

QADIRIYYA MOVEMENT IN NIGERIA

Darul Qadiriyya, Kano, Nigeria.

QADIRIYYAH 7 YEAR ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

(2011-2018)

The following is a 7-years plan of action for the Qadiriyyah Movement In Nigeria which focuses on environmental care programs and activities covering education, theology, horticulture, economy, energy, media, and lifestyle. The plan takes into cognizance ARC's recommended 7-key action guidelines as may apply to our environment. May Allah guide for its implementation.

Sheikh Qaribullah's personal interest on environment rhymes with his religious belief that environmental care is a religious task that must be done. The Sheikh's growing environmental activism is therefore an extension of his religious duty as well as communal responsibility. The Sheikh's popular appeal and influence in Nigeria provides the Qadiriyyah Movement with a strong support platform for the implementation of its various environmental care programs. More so, the Sheikh has been mobilising his flock through sermons and actions in so doing garnering their support and involvement in various environmental programs supporting this long term action plan such as:

- **Green School Program**, a program that introduces the concept of environmental care to Qadiriyyah run school children through practical tree planting and polythene bags cleanup at schools and neighbourhoods.
- **Green Cemetery Program** aimed at making Kano cemeteries greener through tree planting beside new and old graves.
- **Greening Pilgrimage**, a program in which the annual Qadiriyyah Maukib pilgrimage will be greened. This program is further augmented by the Qadiriyyah Movement's partnership with Kano city local governments in the Green Pilgrimage Network (GPN) to green Kano as a pilgrimage city.
- **"Green Hajj Guide"** translation and customisation into Hausa language for use in the annual Hajj and Qadiriyyah Maukib pilgrimages in Saudi Arabia and Nigeria respectively. Maiden production is expected soon. While mass

printing and distribution of the guide is expected during next Hajj season subject to availability of funds.

- **Qadiriyyah Tree Nursery**, a new project aimed at cutting the high costs of tree seedlings by producing and nursing own tree seedlings for use in Qadiriyyah Green School program as well as other Qadiriyyah greening programs.

1.00 EDUCATION

1.01 **Development of Tree Seedling Nursery (Phase-I)**

The affordability and availability of quality tree seedling species have necessitated the need to establish a 250,000 capacity tree nursery for the Qadiriyyah Movement in Kano. The phase-1 of the project entails the following major tasks:

- Consulting services
- Manpower recruitment (3 persons)
- Land acquisition and preparation
- Acquisition of essential tree nursery equipment and inputs

The proposed nursery is aimed at boost the tree planting activities of the *Green Schools program* and other related greening programs of the Qadiriyyah Movement. Estimated project cost is GBP 35,000 while completion and commencement time is 1½ years.

1.02 **Tree Nursery Management Training**

This task entails the provision essential management skills required to effectively run the proposed tree nursery. Training will be provided to recruited personnel in collaboration with:

- Federal Forestry Research Institute, Kano
- Hired Consultant

This task is estimated to cost is GBP 7,000 and will be completed within 1 month period.

1.03 **Customisation Of ESD curriculum & Teacher Training**

The Qadiriyyah Movement In Nigeria will adopt the new curriculum model on *Education For Sustainable Development* (ESD) which is being developed by ARC/KOEE in conjunction with faith groups from Sub-Sahara Africa. The forthcoming curriculum will be customised for Qadiriyyah primary schools in Nigeria.

The Qadiriyyah Movement In Nigeria will organize and conduct local ESD teacher training for selected primary school teachers as a prelude to the full introduction of the faith based curriculum. A total number of 25 teachers will be drawn from Qadiriyyah affiliated primary schools annually to undergo the training. The objective of this task is to train minimum 175 qualified ESD teachers by 2018 thereby providing at least one ESD teacher in

each primary school. Cost of implanting this task is estimated at GBP 10,000 annually.

1.04 **Instructional Materials**

For effective faith based ESD curriculum implementation in Qadiriyyah primary schools, the Qadiriyyah Movement will acquire and or develop relevant ESD teaching materials for distribution to own primary schools. The teaching materials will include:

- Books on environment care
- Posters on ESD themes, faith wisdoms, pictures etc
- Audio-visual / multimedia equipment such overhead projectors
- Development of multimedia instructional materials such as video clips, theme presentations etc

Estimated cost of this task is GBP 25,000 and will be completed within three months.

1.05 **Implement ESD Curriculum And Its Advocacy**

The Qadiriyyah Movement In Nigeria will implement the customized ESD curriculum in its primary schools at the beginning of the 2013 academic session. While implementing the new curriculum, the Qadiriyyah Movement In Nigeria will also advocate and promote it for adoption in government funded primary schools in Kano State of Nigeria. The Qadiriyyah primary schools will showcase the new ESD curriculum to the public for awareness and will be bolstered by media campaign for support. This campaign will continue until the ESD curriculum is adopted nationally.

1.06 **School Gardens & Orchards**

Gardens and orchards will be established in urban and rural Qadiriyyah schools which have sufficient land and source of water. The project will:

- Be used for practical instructions on agricultural science and environment.
- Improve the greening of schools premises, and
- Provide fruits and vegetables to Qadiriyyah “Green Grocery” kiosks for food security and economic empowerment (see section 5.12).

