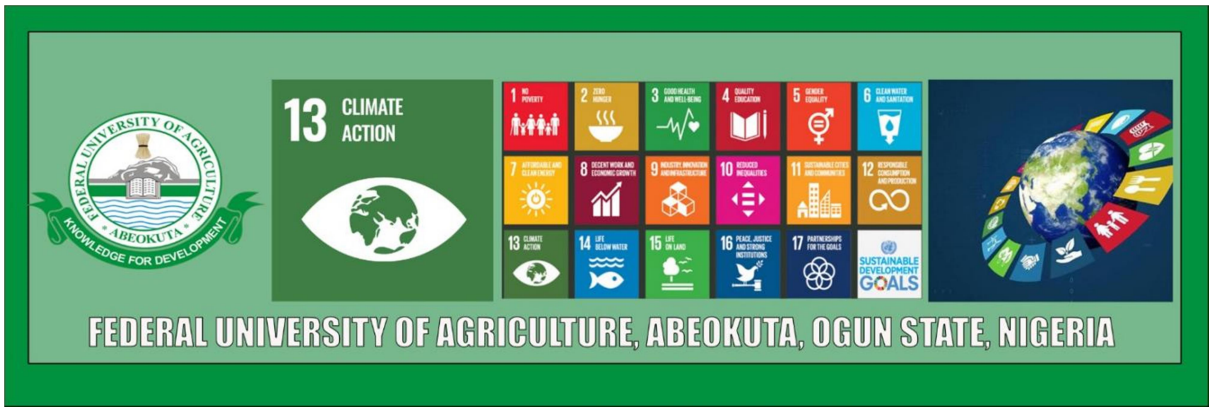

13 CLIMATE ACTION
FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, ABEOKUTA, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA






Centro de
Aquicultura
da Unesp

A - 2025/26 FUNAAB SDG13 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

PREAMBLE

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) is committed to achieving Sustainable Development Goal - **SDG13 - "CLIMATE ACTION."**

It aimed at building inclusive approaches to achieve political, economic, environmental and societal objectives related to climate change mitigation and adaptation. It measures and monitors progress and impacts of regularly conducted community-level greenhouse gas emission inventories according to the latest standards.

CONTENT LINKS

1. IFSERAR Weekly Weather Forecast

Published On:
July 20, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/ifserar-weekly-weather-forecast-3/

2. CENTS Director Meets Skill Leaders, Reaffirms Commitment to Strengthening Entrepreneurship Training

Published On:
March 5, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/cents-director-meets-skill-leaders-reaffirms-commitment-to-strengthening-entrepreneurship-training/

3. FUNAAB, Agri-Tech Firm Partner to Drive Agricultural Innovation

Published On:
March 5, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-agri-tech-firm-partner-to-drive-agricultural-innovation/

4. Don Urges FG to Resuscitate Ajaokuta Steel Complex

Published On:
February 25, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/don-urges-fg-to-resuscitate-ajaokuta-steel-complex/

5. AGRECOFARM Begins 3-Day Vocational Training on Agroecology, Sustainable Food Production

Published On:
February 25, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/agrecofarm-begins-3-day-vocational-training-on-agroecology-sustainable-food-production/

6. FUNAAB Odeda Farmers Cooperative Receives Federal Empowerment

Published On:
February 23, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-odeda-farmers-cooperative-receives-federal-empowerment/

7. DIGISOL Project Concludes 2-Day Capacity Building Workshop

Published On:
February 20, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/digisol-project-concludes-2-day-capacity-building-workshop/

8. FUNAAB Drives Global Push for Women's Inclusion in Science

Published On:
February 17, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-drives-global-push-for-womens-inclusion-in-science/

9. FUNAAB Zoo Park Set for Elephant Arrival, Unveils New Exotic Additions

Published On:
February 14, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-zoo-park-set-for-elephant-arrival-unveils-new-exotic-additions/

10. VC Calls for Strategic Reflection at Maiden COLVET Academic Retreat

Published On:
February 12, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/vc-calls-for-strategic-reflection-at-maiden-colvet-academic-retreat/

11. Don Urges Nigeria to Embrace Predictive Data Models for National Development

Published On:
February 11, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/don-urges-nigeria-to-embrace-predictive-data-models-for-national-development/

12. FUNAAB Scholars Secure Patent for Eco-Friendly Nano-Pesticide Innovation

Published On:
February 10, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-scholars-secure-patent-for-eco-friendly-nano-pesticide-innovation/

13. Sustainable Blue Economy Key to Ending Fish Importation, Says Prof. Akegbejo-Samsons

Published On:
February 9, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/sustainable-blue-economy-key-to-ending-fish-importation-says-prof-akegbejo-samsons/

14. 3-Day FUNAAB Biotechnology Education Quiz Challenge Ends as Esther Olanrewaju Emerges Overall Winner

Published On:
February 4, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/3-day-funaab-biotechnology-education-quiz-challenge-ends-as-esther-olanrewaju-emerges-overall-winner/

15. FUNAAB Holds One-Day Bioinformatics Training Programme for Academic Staff

Published On:
February 4, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-holds-one-day-bioinformatics-training-programme-for-academic-staff/

16. FUNAAB Scholars Strengthen Climate-Smart Aquaculture Collaboration at UNESP, Brazil

Published On:
February 2, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-scholars-strengthen-climate-smart-aquaculture-collaboration-at-unesp-brazil/

17. In Pictures: The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde commissions maintenance equipment, as a total of six brush cutters and one push mower are handed over to the Student Affairs Division, while other Colleges receive one brush cutter each.

Published On:
January 19, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/in-pictures-the-vice-chancellor-prof-babatunde-kehinde-commissions-maintenance-equipment-as-a-total-of-six-brush-cutters-and-one-push-mower-are-handed-over-to-the-student-affairs-division-while-o/

18. From FUNAAB to Global Science: Hammed Tukur Is Democratising Molecular Biology Training for Africa

Published On:
January 15, 2026
https://funaab.edu.ng/from-funaab-to-global-science-hammed-tukur-is-democratising-molecular-biology-training-for-africa/

19. FUNAAB, TAGDEV 2.0 Conclude 2-Day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop

Published On:
December 22, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-tagdev-2-0-conclude-2-day-agricultural-capacity-training-workshop/

https://funaab.edu.ng/vc-charges-newly-employed-ifserar-research-fellows-on-ethics-impactful-research/

20. TAGDEV 2.0 Reinforces FUNAAB's Mandate on Sustainable, Inclusive Agriculture — FUNAAB VC

Published On:
December 20, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/tagdev-2-0-reinforces-funaabs-mandate-on-sustainable-inclusive-agriculture-funaab-vc/

21. FUNAAB, NSPRI Host Workshop on Reducing Post-Harvest Losses

Published On:
December 18, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-nspri-host-workshop-on-reducing-post-harvest-losses/

22. FUNAAB Begins 2-Day Training on Computerised Greenhouse Operations

Published On:
December 15, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-begins-2-day-training-on-computerised-greenhouse-operations/

23. FUNAAB Hosts DIGISOL Workshop to Advance Climate Finance for Small-Scale Agro Enterprises

Published On:
December 15, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-hosts-digisol-workshop-to-advance-climate-finance-for-small-scale-agro-enterprises/

24. FUNAAB Hosts Maiden International Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture, Champions Global South Innovations

Published On:
December 10, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-hosts-maiden-international-conference-on-climate-smart-agriculture-champions-global-south-innovations/

25. FUNAAB Strengthens Partnership with Germany as New Consul General Visits

Published On:
December 9, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-strengthens-partnership-with-germany-as-new-consul-general-visits/

VC Reiterates FUNAAB's Leadership in Agricultural Innovation

Published On:
December 9, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/vc-reiterates-funaabs-leadership-in-agricultural-innovation/

FUNAAB Shines at 2025 TETFAIRINNOV8

Published On:
December 4, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/funaab-shines-at-2025-tetfairinnov8/

WAFROEX–FUNAAB Beekeeping Training 2.0: VC Leads Trainees Through Intensive Field Practical Session

Published On:
November 28, 2025
https://funaab.edu.ng/wafroex-funaab-beekeeping-training-2-0-vc-leads-trainees-through-intensive-field-practical-session/

1. CENTS Director Meets Skill Leaders, Reaffirms Commitment to Strengthening Entrepreneurship Training

Published On:

March 5, 2026



Last Updated on March 9, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Director of the Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies (CENTS), Prof. Sakiru Akinbode held an interactive meeting with Skill Leaders and Facilitators of the Centre as part of efforts to strengthen the operations and activities of the Centre.

The meeting, which took place on March 5, 2026, at the CENTS Board Room, provided a platform for constructive dialogue between the Director and the facilitators responsible for coordinating the various entrepreneurial skills programmes of the Centre. In attendance were 16 Skill Leaders and 10 Facilitators.

The interactive session was organised to enable the Skill Leaders and Facilitators formally interface with the newly appointed Director, while also encouraging them to contribute more actively to the growth and development of the Centre, particularly in supporting its Internally Generated Revenue (IGR) initiatives. It also served as an avenue for participants to share ideas, raise concerns, and discuss areas requiring clarification in the execution of their vocational responsibilities. Addressing the participants, the Director state



d that his primary mandate was to move the Centre forward and build on its existing achievements.

The Director, a former Deputy Dean of the College of the Entrepreneurial and Development Studies (COLENDS), encouraged Skill Leaders to continually upgrade their knowledge and professional competencies in order to remain relevant in the rapidly evolving entrepreneurial landscape. He also stressed the growing importance of digital marketing and urged the facilitators to adopt digital tools and platforms in promoting their vocational activities and training programmes.

While acknowledging the significant progress made under the leadership of the immediate past Director, Prof. Emily Ayo-John, he assured participants of his commitment to consolidating the achievements already recorded by the Centre. According to him, the goal was to strengthen and expand the existing framework.

