



TRIPLE GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

JULY AND AUGUST NEWSLETTER

2026

A stylized illustration of a globe showing the continents of North and South America. The globe is framed by a thick, dark green, wavy line that resembles a vine or a path. Several green leaves are attached to this line, with some positioned above the globe and others below it. The entire graphic is set against a white background with green curved borders at the top and bottom.

Greening the Future Together-One Community at a Time.

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Greening the Future Together. One Community at a Time.

From the Founder's Desk



Dear Friends, Supporters, and Volunteers,

Sometimes, the most important progress happens before a project begins. And sometimes, you only understand the value of that work when you return to the field years later.

That was one of the clearest lessons from July and August.

During the Environmental and Social Safeguards Training for Project Coordinators, we were reminded of the importance of better research, better planning, and greater attention to the people and environments at the center of every intervention.

Our visit to KOPEC Construction Limited in August brought another lesson into focus, that good environmental work requires good relationships behind it. This visit was an opportunity to explore where our work and expertise could meet and where collaboration could create greater value. We do not expect one organization to have every answer. What matters is being willing to sit at the table, listen, share what we know, and find practical ways to work together.

But the most interesting reminder came from a story that was not part of a programme at all. Reflecting on our Voices from the Field segment, Mr. Sunday from Igbemo-Ekiti shared what happened to some of the trees he received from us in 2022, which had eventually been used to roof his house. It was a reminder of the connection between environmental work and the lives of people in the communities we serve.

As TGED Foundation grows, we remain an organization that learns from its work, builds partnerships that create better outcomes, and listens to the people living the reality we are trying to change.

Thank you to our partners, supporters, volunteers, government institutions, community members, and everyone who contributes to this work in ways both visible and unseen.

With gratitude,

Oluwaseyi Ebenezer, Esq.

*Founder/Team Lead,
TGED Foundation*

DID YOU KNOW?

Birds That Plant: Some birds can carry and disperse seeds over several kilometres, helping forests regenerate far from the parent tree.



The Underground Workers: Earthworms can move several tonnes of soil per hectare each year, helping mix organic matter and nutrients through the soil.

Ocean's Hidden Burden: About 90% of the excess heat from global warming over the past century has been absorbed by the ocean, causing ocean temperatures to rise



The City Sponge: Wetlands can act like natural sponges, storing excess water and helping reduce flooding while also supporting biodiversity.



EVERY PARTNERSHIP BEGINS WITH A CONVERSATION

“I’m interested in anything that has to do with protecting the environment.” Those words stayed with us.

When TGED Foundation visited Kopek Construction Limited on 26 August 2026, we came to introduce our work and explore what a partnership could look like. We shared our vision for environmental education, biodiversity protection, tree growing, stronger communities, public awareness, and an environmental radio programme that can bring these conversations closer to people.

But somewhere along the way, the meeting became more than a presentation.

Mr. Tony, a representative of KOPEC Construction Limited in Ekiti State, explained that the partnership decision rests with the management, whom he offered to take our proposal to.

Then he asked a question that reminded us why these conversations matter: ***“What are the other ways Kopek can support, except financially?”***

It was a simple question, but it carried so much possibility. Because protecting the environment is not only about funding. Sometimes, it is about giving time and choosing to care enough to be part of the solution.

Before we left, Mr. Tony made one more request: he wanted to keep hearing about TGED’s programmes, regardless of the management’s decision.

Although we haven’t signed partnership agreement yet, but we did not leave empty-handed. Rather, we left knowing that someone had listened, and a seed had been planted.

For us, that is where meaningful change often begins: with one honest conversation, one willing listener, and one shared belief that our environment is worth protecting.



BEFORE BUILDING, WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND

A good idea does not automatically make a good project.

This became clearer to us during a two-day Environmental and Social Safeguards Training for Project Coordinators hosted by the Ekiti Knowledge Zone (EKZ) Project Implementation Unit on the 11th and 12th August, 2026.

One lesson from Dr. Tayo Taiwo stayed with us: research should come before intervention. You need to understand the people, the environment, the problem and the possible consequences of what you plan to do.

That is relevant to our work at TGED Foundation, where much of what we do involves working directly with communities. It is easy to look at a problem and immediately think we know the solution. But the people living with that problem may see things differently.

