



TRIPLE GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

2026

A stylized illustration of a globe showing the continents of North and South America. The globe is encircled by a thick, dark green wavy line. Green leaves and branches are integrated into the design, with some leaves appearing to grow from the globe and others along the wavy line.

Greening the Future Together-One Community at a Time.

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From the Founder's Desk

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Volunteers,



In August 2025, during a **technical meeting on disability-inclusive climate adaptation**, one of our collective recommendations was for Ekiti State to establish Climate Change Desk Officers across its Ministries, Departments and Agencies. On 3 September 2026, we were in the room as those officers were inaugurated across the relevant MDAs and all 16 Local Government Areas. Seeing that recommendation move into practice was encouraging. The work now lies in turning those appointments into meaningful action.

We also participated in the **Southwest Zonal Workshop on the review of the National Disaster Management Framework and the National Disaster Response Plan**. Frameworks are drafted in meeting rooms, but their weaknesses are felt in flooded homes, damaged farmland and roads that people can no longer use. We contributed with those realities in mind, advocating for the people who live with the consequences to have a voice in how disaster management works.

That same commitment shaped the first episode of **TGED Green Voice**, our community-centred environmental radio programme. The conversation brought the flooding experiences of Ikingbisin Phase 4 community in Ado-Ekiti to the airwaves: damage to homes, disrupted movement and threats to household water supplies. The people living through these challenges understand them in ways that a report alone cannot capture. Our role was to make space for their story to be heard.

In Ikoro-Ekiti, a new relationship began when the Ikoro-Ekiti Tree Growers Association saw our Treevolution programme on social media and asked to participate. We provided 100 Gmelina seedlings to 10 community growers, each of whom signed a stewardship commitment. That donation is a beginning. In the years ahead, I want us to be able to say how many trees are still standing, who has cared for them and what they have meant for the community.

Across these activities, a shared responsibility runs through our work: following through. Recommendations need implementation, community voices need a response, and seedlings need sustained care.

Thank you to the officials, growers, residents, partners, supporters and volunteers whose contributions often happen beyond the camera. There is a great deal left to do, and I am grateful to be doing it with you.

With gratitude,

Oluwaseyi Ebenezer, Esq.

*Founder/Team Lead,
TGED Foundation*

DID YOU KNOW?

Nature's Tiny Engineers: Even in dry places, termite mounds can hold moisture and nutrients, giving plants a better chance to grow.



The Rainmakers: A forest can help make rain possible. Its trees release moisture into the air, helping clouds form. When they are cut, places far beyond the forest can end up drier.

An Invisible World: A handful of healthy soil holds more microorganisms than there are people on Earth.



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



ONE RECOMMENDATION, ONE YEAR LATER

In August 2025, we sat in a technical meeting on disability-inclusive climate adaptation in Ekiti State. One of our recommendations was short and plain: **Ekiti State needs Climate Change Desk Officers across its Ministries, Departments and Agencies.**

We left with no idea what would come of it. No announcement, no date.

A year later, it had happened.

On 3 September 2026, we were at the inauguration of Climate Change Desk Officers across the relevant MDAs and all 16 Local Government Areas of Ekiti State, alongside government officials, climate stakeholders, CSOs and NGOs.

Dr. Sunday Omoya, Permanent Secretary of the Ekiti State Ministry of Environment, called the Desk Officers *"critical and important links in the state climate change governance structure."*

Hearing that took us back to the meeting in 2025. Words once spoken in a room now had people with titles and offices to carry them out.

Advocacy rarely runs on the schedule you would like. You speak up, you stay in the conversation, you keep turning up. This time, we got to see where it led.

TGED Foundation will keep showing up and working with others so that what is said in meetings ends up helping communities.



WHAT HAPPENS BEFORE THE NEXT DISASTER?

Disasters rarely give anyone time to prepare. By the time floodwater is in a home, a warning has gone unheeded, or a road has been cut off, much of the outcome has already been decided by what was done before.

It was against this reality that our Founder, Oluwaseyi Ebenezer, represented TGED Foundation at the Southwest Zonal Workshop on the review of Nigeria's National Disaster Management Framework (NDMF) and National Disaster Response Plan (NDRP).

Hosted by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) in collaboration with the World Bank Group, the workshop brought government institutions, emergency response agencies, humanitarian organisations and civil society into one room to review the draft frameworks, looking for where coordination needed to be stronger and where improvements needed to be practical.

