

## Chapter Summary





2011

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# *A Message from the Executive Director International*



*It is with tremendous pride that I compile this year's annual report. Our teams all over the world have shown exemplary dedication to conservation throughout the year, achieving goals which seemed near impossible.*

*With our simple mission statement as follows:  
**"The Earth Organization is an independent, non-profit group which seeks to reverse the dwindling spiral of the plant and animal kingdoms and our environment through education and action."***

*This year The Earth Organization (TEO) placed our focus on the educational component of this statement. This resulted in fantastic gains, ensuring a new generation of people who understand their interaction with their*

*environment and how they can live sustainable lives, limiting the negative impact on the environment.*

*In the 1930's Eugene Marais wrote a book called "The Soul of the White Ant". The book was based on his years of research in the Magaliesburg, South Africa regarding the behaviour, psychology and instinct of white ants (termites). In the course of his work Marais studied several other species as well to determine their level of instinct. Marais found that the species he studied all showed high levels of instinct because despite being bred in captivity, they could survive in the wild. In fact they behaved in the same way as their wild counterparts even though the captive generations had never had the opportunity to perform these tasks in the wild, Marais concluded that this behaviour was instinctive in these animals and not necessarily something they learned from their parents.*

*Marais then conducted a similar experiment with baboons, and other apes, but the results were very different. When the captive baboons were released into the wild they didn't have any survival skills, they couldn't even find water. Marais therefore concluded that Primates have to be taught how to survive; they have very low levels of instinct and learn how to survive by watching and being taught by their parents. As a primate, man has to be taught how to survive, if he is not taught something he does not know it. And that's why it's vital The Earth Organization focuses on education, so we can teach future generations about their interdependence on the environment and subsequently change the way we think, live and survive on Planet Earth.*

*Going forward as a group, with education as our foundation, we aim to effectively change the current downward trends of our ecosystems and the environment. It may be as simple as teaching someone how to plant and care*

*for a tree, because every person we teach ensures our planet has a better chance of survival and subsequently so do we.*

*This year The Earth Organization opened three new chapters and saw the expansion of our existing chapters. Once again I can only present some of the highlights in this summary but you can find more detailed articles about our various projects on our website [www.earthorganization.org](http://www.earthorganization.org)*

*I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all The Earth Organization Chapters for their exemplary work this year, and look forward to expanding our impact and effectiveness in conservation in the New Year.*

## *A Message from the Founder*

*“I would like to thank all the chapters for their incredible contribution to nature conservation over the last year. I know The Earth Organization is going to achieve even greater success in the year ahead and we will become a **creative** force in the rehabilitation of planet earth. We need to be a guiding light bringing **people** back to the important issues that need change. Additionally with our **primary** focus on education, I would like to see the people all over the world learning about the balance of nature and how to achieve that balance again.”*

*-Lawrence Anthony*



## *Head Office Projects – South Africa*

### **Schools Recycling Project**

2011 saw the launch of a massive recycling and education campaign in the city of Durban and surrounding areas. TEO designed an educational booklet for the campaign which teaches kids about pollution and the value of recycling. The booklets were distributed at numerous schools participating in the programme.



*The booklets designed for the recycling program are available in both isiZulu and English, with 20 000 copies printed thus far*

This initiative will bring recycling to 62 schools in the South Durban area, one of the most polluted areas in the eThekweni (Durban) municipality. The first 10 schools will receive their recycling bins in the first quarter of 2012 and we will continue to add more schools to the programme each month. Working with the eThekweni municipality we aim to eventually include all schools in the region in the programme, this will see recycling taking place in over 1000 schools and effectively ensure a cleaner healthier environment for these communities.

### **Sustainable Living Expo**

TEO Head office also participated in the Sustainable Living Expo held in the Exhibition centre in September. The Earth Organization had a stand displaying all our projects and our volunteers used the opportunity to teach visitors about the harmful effects of pollution on our environment and recycling as an effective solution. The expo had approximately 12 300 visitors, over 3 days, of which 5300 were school learners.





