



The ROAN TIMES

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE NIGERIAN CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION

SEPTEMBER 2026



This Issue:

Inside Summer Camp 2026

NCF's Vulture Conservation Gets International Coverage

NCF Drives Community Action in Ondo State

NCF Plants 11,000 Trees Across Northern Nigeria

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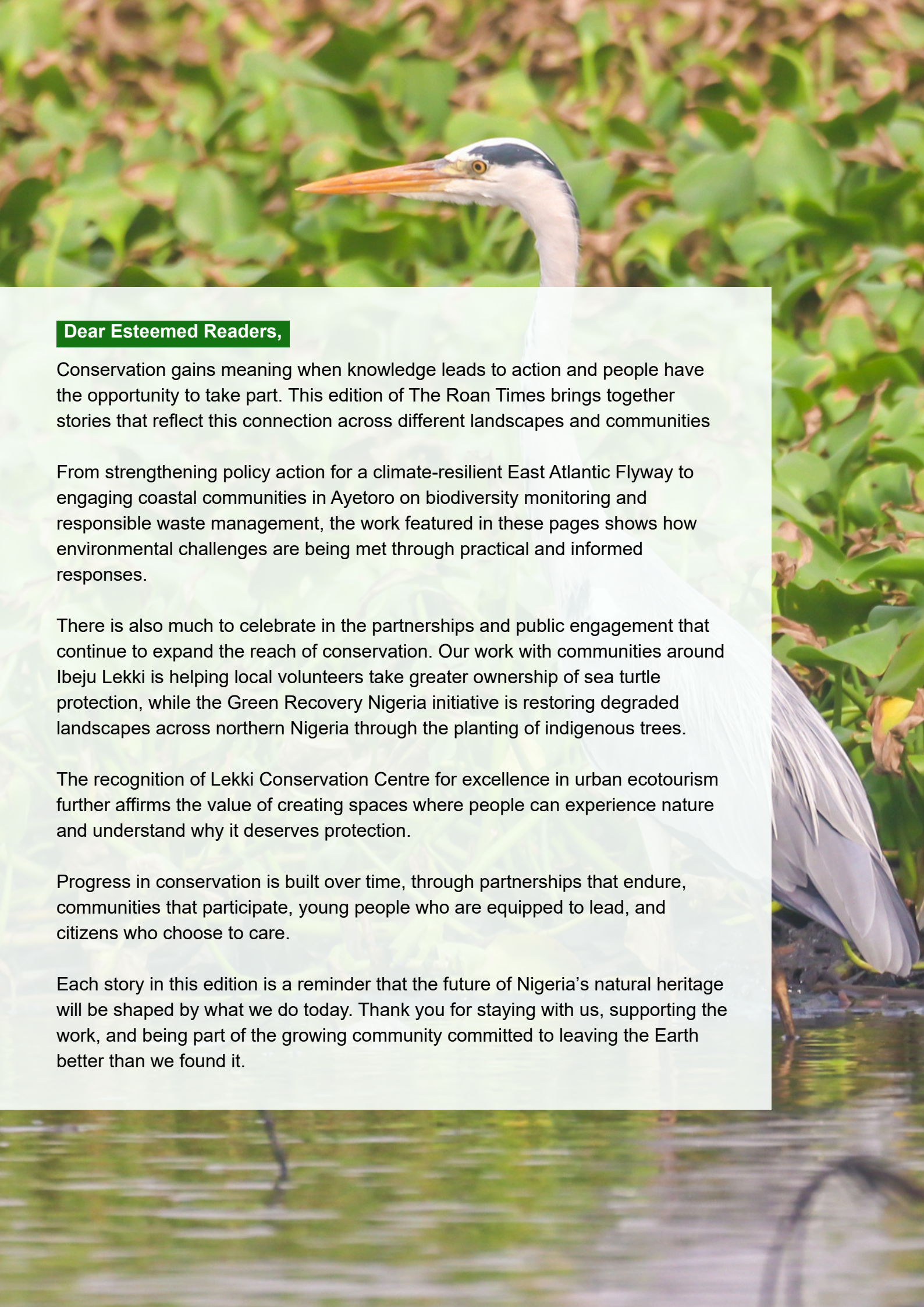


