**CURRENT ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA.**

Nigeria has a total land area of 983,213 km2 occupied by about 120 Million people: The interaction of these millions of people with their environment has left indelible mark on the landscape. Urbanization, deforestation, desertification, over population and all kinds of pollution are some of the resultant effects of man’s interaction with his environment. These changes occur as the people attempt to acquire their seemingly endless desire for food, shelter, recreation and infrastructural facilities. Though these wants and desires contribute to the development of the country, the unwise use of the land and its resources produce negative impacts on the environment. Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA) was established to control the Nigerian Environment, its resources exploitation and management. But field observation revealed that environmental degradation is growing at a rate worse than the pre FEPA period. Solution to these problems require going beyond the strategies and objectives of FEPA. Environmental protection techniques should be indigenized. It should be written and delivered in Nigerian languages. The design should take cognizance of the deferent ecological zone in the country and the people should be the agents. For an enduring legacy, Environmental Educational (which should include environmental protection techniques) should be included in primary and post primary school curricula.

Nigeria is a big country with beautiful nature, small and large rivers and picturesque forests inhabited by animals and birds. It is like a coin with two sides: one side is its exquisite environment, the other one – industrial Nigeria. Nigeria is one of the most populous nations constantly faces different issues like overpopulation, migration, improvement of medical care as well as problems connected with environmental pollution. What are the main environmental problems in Nigeria?

Air pollution. Daily, millions of vehicles run throughout the country: they consume plenty of fuel and produce exhaust fumes. One has to mention that the level of protection, available at the industrial giant, it does not always coincide with our expectations about the care of the environment. Old equipment and a lack of modernization contribute to the air pollution.

Water pollution. It is not a secret that Nigeria has a deficit of drinking water. If you take a glance into the state of currently available water, you will be shocked by the number of bacteria and industrial chemicals.

Desertification. This problem is caused by massive irrigation. The country loses kilometres of lands. Industrial waste. Social changes are the result of human migration within the country. The problem is that searching for a better life, people create difficulties with accommodation. Due to this, many residents have to settle close to the industrial areas. As a result, they have to consume water, which contains chemicals, breathe polluted air and eat food with increased nitrates.

Solid waste. Nigeria is one of those countries with poor management of sanitary infrastructure. It one of the main reasons, why people live rather close to wasted areas.

Oil spills. People, who inhabit the area in the delta of Niger, suffer from oil spills every year. This place is so much polluted that the oil is found in the soil, even within five meters from the surface.

Deforestation. The high rate of urbanization, the industrial development, and agricultural processes led to deforestation and extinction of animals living in the woods.

Wind erosion. The lands which are situated in the northern part of Nigeria are constantly being “blown away”.

Soil degradation. Pesticides and chemicals often used by people for different purposes. However, they often forget about soil renovation and drawing a balance of minerals back to its original state.

As you can see, problems in Nigeria and solutions should have the highest priority for governors. Keeping a natural balance is the main task and means to avoid irreversible destruction.