They may have needs, concerns or risks that are not obvious from the outside.

Listening cannot be treated as a box to tick at the beginning of a project, rather what we learn from communities should continue to shape what we do.

The training was a useful reminder that responsible environmental work is not just about having the right intentions, it is about taking the time to understand before taking action.

HE CUT DOWN A TREE AND PLANTED 100 MORE



“Some of the trees you gave us in 2022 went into the roofing of my house”, Mr. Sunday said as he showed us around his farm in Igbemo-Ekiti.

He had harvested some of the matured trees he received through TGED Foundation’s 5,000 tree-planting project and used the proceeds to support the roofing of his house.

But before he cut them down, he did something that made all the difference. ***“I planted 100 new trees first”***, he informed us. And in that moment, the purpose of the project became clear.

We were never asking people to plant trees and leave them untouched forever. We wanted communities to understand their value, to grow them, care for them, benefit from them and, most importantly, replace what they harvest.

In 2022, TGED Foundation distributed 5,000 tree seedlings across 14 communities in Ekiti State, working with traditional rulers as custodians and encouraging residents to plant them in farms, schools, palaces, communal spaces and private land.

Our message was simple: When one tree is cut, two should be planted.

Three years later, between October and November 2025, we returned to Igbemo-Ekiti, Ipoti-Ekiti and Ire-Ekiti to see what had happened after the seedlings left our hands.

How many survived? What challenges had communities faced? And had the message of replanting become more than something people heard during a sensitisation programme?

Of the 10 mahogany and teak seedlings Mr. Sunday received in 2022, five survived. But he did not stop at five. Rather, he raised 100 more trees and planted them on his farm. Now, some of the original trees have helped him put a new roof over his family's home. And the trees he planted in their place are still growing.

For Mr. Sunday, trees have become more than something to protect. They are savings, shelter, livelihood and an investment that can be renewed. That is the kind of change we at TGED Foundation are creating. Not just putting trees in the ground, but helping people understand what those trees are worth, benefit from them, and replace what they harvest.



1. I have no hands, but I help build forests. I have no teeth, but I can digest fallen leaves and food scraps. Give me time, air, and a little warmth, and I'll turn yesterday's waste into tomorrow's rich soil. What am I?

Answer: Composting.

Composting uses air, warmth, and time to break down fallen leaves and food scraps into nutrient-rich soil that supports new plant and forest growth.

2. I can live for hundreds of years. I own nothing, yet I provide homes, food, shade, and clean air. People celebrate me on special days but remove me when they need more room. What am I?

Answer: A tree.

Trees can live for hundreds of years and provide habitats, food, shade, and cleaner air.

3. I am the water you never drink, the soil you never walk on, and the greenhouse gases you never see. I am the invisible trail left behind by every single product from the factory floor to your front door. The smaller I am, the lighter the earth breathes. What am I?

Answer: Carbon footprint.

A carbon footprint measures the greenhouse gas emissions linked to a person, product, activity, or organization.

4. Every page I lose contains knowledge millions of years old. Yet no one notices until entire chapters are gone. What am I?

Answer: A forest.

Every layer of a forest holds ecosystems and species built over millions of years. When forests disappear, we lose entire ecosystems.

5. I have waves but no hair, I am deep but have no thoughts, and I hold the history of the earth in my currents. I produce over half the oxygen you breathe, yet human habits are turning me warmer and more acidic every year. What am I?

Answer: The ocean.

The ocean covers most of our planet and produces more than half of the oxygen we breathe, but harmful human activities are putting these vital ecosystems at risk.

ECO QUIZ

1. What is the term for the gradual increase in the earth's average temperature due to human activities?

[A] Climate Change. [B] Global Warming. [C] Atmospheric pollution. [D] Ocean Acidification

2. Which of the following is not a type of air pollution?

[A] Carbon dioxide. [B] Particulate matter. [C] Acid rain. [D] Methane.

3. Most of the energy used on Earth today originally came from which source?

[A] The sun. [B] Oceans. [C] Soil. [D] Air.

4. Which of the following is NOT something you can do to reduce your carbon footprint?

[A] Use public transportation. [B] Eat more plant-based meals. [C] Recycle and compost. [D] Increase air travel.