As part of measures to enhance efficiency and accountability, the Director disclosed plans to institutionalise a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team that would assess performance and ensure that activities of the Centre align with its mandate.

He further emphasised the importance of punctuality, diligence, and commitment among the Skill Leaders and Facilitators in the discharge of their responsibilities, noting that these values were critical to the continued growth and success of the Centre.

The meeting concluded with discussions and contributions from participants, who expressed their willingness to support the Director's vision for advancing entrepreneurship development at the University.

2. FUNAAB, Agri-Tech Firm Partner to Drive Agricultural Innovation

Published On: March 5, 2026



Last Updated on March 9, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene
The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Agri-Tech practitioners to strengthen collaboration aimed at promoting agricultural innovation, research, and national food security.



The MoU was formalised during a meeting held today, March 5, 2026, where the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, expressed appreciation for the

longstanding relationship between the University and Agro Allied Services Limited (ABEO FARMS).

Prof. Kehinde explained that the formalisation of the partnership was designed to deepen the existing collaboration for mutual benefit, noting that FUNAAB remains committed to ensuring that such partnerships contribute significantly to its three-fold mandate of Teaching, Research, and Community engagement.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, collaborations with industry players are essential for expanding the practical impact of research and for addressing real-world agricultural challenges.



He particularly highlighted the importance of community service, stressing that the University has been extending its impact beyond the campus to benefit society at large.

Prof. Kehinde further emphasised the role of modern technologies in improving agricultural productivity, noting that initiatives such as precision agriculture and other innovative farming practices are critical to enhancing food production in Nigeria. He added that effective utilisation of both human and material resources would enable the country to maximise its agricultural potential.



Earlier in his remarks, the Team Lead of the visiting Agri-Tech practitioners, Mr. Tolu Eko, assured the University of their commitment to strengthening the partnership and working collaboratively to advance agricultural development. He also noted that the collaboration would help address emerging challenges affecting food production, particularly climate change and its impact on agriculture.

3. Don Urges FG to Resuscitate Ajaokuta Steel Complex

Published On:
February 25, 2026



Last Updated on March 2, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

… As FUNAAB Holds 109th Inaugural Lecture

By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Femi Dansu

A leading Corrosion and Materials Engineering expert, Prof. Olayide Adetunji of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, College of Engineering (COLENG), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, has called on the Federal Government to urgently revive the long-dormant Ajaokuta Steel Complex, describing it as a strategic catalyst for industrial growth, foreign exchange conservation, and sustainable national development.

Delivering the University's 109th Inaugural Lecture today, February 25, 2025, Prof. Adetunji stated that resuscitating the steel complex would significantly boost local steel production, reduce Nigeria's heavy reliance on imports, and strengthen domestic manufacturing capacity. He emphasised that a functional steel industry remains fundamental to infrastructure development, energy systems, transportation, and national security.



The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde presenting a plaque to honour the 109th Inaugural Lecturer, Prof. Olayide Adetunji at the event

In his lecture titled "Combating the Hidden Menace of Metallic Materials: Panacea for Industrial Growth and Environmental Sustainability," the scholar identified corrosion as a major but often overlooked economic threat. He described corrosion as a "silent destroyer," capable of triggering structural failures, industrial accidents, chemical leaks, and environmental disasters if not properly managed.

According to him, corrosion affects critical sectors including infrastructure, transportation, manufacturing, and energy. He warned that neglecting corrosion management could result in catastrophic building and bridge collapses, equipment breakdowns, pipeline failures, and fire outbreaks, ultimately undermining public safety and environmental sustainability.



The immediate family members of the 109th Inaugural Lecturer at the event

To address the challenge, Prof. Adetunji outlined several mitigation strategies, including improved engineering design, appropriate material selection, protective coatings, and the adoption of cathodic protection systems, particularly in the oil and

gas sector. He also stressed the importance of corrosion inhibitors and smart monitoring technologies to detect early signs of deterioration in buried facilities such as pipelines and storage tanks.

Specifically, he recommended that filling stations and fuel depots nationwide adopt sacrificial anode cathodic protection systems to prevent underground tank leakages and environmental contamination. He further urged the government, through the Council for the Regulation of Engineering Practice in Nigeria, to make corrosion resistance a mandatory requirement in public procurement processes and infrastructure design standards.



A cross-section of the Procession at the event

The 109th Inaugural Lecturer also advocated the integration of Corrosion Engineering into university curricula to equip graduates with industry-relevant skills. He encouraged manufacturing firms and tertiary institutions to establish corrosion monitoring and control units to reduce maintenance costs and extend infrastructure lifespan. Strengthening collaboration between academia and industry through targeted research funding, he noted, would further stimulate industrial growth and deepen local content development.

In addition, Prof. Adetunji called on all tiers of government to officially recognise April 24 as Corrosion Awareness Day in alignment with the World Corrosion Organisation initiative, to promote public awareness and preventive best practices.



COLENG family at the event

Earlier, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, commended the 109th Inaugural Lecturer for his distinguished academic career and scholarly contributions. He noted that Prof. Adetunji's research interests span Corrosion Engineering, advanced materials development, machinery systems, energy materials, and nanotechnology, fields he described as critical to Nigeria's industrial transformation and sustainable development agenda.

4. AGRECOFARM Begins 3-Day Vocational Training on Agroecology, Sustainable Food Production

Published On:
February 25, 2026



Last Updated on March 2, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Joy Adeyiga & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), through its AGRECOFARM, has commenced a 3-Day vocational education training workshop on agroecology and sustainable food production. The programme, which brought together farmers, students, extension agents, agribusiness operators and other stakeholders across the agricultural value chain, began today, Wednesday, February 25, 2026.

Delivering the Opening Remarks, the Team Lead of AGRECOFARM FUNAAB, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, represented by Prof. Oladapo Fasae, described the initiative as a carefully structured platform designed to address pressing challenges in education, financial empowerment, and community development. He noted that beyond learning from facilitators, participants would also benefit from peer-to-peer engagement through interaction, demonstrations and shared experiences throughout the 3-Day programme.



Director, CEADESE, Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu addressing the participants of the workshop

Prof. Dipeolu emphasised that sustainable progress can only be achieved when opportunities, resources and financial support are equitably distributed across society. According to him, meaningful transformation occurs when support systems are strengthened and individuals are equipped with the necessary tools to succeed.
In his remarks, the Director of the, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu, reiterated the need for innovative and knowledge-driven approaches to farming, particularly in the face of rising global food demand. He stressed that modern agriculture requires more than traditional practices, highlighting efficient water usage, soil rejuvenation and sustainable land management as critical components of productive farming systems.



The AGRECOFARM Programme Coordinator, Dr. Folasade Oke delivering her Welcome Address at the workshop

Prof. Fafiolu further explained that whereas land reclamation previously took up to 15 years before degraded land could become suitable for cultivation, recent research breakthroughs and emerging technologies have reduced the process to as little as one year. He restated that efficiency in irrigation, soil regeneration and overall resource

management remains essential for maximising productivity while safeguarding the environment.

Earlier in her Welcome Address, the Programme Coordinator, Agroecology FUNAAB, Dr. Folashade Oke, expressed delight at the impressive turnout and diversity of participants. She noted that the training, organised under the AGRECOFARM initiative and hosted by CEADESE, attracted smallholder and large-scale farmers, youths, women, students and farm service providers.



Participants and Facilitators after the Opening Ceremony of the 3-Day Vocational Training Workshop

According to Dr. Oke, the programme reflected FUNAAB's commitment not only to teaching and research but also to translating knowledge into practical skills that enhance livelihoods, strengthen food security and promote environmental sustainability.

She revealed that the workshop was deliberately structured to be 80 per cent practical, enabling participants to engage in hands-on sessions covering sustainable land preparation, soil testing, greenhouse and hydroponic crop production, product processing, feed pellet production and farm record keeping.

Dr. Oke added that the initiative represented a shared commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, livestock production and innovative farming solutions that directly address the needs of farmers and agribusinesses across the country.



The 109th Inaugural Lecturer, Prof. Olayide Adetunji with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, as well as Deans and Directors after the event

5. FUNAAB Odeda Farmers Cooperative Receives Federal Empowerment

Published On: February 23, 2026



Last Updated on February 25, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The FUNAAB Odeda Farmers Cooperative Multipurpose Society Limited has received empowerment support from the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FMAFS) to enhance agricultural productivity and strengthen the capacity of its members.

Items presented to the Cooperative include a power tiller, water pump, knapsack sprayers, fertilizer, pepper and tomato seeds, a grinding machine, planter, Ultimate Plus, insecticides, and fungicide.

While receiving the items, the President of the Cooperative, Mr. Ayorinde Isaiah, expressed appreciation to FMAFS for the support, noting that the equipment would be judiciously utilised to boost food production and improve members' livelihoods.

The intervention is expected to strengthen mechanised farming operations and significantly improve crop yield among members of the Cooperative.

6. DIGISOL Project Concludes 2-Day Capacity Building Workshop

Published On:
February 20, 2026



Last Updated on March 4, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The DIGISOL Project at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) successfully concluded its 2-Day Capacity-Building Workshop on February 20, 2026, an initiative aimed at enhancing the use of digital tools for agricultural extension service delivery. The workshop, held at the CEADESE Lecture Hall, assembled extension agents, facilitators, and critical stakeholders dedicated to strengthening digital-driven agricultural practices.

In his Opening Remarks, the Project Team Lead, Mr. Addy-Nayo, welcomed participants and reflected on the project's progress since its inception in 2023. He noted that sustained collaboration among partner institutions across Imo, Kwara, and Ogun States over the past three years had yielded operational guidelines, comprehensive reports, and measurable impacts for farmers. He disclosed that several beneficiaries had received enterprise-support grants through funding provided by the European Union. He expressed gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, and the Zonal Coordinator, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, for their consistent support, assuring participants that the project would continue to consolidate its achievements and improve farmers' livelihoods.

