

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE ON BIODIVERSITY (NYCOB) 2010

The World Environment Day was celebrated globally on Saturday June 5, 2010. The day assembled over 150 youth and children in Ghana under the umbrella of the 2010 National Youth conference on Biodiversity (NYCoB) organized by hero productions in collaboration with some selected youth oriented organizations as part of its activities for the IYB celebrations in Ghana.

For the first time in Ghana, this year's event brought together five internationally recognized youth organizations; the Head of State Award Scheme (HOSA) Ghana, Junior Chamber International (JCI), Ghana Girl Guides Association, Scout Association of Ghana, and the National Cadet Corp Ghana to celebrate the World Environment Day on the theme; **transforming environmental challenges into sustainable development opportunities.**



Some children and youth from the represented organizations

The celebration also involved some children who took part in tree planting activities and made stage presentations on their basic understand of environmental degradation and environmental protection. They were asked few questions to test their knowledge on basic environmental information.

Each leader of the represented organizations were given the opportunity to make a short presentation of their organization's coherent strategy of engaging members in confronting environmental challenges in Ghana, also highlighting on the experiences, achievements and challenges encountered.



A member of the National Cadet Corp Ghana

Five vital areas relating to the environment were discussed in the different presentations made by the organizations.

These areas included;

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Reforestation and tree planting
- Carbon emissions from faulty vehicles
- Sanitation and protection of water bodies
- Conservation of energy and promoting energy alternatives

At the end of the presentations the various youth leaders made commitments to collaborate between themselves to execute projects and initiatives that ensure environmental sustainability in Ghana.

They also pledged to always support the organizers especially with the human resource and manpower needed to execute environmental projects and achieve ambitious tree planting targets across the country.



The organizer's of the event where pleased to set the tone for joint efforts and collaborations between youth organizations in confronting Ghana's environmental challenges which threatens the development and success of present and future generations. The management of Hero Productions assured the stakeholders of more platforms that will encourage dialogue and brainstorm session on environmental issues among youth in Ghana and across Africa.



Some members of the National Cadet Corp Ghana



some members of the Girl Guides Association



A section of the audience



A section of the audience

All participants including the children where challenged to communicate the messages from the conference to their family and friends. At the end of the program, the organizers provided refreshment for all participants.

Journalists from some of Ghanaian print media houses including Daily Graphic, Daily Guide, Chronicles, and Ghanaian Times, to cover the world environment day celebration among children and youth in Ghana.



BACKGROUND- NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE ON BIODIVERSITY (NYCoB)

The National Youth Conference on Biodiversity (NYCoB) was established on the 22nd of May 2009 by Hero Productions, to promote the International Day of Biodiversity among children and youth in Ghana.

The initiative was established with the support of the Forestry Commission Ghana and the Ministry of education and launched by the Deputy Minister of Education (Pre-tertiary) Hon. Elizabeth Amoah-Tetteh (Mrs.),

The National Youth Conference on Biodiversity has now become an annual event that brings together different international, national, and local youth oriented organizations in a forum, on one platform to share experiences, achievements and actions in addressing environmental challenges in Ghana.

GOAL

The goal of the National Youth Conference on Biodiversity (NYCoB) is to provoke debates, intensive research and concept development among the children and youth into emerging environmental business initiatives including biodiversity business, carbon trading, eco tourism, agriculture, and alternative energy production, that will help in shaping the ideas, creative abilities, carrier choices of the new generation towards powering a global green economy.

OBJECTIVES

- Foster networking and better relationship between the different youth organizations in Ghana, encouraging joint efforts to ensure environmental sustainability for future generations.
- Create platforms that will encourage dialogue and brainstorming session among organized sections of youth in Ghana on environmental challenges confronting the Nation and African at large
- Increase the level of education and information sharing on biodiversity, climate change and the environment as a whole, more especially on the emerging opportunities posed by the threats of climate change.

