

The following report was submitted by the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Society (FOECONS), one of our partners in Cameroon.

## The Celebration of World Environment Day 2010



Every 5<sup>th</sup> of June, FOECONS joins other partners the world over in the celebration of the world environment day. This year the celebration took a different shape where FOECONS together with other civil society organisations that formed Partners for Environmental Justice planted 300 trees at the site of the Kumba II new council chamber building site, meme Division, South west Region of Cameroon.

The day started with a radio program “Operation Heal the Earth” where Partners for Environmental Justice and kids created a public awareness on climate change and why Partners for Environmental Justice involves kids/children in tree planting programs for climate change mitigation process. It was interesting that thee kids could make the entire public know some of the reasons why we plant trees. The kids called on the entire Cameroon nation to join them in tree planting action for the offsetting of carbon emission in order to fight climate change and global warming which children have done very little to cause it. These kids went on crying that they will inherit its problems. This puts them in the precarious situation of having to cope with both current and future impacts from increasing climate shocks and stresses.

Immediately after the radio program at 10.30am, there was an environmental march from the present Kumba II council office to the Kumba II council chamber new site. This march was spearheaded by kids (100 of them in number) carrying tree seedlings, directly behind the kids were members of **Partners for Environmental Justice** followed also by a convoy from the delegation of environment and the protection of nature for Meme Division and nature lovers. We all move up to the hill top at the new council chamber site where the tree planting exercise took place. The site was chosen because of the soil erosion taking place in its surroundings. The first tree planted for the day was done by the Divisional Delegate of Environment and the Protection of Nature for Meme, followed by the Lord Mayor of Kumba II council. Series of planting were done by kids, who all participated passionately. After tree planting, the Kids moved around the city of Kumba together with the Divisional Delegate of Environment and Nature



Protection to see other areas of land where refuse is dumped indiscriminately thus causing land Pollution.

The Choice of Partners for Environmental Justice to use kids for the campaign for environmental justice was fuelled by the fact that, when we educate children at this stage, we implant into their minds the care for their environment and they will definitely grow up with this consciousness to build up one and a better future as the theme for this year's world environment day stipulate "Many Species, one Planet and one Future"

FOECONS (being the visionary for Partners for Environmental Justice) wants to heartily thank Plant for the Planet Germany for Material support, Trees for the Future USA and the New Forest Project USA for their support in providing the seeds to make up tree nurseries.

This year's commemoration of the World environment Day under the theme "Many Species, one Planet, one Future in Meme Division ended at about 3 p.m.