Earlier, the National Coordinator of the DIGISOL Project, Prof. Chinasaokwu Onyemuwa, described the workshop as a vital step toward achieving the project's objectives. He emphasised that contemporary agriculture was increasingly driven by data, connectivity, and real-time information systems. According to him, extension agents remain the indispensable link between research and farmers, while digital tools serve as complementary instruments designed to enhance their effectiveness rather than replace them. He encouraged facilitators to ensure that the sessions were practical and impactful.

Delivering a presentation on digital inclusion strategies for young and female farmers, Dr. Chinwe Nwogu underscored the vulnerabilities faced by rural women, including restricted access to farmland, heavy domestic responsibilities, and information gaps. She explained that the DIGISOL Project deliberately prioritises women and youths by

enhancing their productivity through accessible digital tools while harnessing the technological adaptability of young people. She advocated rebuilding digital market infrastructure to curb middlemen exploitation, promoting gender-responsive advisory services, and strengthening financial systems tailored to farmers' realities. She concluded that meaningful inclusion of women and youths would significantly boost agricultural productivity in Nigeria and beyond.

Speaking on human-computer interaction for low-literacy and rural users, Dr. Olaleye stressed that technology must be people-centred. He observed that poor usability often results in the abandonment of digital tools despite ongoing digitisation efforts. Describing farmers in the region as predominantly smallholder operators with mixed literacy levels, shared mobile device usage, intermittent connectivity, and a preference for oral and demonstration-based learning, he urged developers and extension agents to simplify interfaces, reduce text density, avoid abstract icons, and build trust through accessible design.



Participants were subsequently taken through practical demonstrations of the DIGISOL App and associated platforms by Dr. Orji, who described the solutions as indigenous and farmer-focused. He explained that the platform features a mobile-based advisory system capable of delivering timely information to farmers with limited internet access, alongside a Digital Knowledge and E-Book Platform containing agronomic guides and climate adaptation resources. He added that enterprise and grant components embedded within the system have empowered farmers to diversify and strengthen their livelihoods.

Resource persons provided guidance on irrigation planning, organic pest control strategies, offline accessibility options, and the use of voice messaging and local languages to enhance outreach. They emphasised the need for adaptive approaches, noting that no single digital solution can address all contexts.

In her presentation, Dr. Esther Tolorunju addressed participants on technology acceptance and adoption strategies for Non-Technical users in underserved communities. She explained that genuine adoption extends beyond initial usage to consistent application that yields improved livelihoods. She identified barriers such as language constraints, low trust in technology, literacy limitations, and the exclusion of women and elderly farmers. She encouraged extension agents to co-create locally relevant solutions and engage community champions to drive acceptance.

Mr. Obasa Ridwan shared practical insights on the challenges and prospects of digital extension services, observing that annual agricultural losses persist due to systemic weaknesses in research and extension institutions, inadequate funding, and insufficient welfare for extension workers. While noting that other African countries are advancing in digital agricultural extension, he urged Nigeria to intensify efforts to mainstream digital solutions within its agricultural framework.



A panel discussion moderated by Dr. Chikamso Apeh featured Dr. Nwogu, Dr. Tolorunju, and Mr. Ridwan, who identified mobile phones, voice notes, and radio as effective tools for extension service delivery. They cited poor connectivity, high data subscription costs, affordability constraints, and trust deficits as major operational barriers. To strengthen trust, the panel recommended consistent demonstrations, bottom-up engagement strategies, and hands-on approaches that clearly showcase tangible benefits. Contributions from the audience highlighted youths' natural adaptability to digital tools, the influence of farm scale on adoption rates, and the importance of simplified interfaces and visual aids.

In his closing remarks, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, commended participants for their active engagement and urged them to translate the knowledge acquired into practical action within their communities. He reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to leveraging digital innovation to transform agricultural extension services in Nigeria and encouraged extension agents to further explore resources available on the DIGISOL platform.

The workshop concluded with the presentation of certificates to participants, marking a significant milestone in the University's continued drive toward digitally empowered agricultural development.

7. FUNAAB Drives Global Push for Women's Inclusion in Science

Published On: February 17, 2026



Last Updated on February 18, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Olasunkanmi Olajide, Joy Adeyiga & Raymond Osemene
As a leading institution advancing agricultural innovation and scientific excellence on the African continent, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) has reinforced its global leadership by hosting the 2026 edition of the Global Women's Breakfast (GWB), a worldwide initiative championing gender equity and collaboration in science.
Held under the theme "Many Voices, One Science," the event convened female Scientists, Academics, researchers, and students from diverse disciplines and institutions, positioning FUNAAB as a dynamic hub for inclusive scientific dialogue in Africa. The gathering emphasised the transformative power of science and the urgent need to ensure that innovation remains representative, equitable, and widely accessible.



Participants and Facilitators with the VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu during the GWB 2026 workshop

Addressing the participants, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, highlighted the indispensable contributions of women to scientific advancement, while acknowledging that their work has historically been under-recognised and under-supported. He stressed that meaningful breakthroughs in science and academia are driven not by chance, but by deliberate mentorship, institutional commitment, advocacy, and sustained collaboration.

Reaffirming FUNAAB's strategic vision, the Vice-Chancellor assured participants that the University remains committed to cultivating an ecosystem where women in science can thrive, from students discovering research pathways to early-career scholars navigating academic leadership and established experts shaping global scientific agendas.



VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu with Facilitators at the event

The programme was hosted by Prof. Caroline Akinremi, who explained that the Global Women's Breakfast was part of a worldwide initiative inspired by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). She noted that the

initiative was aimed at building a vibrant international network of women and allies working collectively to dismantle barriers to gender equality across all STEM disciplines. According to her, the objectives remained consistent: expanding mentorship, strengthening professional networks, providing access to global memberships, and fostering collaborative research platforms for emerging female scientists.

Prof. Akinremi also noted the growing importance of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other frontier technologies, encouraging participants to embrace innovation while ensuring their perspectives shape technological advancement.



Participants and Facilitators with VC's representative after the event

In her Keynote Lecture titled, "Integrating AI and Machine Learning to Advance Women in STEM" and delivered virtually, Dr. (Engr.) Olusola Abayomi-Alli spotlighted accessible digital learning pathways, including free Python programming courses and supportive technology communities that lower entry barriers for beginners in coding and data science.

She stressed that digital literacy now extends beyond foundational computer skills to encompass data interpretation, statistical reasoning, ethical AI development, and interdisciplinary collaboration, urging participants to seek mentorship in statistics and machine learning, while actively engaging in small-scale, cross-disciplinary projects to build practical expertise.

“Artificial Intelligence is transforming every sector,” she noted. “To apply AI



meaningfully in our various fields, we must equip ourselves with the right skills.” Importantly, she warned that technological systems risk reinforcing inequality if diverse voices are excluded from their design and governance. Inclusive participation in AI development, she argued, was not an act of benevolence but a benchmark of excellence, credibility, and innovation.

In her paper presentation titled “Be the Voice that STEM Needs,” the Coordinator, Part-Time Degree Programme, Dr. Enovwo Odjegba charged women to speak up, and lead boldly in any responsibility entrusted into their hands. Likewise, the National Coordinator, Women in Chemistry of Nigeria, Prof. Iheoma Adekunle, represented by the Head, Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Prof. Abideen Adeogun congratulated the women for the bold steps, she noted that women’s voice in science cannot be whisked away as they play a vital role in National Development.

Participants were encouraged to lead conversations, challenge structural barriers, and contribute to the creation of ethical, accurate, and transformative AI solutions.

8. FUNAAB Zoo Park Set for Elephant Arrival, Unveils New Exotic Additions

Published On: February 14, 2026



Last Updated on February 17, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

As a leading University of Agriculture in Africa, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has continued to translate knowledge into real-world experiences, where conservation, research, and experiential learning converge. In a bold stride that reinforces its pride in wildlife management and eco-tourism, the FUNAAB Zoo Park has completed a state-of-the-art elephant enclosure, signalling a new chapter in its ambitious revitalisation drive as it prepares to receive an elephant, set to become the Zoo's most iconic resident and a powerful symbol of its expanding vision.

Further strengthening its collection, the Zoo has also unveiled three new exotic animal species, marking a significant expansion of its wildlife inventory. The development underscores FUNAAB's strategic commitment to biodiversity conservation, hands-on training for students, and the adoption of global best practices in zoological management.

In this exclusive interview with Olasunkanmi Olajide and Emeka Oluka of FUNAAB Bulletin, the Zoo Park Director, Prof. Olufemi Sammy Sam-Wobo, shares insights into the new acquisitions, the inspiration behind the expansion, and the Zoo's preparedness to host its most anticipated addition.



The peafowls

FUNAAB Bulletin: Sir, the University Community has heard about new additions to the Zoo. Can you tell us what has changed?
Prof. Sam-Wobo: Yes, indeed. At the beginning of this month, we acquired three new exotic species: a breeding pair of Giant Desert Tortoises, a male and female Peafowl (commonly known as a peacock and pea-hen), and a male Civet cat. All the animals have undergone a thorough veterinary examination by our medical officer and are in excellent health.
FUNAAB Bulletin: What informed the decision to bring in these particular species?
Prof. Sam-Wobo: Visitors' feedback played a major role. Before I assumed office, tourists often complained about seeing the same animals repeatedly. We listened carefully. These new additions are part of our commitment to increasing variety and enhancing visitor experience. For instance, many people have only seen the Giant Desert Tortoise in pictures; now they can see one in real life. These species would certainly boost the Zoo's tourist appeal.



The civet cat

FUNAAB Bulletin: Were there institutional supports that made these acquisitions possible?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: Absolutely. We are grateful to the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the University Community, and the vendors who provided the animals at significantly reduced costs. The Management has been very supportive of our revitalisation agenda.

