

Report on the Celebration of the World Wetlands Day

The Celebration of the World Wetlands Day in Liberia was for the first time a very successful one. The program was held at the SKD Boulevard Wetland in Congo Town, Monrovia. The program brought together officials from the U.N. System particularly UNMIL and UNDP, government officials from the Lands Mines and Energy, Monrovia City Corporation, Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Forestry Development Authority, The Paynesville Commissioner etc and other NGOs and student groups from 5 different schools.

The program was a very unique one as it started on 1 February with a field excursion around the Montserrado Wetland in Monrovia, and on the 2 February an outdoor program was held at the SKD Boulevard Wetland in Congo town. After the outdoor program a massive cleanup activity was carried on by the participants. The Monrovia city Corporation provided heavy equipments and they worked the collaboration with the LIBRA Sanitation to remove a good amount of the dump that was on the site.

As you are quite aware the wetlands in Liberia has been seriously affected by human activities and domestic and industrial waste has been carried there frequently. To curb this action, the EPA has been able the assign three voluntary inspectors to the site to help keep security on the Wetland and its environment.

The program raised a lot of awareness as there were talk shows on two different radio stations educating the Liberians about the importance of wetland, several radio interviews and announcements. The program was also captured by about 3 television stations.

As a result of the awareness raised, there have been several calls on the EPA to say something more about wetlands and there was also a case where someone came to find out about what could and could not be done in the area.

The EPA is also planning to carry on a complete clean of the site and to develop the SKD Boulevard Wetland as a recreation site.