*The Earth Organization volunteers helping to educate visitors*

**Climate Change Response Exhibition (CCR Expo COP 17)**

The Earth Organization was approached by the organizers of the CCR Exhibition to put together a child focused, educational display for the Expo and to tour school children from disadvantaged communities through this display and some of the exhibits.



We accepted the contract and set about designing a colourful and informative display for this purpose. We trained our staff to tour the kids through the displays to ensure that they learned as much as possible from it. Schools were invited and transported to and from the event on scheduled days. Approximately 900 kids were toured through the expo over 8

days. TEO staff inspired the kids to become conscious and knowledgeable about the environment and gave them a full understanding about the effects of pollution on our different ecosystems and the solutions to some of these problems. The event was a huge success and the children went away with a whole new understanding on conserving our planet and the part which they can play in their daily lives.

*A TEO trainer teacher the children about the effects of pollution*





*TEO Founder, Lawrence Anthony accompanying children at CCR Expo*

***CROW (Centre for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife)***

2011 also saw the formation of a powerful and beneficial relationship with CROW, a local organization which deals with the rehabilitation of wild animals. CROW receives 3000-5000 animals every year, most of which have been injured due to conflict with humans as urban areas expand into their natural environments.

The Earth Organization has provided CROW the opportunity to open two new rehabilitation centres for the rehabilitation and release of wild animals. A state of the art centre will be constructed at each of the two game reserves which TEO is involved with, namely; Thula Thula and Mayibuye Game Reserve. This will make it much easier for CROW to rehabilitate and release the animals which they treat as they will be in a natural environment, away from urban influences.

To cement this relationship Yvette Taylor (Exec Director of TEO) has been asked onto the board of trustees for CROW and Shannon Hagemann has joined their Executive committee. Correspondingly, Sam Terblanche (Director of CROW) has been asked onto The Earth Organization’s Advisory Board.

***Public Speaking Events***

In keeping with the ethos of education, TEO was involved in numerous events during 2011. TEO Founder, Lawrence Anthony, spoke at a large number of corporate functions, spreading the word to big business and bringing about a greater understanding of what is needed in today’s business world to achieve the triple bottom line. He also donated his time to a number of non-profit organizations by talking at their fund-raising events.





Left: Lawrence signing books at the Animal Anti-Cruelty fundraiser.

Below: Lawrence with learners from Westville Junior Primary School, after inspiring them to look after their environment.



TEO Executive Director, Yvette Taylor, spoke at a number of official functions and many schools. Talks were held at a number of the schools that are forming part of the Schools Recycling Project, reaching well over 11 000 children.



## *Cape Town – Cultural Chapter*

This chapter is taking a new approach to education and changing man's relationship with nature. The Cultural Chapter, situated in Cape Town South Africa, is concerned with reconnecting people with the natural environment. Historically, all cultures have had an affinity with nature therefore to re-establish our relationship with the environment we need to retrieve our cultural beliefs and, where necessary, mould them into something new. In order to do this we must speak the language of those concerned - this language is culture. The parallel between cultural diversity and biodiversity is clear and it is this connection which Clarissa Hughes, Director of the Cultural chapter, intends to rebuild.

As a popular freelance journalist, Clarissa has published various articles on the topic of African culture and how it aligns with conservation. These appeared in publications such as *S.A. Country Life*, *Tourism Update* and *Peolwane Magazine*.

Clarissa has completed the research and writing of her book on Starlore the book is titled "*Flowers in the Sky – a collaboration of Southern African Starlore*" and will be published early in 2012. Starlore is a collection of beliefs and stories around the night sky; the stars are used to explain religious doctrines or historical and seasonal events that have been practiced by almost every culture in the world at one time or another. What is significant about southern African starlore is that many of the stories and beliefs relate to the natural world around us as the cultures still enjoy a close relationship with the environment. In southern African starlore we discover connections between the spiritual, the natural, and remarkably, the scientific.