FUNAAB Bulletin: There are also reports about an elephant enclosure. What is the current status?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: I am pleased to confirm that the elephant enclosure is fully ready. This is a major milestone for us. We have written to the donors, and the Vice-Chancellor and his Management Team committed the necessary resources to ensure the facility meets required standards. As I speak with you, the enclosure is ready and waiting to receive the elephant.

FUNAAB Bulletin: Can you share when the elephant is expected to arrive?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: While I cannot give a specific date due to logistics, I can assure you that everything on our end is set. The facility is ready for pickup arrangements. By the grace of God, before I celebrate my second anniversary in office as Director, the elephant will be here.



Completed state-of-the-art elephant enclosure

FUNAAB Bulletin: What should the University Community and the public expect going forward?

Prof. Sam-Wobo: They should expect growth, improved biodiversity, and a stronger conservation footprint. These new acquisitions and the anticipated elephant, would significantly increase visitor turnout, enhance our educational value, and strengthen our role in wildlife conservation. We are positioning the FUNAAB Zoo Park as a leading destination for unique and diverse species in South-West Nigeria.

With these strategic additions and ambitious plans, the FUNAAB Zoo Park is steadily transforming into a premier hub for conservation, research, recreation, and environmental education.

9. VC Calls for Strategic Reflection at Maiden COLVET Academic Retreat

Published On: February 12, 2026



Last Updated on February 17, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Olaoye Oyewole

The Vice-Chancellor, Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has charged Academic staff of the College of Veterinary Medicine (COLVET), to reconnect with their shared mission, reflect on their institutional responsibilities, and renew their commitment to excellence in Teaching, Research, and Community Service.

Delivering his address at the maiden retreat themed, "Reconnect, Reflect and Refresh," the Vice-Chancellor, who was represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, commended the College leadership for initiating what he described as a timely and strategic gathering aimed at strengthening academic delivery in line with the University's mandate.

He observed that in the demanding world of academia, staff could easily become engrossed in lectures, clinical duties, research grants, publications, and administrative engagements, often at the expense of the University's fundamental shared mission.

Prof. Kehinde emphasised the need for staff to reconnect with the noble purpose of Veterinary Medicine, particularly in safeguarding animal health, public health, food security, and environmental sustainability. He noted that the discipline occupies a central place in the global One Health agenda, which integrates human, animal, and environmental health.



A cross-section of participants at the Retreat

The Vice-Chancellor further urged the College to remain intellectually united and strategically aligned in confronting emerging global challenges, stressing the importance of collaboration and collective vision.

Earlier in his Opening Remarks, the Dean, COLVET, Prof. Olusola Ajayi, expressed appreciation to the Vice-Chancellor and the University Management for their sustained support, noting that their contributions had continued to position the College prominently among its peers.

He explained that the retreat was organised to foster unity among academic staff and strengthen teamwork within the College. Prof. Ajayi added that the forum would provide an opportunity for staff to re-examine their core responsibilities and deepen academic collaboration.

Highlights of the retreat included paper presentations by the Registrar, Dr. Titus Adeniyi; former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Morenike Dipeolu; former Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Kola Adebayo; and the Director, Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Prof. Olugbenga Kehinde.

Others were the Ag. Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye, and the Ag. Director, Directorate of Internal Audit, Mr. Kehinde Ajayi. Awards of honour were presented to the paper presenters in recognition of their contributions.

10. Don Urges Nigeria to Embrace Predictive Data Models for National Development

Published On:
February 11, 2026



Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
… As FUNAAB Hosts 108th Inaugural Lecture
By Emeka Oluka & Femi Dansu

A Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics, College of Physical Sciences (COLPHYS), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola, has called on policymakers and institutions in Nigeria to urgently integrate predictive statistical tools into national planning, cautioning that reliance on reactive governance could hinder the nation's progress in an increasingly data-driven global environment.



Representative of the Vice-Chancellor and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo, presenting a plaque to honour the 108th Inaugural Lecturer of the University, Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola during the event

Prof. Olayiwola made this call today, February 11, 2026, while delivering the University's 108th Inaugural Lecture titled, "From Sample to Solution: Harnessing Statistics for Evidence-Based Public Decision-Making in the Data Age." He presented data as strategic instruments for sustainable development, social transformation, and informed governance, rather than mere numerical records.

Describing the Lecture as a reflective account of his three-decade academic and research journey, the Inaugural Lecturer observed that although Nigeria generates substantial volumes of data, much of it remains underutilised. Drawing from practical case studies, he demonstrated how adaptive sampling designs, model-based estimators, and spatial analytical techniques have provided solutions to diverse challenges, including public health crises, fertility pattern analysis, agricultural forecasting, and institutional strengthening.

According to him, the persistent gap between statistical evidence and policy application can only be bridged through clear communication, interdisciplinary collaboration, and strengthened institutional trust.



A cross-section of the Procession during the Lecture

Prof. Olayiwola therefore presented targeted recommendations to government, academia, and industry. He advocated the restructuring of national development planning frameworks to incorporate predictive statistical models such as spatial regression, Bayesian adaptive sampling, and time-series monitoring to enable proactive risk management.

In the area of public health and survey methodology, he called for improved data collection systems that enhance response efficiency while reducing operational costs. He also recommended that environmental exposure studies involving children and vulnerable populations be institutionalised, with findings translated into practical interventions at school and community levels.

For higher education institutions, the Professor proposed the adoption of predictive academic analytics to identify students at risk of poor performance early, thereby enabling timely interventions through mentoring, remedial programmes, and counselling.

Addressing aviation safety, he recommended systematic archiving and longitudinal analysis of monitoring data to support predictive maintenance and risk prevention beyond routine compliance checks.



Immediate family members of the 108th Inaugural Lecturer

In the agricultural sector, Prof. Olayiwola emphasised the need for scientific evaluation of locally available resources using statistical optimisation techniques to promote sustainable and cost-effective farming practices.

He underscored that these recommendations are anchored on stronger academia–industry–government partnerships, stressing that statistical research must translate into measurable national development outcomes.

The lecture concluded with the affirmation that rigorously collected, properly analysed, and effectively communicated data form the bedrock of credible evidence and informed public decision-making.

The 108th Inaugural Lecturer, Prof. Olaniyi Olayiwola with the Vice-Chancellor's representative and other Principal Officers, after the event

Earlier in his Opening Remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (De



velopment), Prof. Olawale Dairo, noted that the Lecture was the second from the Department of Statistics and the ninth in the College of Physical Sciences.

The Vice-Chancellor further commended the Inaugural Lecturer for his service to the University through various committees and his contributions to national development. Present at the event were the former Federal Commissioner of Education, Old Western Region, Prof. Biyi Afonja; Former Vice-Chancellor, FUNAAB, Prof. Felix Kolawole Salako; Vice-Chancellor, Aletheia University, Ago-Iwoye, Prof. Olukayode Akinyemi, and the Rector, Oyo State College of Agriculture and Technology (OYSCATECH), Prof. Akinola Akinlabi, including the former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Kola Adebayo, among others.

11. FUNAAB Scholars Secure Patent for Eco-Friendly Nano-Pesticide Innovation

Published On: February 10, 2026



Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Raymond Osemene

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has recorded another landmark achievement in agricultural research and innovation, as a team of its scholars secured a patent for an environmentally friendly nano-pesticide designed to address the challenges associated with conventional chemical pesticides. The innovation, branded Tripleshield Agro, received patent approval recently.

Speaking at the product presentation ceremony today, February 10, 2026, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, lauded the research team, led by Prof. Akinola Popoola, for the remarkable feat. He underscored the critical importance of intellectual property protection, advising researchers to exercise caution when disclosing technical details publicly and to avoid premature agreements that could jeopardise ownership rights or future commercialisation prospects.

12. Sustainable Blue Economy Key to Ending Fish Importation, Says Prof. Akegbejo-Samsons

Published On:
February 9, 2026



Last Updated on February 13, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Emeka Oluka & Femi Dansu
A Professor of Aquaculture and Coastal Fisheries Management in the College of Environmental Resources Management (COLERM), Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Yemi Akegbejo-Samsons, has called for the strategic harnessing of Nigeria's aquatic resources as a sustainable pathway to tackling food insecurity and strengthening the national economy.
Delivering a compelling lecture at the 2nd COLERM Leadership Lecture Series, titled "Nigeria's Blue Economy: Beyond Marine Transportation, Oil and Gas," Prof. Akegbejo-Samsons urged policymakers and stakeholders to rethink the Blue Economy as a primary driver of food security and economic resilience.
The renowned aquaculture expert argued that Nigeria's vast aquatic resources, if properly managed, possess immense untapped potential to significantly reduce fish importation, generate employment, and promote inclusive and sustainable development.
Reframing the concept of the Blue Economy beyond its conventional association with maritime transportation and petroleum exploration, he described it as a holistic development framework that must balance economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability.



Prof. Yemi Akegbejo-Samsons making salient points, while delivering the 2nd COLERM Leadership Lecture Series

Critiquing the nation's current approach, Prof. Akegbejo-Samsons observed that while the establishment of the Federal Ministry of Marine and Blue Economy in 2023 was a commendable step, it must be strengthened through clearer policy direction and stronger scientific grounding. He stressed the urgent need to ground decision-making in research, data, and long-term sustainability principles.

Positioning aquatic resources as both a national food basket and an economic engine, he called for a decisive shift from political rhetoric to science-driven action. According to him, achieving meaningful transformation requires stronger synergy between political will and scientific expertise, with universities playing a central role in this process.

"Universities must lead in manpower development, technology innovation, and evidence-based policy advisory," he stated, highlighting FUNAAB's interdisciplinary strengths in aquaculture, environmental management, agribusiness, and extension services as strategic assets in advancing the Blue Economy agenda.



