

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN ON EXPLORING CLIMATE CHANGE HEALTH NEXUS: THE WAY FORWARD FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH

ORGANISED BY

**CLIMATE CHANGE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION WORKING GROUP
(CCDRR WG) OF THE GLOBAL YOUNG ACADEMY**

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

**INSTITUTE OF GLOBAL HEALTH AND HEALTH SECURITY (IGH&HS),
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, OTUKPO, NIGERIA**

The CCDRR WG of the GYA in conjunction with the Institute of Global Health and Health Security (IGH&HS), Federal University of Health Sciences, Otukpo (FUHSO), Nigeria embarked on advocacy campaign on the topic titled “Exploring Climate Change Health Nexus: the Way Forward for the Global South”. The campaign was held at the large Lecture Hall A of the Otada Campus, FUHSO, Nigeria on the 14th of June 2024.

Wide publication was done to draw attendees from all over Nigeria on national dailies (e.g., Newsprint Magazine) and media house (Joy FM, Otukpo, Benue State, Nigeria). The campaign was attended by academic and non-academic staff of FUHSO and other neighbouring Universities in Benue State, university students, news media personnel and other attendees from ministries and departments within Otukpo Local Government Area, Benue State, and all over Nigeria.

The advocacy campaign which was delivered by Ovie Edegbene, PhD, PhD (Nigeria), the co-lead of CCDRR WG, GYA who is also the Deputy Director of the IGH&HS, FUHSO, Nigeria was aimed at sensitizing attendees and the general public on the impacts of climate change on health, with the following specific objectives:

- a) Intimate participants on the negative impacts of climate change and how they can help in mitigating the impending dangers posed by climate change on their environment.
- b) Point out some of the links between climate change and health.
- c) Outline some of the way forward for countries in the global south (with case studies in Nigeria and Morocco) to curb climate change.
- d) Birth a Climate Advocacy Initiative in participants.

A total of 163 participants were present during the advocacy campaign.

The participants were exposed to the reality of climate change, its causes and impacts on health, citing examples from news/information from media outlets, the internet, UNEP, ISC and CCDRR WG activities on the growing concerns of climate change across the globe.

A nexus between climate change and health was explored using case studies from researches conducted by the Nigeria Health Watch on the topic titled “**A Silent Threat: Impact of Climate Change on Life Expectancy Rate in Nigeria**” with Sunday Oko as the Lead Writer (2024) and El Yaagoubi, Errochdi, Edegbene, Kassout, Harrak, El Alami (2024) on the topic titled “**The spatial scale evolution of Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera (EPT) species community within the North-western Rif region of Morocco: implications of environmental and climate changes to EPT biodiversity**”.

Recommendations were given on how the participants can help in addressing climate change and its implications on health via adaptations and mitigations by outlining general and individual measures.

The participants were elated with the advocacy campaign and they were happy to also do their parts in curbing the menace posed by climate change and health in their own little ways within their neighborhoods, offices and the general public.

SELECTED PICTURES DURING THE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN

The slide features a background image of a globe on cracked, dry earth. The text is overlaid on this image. On the left, there is a logo for the Federal University of Health Sciences, Otuks, with the motto 'KNOWLEDGE FOR HEALTH'. On the right, there is a logo for the Institute of Global Health & Health Security, with the motto 'PROFESSIONALS THAT INVEIGLE GOOD CARE'. Below these are logos for the Global Young Academy and the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group. The main title is 'Exploring Climate Change Health Nexus: the way forward for the Global South', followed by 'by Ovie Edegbene, Ph.D, Ph.D'. Below that, it says 'Co-lead, CCDRR WG, Global Young Academy & Deputy Director, Institute of Global Health & Health Security, Federal University of Health Sciences, Otuks.'.

Exploring Climate Change Health Nexus: the way forward for the Global South

by
Ovie Edegbene, Ph.D, Ph.D
Co-lead, CCDRR WG, Global Young Academy
&
Deputy Director, Institute of Global Health & Health Security, Federal University of Health Sciences, Otuks.

Plate I: Slide I of the presentation



Plate II: The Co-lead of the CCDRR WG delivering his presentation I



Plate III: The Co-lead of the CCDRR WG delivering his presentation II



Plate IV: The Co-lead of the CCDRR WG delivering his presentation III



Plate V: Cross section of participants (academics & non-academic staff of FUHSO & other Universities, ministries and departments workers, news media personnel, etc) during the advocacy campaign



Plate VI: Cross section of participants (students) during the advocacy campaign



Plate VII: Questions and Answers/Interaction session during the advocacy campaign I



Plate VIII: The Co-lead of the CCDRR WG entertaining and responding to questions during the advocacy campaign II