The next project is to publish two books on southern African cultural beliefs with the aim of educating people on how highly our traditions value the natural environment and showing the significance of nature in our lives. Below, in Clarissa's words, is a beautiful illustration of how natural elements have impacted history.

*"Just stop and think for a minute how empty the name "Richard, the Lionheart" would be if we didn't know what a lion was? What would the U.S. stand for if there were no more bald eagles? How would Hindus worship Lord Ganesh without knowing the attributes of real elephants? And where would African tribes find solace if they couldn't bring the spirits of the dead home in the branch of a buffalo thorn tree?*

*In other words, who would we be without these representatives of the natural world? The whole teeming panorama of life offers us up a mirror with which to see ourselves."*

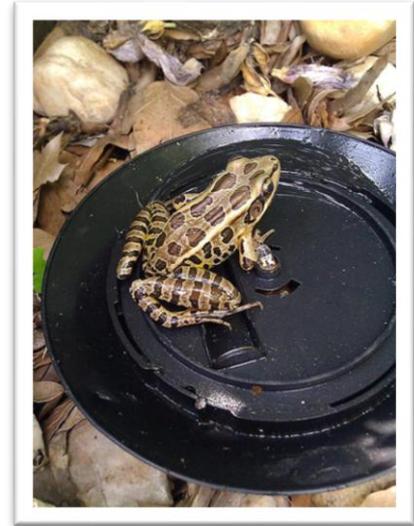
*For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization Cultural Chapter visit:*

<http://www.clarissahughes.com/>

## France

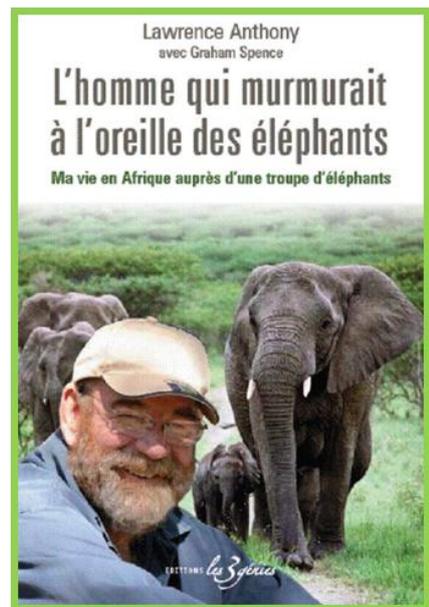
### **Amphibian Rescue**

The Earth Organization France had a busy year starting off with their amphibian rescue project which saved 8000 frogs and toads from being killed whilst crossing roads. This extraordinary project requires that dedicated volunteers patrol the roads to capture frogs that cross over the road to reach their mating grounds as part of their breeding cycle. With the pressure that humans place on land use this is an excellent solution to preventing extinction of this vital indicator species.



### **Other activities**

- TEO France did not stop there, in their efforts to preserve wildlife they also created a bird and hedgehog sanctuary.
- They continued their 'Stop Pub' campaign to reduce the amount of junk mail which gets produced and distributed every year.
- At the request of the French public, TEO France supported the petition against the killing of 250 000 seals in Canada.
- They were also invited to host an educational booth using a book entitled "*My Ecological House*" to teach the public what they can do for the planet and biodiversity.
- Additionally, TEO France worked tirelessly to promote Lawrence Anthony's two bestselling books (*Babylon's Ark* and *The Elephant Whisperer*) both of which have been translated into French. Their efforts drew an enormous amount of attention to TEO and Mr Anthony's work in conservation.
- TEO France was also invited to join the Alliance of the Planet, a group that was formed to give all smaller environmental groups a voice to government. Under this united banner these groups can be given due consideration by the government when deciding on important matters concerning the environment.
- They have also continued to post articles on the internet informing people about the environmental danger of nuclear energy, as seen when an earthquake destroyed Japan's Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant, releasing massive amounts of dangerous radiation into the environment.