A cross-section of COLERM Staff and other participants at the lecture

He further identified the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) as a critical institutional platform capable of driving research, innovation, and policy engagement in the sector.

Earlier in his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, reaffirmed the University's commitment to translating academic research into practical solutions for national development. He described the Leadership Lecture Series as a vital platform for aligning scholarship with national priorities, particularly in areas such as economic diversification, sustainability, and empowerment.

Commending COLERM for promoting intellectually relevant discourse, the Vice-Chancellor noted that FUNAAB's agricultural mandate naturally extends to aquatic systems and resource management. He urged researchers to ensure their work transcends academic publication and influences public policy and societal impact.

Earlier in his Welcome Address, the Dean of COLERM, Prof. Olusegun Oguntoke, underscored the College's commitment to leading conversations on resource governance, climate resilience, and sustainable development. He acknowledged the foundational contributions of pioneering scholars whose efforts have strengthened the College's academic standing.



VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu with the lecturer, Prof. Yemi Akegbejo-Samsons and other Top Staff of the College after the lecture

The lecture attracted distinguished academics and stakeholders, including former Vice-Chancellor of Landmark University, Prof. Adeniyi Olayanju and former Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Kola Adebayo among others.

Mr. Olajide is a seasoned PR professional with over a decade of expertise in the fields of Public Relations, Reputation Management, Media Relations and Strategic Communications. He currently holds the position of Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations.




ABEOKUTA (FUNAAB)
Excellence in
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13. VC Urges Leadership Graduands to Impact Society

Last Updated on October 3, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide By



The Vice-Chancellor further assured the team of the University's commitment to supporting large-scale field trials, farmer engagement initiatives, and the eventual commercialisation of the product. He emphasised the need to safeguard proprietary knowledge while fostering collaboration through well-structured and mutually beneficial partnerships.

During the formal presentation to Management, the Research Team Lead explained that the product was developed in response to growing concerns among farmers regarding the adverse effects of chemical pesticides. He noted that indiscriminate increases in pesticide concentrations, often without expert guidance, have resulted in environmental pollution, health complications such as skin irritation and vomiting, and, in severe cases, contamination of water sources.

According to him, the nano-pesticide leverages nanotechnology to deliver active ingredients directly to target organisms, including fungi, bacteria, and insects. This precision-targeted approach significantly reduces wastage and enhances effectiveness compared to conventional broadcast pesticide application methods.

Prof. Popoola further highlighted that the product was developed using green synthesis techniques to ensure environmentally safe production. The team worked primarily with neem-based materials while deliberately minimising the use of potentially harmful substances, including silver nanoparticles, to reduce ecological risks.



A major highlight of the event was the formal presentation of the Certificate of Registration of Patent to the Vice-Chancellor.

Dignitaries present at the ceremony included the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi; and the Ag. Director, Directorate of Research, Innovations and Partnerships (DRIP), Dr. Oluwagbemiga Adeleye. Other attendees were members of the research team, Dr. Caroline Filani and Dr. Chioma Adekunle.

Meanwhile, the team distinguished itself nationally by emerging among the top three institutions with the best pitch decks at the 2025 closing ceremony of the TETFund TETFAIRINNOV8 Programme.

14. 3-Day FUNAAB Biotechnology Education Quiz Challenge Ends as Esther Olanrewaju Emerges Overall Winner

Published On: February 4, 2026



Last Updated on February 6, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

By Joy Adeyiga & Patrick Erinoso

The 3-Day Biotechnology Education Quiz and Challenge organised by the Biotechnology Centre of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), successfully came to an end today, February 4, 2026, with Miss Esther Olanrewaju of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Farm Management, FUNAAB, emerging as the overall winner. The competition, designed to promote scientific knowledge, innovation and sustained interest in biotechnology, featured keen intellectual contests among participants drawn from FUNAAB and other tertiary institutions.

Speaking during the closing ceremony held at the Biotechnology Centre, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, reiterated the University's commitment to strengthening strategic partnerships, collaborations and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with relevant organisations.



He disclosed that FUNAAB had entered into several MoUs with reputable companies, adding that any new MoU, including the proposed collaboration with Katechey Company Limited, must be clearly defined in scope and application to ensure mutual benefits for all parties.

Earlier in the programme, the Representative of Inqaba Limited, Mr. Joseph Olorunmbe, and the Representative of Katechey Company Limited, Mrs. Happiness Egwuatu, gave brief overviews of their organisations' operations, services and product offerings, while also highlighting potential areas of collaboration with academic and research institutions.

At the end of the contest, Miss Elizabeth Erinoso of the Department of Medicine and Surgery, University of Ibadan, emerged as the First Runner-up, while Mr. David Alade of the Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics, FUNAAB, finished as the Second Runner-up. Miss Joyce Ijelu, also of FUNAAB, clinched the Third Runner-up position. Cash prizes and gift items were presented to all the winners at the closing ceremony.



Dignitaries at the event included Emerita Professor Olufunmilayo Adebambo; former Directors of the Biotechnology Centre, Prof. Akinola Popoola and Prof. Olufunke Shittu; the current Director of the Centre, Prof. Ayotunde Adebambo; Dr. Kudirat Agboola; Dr. Damilola Adebambo, as well as members of staff of the Biotechnology Centre.

The organisers described the 3-Day challenge as a resounding success, noting that it further underscored FUNAAB's commitment to advancing biotechnology education and nurturing scientific excellence.

15. FUNAAB Holds One-Day Bioinformatics Training Programme for Academic Staff

Published On: February 4, 2026



Last Updated on February 6, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has highlighted the increasing relevance of bioinformatics in enhancing research quality, innovation, and global competitiveness, especially for universities seeking improved academic rankings.

This was stated at the Opening Ceremony of a One-Day Bioinformatics Training Programme for Academic staff, held today, February 4, 2025, at the 250-Capacity Computer Laboratory.



In his opening remarks, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, welcomed participants and described the programme as timely and impactful, noting that it would positively reshape participants' research orientation in line with the objectives of bioinformatics.

He explained that bioinformatics has become indispensable in the current era of globalisation, with applications across agriculture, health sciences, and related fields, adding that its effective use was crucial for improving research output and international visibility.

16. FUNAAB Scholars Strengthen Climate-Smart Aquaculture Collaboration at UNESP, Brazil

Published On: February 2, 2026



Last Updated on February 5, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

Researchers from the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Nigeria, are deepening international collaboration in climate-smart aquaculture through a research and capacity-building visit to the Centre of Aquaculture at São Paulo State University (UNESP), Brazil.

The visit, involving Dr. Mathew Wheto, Dr. Ikililu Abdulraheem and Dr. Oluwaseun Ojelade, is being conducted under the UK–Brazil–Africa Climate-Smart Agriculture Innovation Programme. It is aimed at advancing scientific cooperation and knowledge exchange among leading institutions in Nigeria, Brazil and the United Kingdom.

During a guided tour of UNESP's world-class aquaculture facilities, the FUNAAB scholars engaged with key research and production units, including fish reproduction, health and welfare laboratories, nutrition and feed development facilities, and limnology systems. The interactions offered practical insights into integrated aquaculture models that emphasise sustainability, animal welfare and enhanced productivity in the face of climate variability.



The exposure was particularly relevant to tropical aquaculture systems in Nigeria, where climate pressures continue to challenge food production and aquatic ecosystems. Lessons drawn from UNESP's research approaches are expected to inform adaptive strategies for resilient and sustainable aquaculture development in Africa.

The engagement was part of a broader collaborative project coordinated through Harper Adams University, United Kingdom, titled "Building Collaborative Research Partnerships in Fish Breeding, Health and Welfare Management to Enhance Sustainability, Productivity and Resilience of Aquaculture Production in Nigeria."

The visit underscored FUNAAB's growing international profile and its commitment to global partnerships, applied research and capacity building aimed at advancing climate-smart aquaculture and strengthening sustainable food systems across regions.



Earlier, the Director, Directorate of Academic Information Systems (DACIS), Prof. Olusegun Folorunso, said the second series of the bioinformatics capacity workshop was designed to strengthen sustainable research skills, promote international collaboration, and encourage informed decision-making through scientific tools.

He added that the interactions and professional networks formed during the workshop, particularly among early-career researchers, would contribute significantly to academic growth and long-term professional development.

Delivering the lecture titled “Introduction to Bioinformatics,” the facilitator, Dr. Adeyemi Adenaike, described bioinformatics as a multidisciplinary field integrating Biology, Computer Science, Mathematics, and Statistics, with applications across Animal Science, Plant Science, Biochemistry, Microbiology, and Environmental Biology.

He noted that advances in sequencing technologies have led to an explosion of biological data, making computational tools essential and positioning bioinformatics as a foundation of modern life sciences.



Dr. Adenaike outlined major areas of bioinformatics, including genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, epigenomics, and metagenomics, with emphasis on metagenomics, which studies microbial communities directly from their environments.

He concluded by stressing that proper sequence submission, validation, and analysis are critical for credible, reproducible, and internationally accepted scientific research outcomes.

17. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde commissions maintenance equipment, as a total of six brush cutters and one push mower are handed over to the Student Affairs Division, while other Colleges receive one brush cutter each.

