

## Standard Policy Brief Template

Under the UNESCO World Higher Education Conference (WHEC2022)

[Section for Higher Education](#) | Division for Education 2030

Type: One Organisation  | Alliance

### **TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS THROUGH WALL CHART]**

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#### **Abstract**

Environmental education is education for all and for sustainable development. Unfortunately, this education has eluded people of Nigeria and other sub-Saharan African countries in the past. This is to the extent that environmental science is not yet a subject on its own in the secondary school curriculum and not even included in the West African School Certificate Exams like other science subjects. It is about 15 years ago that universities and other higher institutions in Nigeria started offering environmental education programs. To this effect, the civil society and government functionaries lack proper knowledge of environmental system, and the result is poor environmental quality and sanitation in the region. Only a minor percent of the population who have lived in the western society and became exposed recognize environmental quality as quality of life and are conscious of their environment. The masses do not think that environmental degradation is much to worry about whether in the city or at home. This poor knowledge of environmental degradation and consequences can be changed through distribution of wall chart and flyer. It is the need for a change that has motivated GEOPROBE Consult Limited to develop this environmental education and awareness wall chart as a more holistic approach to breach the gap of environmental knowledge in the sub-Saharan Africa. This wall chart will make tremendous impact within a short period if UNESCO could consider a mass production of the chart and support GEOPROBE.in the distribution.

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## **Introduction**

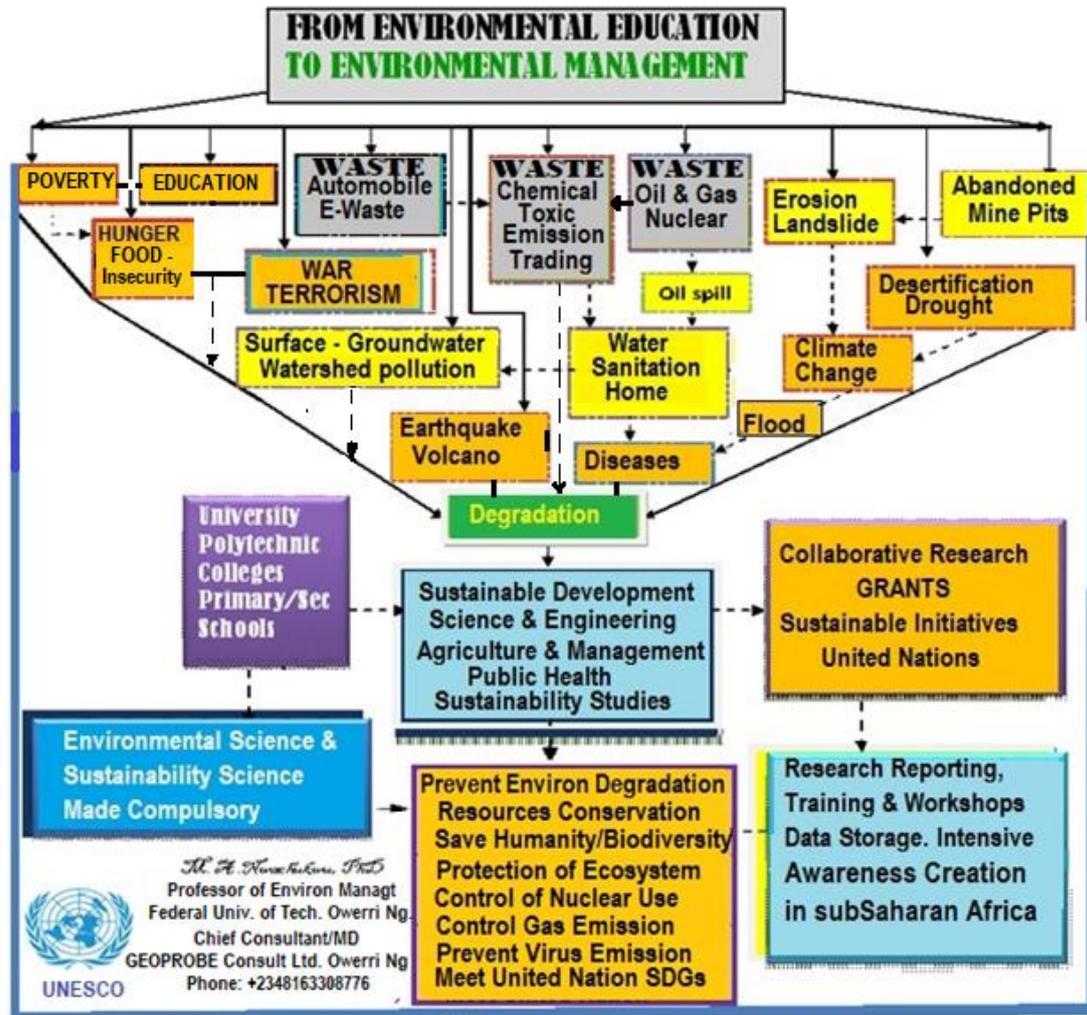
Environmental education is education for all and for sustainable development. Unfortunately, this education has eluded people of Nigeria and other sub-Saharan African countries in the past. This is to the extent that environmental science is not yet a subject on its own in the secondary school curriculum. This branch of science which should be made compulsory is rather not considered in the West African School Certificate Exams like other science subjects. It is about 15 years ago that universities and other higher institutions in Nigeria started offering environmental education programs. To this effect, the civil society and government functionaries lack proper knowledge of environmental system, and the result is poor environmental quality and sanitation in the region. Only a minor percent of the population who have lived in the western society and became exposed recognize environmental quality as quality of life and are conscious of their environment. The masses do not think that environmental degradation is much to worry about whether in the city or at home. This poor knowledge of environment is not about the illiterate masses but even the literate are not better. This wall chart will make significant impact within a short period when mass produced and properly distributed. It will close the environmental education gap existing in the society, with government stakeholders and the civil society.