For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization France visit:

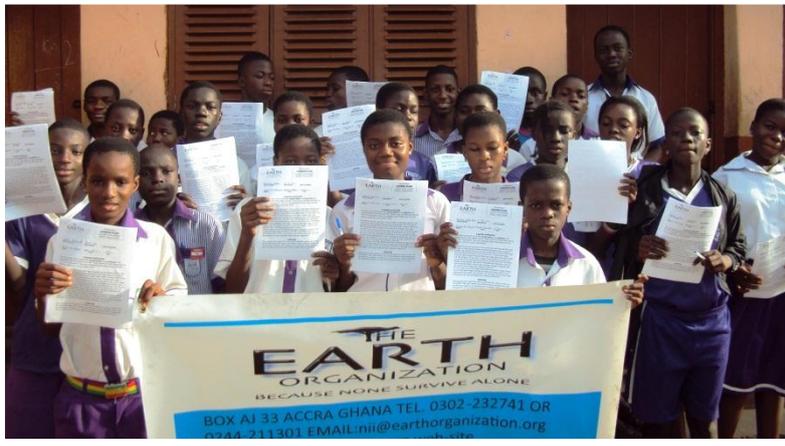
<http://www.earthorganization.fr/>

# Ghana

The Earth Organization Ghana initiated one of the first recycling projects in their country. This entailed educating school children on recycling and then procuring, branding and delivering recycling bins to schools, where they were placed in demarcated areas. This project will be rolled out to more schools and hospitals in the area in the new year.

As a result of their great work, TEO Ghana were invited by the Forestry Commission to brief them on what TEO Education in schools entails. The Director of the Forestry Commission was given a copy of TEO's "*Mission: Rescue Earth*" booklet, which the Commission is studying.

Two Schools have completed their "*Mission: Rescue Earth*" environmental education course and TEO after school clubs were started in five schools, with over 137 pupils. A further nine schools have applied for after school clubs.



School children completing their *Mission: Rescue Earth* courses

TEO Ghana ran a very successful beach clean-up of Accra beach, involving the local community and young volunteers.



## *India - Hyderabad*

### **Zoo Volunteering Project**

This young and enthusiastic chapter has taken Hyderabad by storm. In November 2011 they launched the A.S.A.P (Animal Salvation and Awareness Programme); this project incorporates both education and policing. Every Sunday, volunteers conduct Eco-patrols of the zoo with the aim educating visitors about zoo animals, including how the animals behave and what their natural habitat consists of, additionally people are taught not to throw food at the animals or to tease them. On the fourth Sunday of every month a zoo clean-up is undertaken. Thus far, the response has been fantastic, the Zoo management has been very cooperative and volunteers are being further educated about the various animals in the zoo. It has been an excellent learning experience for the public and volunteers alike.



Zoo Volunteering Team

### **Plantation and Recycling Project**

This project aims to distribute saplings to the public and encourage people to plant them at their residents or in colonies and take care of the plants for a minimum of 2 years, after which the plants can take care of themselves. One sapling is given to each participant, and in return unwanted recyclable materials like old clothes, papers, glass jars, metals, etc., are taken and recycled. The idea is for a total RECYCLE-REUSE-REDUCE revolution.



Teaching locals about the importance of trees and distributing saplings.



*The President and Vice President of TEO Hyderabad give the Principle of Pallavi Model School a sapling.*

### **Green Bag Project**

The Green Bag project was started in order to replace hazardous plastic bags and covers with the cloth bags. The main aim is to make sure retailers and fast food centres use cloth bags instead of plastic which will lead to a major reduction in usage of plastics all over the city.

Spreading awareness about the dangers of plastic and its harmful effect on the environment, and distributing cloth bags as an alternative to plastic is all part of the project. The cloth used is made from a mixture of rayon and cotton and contains no harmful substances or materials, making them an environmentally friendly alternative to plastic bags and they are reusable which leads to greater sustainability of the project.



*Official TEO cloth bags sold at the Eko stall*

### **Eko Stall**

The Eko stall was set-up at Pallavi Model School in Bowenpally on the occasion of the festival, Diwali. The main aim was to spread awareness among the people about the harmful effects burning crackers has on the environment.