For us, the task was to bring a community-focused perspective into that conversation. Weak preparedness is not felt by institutions. It is felt by families whose homes flood, by farmers whose livelihoods are disrupted, by communities cut off by damaged infrastructure, and by vulnerable groups who have the least to recover with.

The review asks a question that goes beyond how we respond: are our systems doing enough before the emergency happens?

TGED Foundation will keep working for community resilience, climate action and inclusive environmental governance, so that the people these policies are meant to protect have a say in shaping them.



WHAT IF TREE PLANTING DID NOT END ON PLANTING DAY?

Treevolution did not begin in Ikoro-Ekiti. Its roots go back to TGED Foundation's 2022 Ekiti 5,000 Trees initiative. Monitoring and learning from that experience showed us that planting seedlings is only the beginning. Restoration lasts only if someone owns the trees, someone cares for them, and the community can carry the work on after we leave.

Ikoro-Ekiti is where we are piloting that lesson. The Ikoro-Ekiti Tree Growers Association saw our Treevolution posts online and asked to be part of it. They were not new to this. Established in 2024 with 10 members, the association has grown to about 100 tree growers, women, youth and community members. They were already doing the work.

On 30 September 2026, that conversation became the **Treevolution – Ikoro Community Pilot**, with **48 participants**, including growers, community representatives and the Ekiti State Forestry Commission. Participants learned how to protect young trees from fire, grazing and neglect. Then 100 Gmelina seedlings went home with 10 growers, each of whom signed a stewardship commitment to plant, maintain and allow the trees to be monitored. We also began showing how planting locations can be geo-mapped.

The 100 seedlings are not the destination. They are the start of a 12-month learning process in which TGED and the Association will follow survival, maintenance and grower participation. Longer term, we want to build community nurseries, grow scarce indigenous species, and open real green livelihood paths for women and young people.

From planting trees to strengthening the people, systems and knowledge that keep restoration going.

This is Treevolution!!

“FLOOD DESTROYED MY HOUSE”: IKINGBISIN RESIDENTS SPEAK



For residents of Ikingbisin Phase 4 community, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, flooding has become a recurring disruption, damaging homes, affecting movement and leaving families dealing with the aftermath long after the rain stops.

This was the reality shared during the first episode of TGED Green Voice, TGED Foundation’s radio platform on Our People’s FM 104.1FM, Ado-Ekiti, created to give communities space to speak about environmental challenges affecting their everyday lives.

Pastor Olajide Raphael, the community chairman, explained that Phase 4 sits at a lower point, leaving it vulnerable to water flowing from other parts of the community. ***“We are at the lower part, so water from the other phases comes down to us.”***

For **Mr. Kehinde Kazeem**, the consequences have been personal. ***“Two years ago, the flood destroyed my house completely.”*** He said the flooding returned this year, with heavy rainfall on 3 April damaging his fence and leaving a deep hollow near his home, making movement around the area difficult.

Deacon Sunday also spoke about the effect of floodwater on household water sources. ***“The water enters the wells, and people cannot use the water again.”***

He also reported cases of cholera in the area, although this claim has not been independently verified by TGED Foundation.

Despite these challenges, residents are not simply waiting for help. They described clearing drains, meeting with landowners, working with neighbours and reaching out to government officials. Yet the flooding continues, leaving an uncomfortable question: ***what happens to those who may face even greater difficulty escaping, moving around or recovering when the water comes?***

That is where the conversation goes next.

The next TGED Green Voice episode in October will continue the flooding series, this time bringing people with disabilities into the conversation. Their experiences can reveal parts of the flooding story that are easily missed when we talk about affected communities as though everyone experiences disaster in the same way.

If the first conversation showed us what floodwater is doing to homes and livelihoods, the next one will ask us to look at who is most vulnerable when that water comes, and what preparedness and response should look like for them.

The conversation continues. And this time, we are listening to voices that are too often left out.



July August Eco-Riddle: Answers Revealed

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

Answer: Global Warming.

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. Which of the following is not a type of air pollution? [A] Carbon dioxide. [B] Particulate matter. [C] Acid rain. [D] Methane.

Answer: Acid Rain.

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

Answer: The Sun.

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.

Answer: Increase air travel.

Increasing air travel generally increases your carbon footprint because aviation produces significant greenhouse gas emissions.

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

Answer: Beaver.