This task involves acquisition of land, garden implements, land preparation, water sourcing and seeds. Estimated cost of implementation is GBP 2,500 per school.

1.07 **Collection Of Used Polythene Bags**

“Pure water” is polythene packaged water popularly used throughout the West African sub-region. While the product is essentially important, the negative environmental impact is enormous and worrisome.

In 2010, the leader of the Qadiriyyah Movement, His Eminence, Sheikh Qaribullah Kabara began a novice school extra-curricular program in Qadiriyyah primary schools to address the growing menace of dumped polythene bags in Kano city. Two primary schools were selected from Kano metropolis for a weekly neighbourhood polythene pick-up by school children. Each school child was requested to collect 100 bag pieces of used polythene from their neighbourhoods and brought to school as a weekly contribution to the polythene clean-up. Used polythene bags are received at school and academic scores are accordingly awarded to students. School children are now reluctant in throwing polythene bags in their neighbourhoods.

The program will be extended to more primary schools, while advocacy will begin for the extending the program to government owned primary schools throughout Kano State.

1.08 **School Visits**

Sheikh Qaribullah Kabara will embark on a monthly “**Environmental Talks & Tree Planting**” visit to public and private primary schools in Kano State. This program will enable the Sheikh to directly talk to school children and teachers on the fundamentals of environmental care and responsibilities. The Sheikh will visit at least two schools monthly and on each visit donate flower pots, tree seedlings as well as plant a commemorative tree in school premises. Annual implementation cost of this task is estimated at GBP 10,000.

1.09 **Community Visits**

In this program the Sheikh will collaborate with *self-help groups* in urban and rural communities to raise awareness and promote environmental care practices. On each visited community, Sheikh Qaribullah will conduct a lecture on environmental themes specific

to the community and plant commemorative trees. Annual cost of implementing this program is GBP 10,000.

2.00 ENVIRONMENT

2.01 **Environmental Care Workshop**

An annual seminar on environmental care issues will be organized specifically for the *Muqaddams* to constantly update them on environmental care knowledge and trends for the purpose of carrying same back to their respective domains. This task is a continuous one and will be organized as part of the annual *Maukib* pilgrimage celebration activities.

2.02 **Environmental Care Guide For Muslims**

Sheikh Qaribullah Nasir Kabara has been working on a theological guide on environment for Muslims. The work will highlight Islamic values and responsibilities for a sustainable everyday life. The guide will be distributed to *Muqaddams*¹, and Qadiriyyah schools to supplement the Education For Sustainable Development (ESD) instructional materials for teachers. Complimentary copies will also be distributed to selected government and private primary schools in Northern Nigeria. Estimated completion period for this task is 6 months and will cost approximately GBP 25,000.

2.03 **Establishment Of Community Weather Station**

A local weather station complete with air pollution meters will be established in Kano city for the following purposes:

- Monitor and record local weather trends for ESD instructional needs at schools and also for radio broadcasting to local farmers and the general public.
- Evaluation of the short and long term impacts of the environmental actions.
- Provide a facility for practical instructions on environment.
- Serve as a local weather information facility.

This task will cost of approximately GPB 10,000.

2.04 **Streets Tree Planting In Kano Metropolis**

¹ These are local and foreign representatives of the spiritual leader of the Qadiriyyah Movement In Africa located within and outside Nigeria.

Tree planting is a vital aspect of the Qadiriyyah Movement's environmental protection initiatives. The chopping down of trees from urban and rural resources within and around Kano State is so alarming. Moreover, the ratio between new planted trees and those being cut down remains almost irrelevant. The long term implications of all these looks bleak as Sahara desert keep its march southwards towards Kano city.

The Qadiriyyah Movement intends to reverse the negative trend by raising awareness for more tree planting and conservation of the current tree stock particularly within Kano municipality. This task involves the following

- Re-planting of trees along newly expanded roads.
- Planting of trees on select roads in communities with low tree counts

The program will be conducted with a difference in the sense that every tree planted will be nurtured until maturity. This program is going to compliment other ones being implemented in the city. Task funding will be from local resources as well as with interested foreign supporters. Tree seedlings for this task will come from the following:

- Qadiriyyah Movement's tree nursery
- Kano State Government
- Federal Government of Nigeria

A projected 350,000 trees will be planted annually on hundreds of kilometer roads in Kano city over 7 year period. Annual estimated budget is GBP 75,000.

2.05 **Greening Of Kano City Cemeteries**

The *Green Cemetery Program* focuses on greening 7 major cemeteries around Kano municipality. The program is designed for its spiritual and environmental connotations. The objective is to plant more trees in the cemeteries for the benefits of the living as well as provide spiritual comfort to the dead.

About 150 tree seedlings will be distributed to each designated cemetery through care takers. The tree seedlings will be planted at gravesides during funerals as well as besides old graves. Tree seedling stocks will be replenished periodically. The *Green Cemetery Program* will share the same source of tree seedling supply as in the

greening program explained in section 2.04 above. Estimated cost is GBP 5,000 annually.

