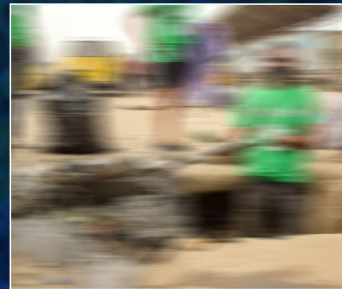
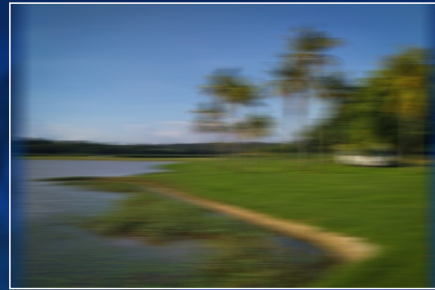
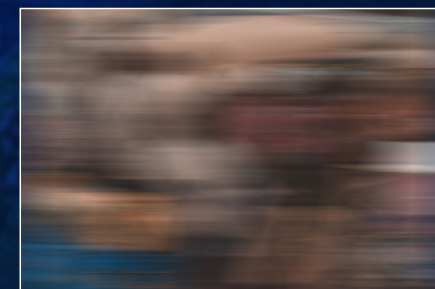
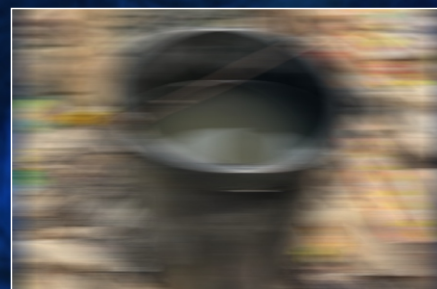
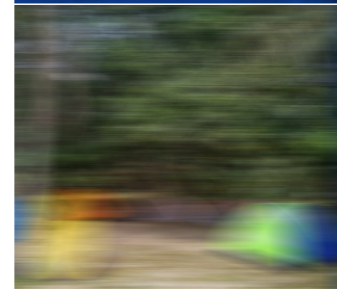
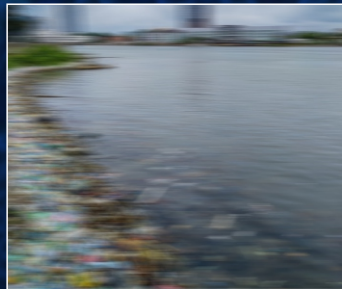




Clean Technology Hub  
energy innovation centre



# The Environment Through Your Eyes Photo Series





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## Introduction

Africa has been highlighted as one of the continents to experience the brunt of the climate crisis. The impact of climate change has become a reality in Africa ranging from severe and prolonged droughts, flooding, acidification of oceans and warming of surface waters, rising temperatures and sea levels, desertification and soil erosion which continually threatens food security. These are issues that will have a great impact on our vulnerable continent. For effective decisions to be made, and for solutions to be designed it is essential to illuminate these issues.

## Background

The Environment Through Your Eyes Photo Project arose as a result of lack of visual effects of climate change and environmental pollution in Nigeria.

The overall aim of the project was to stir a sense of responsibility and accountability in citizens of Nigeria as well as highlight that effects of climate change are not abstract or only being felt in foreign countries.



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## Project Goals and Objectives

Clean Tech Hub (CTH) provided an opportunity for the general public and Clean Technology Hub volunteers to showcase photography and storytelling skills on environmental conservation and climate change issues within their community, by sharing real time pictures on a variety of environmental issues around them. These issues could include but are not specific to air, water, soil, solid waste pollution, forest fires, chemical or oil spills in waterways/bodies, illegal dumping, plastic pollution, affected flora and fauna etc.

Project objectives of *The Environment Through Your Eyes* are as follows:

1. Increase public awareness and amplify the environmental issues and effects of climate change faced in various parts of Nigeria through CTH's digital and social media platforms.
2. Spotlight peculiar environmental and climate stories in various regions of Nigeria and improve public perception on these issues.
3. Highlight how these issues affect environmental health and everyday life and increase citizens participation on environmental and climate issues within Nigeria.
4. Create a compendium of images and stories to serve as literature for communities, civil societies, policy makers and international organizations driving sustainability and climate action.