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Dear Esteemed Readers,

Conservation gains meaning when knowledge leads to action and people have the opportunity to take part. This edition of The Roan Times brings together stories that reflect this connection across different landscapes and communities

From strengthening policy action for a climate-resilient East Atlantic Flyway to engaging coastal communities in Ayetoro on biodiversity monitoring and responsible waste management, the work featured in these pages shows how environmental challenges are being met through practical and informed responses.

There is also much to celebrate in the partnerships and public engagement that continue to expand the reach of conservation. Our work with communities around Ibeju Lekki is helping local volunteers take greater ownership of sea turtle protection, while the Green Recovery Nigeria initiative is restoring degraded landscapes across northern Nigeria through the planting of indigenous trees.

The recognition of Lekki Conservation Centre for excellence in urban ecotourism further affirms the value of creating spaces where people can experience nature and understand why it deserves protection.

Progress in conservation is built over time, through partnerships that endure, communities that participate, young people who are equipped to lead, and citizens who choose to care.

Each story in this edition is a reminder that the future of Nigeria's natural heritage will be shaped by what we do today. Thank you for staying with us, supporting the work, and being part of the growing community committed to leaving the Earth better than we found it.

Events

Raising Voices for the Planet: NCF Summer Camp 2026

For three weeks, the Nigerian Conservation Foundation Summer Camp 2026 brought children and young people together at the Lekki Conservation Centre for learning, creativity, exploration and action under the theme “Voices for the Planet.”

Across nine sessions, campers moved beyond the classroom to experience conservation firsthand. They explored the forest, walked the canopy walkway, visited LUFASI Nature Park, took part in a beach clean-up and conducted a carbon audit of NCF’s offices.

The camp also showed the children that caring for the environment can take many forms. They explored sustainable cooking with biofuel gel, repurposed old fabrics, and learned about photography and the use of drones in conservation.

Creativity was another important part of the experience. Through nature-themed art, photography, poetry, drama and music, campers found different ways to express their ideas about wildlife and the environment.

Beyond environmental knowledge, the camp encouraged teamwork, communication and confidence. Group activities, sports, presentations and performances gave participants opportunities to share ideas, work with others and speak up.

The NCF Summer Camp 2026 demonstrated that environmental education can be engaging, practical and memorable. Most importantly, it reminded participants that they are never too young to make a difference for the planet.



News and Updates

IKI Project: Driving Policy for a Climate-Resilient East Atlantic Flyway

As part of the IKI Project, the Nigerian Conservation Foundation organised a two-day policy workshop in Abuja themed “Creating a Climate-Resilient East Atlantic Flyway – Driving Policy to Protect Biodiversity, Environment and Mitigate Climate Impact.”

The workshop brought together representatives from federal and state ministries, departments and agencies working in the environment, forestry and related sectors to strengthen policy action for biodiversity conservation and climate resilience along the East Atlantic Flyway.

Discussions focused on policy and legal frameworks, pathways for recognising important sites, and key technical issues affecting biodiversity and the environment. Participants also explored how evidence and shared knowledge could be translated into practical commitments at national and subnational levels.

The workshop concluded with the adoption of a communiqué and roadmap, outlining priorities and next steps for strengthening policies that support biodiversity, environmental protection and climate resilience.

The workshop forms part of the IKI Project's efforts to strengthen policy and institutional action for the protection of important ecosystems and biodiversity.



Announcements

What's New and Next at NCF

CALL FOR PAPERS - ROAN: The Journal of Conservation

NCF invites researchers, academics, conservation practitioners, and policymakers to submit manuscripts for a Special Issue on:

"Sustaining Mangrove Ecosystems in Nigeria: Prospects, Threats, and Implications for the Blue Economy."