The stall contained eco-friendly products like cloth bags, hand-made paper jewellery and greeting cards, all made by a group of poor women called; The Self Help Group. The event was very productive and a huge success and went a long way to help these women promote their efforts. The response received was amazing, the products were all sold in a jiffy and some of the visitors to the stall whole-heartedly donated for the future projects.

### ***Green Revolution Projects***

The Green Revolution Projects were taken up by the sub divisions of the TEO Hyderabad Chapter. The event had plantation and recycling projects which were conducted on 11/11/11. Over two days, five different species of saplings were planted in an area of land which was first cleaned up of its dead soil and then filled with fresh soil suitable for the plants. These plants will be cared for over the next two years to ensure their survival.

*For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization Hyderabad visit:*  
<http://www.teosecbad.org.in/>

## *Kloof – South Africa*

TEO Kloof operate under the name “Kidz for Conservation”, they have had a fantastic year with a very successful environmental education programme. In March 2011, 27 kids from the Molweni Township were sponsored and put through a three month environmental education course. The learners met once a month and worked their way through the “*Mission: Rescue Earth*” booklet. These children really enjoyed learning about the subject which completely changed the way they viewed the environment.



TEO Kloof then started a project initiated by The Durban Green Corridor, Duzi Umgeni Conservation Trust (DUCT) and the eThekweni municipality. The project involved introducing six rural schools to conservation concepts and putting learners through the “*Mission: Rescue Earth*” booklet. The first step was to educate the teachers and then they educated all the Grade 9 and 10 learners. The first three schools completed

their programs and were rewarded by receiving a donation of recycling bins. The bins formed part of the positive legacy program of CCR Exhibition, in which all materials used at the exhibition are being donated to worthy environmental projects. The remaining three schools will carry out their educational program in 2012.

This project was followed by starting an Environmental Club with the schools which had completed the educational programme. The club meets at the Inanda Adventure Site at their Youth Development Centre.



Workshops covering topics such as land, air and water pollution, are conducted on Saturday afternoons and every week 25-35 children attend workshops on their own motivation, rain or shine the kids arrive.

To put theory into practise, a two day litter clean-up was arranged with a total of 35 bags of litter collected and separated for recycling, by the children. The Environmental Club will be ongoing in 2012, and due to the numbers increasing will also be conducted on Friday afternoons. Many of these kids come from single or no parent families, which makes their dedication to learning about the environment so much more admirable.



*Left: Learners involved in litter clean-ups around their schools.*

*Above: Stationery packs were donated to the learners of the Environmental Club*

*For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization Kloof visit:*

*<http://www.kidzforconservation.net/>*

# *Namibia*

The Earth Organization Namibia was founded in July 2011 and awaits final status as an NGO within Namibia. Several programs are being planned including;

- Environmental Education,
- Environmental Action,
- Community Information and Participation,
- Creation Care Education,
- Law and Enforcement
- and a series of combined programs with other like-minded NGOs in Namibia.

Although some of these programs have already begun, other programs are awaiting final status as an official NGO in Namibia to be able to obtain funding to run these additional programs. In 2011, the Community Information and Participation Campaign and the Law and Enforcement Programs have already been taking place and will be on-going.

The Community Information and Participation Campaigns began with the aim to increase awareness of environmental and social issues in Namibia through media and informational discussions. The idea is that all developments that take place in Namibia must be sustainable. The main goal is to ensure that the public and the government uphold the Constitutional provision as well as all of the environmental laws of the country to protect the environment and its biodiversity for current and future generations.

Law and Enforcement Programs are on-going. This outreach effort aims to continue assisting advising, training and unifying enforcement officers on the various environmental laws and policies in Namibia. Enforcement efforts include work with the Ministry of Environment and Tourism and the Contingency Management Committee for Dorob National Park, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, the Namibian Police, the Namibian Police Traffic Department, the Municipal Traffic and Police Departments, the Namibian Defence Force, and Save the Rhino Trust. Issues that are currently being addressed by this program include; off-road driving, industrialization, mining, and protecting wildlife from illegal collection and poaching.