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<sup>1</sup> Center for International Governance Innovation (2009). Climate Change in Africa: Adaptation, Mitigation and Governance Challenges. Available at [https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/climate\\_change\\_in\\_africa\\_3.pdf](https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/climate_change_in_africa_3.pdf)

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Adedeji Olalekan** a documentary/tourism  
photographer with an eye for details.



**Location** - Bonny Camp and Kiddies beach at Lagos  
**Date** - Bonny Camp 2020 / Kiddies beach 2017.

These images show a cleanup activity being carried out by the residents of Bonny Camp. The waterfront community is often confronted with trash residues, especially PET bottles washed onto shores. An NGO decided to leverage volunteers to help clean it up and demonstrate how to sort the recyclables among the trash. This was also an opportunity to get children involved in volunteering and teach the importance of proper trash disposal. This activity communicates their role in securing a healthy environment.

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Adedotun Ajibade** is a citizen scientist, and naturalist photographer. He cares about the environment; this reflects in his imagery which celebrates nature, and promotes biodiversity conservation in Nigeria



**Location** - Lighthouse Beach, Tarkwa Bay  
**Date** - 24th August, 2021

Flexible, durable and not easily degraded are some of the properties of plastic that made them so attractive to the public. These same properties are why it is so difficult to get rid of them when dumped in the environment.

At least 14 million tons of plastic ends up in the ocean every year. This picture taken shows plastic waste causing extensive pollution on the shoreline shows that plastic pollution poses a threat to human health, marine animals and the tourism industry in many coastal countries.

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



Location: Tivoli Gardens

Date: 18th May, 2021

Nigeria ranks amongst the top twenty countries with the worst plastic waste management with over 200,000 metric tonnes of plastic discharged into the Atlantic Ocean each year.

Plastic waste generated by tourist activities and those transported by polluted rivers from inland are poorly managed and eventually ends up in swash zones of beaches like the one shown in the image turned on by Adedotun Ajibade.



Location: Oshodi, Lagos

Date: 20th, September, 2021

This image shows the PET bottles packed for transport to recyclers. A majority of recycling done in Nigeria is informal and consists of individuals and SMEs that execute the collection and sale of recyclables and reusable materials usually with no support from government institutions.

While recycling is not the absolute answer to solving Nigeria's solid waste concerns, it is essential for generating growth opportunities for the economy while reducing the degradation of landscapes and water bodies.



**Location:** International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan

**Date:** 20th September, 2021

The IITA is a non-profit institution that generates agricultural innovations to meet Africa's most pressing challenges of hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and natural resource degradation.

With the many challenges facing food production including climate change, increasing energy prices, population growth, and global conflicts, scientists at IITA specialise on key research themes to guarantee food security, reduce poverty, and protect the environment.

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Location:** Lekki Urban Forestry and Animal Shelter Initiative (LUFASI) Park, Lagos