Submission Deadline: 30th September 2026

Read the full submission guidelines here:

<https://bit.ly/ROANCallForPaper>

Submit manuscripts to:

roanjournal@ncfnigeria.org



ROAN: The Journal of Conservation

Call for Manuscripts

Special Issue: Sustaining Mangrove Ecosystems in Nigeria: Prospects, Threats, and Implications for the Blue Economy

Deadline
30TH . SEPT . 2026

SUBMISSION THEMES

- Blue Carbon Dynamics and Climate Mitigation
- Mangrove Biodiversity and Ecological Integrity
- Anthropogenic Impacts and Environmental Degradation
- Mangrove Restoration Ecology and Rehabilitation Techniques
- Climate Change Impacts and Coastal Vulnerability
- Environmental Governance and Policy Frameworks
- Blue Economy Development and Sustainable Livelihoods
- Ecosystem Services Valuation and Natural Capital Accounting
- Monitoring, Remote Sensing, and Geospatial Technologies
- Community Participation and Indigenous Knowledge Systems

ACCEPTED SUBMISSIONS
Original Research Articles, Review Papers, Case Studies, Policy Analyses, Technical Notes, and Short Communications.

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Ensure to visit the link below for the full details and requirements before applying or submitting
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Walk For Nature 2026: Get Ready!

The 20th edition of flagship environmental advocacy campaign organized by the Nigerian Conservation Foundation in partnership with the Lagos State Ministry of Environment and Water Resources is coming this October.

Theme: Inspired for Climate Action

Get ready! Your steps can spark real change.



Walk for Nature 2026

INSPIRED for CLIMATE ACTION

COMING This October

LAGOS must listen. OUR ACTIONS MATTER!!!
#NowForClimate

Logos: Nigerian Conservation Foundation, the human energy company, Fidelity, Leventis, dcs

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News and Updates

IKI Project: Building Community Action for a Healthier Ayetoro Coastline

The Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), through the Climate Resilience East Atlantic Flyway (CREAF) Project, engaged 50 community members in Ayetoro, Ondo State, from 18 to 21 August 2026 to strengthen community action for coastal biodiversity conservation and responsible waste management.

The engagement brought together women, youths, community leaders and biodiversity volunteers for a shoreline assessment, discussions on Sargassum and marine debris, and practical training on waste recovery and upcycling.

The team assessed approximately 30 km of the Ayetoro coastline to document beach-cast Sargassum and marine debris. While no significant Sargassum accumulation was observed during the assessment, community biodiversity volunteers were encouraged to continue monitoring the coastline and documenting future occurrences.

Participants also learned about the relationship between Sargassum, marine debris and coastal biodiversity, including the importance of properly separating organic materials from plastic and other waste when they accumulate along the shoreline.

The engagement concluded with a hands-on upcycling session, where participants worked in four groups to transform selected waste materials into four functional ottomans. The exercise demonstrated how discarded materials can be recovered and given a new purpose while reducing waste.



Through the engagement, NCF strengthened local knowledge and practical skills while supporting community-led efforts to protect the Ayetoro coastline and promote more responsible management of coastal resources.

Features

NCF's Vulture Conservation Work Featured by BBC Africa



Vultures may not be everyone's favourite bird, but they're nature's clean-up crew, preventing the spread of disease and keeping ecosystems in balance in ways most of us never notice.

They're also facing serious threats: poisoning, habitat loss, and belief-based use are pushing vulture populations into decline across Nigeria.

We're proud that our vulture conservation work was featured in a new BBC Africa piece, shining a spotlight on what it takes to protect these misunderstood but essential birds.

Watch the feature to see why these birds matter more than most people realise.

”

We cannot continue to lose these birds to poisoning, illegal killing and trafficking and expect our ecosystems to remain healthy.

- Dr. Onoja

[Watch Video Here](#)

Species Spotlight: Egyptian Vulture (Neophron percnopterus)

The Egyptian Vulture is the smallest of all vultures. It is nature's waste disposal Officer and plays a vital role in preventing the spread of diseases. Egyptian vultures mostly feed on carcasses of dead birds and small mammals. They can also eat rotten fruits, vegetables, and eggs; especially that of ostriches.