## *Pietermaritzburg – South Africa*

The Earth Organization Pietermaritzburg (PMB) have the philosophy that, Government and large corporations cannot make the environmental changes needed alone; communities and individuals must continue to play a pivotal role in working to protecting our planet.

After the successful launch of environmental education and waste-to-art program in 2010, TEO PMB went to the next level in 2011. Eastwood Primary School and The Earth Organization PMB chapter were invited to participate in an Annual Green Week environmental program in the City of Oceanside, California. Oceanside have an Annual Green Week aimed at improving recycling education along with other initiatives that can assist communities in generating income and keeping their environment clean.

TEO PMB chapter approached Buyisa-e-Bag to participate in this prestigious annual event to which they agreed, and consequently sponsored travel, accommodation, car hire and wellbeing for six persons; a member from Buyisa-e-Bag, three pupils from Eastwood Primary (the prize winners from the waste-to-art competition) and two members from The Earth Organization PMB chapter. Nine pieces of art from the project were shipped to Oceanside to be displayed there.



*Left: CEO of Buyisa-e-Bag with the winning kids.*

*Below: Everyone at the airport ready for their journey.*



The team first stopped in Johannesburg where they met the Buyisa-e-Bag official and held a media briefing where the children were interviewed by various media channels. The media briefing also created a platform for “Miss Earth SA” to meet the children and wish them well on their journey.

Later that evening the South African team departed for the City of Oceanside and arrived 22 hours later after traveling through three different time zones.

The team received a warm welcome from the program director of the Annual Green Week program, an employee of the City of Oceanside, and from one of the ambassadors of The Earth Organization California chapter.

The trip was an inspiration to the whole team, who arrived back in South Africa ready to take on the challenge of bringing their message to as many schools as possible. To expand the Green Week program, seven new schools in the Msunduzi Municipality were chosen with the assistance of Eastwood Primary School.



The Green Week program was launched and DUCT and Badado (Mr Litter) were asked to participate in this voluntary initiative, bringing additional resources and teaching aides to the Green Day programme with great results. TEO PMB has since completed the Green Day program in all seven schools.

TEO PMB were subsequently invited to participate in the Youth Day 2011 program as well as the 2011 Woman's Day program and the 2011 Elderly Day program, all within the Eastwood community.

The Earth Organization PMB approached the SADTU (South African Democratic Teachers Union) regional secretary, with the hope that more schools will start participating in this Green Week program in 2012. The principal of ML Sultan High School who is also the general secretary of SADTU invited TEO PMB to address, educate and motivate his school and the LRC council on why it is important for youth to be involved in environmental programs.

We believe the time and opportunity is now, for us to make a positive change in the way we live in our homes, communities and our lands to ensure the protection of our environment.



# Malaysia - TANC

## The Asia Nature Conservation (TANC)

One of the key activities this year has been field trips with children, aged 6-12 years to various locations in Malaysia. During these trips, children were taught the importance of forest fauna and flora and children were encouraged to identify the plants themselves using a variety of teaching aids.



Games were used to teach environmental concepts, such as “the life of birds” which teaches the kids how parent birds search for strands of leaves and branches to build nests and how they feed their young. Children are also taught to identify different bird calls.

The field trips include caving, where kids are taken deep into the limestone caves in Perak. The Gue Tempurung caves can stretch up to 4km and kids have to swim and crawl through cervices as they explore the hidden depths. They are then taught how Stone Age people lived and survived in caves.



TANC are actively involved in talking to Federal and State Governments through presentations and meetings, the purpose of these is to encourage the Negeri Sembilan Government to protect the Linggi River Mangroves as a Ramsar Site. This has been favourably received but with some legal obstacles as most of the land (which is now a forest reserve) has been sold illegally by the previous Chief Minister. Although this presents a challenge, with the land belonging to many owners, the government have laid out strict restrictions which prevent anyone from clearing or destroying the forest and owners can only conduct tourism related activities.

