

March 27, 2014

Dear Citizens of Dortmund,

We are joyfully looking towards your city during this special hour since we are on a close longitude of the earth. Thank you very much for your interest in a common greeting regarding the only thing that keeps us together – our planet.

Climate change happened when we weren't looking. When we were concentrating on other things-like keeping warm, getting from A to B, enjoying being able to consume more and more, but as we can now see the immediate connection between the CO2 emissions of different part of the world and, how it affects people in Lagos, Taraba, Port Harcourt and Abuja. We now believe there could be a link between heating our homes and heating the planet, between taking the car to the shops and Drought.

That's why the world really does need a plan as cities across the world gets dark for the World's largest environmental campaign – Earth Hour. Not to change the climate, but to slow the rate of change and enable those already affected to adapt to the new world, which they didn't choose.

And talking about cities, permit us the pleasure of introducing the four cities that will join in this global movement in Nigeria.

Lagos, the Centre of Excellence, is the most populous black city in the world, and remains the business hub for diverse people from and outside Nigeria.

Abuja, the Centre of Unity, is the Federal Capital Territory of Nigeria, and hosts the Aso Rock, where the presidency resides, and most government institutions in the country.

Port Harcourt, the Treasure Base of the Nation has most oil wells in the country, and commercial quantities of Crude Oil were first discovered in this City.

Taraba, the Nature's Gift to the Nation, consists of undulating landscape dotted with a few mountainous features. These include the scenic and prominent Mambilla Plateau and the only Community University in West Africa, Kwararafa University.

We hope together, with the people of Dortmund, we can kick start a new path to prosperity-sustainable development-where people who have yet to make poverty a distant memory can leapfrog into a low carbon future.

With Sincere Thanks,



Oludotun Babayemi
Country Project Director