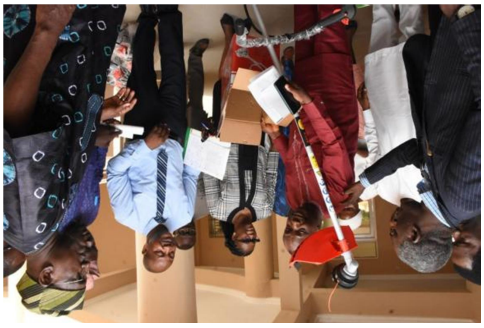
Published On: January 19, 2026



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Credit: Gbolahan Lawal














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18. From FUNAAB to Global Science: Hammed Tukur Is Democratising Molecular Biology Training for Africa

Published On:
January 15, 2026



Last Updated on January 19, 2026 by Olasunkanmi Olajide

… Establishes BioSim Lab, a Virtual Biotechnology Platform Empowering Students Across Resource-Limited Settings

By Olasunkanmi Olajide

Mr. Hammed Tukur, a PhD student in Molecular Biosciences at the Newcastle University, United Kingdom and Founder of BioSim Lab, has translated his academic experience at the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), into a global innovation aimed at transforming molecular biology training across Africa.

While studying at the Nimbe Adedipe Library, FUNAAB, Mr. Tukur encountered a quote in a biotechnology textbook that would shape his career trajectory: "Our knowledge of all things biological will remain incomplete until the molecular basis of every living process is made clear." What began as an academic reflection later became a guiding principle, inspiring his journey across three continents and culminating in the establishment of BioSim Lab.

Mr. Tukur graduated from FUNAAB with First-Class Honours in Animal Breeding and Genetics (ABG), at the College of Animal Science and Livestock Production (COLANIM), where he was mentored by distinguished scholars including Prof. Martha Bemji, Prof. Ayotunde Adebambo, Prof. Michael Ozoje, and Dr. Akinyanju Lawal.

His curiosity about declining fertility in high-yield dairy cattle drew him towards molecular reproductive biology.

He later secured a fully funded MSc scholarship at King Saud University, Saudi Arabia, where he conducted in-vitro oocyte maturation research in Arabian camels and gained extensive experience in reproductive, stem cell, and molecular biology.

He completed his MSc with First Class Honours, while authoring 10 publications. His research journey continued in Europe as a Research Assistant at the University of South Bohemia, Czechia, studying early mammalian development.

In 2022, Mr. Tukur earned a UKRI–BBSRC fully funded PhD at Newcastle University, United Kingdom, where his research focuses on cell cycle regulation and aneuploidy during meiosis, with implications for female infertility and IVF failure. He also supervises undergraduate biomedical science projects and coordinates laboratory demonstrations.

Earlier in the year, Mr. Tukur founded and launched BioSim Lab, a free, mobile- and web-based virtual biotechnology laboratory that enables students to practise molecular techniques such as DNA extraction, PCR, and advanced imaging without physical equipment. The platform allows users to learn through repeated practice, build confidence, and avoid costly experimental errors.

BioSim Lab attracted over 320 users within days, highlighting the demand for accessible molecular biology training. Optimised for resource-limited settings, the platform runs on any device and includes simulations relevant to African research challenges, including antimicrobial resistance.

Through BioSim Lab, Mr. Tukur continues to advance his belief that access to equipment should not determine who gets to understand life at the molecular level, reflecting the innovative spirit nurtured during his time at FUNAAB.

19. FUNAAB, TAGDEV 2.0 Conclude 2-Day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop

Published On:
December 22, 2025



Last Updated on October 9, 2026 by admin

… Train over 400 Participants on Wealth Potential in Farm Waste

The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), in collaboration with the TAGDEV 2.0 Programme of the University of Port Harcourt and with support from the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) and the Mastercard Foundation, has concluded a two-day Agricultural Capacity Training Workshop aimed at promoting sustainable agriculture and value addition.



According to the Ag. Head, Directorate of Public Relations, FUNAAB, Mr. Olasunkanmi Olajide, the workshop, which ended today, December 22, 2025, trained over 400 participants and equipped them with practical skills and knowledge in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable production practices and innovative value-chain

development capable of improving livelihoods, enhancing food security and driving inclusive development.



Mr. Olajide explained that the training featured expert-led sessions on wealth creation from farm waste, improved rice storage and processing, sustainable lowland rice production and climate change mitigation strategies, all tailored to address contemporary challenges in Nigeria's agricultural sector.



Delivering a presentation on "Opportunities and Prospects of Wealth Creation from Farm Waste," Dr. Risikat Akinbode encouraged participants to view agricultural waste as a valuable economic resource rather than refuse, identifying crop residues, livestock waste and fish-processing by-products as viable materials for income generation, job creation and environmental sustainability.



She identified wastes from crop production, livestock rearing and fish processing, such as rice straw, maize stover, cassava leaves, poultry droppings, cow dung and fish remnants, as largely underutilised materials that are often burnt or discarded, leading to pollution and economic losses.



Citing national statistics, Dr. Akinbode noted that over 40.2 million Nigerian households depend on agriculture, generating huge volumes of farm waste with significant wealth-creation potential. She outlined opportunities in animal feed production, organic fertiliser, briquettes and biochar, encouraging participants to assess locally available resources, adopt suitable value-addition models and begin on a small scale with expansion plans. She stressed that farm waste, particularly within rice–fish value chains, remains an untapped asset for income, sustainability and employment.



In her presentation on rice storage and processing for improved market patronage, the Ag. Head, Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, College of Food Science and Human Ecology (COLFHEC), Dr. Oluwafunke Akinbule, highlighted the substantial nutrient losses associated with conventional rice milling methods. She emphasised the need for improved milling and parboiling techniques to enhance the nutritional quality of locally produced rice, especially Ofada rice.



Dr. Akinbule explained that conventional milling removes about 84–85 percent of the rice grain by stripping off the bran and aleurone layers, which constitute roughly 13 per cent of the grain and are rich in essential nutrients such as vitamins B1 and B2, phosphorus, fibre and moderate fat. She warned that such losses expose consumers who rely heavily on rice to nutrient deficiencies. To address this, she advocated under-milling, production of unpolished rice, effective parboiling techniques and rice fortification using premixed multivitamins and iron pyrophosphate coatings that withstand washing, cooking and storage.



Speaking on sustainable lowland rice production, Dr. Paul Soremi underscored the importance of diversification and climate-smart agriculture, cautioning that monoculture systems contribute to greenhouse gas emissions, declining yields and nutritional deficiencies. Drawing from global research, he noted that integrated farming systems, particularly rice–fish farming, could increase yields by up to 20 per cent through reduced production costs, natural weed control and improved soil fertility, while also promoting biodiversity and reducing reliance on chemical inputs.



On climate change mitigation, Dr. Soremi explained that integrated systems help reduce methane emissions from prolonged flooding and nitrous oxide emissions from excessive use of inorganic fertilisers. He described climate-smart agriculture as an approach that enhances productivity, builds resilience and lowers emissions, built on four pillars that are economic viability, environmental sustainability, food safety and quality, and social acceptability, adapted to local ecological and socioeconomic realities.



Speaking on the sidelines of the workshop, Miss Ajayi Temitope, a 400-level Microbiology student, and Mr. Olaoluwa Ogbeta, a 500-level student of Animal Production and Health, both differently abled persons, described the training as highly educative and impactful, pledging to apply the knowledge gained to their academic and professional pursuits.



Earlier, on Day One of the workshop, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, reaffirmed FUNAAB's commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, food security and inclusive capacity development. He described the TAGDEV 2.0 initiative as fully aligned with the University's mandate of Teaching, Research and Community Development, noting that FUNAAB was keen to participate both as a receiving and sending University. He also highlighted the initiative's scholarship opportunities for undergraduate, Master's and PhD students across Africa.



The Vice-Chancellor commended the project partners for their vision and charged participants to maximise the training, stressing that good agricultural practices would enhance productivity, improve livelihoods and strengthen resilient food systems.



Dignitaries at the workshop included the Provost, Federal College of Agriculture, Ibadan (FCAIB), Prof. Jonathan Atungwu; Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi, who represented the Vice-Chancellor on the 2nd day; the Director, Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC), Prof. Jacob Olaoye; farmers from across Ogun State; commercial livestock keepers; and students from various Colleges, all of whom participated in practical sessions on converting agricultural waste into profitable ventures.

20. TAGDEV 2.0 Reinforces FUNAAB's Mandate on Sustainable, Inclusive Agriculture — FUNAAB VC

Published On:
December 20, 2025



Last Updated on December 23, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Olasunkanmi Olajide
The Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, has restated the University's commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture, food security and inclusive capacity development, describing the TAGDEV 2.0 initiative as fully aligned with FUNAAB's mandate of Teaching, Research, and Community Development.



Prof. Kehinde made the remarks today, December 20, 2025, while declaring open the Stakeholder Sensitisation and Training of Farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) for Rice, Fish and Rice-Fish Systems Capacity-Building Workshop hosted by FUNAAB in collaboration with TAGDEV 2.0 Programme, University of Portharcourt with support from Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) in partnership with Mastercard Foundation.



The programme is designed to equip farmers, staff and students with practical skills in rice, fish and integrated rice–fish production systems under the Transforming African Agricultural Universities to Meaningfully Contribute to Africa's Growth and Development (TAGDEV 2.0) framework.

He disclosed that FUNAAB was interested in participating in the initiative as both a receiving and sending University, noting that TAGDEV 2.0 offers scholarship opportunities for undergraduate, Master's and PhD students across Africa.



The Vice-Chancellor commended the project partners for their vision and urged participants to maximise the training, stressing that good agricultural practices would enhance productivity, improve livelihoods and strengthen resilient food systems.

Earlier in his Welcome Address, the Provost of the Federal College of Agriculture,



Ibadan (FCAIB), Prof. Jonathan Atungwu, appreciated FUNAAB Management for the leadership that facilitated the University's participation in the programme. He also acknowledged the Dean, College of Plant Science and Crop Production (COLPLANT), Prof. Bolarinwa Senjobi, for accepting to chair the Technical Session and commended the swift organisation of the workshop.



Prof. Atungwu described TAGDEV 2.0 as a transformative continental initiative, implemented in partnership with the (RUFORUM), the University of Portharcourt and the Mastercard Foundation, involving 12 universities across Africa. He explained that the programme builds on the successes of TAGDEV 1.0, with emphasis on strengthening agro-ecosystems in rice, fish and integrated rice–fish production.



