

# APON ANNUAL REPORT 2024

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## MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDER



A Heartfelt Thank You and a Look Back at 2024.

We at the Animal Protection Organization of Nigeria (APON) extend our deepest gratitude to our invaluable sponsors and promoters for their unwavering support throughout 2024. Your generous contributions have been instrumental in enabling us to achieve significant strides in our mission to promote animal welfare, environmental sustainability, and food security in Nigeria. We especially thank the Vegan Africa Fund, the Vegan Society of Aotearoa, the Peter Odika Memorial Foundation, and the Institute of Agricultural Research and Training for their commitment to our cause. Their belief in our vision has empowered us to implement impactful programs that have touched the lives of both animals and people.

This year has been a whirlwind of activity, marked by the successful execution of several key initiatives. Our flagship event, Vegfest Nigeria Season 3, was a resounding success, bringing together a diverse range of stakeholders within the Nigerian food sector. This dynamic platform fostered crucial dialogue surrounding the pressing welfare gaps affecting animals, the environment, and waste management. Vegfest catalyzed collaboration and innovation, sparking conversations that we believe will lead to tangible change in the years to come. We were particularly pleased with the increased participation from local businesses, chefs, and community leaders, demonstrating a growing interest in plant-based solutions and sustainable food systems.

Beyond Vegfest, APON dedicated significant resources to addressing the critical issue of endangered species protection. We conducted a series of educational programs targeted at local hunting communities, raising awareness about the laws prohibiting the hunting of

critically endangered species. These workshops not only disseminated vital legal information but also explored the broader ecological implications of biodiversity loss. Recognizing the need for viable alternatives, we also facilitated workshops focused on alternative livelihoods for hunters. These sessions provided training and resources in areas such as sustainable agriculture, mushroom farming, and eco-tourism, empowering individuals to transition to more sustainable and ethical income-generating activities.

Furthermore, APON remains deeply committed to promoting sustainable agricultural practices. We organized a series of workshops designed to train local farmers on environmentally friendly farming techniques. These workshops covered topics such as organic farming, crop diversification, waste reduction, and water conservation, equipping farmers with the knowledge and skills needed to enhance their productivity while minimizing their environmental impact. We believe that empowering farmers with sustainable practices is crucial for building a resilient and food-secure future for Nigeria.

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with pride for the progress we have made. However, we also recognize that there is much work still to be done. With the continued support of our sponsors, promoters, and dedicated team, we are confident that APON will continue to make significant contributions towards a more compassionate and sustainable future for Nigeria. We look forward to building on these achievements in the coming year and expanding our reach to create even greater impact.

## **Our Mission, Vision, and Values**

### **MISSION:**

Animal Protection Organization of Nigeria exists:

To end animal homelessness and suffering through innovative rescue, advocacy, and community engagement.

To protect endangered species and their habitats through scientific research, conservation action, and policy collaboration.

To build a sustainable future where human needs are met responsibly, respecting the delicate balance of nature.

### **VISION:**

At APON, we envisioned a future:

where shelters are obsolete because responsible pet ownership and animal welfare are universally embraced.

where endangered species populations bounce back and ecosystems flourish, free from human threats.

where sustainable practices become the norm, ensuring a healthy planet for humans and animals alike.

### **Values:**

At APON, the organization's decisions and actions are guided by the following principles:

**Compassion:** We believe in treating all animals with respect and empathy, recognizing their sentience and intrinsic value.

**Collaboration:** We partner with diverse stakeholders to achieve shared goals, leveraging collective knowledge and expertise.

**Innovation:** We embrace new ideas and solutions, constantly seeking to improve our impact and effectiveness.

**Science:** We base our decisions on sound scientific evidence and data, ensuring our work is informed and impactful.

**Advocacy:** We speak up for the voiceless, pushing for policies and practices that protect animals and the environment.

**Integrity:** We operate with transparency and accountability, earning trust and building lasting relationships.

## VEGFEST NIGERIA 3 & 2<sup>nd</sup> Food Systems Stakeholders Summit.

Held at The Bunker, Ring-Road, Ibadan, Oyo State.

May 2024.

The Animal Protection Organization of Nigeria (APON) convened its 2024 Food Systems Stakeholders Summit at The Bunker, Ibadan, Nigeria. The summit brought together a diverse group of representatives, including government agencies, research institutes, consumer groups, policymakers, and farmers' groups—discussions centered on innovative approaches to address critical gaps in current practices within Nigeria's food systems. Participants explored strategies to improve animal welfare, promote sustainable agriculture, and ensure food security. The summit facilitated valuable dialogue and collaboration, aiming to forge a path towards Nigeria's more ethical and sustainable food future. Key outcomes included identifying areas for policy reform and fostering partnerships for implementing practical solutions.





## APON's Anti-Poaching Campaign

Held at Ido Local Government Area Council, Ibadan.

The Animal Protection Organization of Nigeria (APON) convened its 2024 Food Systems Stakeholders Summit at The Bunker, Ibadan, Nigeria. The summit brought together a diverse group of representatives, including government agencies, research institutes, consumer groups, policymakers, and farmers' groups—discussions centered on innovative approaches to address critical gaps in current welfare practices within Nigeria's food systems. Participants explored strategies to improve animal welfare, promote sustainable agriculture, and ensure food security. The summit facilitated valuable dialogue and collaboration, aiming to forge a path towards Nigeria's more ethical and sustainable food future. Key outcomes included identifying areas for policy reform and fostering partnerships for implementing practical solutions.





## APON's Sustainable Farming Workshop

Held at Ido Local Communities (Akufo)

APON held a workshop on sustainable agricultural practices in Ido Local Government, Ibadan, Nigeria. The workshop convened representatives from local women's and men's farmer groups to discuss and learn about environmentally friendly farming techniques. Participants explored organic farming, crop diversification, and water conservation topics. The training aimed to equip farmers with practical knowledge and skills to enhance productivity while minimizing the environmental impact of waste generated from ground preparation and fertilizer application up to post-harvest waste. The workshop fostered knowledge sharing and collaboration among farmers, promoting the adoption of sustainable practices for a more resilient and food-secure community.