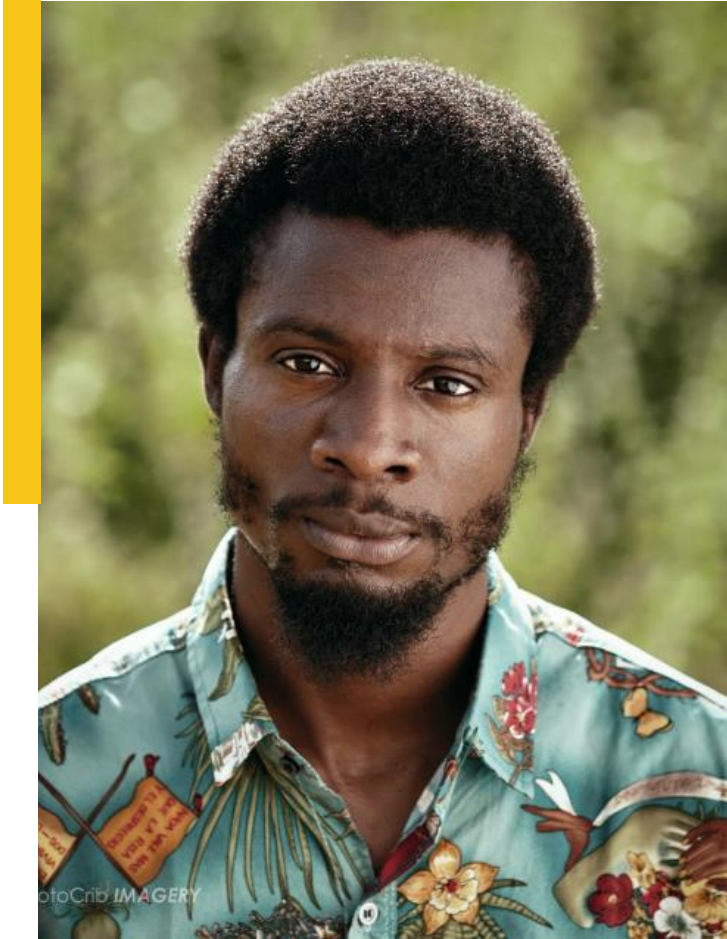
**Date:** 12th February, 2021

It is a known fact that the benefits provided from nature and forest reserves are unquantifiable. Forests have been known to enhance carbon storage, reduce energy consumption and provide spaces for local flora and fauna thereby safeguarding biodiversity.

The recreational benefits are just as important as contributions to tourism and the community's needs by providing an escape to relieve stress and connect with nature.

LUFASI park is one of the privately owned nature reserves in Nigeria.

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Arudi Stephen**, is a documentary photographer. “Storytelling for me gives me a closer look at the environment, I get more involved with people, places, culture through the eyes of the camera”



**Location:** Lokoja, Kogi State Nigeria

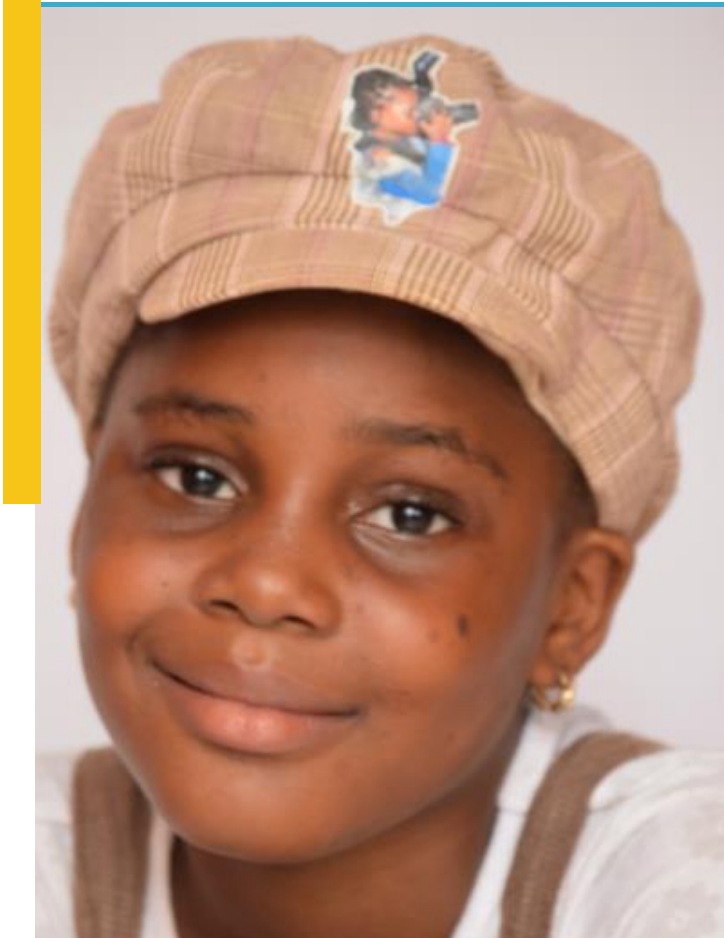
**Date:** January 27 2022

(In pidgin english) “The hustle is real and e hot, man must survive and make money for this work we dey do” he said, but the thought ran through my mind isn't it harmful to his health and the environment at large?





## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Anuoluwapo Adedeji**, 8 years, is a kid photographer and kid entrepreneur who doubled as the Nigerian child representative to speak at COPA 21 (respondent 8) to mark the climate change conference, 2021.



