Green Growth Africa



IMPACT REPORT

2024

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Message from the Executive Director

2024 was a pivotal year for Green Growth Africa Sustainability Network. As we reflect on the past months, I am filled with pride and gratitude for how far we have come. From our beginnings 8 years ago till now, we have stayed committed to our mission: to drive innovative, inclusive, and sustainable solutions to Africa's development challenges.

Our programmes in 2024 demonstrated this commitment in action. The EcoHeroes Initiative reached over 8,000 students and 2,400 teachers across 18 countries, equipping them to develop real solutions to local environmental problems. The Worldwide Teach-In on Climate and Justice fostered meaningful dialogue among 1,100 young people across seven African countries. We launched Green Growth DigiHub, our new digital platform for collaboration and visibility across the continent, and opened Green Growth Television & Studios to scale our advocacy and storytelling. The EcoJustice Initiative was launched to meet the urgent need for citizen-driven action against environmental crimes. In Ibadan, we opened our first physical office: Nigeria's first office-building made from recycled plastic bottles, which embodies our commitment to scalable innovation.

Looking ahead, we remain focused on advancing a just and green transition across Africa. The challenges are significant, but so is our resolve. We thank our partners and communities for walking this path with us as we step into the new year with renewed purpose.

Adedoyin Adeleke PhD
Executive Director, Green Growth Africa

About Green Growth Africa

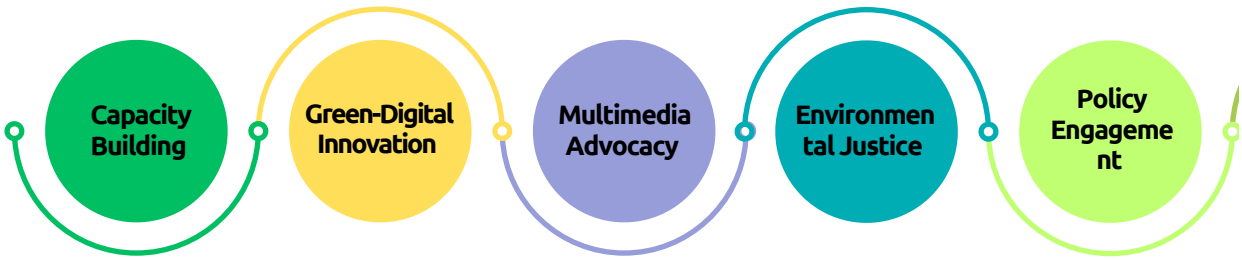


Green Growth Africa Sustainability Network (Green Growth Africa); formerly known as International Support Network for African Development (ISNAD-Africa), is a UNEP-accredited non-governmental organisation committed to innovation, development, and implementation of 'greened' socio-economic development solutions to address Africa's development challenges.

Vision

To realise a socially inclusive economic growth and development path in Africa that is low-carbon, climate-resilient, resource-efficient; maintaining and enhancing biodiversity and ecosystems.

Programmatic Focus



2024 in Numbers

9261 young people in **22 African countries** engaged directly & indirectly through capacity-building initiatives for hands-on environmental education through the EcoHeroes Initiative & World Wide Teach-In on Climate Justice

1400 signups to the Green Growth DigiHub App

27333 plastic-bottles used to construct Green Growth Hub, Ibadan

50,000 views on YouTube for the newly launched Green Growth TV & Studios programmes



25 audio-visual programmes produced on environmental issues in Green Growth TV

842 certified participants in capacity-building workshops for environmental actors

100 downloads of the Green Growth Watch App

90,000 social media following



Image credit: Loreto College in Curepipe, Mauritius

Empowering Young People for Climate & Biodiversity Action

1 EcoHeroes Initiative 2023/2024 Cohort

The EcoHeroes Initiative employs the co-creation and learners-centered approach to educate and empower youth in secondary schools across African countries to solve environmental challenges using integrative and transformative approach that creates social and economic value. The initiative educates and empowers students in secondary schools across Africa to identify environmental challenges and needs in their communities, develop, and implement solutions to them by applying the knowledge they have acquired from science and arts courses in school. The 2023/2024 Cohort of the initiative recorded project solutions in renewable energy, circular design, reduced plastic pollution, amongst others. **Over 8,355 students (4193 male and 4162 females) and 2442 teachers (685 male, 1757 female) from 78 secondary schools in 18 African countries** were impacted directly and indirectly.

