

Congo WAKE UP Project

Friends of the Congo works to directly support the WAKE UP! Congo project based in Orientale Province. The primary mission of the WAKE UP! Congo project is to affect a meaningful shift in community agency, region wide, to be achieved by empowering rural communities through appropriate adult education, literacy and awareness programs.

Directed by a team of Congolese professionals, WAKE UP! Congo is a locally based, in-country, non-government organization focused on community development, natural resource and environmental protection, education and health care. The project involves women leaders whose oversight insures equitable attention to gender issues and insures gender empowerment and equality. WAKE UP! is a strictly non-violent organization.

The Wake Up! Congo board of directors is comprised of Congolese professionals—including medical doctors, project directors, business people, teachers and academics—with years of previous experience gained working for International non-governmental organizations.

WAKE UP! Congo supports grassroots organizing with and for rural communities who live on the front lines and directly experience the devastating effects of natural resource exploitation, extortion, corruption, human rights violations and foreign interventions (involving international NGOs, multinational corporations, and extractive industries).

The main objectives are:

- [1] Fight against illiteracy and ignorance within indigenous communities of the Equatorial forest (Orientale);
- [2] Promote autonomy of the indigenous communities of the equatorial forest by assisting them in programmes for socioeconomic uplift;
- [3] Reinforce the capacities of the indigenous communities of the equatorial forest related to the field natural resources protection;
- [4] Fight against abusive exploitation of natural resources by agro-industrial and forest companies
- [5] Educate against the corruption, biases and institutionalized ‘charity’ of Western conservation, development and human rights organizations;
- [6] Channel resources to local communities, including basic education and health materials, and appropriate books.

Your donations to WAKE UP! Congo will translate to direct education and empowerment on the ground in rural Congo. Further information is available upon request.