Date: February, 2021

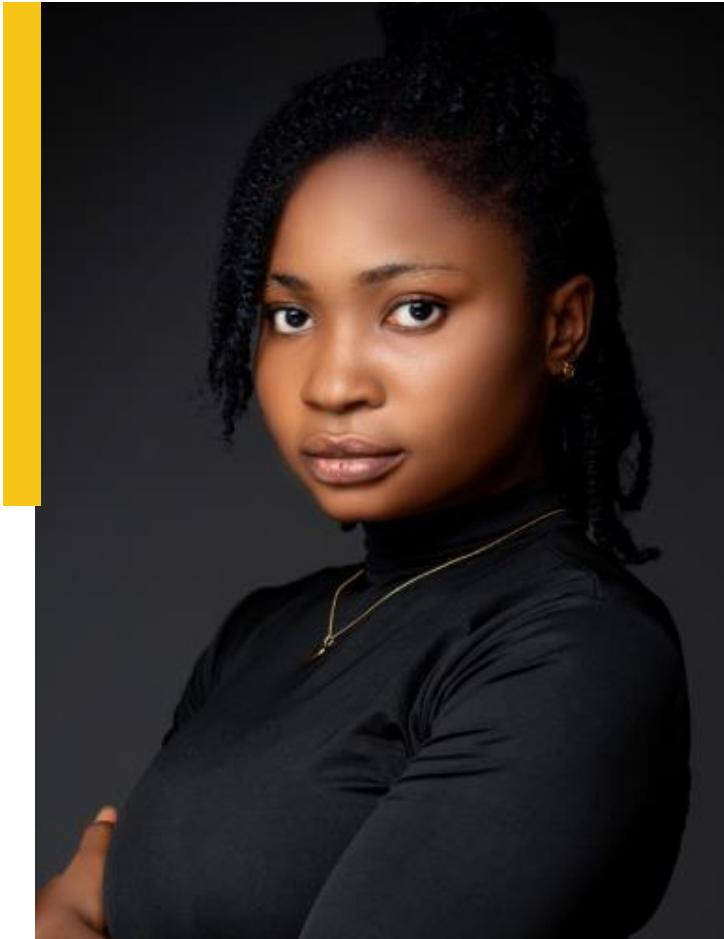
Location: Iyana Ipaja bus stop

Images taken at a cleanup event at Iyana Ipaja bus stop in Lagos state. The objective was to educate the people around the area about the impact of disposing litter and PET bottles in the city's clogged drainage system which stops easy movement of water.

In a city plagued by poorly disposed waste at almost every turn, changing mindsets can seem daunting but as the images show we must protect our environment and make sanitation a collective responsibility.



## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Nnadozie Praise Chioma** (Prachi of Nigeria) is a Creative, Storyteller, photographer and Graphic Designer.



**Location:** Revival City Enugu, Iva Valley

**Date:** 17th February 2020

The magnitude of climate change has led to a significant rise in climate anxiety, especially among young people. Although it is perfectly normal to be worried about the situation and its impact, it is imperative to take a step back and manage these worries before it leads to the decline of physical and mental health.

One of the ways to unplug would be to reconnect to nature. It has been proven to help decrease stress and the risk of developing certain mental health conditions, improve your mood and enhance empathy and cooperation. Being in nature also helps you feel more connected to the environment and find ways to contribute to saving it.

Nnadozie Praise Chioma sent in this image reminiscent of the calmness she felt while observing the sky from a young age and the natural environment's importance in reminding her to take a moment and find peace in the little things.

## Entries for the Environment Through Your Eyes



**Oshinaike Gbenga** (Dewunmi Lagos)

Dewunmi is a documentary photographer based in Lagos, Nigeria. He has created images that have shown on both local and international TV screens, passionate about telling stories of Nigeria, her culture and her people



**Location:** Oworonshoki, Lagos state

One of the more unknown effects of global warming and rise in sea levels is salt water intrusion. As the sea levels rise along the coasts, saltwater can move into the land and displace or mix with fresh groundwater in coastal aquifers. Oshinaike Gbenga who occasionally visits Ekore, a rural community within the Oworonshoki area in Lagos state discovered that this fresh water source had begun to mix with water from the sea. This part of the river which previously wasn't salty was used mostly to wash clothes and boiled for drinking.