Some highlights from the cohort

All-Female Mauritius Team Design Hydropower Generator



When Cyclone Balal struck Mauritius, it left the community of Loreto without power for over 24 hours, plunging lives into darkness and uncertainty. Inspired to find a solution, a team of 12 young girls from Loreto School, Mauritius, transformed this challenge into innovation. They designed and created a prototype for the "GEN-DRO Hydroelectric Project," a mini-hydropower generator fueled by rainwater. This groundbreaking project addressed two urgent issues: recurring flooding and the need for renewable energy. The team also demonstrated resourcefulness as they combined a water storage container, a pump, and a turbine ingeniously built from wooden ladle spoons and a repurposed fan motor for the hydropower generator!

Watch their story here.

A Smart Solution for Waste Aggregation

Every day, heaps of improperly sorted waste clog landfills in Nigeria, worsening pollution and wasting recyclable materials. A team of 20 students from George Green Baptist School decided to change that. Armed with coding skills, they built a smart waste segregator that uses C++ programming to automatically separate dry and wet waste. To complement the system, they placed color-coded bins made from plastic buckets across their school to collect paper, plastic, and organic waste. Their innovation thus ensures that more recyclables are saved from landfills.

Watch their story here.

Giving Plastic Waste a Second Life with 3D Printing

With only 9% of plastic waste recycled globally, the team of eight (8) students from Institut Asifiwa, Congo, set out to reinvent the story of waste management. Their project, Recycling for Planet, introduced a groundbreaking solution: a recreator machine designed to upcycle plastic waste into filaments for 3D printing. Over weeks of relentless effort, they built and refined the machine, and they used the filaments created from plastic waste to produce functional 3D-printed cups!

Watch their story here.

Powering Businesses With Low-Cost Solar Systems

Faced with the challenge of energy poverty crippling small businesses in their community, 22 students from Calvary Arrow College, Nigeria, took action. The team developed a fully functional solar-powered electricity system using readily available materials that now provides reliable energy to small businesses, reducing reliance on erratic power supply. Their achievement is a testament to the power of youth-led innovation in addressing real-world problems.

Watch their story here.



A comprehensive graphical report of the EcoHeroes 2023/2024 Cohort is available here.

2 World Wide Teach-In on Climate Justice

The 2024 Worldwide Teach-in on Climate and Justice by Green Growth Africa, in collaboration with Bard College (USA), was a remarkable success. The Teach-In on Climate and Justice is a global initiative aimed at sparking real dialogue on climate and justice on campuses and in communities around the world. Green Growth Africa focuses its implementation of the Teach-In on students in high schools aged 10-19 years, to engage in solution-oriented dialogues and activities on climate change and justice. In 2024, Green Growth Africa's Teach-In events **engaged 1,115 participants, including students, staff, and non-staff members in 10 schools across 7 countries in Africa. The event lasted a total of 22 hours and 45 minutes, featuring 39 breakout sessions**. Activities varied from tree planting, drama presentations, storytelling, and dance performances to local language integration and career talks.














Some images from the events across the participating schools. Please see the comprehensive report of the World Wide Teach-In on Climate Justice 2024 here.



