



Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo

2021 One Planet Laureate Candidate

Position

Lecturer I

Institution

The Federal University of
Technology, Akure (FUTA),
Nigeria

Country

Nigeria

Education

PhD, Fisheries Management, The
Federal University of Technology,
Akure (FUTA), Nigeria

Mentor

Prof. Funmilola Omolara Agbebi,
Professor, Dean School of
Agriculture, Food and Natural
Resources, Olusegun Agagu
University of Science and
Technology, Okitipupa, Nigeria

Research Area

Fisheries and aquaculture
management.

Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo has always loved research and decided on a career in science at a young age.

She completed her education in Nigeria—her undergraduate degree was in animal science, then she took a master's in fisheries and aquaculture before embarking on a PhD in fisheries management—and she is surely climbing the career ladder.

"Because of my ongoing passion for nature, I decided to focus my work on helping the ecosystem in my country," IFadekemi explains.

Her work at the Federal University of Technology Akure has her lecturing as well as engaging in research.

"The most exciting focus of my research is dealing with the health of coastal waters," she continues.

"It is revealing to discover heavy metals in our ecosystem, and we are working hard to create solutions."

Fadekemi is working with local fish farmers around the coastal waters of Ondo state, primarily by producing sensitization and education on ecosystem management.

"It's not a straightforward approach," she notes.

"We strategize by speaking with community leaders and cooperative organizations, and we also use extension agents to spread the message."

As an academic, Fadekemi always wanted to be a professor. "I hope to be one of the biggest voices in the world in terms of climate change and our oceans," she stresses.

Fadekemi says she has already benefited greatly from the One Planet Fellowship program.

"One thing I have discovered is that without a strong network, I won't reach the peak of my career. Actually, in the time I've been in, it has helped me. Apart from the training, the program will help me grow, and I'm sure more invitations to scientific work will arise. I am hopeful, and I know I will reach higher milestones later."

As a One Planet Fellow, Igejongbo expects to enhance collaborative research within Africa and elsewhere to influence her community.

"Also, by formulating policies, this will provide insight into pitfalls and prepare me to suggest solutions."

Married and a mother of two, she often deals with maintaining a work-family balance.

“Also, the existence of gender inequality is real—I have to struggle to ensure that my voice is heard among my male counterparts.”

Fadekemi’s research focuses on the effects of climate change on aquatic systems and the subsequent economic impacts.

Fadekemi Toyosi Igejongbo is one of the growing number of candidates selected to participate in the One Planet Fellowship. The One Planet Fellowship is a career development initiative that is building a robust pipeline of highly connected, inter-generational scientists equipped to use a gender lens to help Africa’s smallholder farmers cope with climate change. The One Planet Fellowship is funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the BNP Paribas Foundation, the European Union and Canada’s International Development Research Centre (IDRC). African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) and Agropolis Fondation are jointly implementing the Fellowship.

Do you have any further questions? Send an email to : oneplanet.award@cgiar.org

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