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

Answer: The Roots.

ECO RIDDLE

1. I can be green, brown, or black. I look still, but I am full of life. A single handful may contain billions of living organisms. Farmers depend on me, yet I can disappear slowly beneath their feet.

What am I?

2. I have no walls, yet I store water. I have no roof, yet I can protect a city from floods. Drain me, fill me, or destroy me, and the consequences may arrive downstream.

What am I?

3. I am born from yesterday's waste. Microbes work on me in darkness. Given enough time and the right conditions, I can return nutrients to the soil.

What am I?

4. I am not the weather today. I am not one heavy rainfall. I am the pattern you notice after many years of measurements.

What am I?

5. I can be found in a bottle, a tyre, clothing, and even dust. I may be too small to see easily, but I can travel through water, soil and food chains.

What am I?

Think you know the answer? 🤔 Make your guess and check back in our next newsletter to see if you got it right!



Intern Spotlight

Introducing Semilore Adeniran

Behind every TGED project are volunteers and interns who give their skills, conviction and ingenuity. Semilore Adeniran is one of them. Meet her, and follow her journey at TGED Foundation.

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

I'm Semilore Adeniran, a Forestry and Wood Technology graduate of the Federal University of Technology, Akure. I'm passionate about environmental sustainability and practical solutions to environmental challenges, with experience in field activities, GIS and environmental research.

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

I wanted to turn my passion for the environment into practical experience, and TGED Foundation offered a place to see how environmental projects are developed and implemented.

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

One of my highlights was researching funding opportunities and potential partners for TGED. I saw how donors differ in their priorities and requirements, and how an organisation has to position its projects to fit the right ones. Building a verified donor tracker and running due diligence on funders left me with work that will stay useful to TGED after my internship.

I wanted a place where I can learn, grow and also understand how environmental projects are developed and TGED Foundation gave me that opportunity.

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

I built skills in research, donor mapping, partnership identification and time management. I also learned to judge whether a funding opportunity genuinely fits an organisation's work, rather than looking only at the amount on offer.



Intern Spotlight

Continuation

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

I would encourage anyone interested in environmental sustainability and development to intern with TGED, especially if they are willing to learn and take initiative. Interns contribute to real organisational work rather than simply observing, with exposure to community projects, advocacy, research, partnerships and fundraising.

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

I would like to see TGED strengthen its partnerships and resource mobilisation so that more of its successful projects can be sustained and scaled. I would also like to see more young environmental professionals take part in its projects, research and community interventions, building practical experience they can bring to Nigeria's environmental challenges.

I would encourage anyone interested in environmental sustainability to consider interning with TGED, especially if they are willing to learn and take initiative.

Catch-Up With Us

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

<https://tgedfoundation.org/blog/turning-community-clean-up-into-a-lasting-action/>

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

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



Incase you missed our July and August 2026 Newsletter

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

<https://tgedfoundation.org/newsletters/our-july-august-2026-newsletter-is-here/>

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] Princeton in Africa Fellowship 2027–2028 Apply now:

<https://www.princetonin africa.org/applicants/how-to-apply/>

📌 Deadline: 26th October, 2026.

2] AWARD Women in Agriculture Leadership Program – Cohort 2. Apply now:

<https://awardfellowships.org/>

📌 Deadline: 6th November, 2026.

Thank You

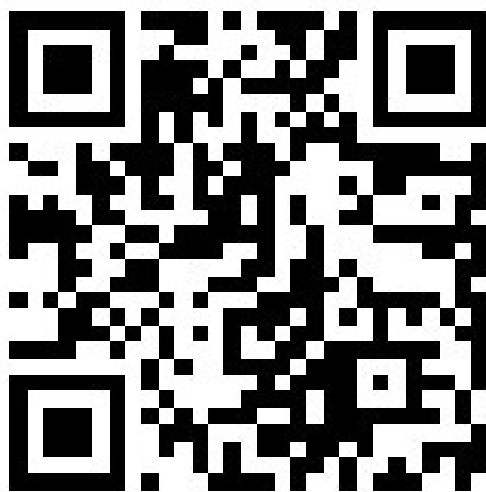
Because of your support, we are turning ideas into action; in schools, in communities, and in everyday lives.

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/>



Greening the Future Together; One Community at a Time.

Stay in the Loop



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or any questions.

www.tgedfoundation.org,
info@tgedfoundation.org,
+234 906 484 5501

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