Building Stronger Sector Linkages with the Green Growth DigiHub



Green Growth DigiHub is the **first integrated and multi-stakeholder digital networking and convergence platform** that facilitates system-wide links, knowledge sharing for policy-making, visibility for green growth initiatives, actors, and experts in Africa. The platform serves as a continental map, database, resource library, and catalogue for profiling green growth initiatives and experts in Africa. The platform was **officially launched on World Environment Day, June 5 2024 at the Green Growth Workshop.**

The virtual event had over 500 attendees and sessions from leaders and policymakers in the green growth sector – including a **the German State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Action, Jennifer Morgan**. Since then, over **1,400 persons** have signed up and now actively leverage the Green Growth DigiHub. The digital platform has also been visited **5,492 times by 3,762 unique visitors from 71 countries**. Join the movement by downloading and signing up on Google Play Store or the Web Application!

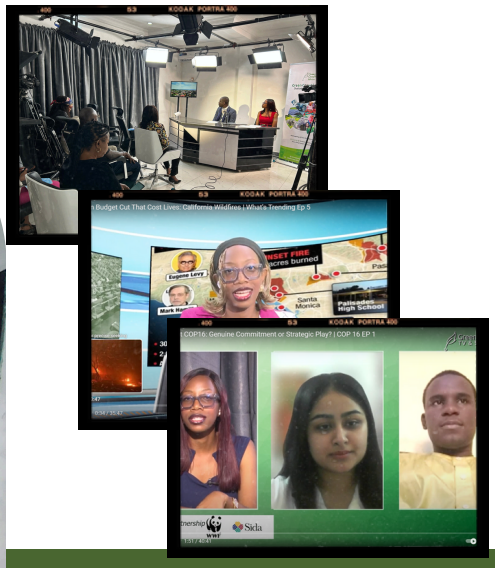


Mainstreaming Environment in the Media with Green Growth TV

As part of Green Growth Africa's commitment to communication and advocacy of just and green transition, we kick-started the state-of-the-art Green Growth Television & Studios, in Abuja, Nigeria in September 2024. Green Growth Television & Studios is a data analysis, communications, multimedia, broadcasting and training hub that provides wide and effective communication, education, advocacy, policy dialogues and strengthen civic space on green growth. The television channel provides public platforms to showcase green growth solutions, opening them to opportunities to scale-up by the industry, influence policy, and facilitate behavioural change. Moreover, the channel provides equitable access to the media, builds the capacity of actors for green growth (organisations and individuals) to tell their stories with improved newsworthiness and raise journalists with integrated understanding of social, economic, and environmental development dimensions.

So far, leaders of **22** civil society organizations (CSOs) across **9 countries in Africa** (Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Ghana, Somalia, Zambia, Chad, Madagascar, & Gambia) as well as USA, Saudi Arabia, India & Vietnam have leveraged the Green Growth Television & Studios to advocate for sustainable resource governance, influence policy directions, and engage with a broader audience. Between October and December 2024, **25 audiovisual knowledge programmes** were produced on key issues such as wildlife conservation and anti-trafficking, transition to renewable energy, effective response to nature-based disasters, and exploitation of the rights of children in the mining industry. Moreover, the TV increased global visibility for these CSOs to access partnerships with community leaders, media organisations, and private experts to scale their ecosystem conservation and resource management projects with its **1230+ subscriber-base & 50,000 total views on YouTube.**





Take a tour of Green Growth TV & Studios here.

Launching EcoJustice Africa: A New Model to Beat Environmental Crimes

EcoJustice Africa, Green Growth Africa's novel programme, is a people-powered and technology-driven initiative aimed at empowering citizens with knowledge and technology tools to combat environmental crimes and violations in Africa. Given the untold consequences of the unbridled growth of environmental crimes in Africa, Green Growth Africa organised the Inaugural EcoJustice Workshop on Tuesday, December 10 2024, as a capacity-building virtual event to educate and empower rights holders (youth, women, and indigenous communities), on environmental rights, crimes/violations and justice in the African context and its impact on national and continental development.





Watch the concept video of EcoJustice Africa here.

