

# Profile



**Olyvia Gwladys Fadeyi**  
2023 | Benin

**Position:**

Research Assistant

**Organization:**

University of Parakou,  
Benin

**Field of research:**

Mycology

The AWARD Leadership Program for Emerging African Women in Agricultural Sciences is funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York (CCNY) and implemented by AWARD.

## Leadership Program for Emerging African Women in Science

### Championing Rural Women's Empowerment



The AWARD Leadership Program enabled me to unleash my potential and better manage the challenges in my environment

Olyvia Gwladys Fadeyi is a PhD student and research assistant at the University of Parakou, Benin. Within the Tropical Mycology and Plant-Soil Fungi Interactions (MyTIPS) research unit, she focuses on the ethnomycological aspects and the food and medicinal uses of mushrooms.

Her current project, funded by the L'Oréal UNESCO Foundation, focuses on training 180 rural women in Benin on mushroom production and processing, aiming to enhance their financial independence.

With a vision to deepen her expertise in the chemistry of mushroom-based products, Olyvia plans to pursue postdoctoral research and eventually establish her own business in natural mushroom products. Her work not only advances scientific knowledge but also empowers local communities, making a significant socio-economic impact. "The AWARD Leadership Program enabled me to unleash my potential and better manage the challenges in my environment," she says.