2.06 **Blessed Tree Seedlings**

Sheikh Qaribullah will at the end of each month pray and bless fruit bearing tree seedlings for distribution to *Muqaddams*. The aim of this task is to expand the scope of tree planting activities beyond Kano city. In this way, each *Muqqadam's* domain will have a chance to plant a spiritually blessed tree. The proposed Qadiriyyah tree nursery will provide the tree seedlings for this task.

3.00 **FOOD**

3.10 **Garden & Orchard**

Land will be acquired in the outskirts of Kano city for the purpose of establishing “**Qadiriyyah Garden & Orchard**” project. The project will supplement local supply of organically grown fruits and vegetables at affordable prices. The project’s objectives include, job creation, economic empowerment and food security. When established, the facility will also serve as a demonstration centre for sustainable farming. Estimated project implementation period is 4 years, and will cost GBP 50,000 when completed.

4.00 **FAITH WISDOM & LIFESTYLE**

1.10 **Promotion Of Sustainable Living**

Public radio listening is a popular pastime amongst the Hausa speaking Nigerians, and it plays a big role in their lives. This task will target Muslim audience in Northern Nigeria in English and Hausa languages to disseminate Islamic wisdoms on environment and sustainable life. Radio jingles will be produced from Islamic scriptures on environment, food, water, sustainable life style and conservation. Local artist including poets, song writers, film producers and musicians will be commissioned to produce special works on sustainable life styles. The estimated annual budget for this project is GBP 50,000.

4.10 **Sustainable Electricity**

A hybrid solar and wind power system will be installed in the Darul *Qadiriyyah*². The power system will replace the conventional electricity requirements of the main mosque and offices of the Qadiriyyah Movement headquarters. Additionally, the power system will be used

² Headquarters of the Qadiriyyah Movement in Africa, located in Kano city.

for practical demonstration for the promotion of sustainable energy during religious gatherings. Affiliated Qadiriyyah mosques in Kano city will also be covered over a period of 7 years. A program would be designed to promote solar powered systems at affordable prices to the public. Annual estimated budget is GBP 50,000.

4.11 Sustainable Energy

Firewood is the main source of energy for domestic cooking in most parts of Africa. Due to this tradition, many forests have gone out completely, while the remaining ones are being depleted recklessly. The Qadiriyyah Movement will work with Kano State Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to educate the public and also promote the use of efficient and alternative energy sources for cooking. A program will be introduced to fabricate and distribute affordable energy saving firewood stoves and solar stoves. Estimated annual budget for this program is GBP 100,000.

5.00 Faith & Economic Empowerment

5.10 Polythene Recycling

The composition of garbage in Kano city is mainly made up of used polythene packaging materials. This has in recent times become an environmental problem in the city. In addition to awareness campaigns, the Qadiriyyah Movement will in be aided by the Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, Nigeria to establish polythene garbage conversion facility in Kano. The facility if established will convert polythene into diesel fuel. The goal is to eliminate polythene from the streets and convert same to money. Substantial used polythene garbage supply will come from activities stated in section 1.07.

5.11 Youth Economic Empowerment

The Qadiriyyah Movement youth will be supported to establish orchard businesses in the outskirts of Kano metropolis. The key objectives of this project include greening the environment, contribution to local food supply and economic empowerment. An annual training workshop on “Orchards Business & Management” will be conducted for this purpose. The Qadiriyyah Movement will in this regard work with Kano State Government of Nigeria and other interested organisations to facilitate land acquisition, seed sourcing and training. Estimated annual budget is GBP 75,000.

5.12 **Green Grocery**

The Qadiriyyah Movement will establish “**Green Grocery**” kiosks within Kano metropolis as official retail outlets for products from its orchards and gardens. This project is aimed at providing youths with economic empowerment opportunities. Estimated budget is GBP 25,000

6.00 Partnerships / Alliances

6.10 **Partnerships**

Although the Qadiriyyah Movement is the largest Islamic group in Nigeria, the organisation believes that it can partner with other Islamic groups to promote environmental care awareness and activities. In this regard, the movement will encourage willing Islamic groups to partner with it in certain environmental projects or establish their own. On the secular side, the Qadiriyyah Movement will collaborate with the following State and Federal agencies:

- Kano State Ministry Of Agriculture & Natural Resources.
- Kano Agricultural & Rural Development Authority (KNARDA).
- Kano State Ministry Of Environment
- Forestry Research Institute Of Nigeria.
- National Horticulture Research Institute (NHORT).
- Federal Environmental Protection Agency (FEPA).

7.00 Media & Advocacy

7.10 **Media Campaign**

Series of media campaign are planned on local radio stations. The major campaign themes are on:

- Cleaner air
- Islam & your environment
- Your faith & your carbon footprint
- War against polythene bags
- War against bush burning

The Qadiriyyah Movement will in the long run establish a “**Green FM Radio**” station, specifically for programs related to Religion and Environment, the first of its kind in Nigeria.