Some pictures from the press conference launching EcoJustice Africa Initiative









Moreover, ahead of the Workshop, Green Growth Africa hosted a Press Conference in Abuja, Nigeria, to launch the EcoJustice Africa Initiative which empowered CSOs with the understanding and awareness of environmental rights and capacity to claim such rights in fighting environmental crimes. The Press Conference hosted 10 journalists. The knowledge shared was reported on one of the leading TV platforms in Africa, Arise TV, as well as leading print media with millions of readers in Nigeria – The Guardian, Vanguard, The Nation, Daily Trust, Leadership and Gazette News.

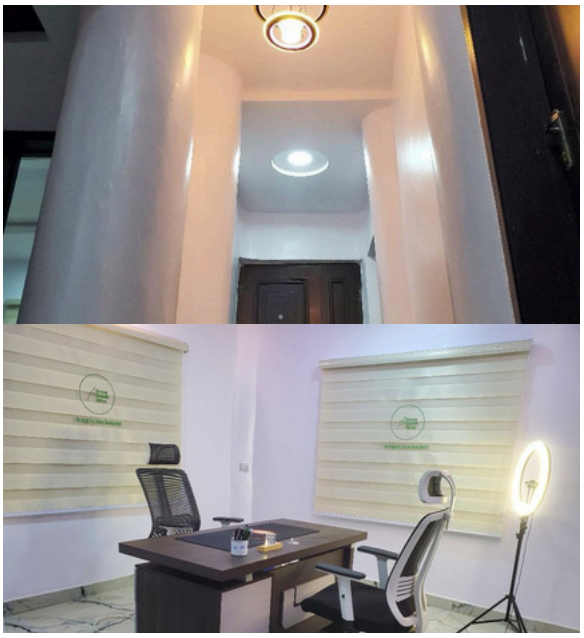
Activating Green Growth Hub

In January 2024, Green Growth Africa moved into its very own physical office after operating fully remotely for 6 years – and not just an office – **Nigeria's first ultra-modern green building developed from waste plastic bottles in Ibadan, Nigeria**! The building is made entirely of **27,333 plastic bottle-bricks**, significantly reducing the carbon emissions from conventional sandcrete construction by up to 70%; while being significantly stronger. The Green Building is also fully-powered by solar. Learn more about it here.



In addition, Green Growth Africa engaged the host community of Lagbeja-Akingbile, Ibadan, on environmental concepts using unconventional approaches. This included, street naming, house numbering, community focus group discussions, and provision of solar street lights. **Nine (9) streets** were named in the local communities as a lifelong education strategy for the local community. The street names include Green Growth Avenue, Biodiversity Close, Sustainability Close, Climate Close, Nature Close, Resilience Close, Conservation Close, E-Mobility Close, and Resilience Close. All the houses on the streets were also numbered based on the names of the street. As a result of this effort, the local communities have taken significant actions to construct drainages and be more conscious of the environment and natural resources around them.

Afterwards, the Green Growth TV Studios office – our Green Growth Hub in Abuja, Nigeria's capital city – was also fully equipped with modern, state-of-the-art media equipment for the TV programming and data analysis. See the studio tour here.



Interior of the Green Growth Hub, Ibadan



Engagement with host community



Green Growth Hub, Abuja



Engaging Policy Leaders for Green Growth

In 2024, Green Growth Africa had several high-level engagements with government actors and policymakers where we advocated for mainstreaming green growth strategies in their development plans: including Italy, Germany, and 2 Nigerian state governments.



With H.E Ugo Boni, Consulate General of Italy



With President of World Bank, Ajay Banga





At German Consulate, Lagos & with Jennifer Morgan, German State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Action,



With H.E A. Adeleke, Governor of Oyo State, Nigeria



With Fmr President Olusegun Obasanjo



With O. Ezekwesili, fmr Minister of Education & Hon. Commissioner for Environment, Kwara State



With Hon. B. Salam, Nigerian Law Maker

Our Partners

Thank you for your support in 2024! We look forward to leveraging on your partnership to make bigger strides and deepen the quality and numbers of our impact to fast-track the green and just transition in Africa in 2025!!!

Contact Us

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