According to him, the initiative integrates Technical and Business Education and Training (T-BET) Centres to boost vocational, entrepreneurial and digital skills, with a strong focus on youth development and women empowerment, operating a 70–30 percent gender balance in favour of women. He added that FUNAAB's roles include value chain analysis, youth engagement across the agri-food sector, capacity building for staff and farmers, and the deployment of digital innovations in agriculture.



During the Technical Session chaired by Prof. Senjobi, Dr. Omolola Ayodeji of the Agricultural Economics and Environmental Policy Programme, Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), delivered a presentation on "Business Skills and Record Keeping as Tools for Boosting Agripreneurship and Wealth," while Miss Jemimah Atsu, an MSc student at the Department of Plant Physiology and Crop Production (PPCP), spoke on "Unlocking Entrepreneurial Opportunities in Ogun State's Rice Value Chain: Empowering Youth and Women in Agriculture."



Present at the event were the Ag. Head of the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics (NTD), Dr. Oluwafunke Akinbule; Dr. Risikat Akinbode; Mr. Paul Soremi; other members of the Organising Committee; while participants included students, Academics, researchers and farmers' groups from Budo-Ayetoro; Agbedola, Owo, Idiroko; Ifekowajo and Abule-Agbo, underscoring the programme's strong community engagement focus.

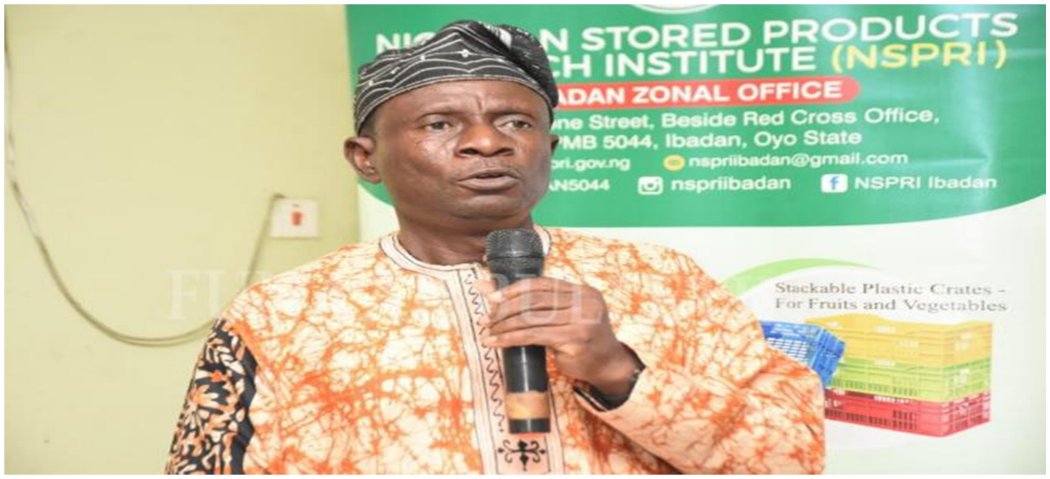


21. FUNAAB, NSPRI Host Workshop on Reducing Post-Harvest Losses

Published On:
December 18, 2025



Last Updated on December 23, 2025 by Olasunkanmi Olajide
By Femi Dansu
In furtherance of their ongoing collaboration, the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), through its Agricultural Media Resources and Extension Centre (AMREC), has partnered with the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI) to host a One-Day Capacity-Building Workshop on post-harvest losses management.



Director, AMREC, Prof. Jacob Olaoye delivering his Welcome Address at the One-Day Capacity Training Workshop

Titled "Handling Post-Harvest Losses of Tomato and Leafy Vegetables," the workshop was held today, December 18, 2025, at the AMREC Seminar Room. It was designed to address Nigeria's persistent post-harvest challenges by equipping farmers and other stakeholders with practical skills in handling, processing, storage and value addition to reduce wastage and enhance profitability.



The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic, Prof. Olusegun Idowu delivering his Goodwill Message at the Workshop

Opening the workshop on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, commended the impressive turnout of participants, describing it as a reflection of shared commitment to strengthening Nigeria's agricultural value chain. He noted that agriculture remains central to the nation's economy, yet poor post-harvest practices account for losses of between 30 and 50 per cent in perishable crops such as tomatoes and leafy vegetables, largely due to inadequate handling, storage, transportation and limited processing.



Participants at the Workshop

He described the workshop as timely and urged participants to actively engage through questions, experience sharing and collaborative learning to ensure the adoption of practical and sustainable solutions.



Participants, Facilitators and Frontline Officers of the University after the Opening Session of the AMREC's One-Day Capacity Training Workshop

In his Welcome Address, the Director, AMREC, Prof. Jacob Olaoye, described the programme as a significant milestone in FUNAAB's contributions to food security and sustainable development, in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He emphasised the focus on affordable and scalable techniques for waste prevention, value addition and improved produce quality and nutrition, while commending the University Management for its continued support.



Delivering a Goodwill Message, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, commended the initiative for effectively bridging research with practical, on-the-ground solutions that reduce post-harvest losses and improve farmers' incomes.



The Keynote Address, titled "Agricultural Post-Harvest Management," was delivered by the Zonal Coordinator, NSPRI Ibadan Office, Dr. Mariam Aremu, on behalf of the NSPRI Executive Director, Prof. Lateef Sanni. She discussed crop categorisation, handling, transportation, primary processing, drying technologies and storage, stressing the need to prioritise post-harvest practices to ensure food quality and safety, improve returns, reduce losses, enhance year-round availability and promote wealth creation.



Dr. Aremu also led practical demonstrations on the production of dried leafy vegetables, onion rings and powder, dried okra, and tomato-based value-added products. She highlighted value addition as a viable agribusiness opportunity, especially for youth and women, and underscored the importance of cost-benefit analysis in making informed agribusiness decisions.

Participants at the workshop included AMREC and some Academic staff of the University, members of Farmers' Associations from Ogun State, and other key stakeholders in the agricultural value chain.

22. FUNAAB Begins 2-Day Training on Computerised Greenhouse Operations

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December 15, 2025



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By Raymond Osemene
The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), on December 15, 2025, commenced a Two-Day Capacity-Building Training for its staff on the operation and management of computerised greenhouse systems, as part of efforts to strengthen modern agricultural practices within the University.



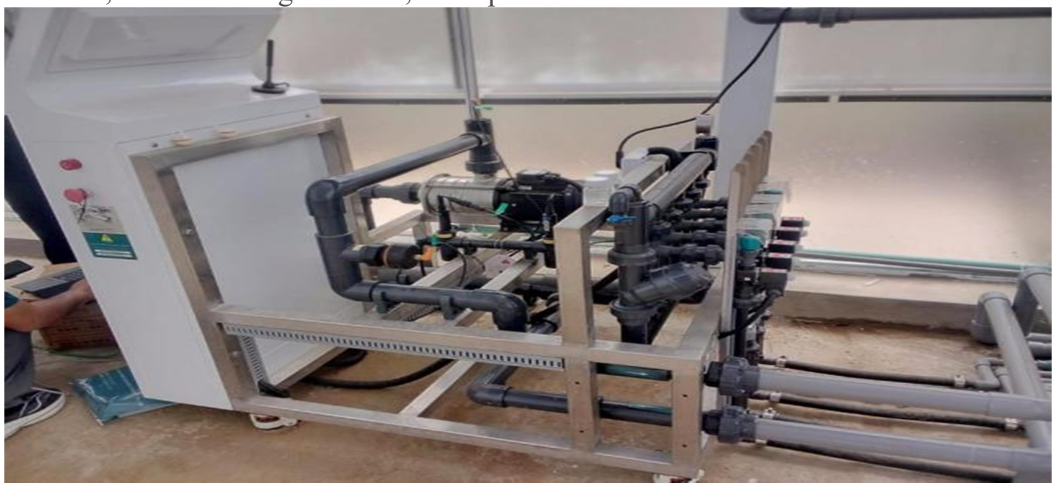
The training, held at the University's Research Greenhouse facility, was designed to equip trainees with hands-on skills in the use of computerised technologies for efficient vegetable production and cutting-edge agricultural research.

Speaking on the initiative, the Project Coordinator, Prof. Isaac Aiyelaagbe, explained



that the training aims to enhance staff competence, promote innovation, and ensure the optimal utilisation of the Research Greenhouse donated by the Tertiary Education Trust Fund (TETFund).

Prof. Aiyelaagbe added that the facility is expected to function as a hub for training, research, and income generation, with proceeds channelled towards its maintenance



and sustainable operation. The training continues today.





23. FUNAAB Hosts DIGISOL Workshop to Advance Climate Finance for Small-Scale Agro Enterprises

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December 15, 2025



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By Femi Dansu
The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), has reiterated the pivotal role of small-scale agro enterprises in enhancing food security, sustaining rural livelihoods, and driving inclusive economic growth, while stressing the urgent need to strengthen their resilience to the impacts of climate change.
This was underscored at the Opening Session of the 2-Day DIGISOL Workshop on December 15, 2025, a capacity-building initiative focused on exploring sustainable climate finance solutions for small-scale agricultural enterprises.



Declaring the workshop open on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Prof. Olusegun Idowu, noted that despite their importance, small-scale agro-enterprises remained highly vulnerable to climate change and are often excluded from conventional financing systems. He explained that sustainable climate finance offers a critical pathway to unlock

innovation, enhance resilience, and scale up climate-smart investments across the sector.

According to the Vice-Chancellor, the DIGISOL Project has provided a unique platform for knowledge sharing, capacity development, and collaboration among policymakers, financiers, researchers, practitioners, and agro-entrepreneurs. He expressed confidence that the workshop's interactive sessions would expose participants to innovative financing mechanisms, risk-mitigation strategies, and policy frameworks capable of attracting and sustaining investments in small-scale agro enterprises.



