

11 March 2022, Brussels

Waste Free Oceans launches a cleanup in Lagos Island in collaboration with DOW

The recent partnership between <u>WFO</u> and <u>Dow</u> brings the global campaign "Pulling our Weight" and the cleanup projects "WFO Africa Roadshow" to Nigeria.

The *Pulling our Weight* campaign in Nigeria, resulting from the collaboration between WFO and Dow, will finally take place **today** on **March 11, 2022** in **Lagos**.

This global campaign initially addresses the issue of plastic pollution and encourages a more responsible waste management through cleanups and educational projects. For that purpose, approximately 4500 people gathered worldwide to remove four pounds of waste in waterways and beaches, corresponding to the average amount of waste produced by one person every day.

Up to now, more than 1 million pounds of waste have already been removed in many locations in the world, from Asia to Africa and the Americas.

The main goal of Dow's initiative is to encourage a circular economy for plastics. In fact, a better management of plastics during their whole lifecycle would reduce the major impact they have on the environment while continuing to play a crucial role in the economy. This is the reason why Dow strives to clean up waste in the nature, to develop technologies to recycle it, and to prevent it from again ending up in the environment.

As for Waste Free Oceans, *Pulling our Weight* represents one of the final steps of our *Africa Roadshow* cleanups and raising-awareness events on plastic pollution which already took place in Togo, the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Gabon, Congo and Cameroon in 2021. Today, WFO's and Dow's volunteers, together with our local partner *Wecyclers* – a pioneer in serving recycling solutions to low-income communities – will continue the tour in Lagos for the *Pulling our Weight* campaign. All the waste collected will be sorted and recycled locally in order for Dow to eventually develop new products.

The WFO Africa Roadshow is one of the projects launched by WFO Global since it extended its activities to **Africa** in September 2020. Through its projects, WFO has the ambition to alert the community on the terrible environmental consequences that result from a poor plastic waste management, as well as to encourage the inhabitants and authorities to address the issue. The objective would be to develop a local **sustainable circular economy**, to support local entrepreneurs, and to reinforce their plastic recycling industry.

Follow the journey:

LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/18014224



Twitter: https://twitter.com/WasteFreeOceans

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/wastefreeocean

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/wastefreeoceans/?hl=en

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/WasteFreeO

DATE & LOCATION: Lagos Island, Lagos, Nigeria | March 11, 2022

HASHTAGS: #PullingOurWeight, #WFOAfricaTourLagos

ABOUT DOW

DOW Corporate is a company providing sustainable materials science expertise to customers. For that purpose, Dow Corporate and its different partners collaborate to reduce their carbon footprint and plastic waste.

For more information on: https://corporate.dow.com/en-us.html

Contact: https://corporate.dow.com/en-us/contact.html

ABOUT WECYCLERS

Wecyclers is a for-profit social enterprise in Nigeria which provides recycling services to neighbourhoods with a high population density, therefore supporting sustainability, socioeconomic development and health.

More information on: https://www.wecyclers.com/about

Contact: https://www.wecyclers.com/about

ABOUT WASTE FREE OCEANS

Waste Free Oceans (WFO) is a non-profit organisation that mobilises the fisheries sector, the plastics industry, brand owners, and the wider public, in order to reduce the impact of marine litter in the oceans. WFO's operations focus on marine litter cleanups and "Closing the Loop" projects, enabling new and innovative products to be designed and produced from the collected ocean waste.

Find more information on: https://www.wastefreeoceans.org/

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