

# Let's conserve our environment

Climate change is a global phenomenon that poses danger to human continuity and it requires everybody's effort to restore the natural atmosphere.

Most people in our communities go littering, dispose children's pampers, pads improperly, liquid wastes from homesteads that contaminate natural waters and soil fertility without knowing the dangers these poses on the environment.

Human beings harness nature for survival. At the same time, it is our prime role to conserve and preserve the environment for future generations.

However, the protection of the environment cannot be realised on people's free-will, but with measures such as using technology in mitigating and adapting to climate change, advocacy with the purpose of including women in decision making processes, planning, financing, gender budgeting, and policy-making, this will encourage women's participation at both national and international planning.

Women are mostly engaged



in farming, collecting water and firewood. Therefore, empowering them through civic education can energise them to protect and be mindful of the solid and liquid wastes and how best to dispose of them.

For example, in India, when women realised that degradation of productive land had led to the erosion of top soil and that the choking of water drainage was causing salinity and loss of food crops, they collectively leased the degraded land and revived it through traditional farming. In

three years, 700 acres of land was restored to productive use.

In addition, bodies such as Nema, NFA, KCCA, and Environmental police should sensitise and enforce laws on poor waste management that has resulted in diseases and encroachment on water catchment areas.

The government banned the usage of polythene bags, but to date, these bags are in use, why? Who is to blame for failure to implement the ban? Substances such as plastics, polythene bags, pads, nappies, etc causes soil infertility and blockage of drainage channels.

Human activities on wetlands and forests lead to disasters that cost lives destroy property. It also leads to huge expenditure to government, including relocating affected people and rebuilding of infrastructure such as schools, roads and houses.

Let us collectively conserve and preserve our environment for the next generation.

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