He encouraged participants to engage actively, share experiences, and explore partnerships that would translate deliberations into actionable outcomes capable of strengthening climate resilience, promoting sustainable agriculture, and delivering measurable socio-economic benefits to communities.

Earlier in his address, the DIGISOL Coordinator at FUNAAB, Prof. Adewale Dipeolu, disclosed that the workshop was the third in the DIGISOL series, following earlier editions hosted by the lead partner, the University of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (UAES), Owerri, Imo State, and Al-Hikmah University, Ilorin, Kwara State.



Prof. Dipeolu observed that climate change was no longer a distant threat but a present reality with far-reaching implications for agriculture, Nigeria's economic backbone and the primary source of livelihood for millions. He identified challenges such as erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, flooding, and declining soil fertility as major threats to food security and rural incomes. He emphasised that climate finance

presents an opportunity to transform agricultural systems through investments in climate-smart agriculture, sustainable land management, renewable energy for agro-processing, improved irrigation, and early-warning technologies.
He, therefore, called for strengthened partnerships among government, academia, the private sector, financial institutions, and development partners to ensure that climate finance effectively reaches farmers, agribusinesses, and rural communities.
Delivering a keynote presentation, a finance expert, Dr. Chinedum Anowuru, spoke on accessing the Green Climate Fund (GCF), explaining that the fund supports farmers in adopting climate-resilient practices that enhance productivity and reduce climate risks. He outlined eligibility requirements and stressed the need for governments to establish Climate-Smart Agriculture frameworks, strengthen institutions, promote digital solutions, and foster strategic collaborations.



Another keynote speaker, Dr. Issa Adeleye, Director of Forestry, Non-Timber Forest Programmes, Wildlife and Ecotourism, Ogun State, spoke on Climate Change and Climate Finance Concepts, emphasising the need to build resilience, attract and efficiently manage climate finance, and achieve a food-secure Ogun State.
In a separate keynote address, Dr. Chikamso Apeh, UAES Youth Expert, spoke on Accessing Agricultural Finance Initiative (AgriFI) and Local Climate Adaptation Living (LoCAL). He urged the government to align financing with climate realities through integrated AgriFI–LoCAL frameworks, invest in youth capacity development, and position Ogun State as a national model for youth-led, climate-resilient agriculture.

From a gender perspective, Prof. Petra Abdulsalam-Saghir, a Gender Specialist at FUNAAB, delivered a presentation titled Exploring Climate Finance Options



under EDFI: Accessing AgriFI and LoCAL from a Gender Perspective. She advocated inclusive policies that remove barriers for women and youth, gender-responsive financial products, and locally driven climate finance models, noting that mainstreaming gender enhances the effectiveness and sustainability of climate finance. Other presentations included sessions on accessing green finance products, such as green loans, grants, and carbon credits by Mr. Aluko Adebowale, State Coordinator and Climate Finance Blending Facilities, focusing on intra-credit products and energy financing, by Mr. Olugbenga Adelana.

The workshop attracted researchers, and academic staff from within and outside FUNAAB.

24. FUNAAB Hosts Maiden International Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture, Champions Global South Innovations

Published On:
December 10, 2025



Last Updated on October 9, 2026 by admin
By Joy Adeyiga
The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), today, December 10, 2025, hosted the maiden edition of the International Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture (ICCSA), convening global researchers, policymakers, development partners and practitioners to advance resilient and productive agricultural systems in the face of climate change.
Declaring the conference open, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, represented by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), Prof. Olawale Dairo, described the gathering as more than a routine academic engagement, but a mission-driven response to the growing threats posed by climate change to food security and livelihoods. He noted that the conference theme, "Advancing Climate-Smart Innovations for Resilient and Productive Agriculture in the Third World," aptly reflected the urgency of translating research into practical solutions.



A cross-section of participants at the maiden International Conference on Climate-Smart Agriculture

Commending the Institute of Food Security, Environmental Resources and Agricultural Research (IFSERAR) for initiating the conference, the Vice-Chancellor emphasised that Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) offers a viable pathway to boosting productivity, strengthening resilience and reducing emissions. He urged participants to engage in open, collaborative discussions capable of generating real-world impact, while also highlighting the strategic importance of the conference in strengthening international partnerships, influencing policy and positioning FUNAAB as a hub for climate-focused innovation.

Delivering the keynote lecture titled "Building a Resilient Agricultural Future," Prof. Ademola Braimoh stressed that the conference was designed to reshape the future of agriculture. According to him, the ultimate goal was to equip farmers not only with hope, but with practical tools and innovations that can sustain food systems amid escalating climate challenges.

The Conference Facilitator, Prof. John Oyedepo giving his remarks at the Opening



Ceremony

In a goodwill message on behalf of the Director-General of the Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet), Mrs. Mutiat Solademi charged participants to

become champions of climate-smart agriculture. She called for stronger policies, increased investment in research and the empowerment of farmers with climate information and adaptive tools, stressing that sustainable agriculture must be both resilient and economically viable for future generations.

Similarly, the Executive Director of the Environmental and Economic Resource Centre (EERC), Dr. Oluwatoyin Adeyanju, represented by the Programme Manager, Mrs. Ronke Adeniyi, highlighted Nigeria's growing exposure to climate risks and the need for long-term food system resilience. She outlined EERC's interventions, including support for strengthened local seed systems in Northern Nigeria, distribution of organic fertilisers and biogas technologies to over 7,000 farmers, and the deployment of the Sapelli digital tool to enhance farmers' access to climate and extension services.

Earlier, the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee (LOC), Prof. John Oyedepo, described ICCSA 2025 as a defining moment for Africa's agricultural future. He explained that the conference was conceived in response to persistent climate-induced challenges such as soil degradation, erratic rainfall, pest infestations and dwindling water resources. He disclosed that activities lined up include keynote lectures, policy dialogues, exhibitions, hands-on demonstrations and technical sessions on regenerative agriculture, precision irrigation, climate finance, digital agriculture, early warning systems and clean energy innovations. He added that ICCSA is expected to become a biennial global event rotating across Africa and other developing regions.



VC's representative and the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Development, Prof. Olawale Dairo with some participants and Facilitators after the Opening Session

Welcoming participants, the Director of IFSERAR, Prof. Kazeem Bello, represented by Prof. Tolulope Oyekale, reaffirmed the Institute's leadership in climate-resilient agricultural research. He highlighted flagship initiatives such as the Muturu and Kalawad livestock improvement projects, the Urban Agriculture Project, and the Early Warning and Geospatial Laboratory with satellite data capabilities. He also cited advances in climate-smart crops, including FUNAABOR 1 rice, improved oilseed varieties, aquaculture, biotechnology, remote sensing, drone monitoring and value-chain optimisation, while calling on agritech firms, investors and policymakers to partner with IFSERAR in scaling these innovations.

Overall, presentations at ICCSA 2025 underscored the urgent need for collaboration, innovation and sustained investment to safeguard agricultural productivity under

climate pressure. The conference is expected to yield actionable frameworks, cross-border partnerships and climate-smart networks linking researchers, extension systems and farming communities, with technical sessions and exhibitions continuing over the coming days.

25. FUNAAB Strengthens Partnership with Germany as New Consul General Visits

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By Olasunkanmi Olajide & Tofunmi Adebayo
The Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB) has reiterated its commitment to deepening its longstanding collaboration with the Federal Republic of Germany during a working visit by the newly appointed Consul General in Lagos, Mr. Daniel Krull.



The visit, which signalled continuity of the warm relationship established by his predecessor, Mr. Weert Borner, opened new opportunities for joint initiatives in agriculture, renewable energy, technology transfer, and sustainable development.



Prof. Olawale Dairo, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Development), who received the Top Diplomat on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Babatunde Kehinde, expressed delight at the visit and reaffirmed FUNAAB's readiness to expand existing partnerships with German institutions. He highlighted the University's keen interest in solar-powered agricultural systems and small-scale funding opportunities available through the German Embassy.



In his response, Mr. Daniel Krull appreciated FUNAAB for the warm reception and pledged to build on the solid foundation laid by his predecessor. He underscored Germany's expertise in food processing, tropical agriculture, and coffee value chains, while stressing the importance of private-sector involvement in research.



Mr. Krull drew particular attention to innovative research from the University of Hohenheim, Stuttgart, on agrivoltaics, the dual use of land for solar energy generation and crop production. He noted that while limited sunlight restricts the technology's effectiveness in Germany, Nigeria's abundant solar radiation makes it highly promising.



"The shade provided by solar panels can reduce heat stress on crops and, in many cases, increase yields in tropical environments," he explained, pledging support to explore pilot projects at FUNAAB.



In his speech, Prof. Olufemi Ojo, FUNAAB's Desk Officer for the German Consulate, also reaffirmed the University's strong institutional memory of cooperation with Germany and guided the delegation through the day's programme.



Speaking also, the Director of the Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE), Prof. Adeboye Fafiolu described the visit as a welcome continuation of productive German–Nigerian academic ties. He highlighted FUNAAB's pool of German-trained researchers and the University's engineering capabilities, expressing optimism for collaboration in solar farming, equipment donation, technology transfer, and student training programmes.



The working session was followed by guided tours of FUNAAB's solar farm, Greenhouse complex, and the World Bank-supported CEADESE. Researchers engaged directly with the German delegation, identifying concrete areas for future joint projects.



Both parties expressed confidence that the renewed engagement would lead to impactful initiatives that further position FUNAAB as a leader in agricultural innovation and sustainable development in Africa.








FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE
ABEOKUTA (FUNAAB)








CLIMATE-SMART
THEME
ENHANCING CLIMATE-SMART INNOVATION FOR A RESILIENT AND PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURE IN THE THIRD WORLD