TANC also succeeded in talking to Taylors University to collaborate with them so that Masters and PhD students can study this River ecosystem in order to heighten the value of the forest area. There was an intense focus on the critically endangered Painted River Terrapin which was once abundant in the mangrove but to date none have been seen there during the study period.

*For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization Malaysia visit:*

<http://www.theasianatureconservationbhd.com/>

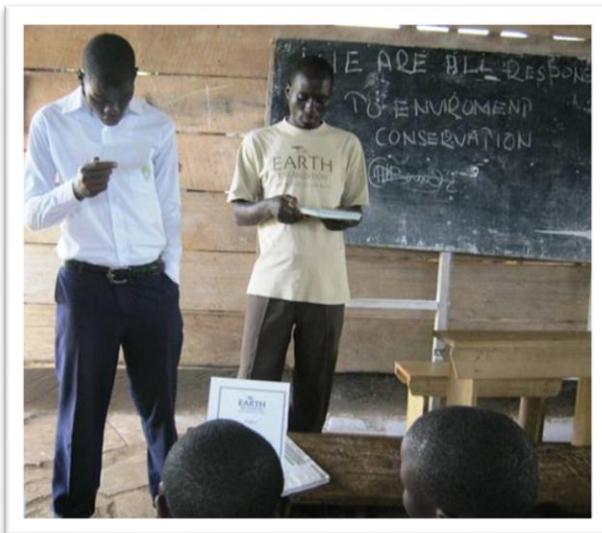
# Uganda

TEO Uganda did a fantastic job of spreading the conservation message in very impoverished communities; making it clear to all that sustainable living is the only future we have.



The first step on their program was to reach children. They launched the “*Mission: Rescue Earth*” booklet in local schools and in the course of a year put 882 students through this educational programme.

The message was then carried to the community where seven Churches were given environmental education and following on from this, 230 adults requested further training.



This education was backed up with an outstanding tree planting program. Trees for the Future provided seeds for the project and TEO Uganda constructed a simple nursery bed to grow good tree species like *Gravellia*. This project enabled TEO Uganda to donate 567 trees to 12 schools, 7 churches and a mosque.

With increased membership to 74 registered members, TEO Uganda is ready to tackle the New Year.

One of their new projects is a goat rearing project which aims to help the needy and enable them to improve their income, so far 3 goats have been given out to individuals in need.

They will also be constructing a modern nursery bed at Uganda Pentecostal University. The University has set aside a plot of land on which this will be constructed; the nursery will serve as a practical educational site and a working example to enhance the environmental message being taught to the community.

# USA

It's been a very intense year of activity for TEO USA and it is almost impossible to condense their achievements into this report.

The majority of time this year has been focused on working to get the waters and environment of the Gulf of Mexico protected and cleaned up. It is an unfortunate fact that the disaster is on-going; despite official statements to the contrary, full cessation of the gushing oil was never achieved, and the continuing use of extraordinarily toxic chemical dispersants is having a devastating impact on the marine life, and the public's health.

When the disaster began in April of 2010, TEO US identified and authenticated effective non-toxic oil spill clean-up methods that have 23 years of successful experience in remediating oil spills and toxic sites. Despite their obvious superior benefits compared to the antiquated and destructive chemical dispersants the government is still using to disperse (not clean up) the oil. The government is actively preventing constructive methods that they've already officially approved in the past from being implemented, whilst the reasoning remains unclear. Thus, we are doing everything necessary to break down these barriers and get real solutions implemented to restore the Gulf waters to their pre-spill conditions.

