Earn a Living', Community and Neighbourhood Tree Planting Projects, Spare heading the Creation of the Bridget Aisha Lemu Children's and Conservatory Park (BAL-CCP) and Screening of Relevant

Environmental Awareness Videos (such as ‘No Where to Run’) and the School Empowerment And Nutritional Supplementation through Agriculture (SENSA) Project among others.

In line with the above, the centre commemorated this year’s WED with an on-the-spot painting challenge with 7 Secondary Schools within Minna participating in the event. The painting challenge was centered on the theme of the 2022 WED, ‘**Only One Earth**’. The students depicted their understanding of the Environmental Challenges within their communities, especially as it relates to the theme of the event. The Programme was held on the 14th June, 2022 at the Tafsir Hall of the Islamic Education Trust, Minna.

World Environment Day 2022

This year world environmental day was held under the theme **Only One Earth**, according to UNEP, the theme is highlighting the need to live sustainably in harmony with nature by bringing transformative changes – through policies and our choices – towards cleaner, greener lifestyles. Only One Earth was the motto for the 1972 Stockholm Conference; 50 years on, the motto holds true - this planet is our only home, whose finite resources humanity must safeguard. According to UNEP’s Making Peace with Nature report issued earlier this year, transforming social and economic systems means improving our relationship with nature, understanding its value and putting that value at the heart of decision making.



Photo: Some Contestants with their painting

Credit: RCE Minna

2022 RCE MINNA WED ACTIVITY

For this year's WED RCE Minna organized an on the spot painting challenge where 7 secondary schools within Minna participated at the contest. The aim of the painting contest was to enhance students' knowledge and awareness of the environmental challenges within their immediate environment and also to enlighten them on the dangers of poor environmental habits and encouraged them to promote conservation through painting. The programme was divided into three sessions, which include:

The introductory Session and Messages on Climate Change: The event gave room for invited guests to share their knowledge in line with the UNEP 2022 WED leadership dialogue and meetings which is scheduled to hold at Stockholm and Kenya, which is to reflect on the urgent need for actions towards a healthy planet and prosperity of all, achieving a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, and accelerating the implementation of the environmental dimension of Sustainable Development in the context of the Decade of Action.



Photo: A cross Section of Contestants during the 'On the Spot Painting Challenge'

Credit: RCE Minna

On the Spot Painting Session: This session provided the 7 schools with an opportunity for them to display their dexterity in the world of art, participants were given one hour for them to come up with an amazing art work which displays their environmental orientation. The Paintings will

be the copy right of RCE Minna, which will be displayed at the 2022 African RCE Conference in Kenya.

At the end of the exercise, the first position went to New Horizon College Minna, the Second position was Day Secondary School Tunga and the third position was Father O'Connell Science College, Minna.



Photo: Group Photograph of all participants at the 2022 WED

Credit: RCE Minna

The Video Screening Session: To keep parents, teachers and other invited guest busy while the painting was ongoing, a video titled *'No Where to Run'* (an environmental awareness video, x-raying the challenges of Environment in Nigeria) was screened for them to also have an opportunity to appreciate the environmental challenges in Nigeria and how our little efforts as individuals and as groups can help in combating the effect of climate change.

All contestants were awarded with cash prizes (about \$100 each) and Certificates. Furthermore, the 7 participating schools will be invited to undergo training on leadership and capacity building at the RCE Minna Leadership Training Academy.

APPRECIATIONS

RCE Minna will want to sincerely appreciate all organizations and government institutions that supported in the actualization of the programme, they include, the Niger State Ministry for Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs, Niger State Urban Development Board, Niger State Housing Cooperation, Niger State Geographic Information Systems, Niger State Ministry of Education, Nigerian Environmental Society (NES) Niger State Chapter and the Islamic Education Trust (IET) Minna among others.

CONCLUSION

For RCE Minna, the Annual Commemoration of the World Environment Day is not just another day, but an opportunity to reinforce its commitment to driving the ship of environmental sustainability across our communities and to further sustained the decade of continuous sensitization and awareness towards environmental sustainability.

LINKS

<https://youtu.be/0zuRMxaCrvQ> (Nowhere to Run)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1m0unl6uoEcBmBiL6NNO9UazlFSL3FEj1?usp=sharing> (More Pictures)