



The Development Institute

The Development Institute (The DI); a non-governmental organisation (NGO) working in the Environment and Community development sector with focus on advocacy for sustainable natural resources management sensitises pupils of Avuto Akutukope DA Basic School on Environmental Conservation.

The DI supports communities to take self-initiatives and engage duty bearers for a holistic community development agenda that reduces negative impacts on the environment.

As part of efforts to inculcate good environmental practices in the younger generation, the organisation engaged some pupils of the Avuto-Akutukope DA Basic School to commemorate the World Environment Day on 5th June, 2017. Activities undertaken to mark the day included a talk on environmental conservation, importance of tree

planting and climate change. A tree growing exercise on the school compound was also undertaken to climax the celebration.

Interventions

The DI operates mainly at the national level and in the Volta Region, the organisation operates in two important landscapes; the Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar site (KLCRS) in the Southern part of the region and the Weto Range area in the middle belt.

Keta Lagoon Complex Ramsar Site Programmes (KLCRS)

The KLCRS is a complex and fragile wetland ecosystem that supports lots of local livelihood activities but also under threat of pollution and diminishing vegetation cover. The DI is engaged

The Development Institute marks World Environment Day

with duty bearers, including the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, the Municipal and District Authorities to develop a common management plan that incorporates the interest of all stakeholders for effective administration in the catchment area. As part of The DI's activities in this area, awareness creation among stakeholders on the importance of the wetland is critical. In pursuance of this objective, the younger generation is not left out in the sensitisation process. Therefore, for this year's World Environment Day awareness creation, the Avuto-Akutukope DA Basic School which is located in the South Tongu District of the Volta Region and part of the catchment area was chosen for this important celebration. In all over 100 pupils were involved in the sensitisation and over 50 seedlings were donated to the school for planting on the school compound to mark the day.

Weto Range Landscape Programmes

The Weto range is considered a biodiversity hotspot but has been under pressure lately from deforestation and overexploitation of natural resources due to human activities and climate change effects. The DI is working towards addressing some of these challenges by partnering relevant stakeholders, including the local communities, the various district assemblies and other government agencies to develop appropriate strategies for sustainability of the Weto landscape. One of the interventions currently ongoing in the landscape is the Shared Resources Joint Solutions programme. The main goal of this initiative is to secure an integrated landscape governance system for managing the Volta River Basin.