Our actions in 2011 included:

- Using the half-hour film documentary produced in 2010 entitled "*Hidden Crisis in the Gulf*" to educate the public about the solution; ([www.TheEarthOrganizationGulfVideo.org](http://www.TheEarthOrganizationGulfVideo.org))
- Meeting with 17 different U.S. Congressmen and/or their top Aides in Washington, DC to brief them on what is going on, and to gain their support and help in investigating the government officials who are behind this,
- Providing over 1500 pages of documentation to the U.S. Congressional House Government Oversight and Reform Committee;



*From Left to Right:  
Steven Pedigo - owner of  
effective nontoxic oil spill  
clean-up product, OSE II;  
Barbara Wiseman-TEO  
International President, US;  
Congressman Dan Burton;  
Sam Brunelli (CEO Team  
Builders International)*

- Running a petition drive to educate the public and generate support for the cause;
- Putting together a scientific team who have researched and written a scientific paper with factual information regarding the current state of the Gulf
- Providing information to the media in their attempts to expose what is really going on.
- An award-winning film production company produced a hard-hitting documentary expose' called "The Big Fix" about the current situation in the Gulf. Barbara (TEO International President) was invited to be on the panel following the Los Angeles premiere so that the audience could get information about the correct solution and how they can help.



An enormous amount has been learned in dealing with the Gulf oil disaster. TEO will continue to work on these campaigns in 2012 and we aim to restore the Gulf of Mexico environment back to its pre-spill conditions, using sustainable and eco-friendly methods.

TEO US also:

- Held three Eco Safaris this year to South Africa, raising awareness in the attendees of important environmental issues and solutions.
- Adopted a beach in the Los Angeles area and held three beach clean-ups this year.
- Hosted several events, with between 30-350 attendees to educate the public on environmental issues. This included working with large environmentally friendly retail stores to raise awareness and funds for all of our campaigns.



*For further information on the activities of The Earth Organization USA visit:*

<http://www.theearthorganization.org>

# Zambia

TEO Zambia had a busy year dealing with some of the harmful side effects of the mining industry on the environment. In this mineral rich country, disasters and chemical poisoning of the environment is a constant problem which needs careful monitoring and vigilance.

One of the major hazards that had to be dealt with occurred when a truck carrying sulphur to the DRC, overturned on the Kitwe Ndola Dual Carriage. This sparked a major clean-up, officially launched by the Local Government, Housing Early Childhood Education and Environmental Protection Minister, Honorable Professor Nkandu Luo, other Government officials that attended were the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Deputy Minister of Mines, two Members of Parliament, Director General of Zambia Environment Management Agency, Kitwe District Commissioner and Former Kitwe Mayor.



The Kankoyo Township in Zambia is an area that is highly polluted with sulphur dioxide and sulphuric acid. The Earth Organization has now embarked on an ambitious project to remediate and re-vegetate the township, as Mopani Copper Mines moves towards the attainment of capturing the remaining percentage of Sulphur dioxide. TEO Zambia and Mopani Copper Mines will sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the operation of the project.

The project will include the creation of Kankoyo vegetable gardens and planting fruit trees. This campaign will culminate in soil remediation as well as the improvement of the quality of life for residents in the area. The project will be implemented in conjunction with the Ministry of Local Government,

Housing Early Childhood Education and Environmental Protection as well as encouraging full community participation through the formation of Community Based Environmental Groups (CBEG).

Lovemore Muma (Director of TEO Zambia) received his certificate for completing his training in NGO Financial Strategic Management conducted by MANGO from the UK at Golf View in Lusaka and will continue to head up TEO Zambia in the new year.



## *Concluding remarks*

The Earth Organization is committed to making 2012 an even greater year for conservation as we remain focused on our purposes and where we are heading as an organization. We aim to achieve the impossible and turn the tide against the wave of pollution and destruction threatening our environment. Through education and action we will put solutions back in the hands of the community enabling them to protect their environment. We will do this by following our

### **Overarching goal:**

“An educated population who know how to live sustainably on earth”

### **And our purposes:**

- 1) To educate all people about nature, environmental sustainability and survival on Earth
- 2) To bring about the rehabilitation of Earth’s natural environments.
- 3) To coordinate with and help like-minded groups throughout the planet, getting applicable tools into their hands so they can be more successful in achieving their constructive environmental goals.