It is common to see graduates who do not know what environment and environmental degradation means, talk less of preventing vices of environmental degradation in their locality. The few individuals who became exposed to the good environment of the western society often cannot fit-in to the poor environment prevailing in their home region, and when they do, they join the masses to follow the order of society. The unavoidable consequences of the poor environmental knowledge is high disease burden and poverty. It is very difficult for people at this level of poor environmental knowledge to appreciate efforts of the United Nations to save the planet earth. The millennium development and sustainable development goals, not excluding climate change to them are just some of those western gimmicks. To them, climate change is a fairy tale, while COVID-19 and the quantum of vaccines are all scam to further suppress the poor developing nations. If this situation is left to improve at the prevailing pace, it will take one full century to achieve the desired change in Nigeria and many other African countries. Environment has no defined boundary, any anomaly in one region is transferable to other regions whether developed or developing. It is the above concern that has motivated GEOPROBE Consult Limited to develop this environmental education and awareness wall chart as a more holistic approach to breach the gap of environmental knowledge in Africa.

### **The Wall Chart**

It's important to mass produce this wall chart for display in public places for people to study and appreciate what environmental education is about. Schools, hotels, churches, train stations, hospitals, banks, offices, airports, and recreation and event centers are viable places to display this wall chart. With this wall chart, instructors handling compulsory general studies in higher institutions now have teaching aid. Students and the public will see vices of environmental degradation and visualize how they relate. They can identify the environmental degradation vices prevalent in their region and their classification as regional or global environmental issues. Regional issues are of greater concern to the affected region while global issues could cut across regions to concern the global community. We pray UNESCO to consider a mass production of this chart and aid its distribution. GEOPROBE has the capacity to effectively distribute and disseminate the

knowledge across Africa. We can build capacity among lecturers on how to use this chart with a manual.



**ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND AWARENESS WALL CHART**

- Global Environmental Issues**
- Regional Environmental Issues**
- Global or Regional Environmental Issues**

Earlier version published in my book: Environmental Education and Awareness manual Amazon.com. This wall chart is elaborated and disseminated as a contribution to the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Higher Education Conference organized by UNESCO on May 18-20, 2022, with the purpose of enhancing the frontier of knowledge in the area of environmental education in the classroom and in the society outside classroom. A contribution to higher education institutions and systems world-wide, under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, its pledge to leave no one behind. Content of this Wall Chart does not necessarily express the views of UNESCO or its member states

**References**

Nwachukwu, M. A. (2014) Environmental Education and Awareness Manual; First edition; available at Amazon.com/book.