5. Which animal is known for building dams that can create wetlands?

[A] Beaver. [B] Cheetah. [C] Eagle. [D] Giraffe.

6. Which part of a tree can continue growing even after the tree's trunk stops getting taller?

[A] Bark. [B] Fruit seeds. [C] Roots. [D] Fallen leaves.

What's your answer? Take a guess and see if you're right when we reveal the answer in our next newsletter.



Intern Spotlight

Introducing Funmilayo Olamide

At TGED Foundation, our impact is driven by dedicated volunteers and interns who bring their skills, passion, and creativity to our work. Funmilayo Olamide is one such individual whose commitment and diverse strengths have made a meaningful contribution to our mission.

Here is a glimpse into who she is and her experience throughout her volunteering journey with TGED Foundation.

- **Can you tell us a little about yourself?**

I'm Adetunla, Funmilayo Olamide, a Plant Science and Biotechnology graduate passionate about sustainability and environmental action. My interest in how everyday choices affect the planet led me into climate and environmental initiatives. I'm committed to raising awareness, supporting practical solutions, and inspiring young people to protect the environment.

- **What motivated you to intern with TGED Foundation?**

I volunteered with TGED Foundation because of my passion for environmental sustainability and climate action. The experience here has helped me learn, contribute, and see how small actions can create meaningful change in communities.

Kick for Planet 2026 showed that climate education does not always have to happen in a classroom; it can be creative, practical, and engaging.

- **Can you share a memorable experience or highlight from your intern work?**

The Eco Saver School Project (ESSP) was a memorable part of my intern experience because I saw students connect environmental issues to their everyday lives. I also enjoyed Kick for Planet 2026, watching students use football to raise awareness about environmental protection reminded me that climate education does not always have to happen in a classroom; it can be creative, practical, and engaging.



Intern Spotlight

Continuation

- **What skills or knowledge have you gained through your interning experience?**

My time with TGED Foundation has strengthened my teamwork, research, and communication skills. Through ESSP and Kick for Planet 2026, I gained practical insight into climate action, environmental education, and youth engagement.

- **What advice would you give to someone considering interning with TGED Foundation and what do you think sets us apart from others?**

I'd encourage anyone considering volunteering with TGED Foundation to come ready to learn and get involved. You won't just be watching from the sidelines, you get to support real activities, and have a chance to build experience while contributing to work that matters.

- **Is there anything you'd like to see our organization focus on in the future?**

Many young people care about environmental issues, even if they may not describe themselves as environmental advocates. What they lack is the guidance, mentorship, training, and hands-on opportunities to understand where they fit in. TGED Foundation can help bridge that gap by giving them the support and experience to turn that interest into something meaningful to help the environment.



TGED Foundation gives interns the opportunity to be involved in real activities and responsibilities, rather than just being observers.



Catch-Up With Us

Missed Our August blog posts? No worries. Click the link to catch up with what you missed.

<https://tgedfoundation.org/blog/why-climate-anxiety-is-rising-among-african-youth-and-what-we-can-do/>

<https://tgedfoundation.org/blog/from-land-to-livelihood-how-community-owned-conservation-can-restore-biodiversity-and-strengthen-food-security/>

Also, read our latest Green Brief Newsletter here and subscribe:

<https://www.linkedin.com/build-relation/newsletter-follow-entityUrn=7421668258094665729>



Incase you missed our June 2026 Half-Year Impact Report

We've got you covered. Click the link below to read the June edition.

<https://tgedfoundation.org/blog/2026-half-year-impact-report/>

Opportunities to Explore

In the spirit of shared growth, we're highlighting a few opportunities that may be useful to members of our community.

1] Miles Morland Foundation Writing Scholarships 2026. Apply now:
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/category/scholarships/>

📌 Deadline: 22nd September, 2026.

2.] Commonwealth Master's & PhD Scholarships 2027. Apply now:
<https://www.scholars4dev.com/4900/commonwealth-scholarships-for-developing-commonwealth-countries/>

📌 Deadline: 20th October, 2026.

Thank You

Because of your support, we are turning ideas into action; in schools, in communities, and in everyday lives.

We are ready to do more. Lets continue this journey together.

Join us. Support our cause.

Scan or click the link to donate.

<https://tgedfoundation.org/donate-now/>



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Stay in the Loop



Contact us for more information
or any questions.

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