The Egyptian vulture is the only European vulture that migrates to Africa (including Nigeria) in winter. That is why they breed later in the year than other vulture species and lay an average of two eggs in April or May. Due to threats posed to these birds on their breeding grounds, along their migration routes and in wintering areas, they are one of the most threatened birds.

Join us in the campaign to save vultures.



FUN FACT

Egyptian vultures are among the few bird species known to use tools. They use stones to crack open eggs and reach the food inside.

BECOME A MEMBER OF NCF TODAY!

Join our growing community of conservation champions making a real difference across Nigeria.

In addition to playing a critical role in protecting our environment, you'll receive our member benefits—including exclusive updates, invites to special events, and more.

[GET STARTED](#)



UPCOMING

INTERNATIONAL VULTURE AWARENESS DAY	SEPTEMBER 5TH
WORLD CLEANUP DAY	SEPTEMBER 20TH
WORLD GORILLA DAY	SEPTEMBER 24TH
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF AWARENESS OF FOOD LOSS AND WASTE	SEPTEMBER 24TH

News and Updates

Lekki Conservation Centre Honoured for Excellence in Urban Ecotourism



The Lekki Conservation Centre (LCC) has received the Award for Excellence in Urban Ecotourism and Environmental Sustainability at the recently concluded National Tourism and Transportation Summit and Awards Night in Abuja.

The award recognises LCC's continued efforts to promote biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and ecotourism while providing visitors with meaningful opportunities to experience and connect with nature.

Receiving the award on behalf of LCC were Mr. Uchenna Achunine, Director of Business Development and Partnerships; Mr. Stephen Aina, LCC Project Manager; and members of the LCC team.

The recognition highlights the Centre's growing contribution to urban ecotourism in Nigeria and its role in demonstrating how conservation and tourism can work together to create valuable experiences while supporting environmental sustainability.

For LCC, the award is both a recognition of its work and an encouragement to continue creating spaces where people can experience, appreciate and better understand the natural environment.



Events

NCF/LFZ Sea Turtle Conservation Project: Protecting Sea Turtles Through Community Action at Ibeju Lekki

For over two years, the Lagos Free Zone (LFZ) has partnered with the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) on a Sea Turtle Conservation Project in communities around Ibeju Lekki.

At the heart of the project are local volunteers who have taken an active role in protecting sea turtles, one of the marine species facing serious threats from human activities. Their continued efforts show that effective conservation depends not only on programmes and policies, but also on people taking action in the communities where wildlife lives.

Through the partnership, NCF works with communities to develop conservation solutions that respond to local needs and encourage residents to take ownership of protecting their natural environment. This community-based approach helps build local knowledge, strengthen participation and support conservation efforts that can continue beyond individual project activities.

The work in Ibeju Lekki demonstrates what is possible when communities are empowered to become part of the conservation process. Local action, sustained over time, can make a meaningful difference in protecting threatened species and their habitats.

Watch the video to see the impact of the Sea Turtle Conservation Project and the people helping to protect these remarkable marine animals.



[Watch Video Here](#)

News and Updates

GRN: 11,000+ Trees Planted to Restore Degraded Landscapes Across Northern Nigeria

In an effort to curtail the menace of climate change and some environmental disasters especially desertification and flood and to also achieve the goal and objectives of the NCF Green Recovery Nigeria (GRN), an initiative, established to improve the Nigeria's vegetation cover from the current status of less than 10% to 30% by the year 2030, through planting of tree seedlings and encouraging natural regeneration.

The NCF -Abuja Office planted over 11,000 tree seedlings in 3 States and the FCT. the locations where the planting was carried out are Dukku and Dadin Kowa Forest Reserves in Gombe State, Kiru in Kano State and Afaka Forest Reserve in Kaduna State.

In the FCT the exercise was conducted in Government Secondary School Mpape. The species planted in the mentioned locations were indigenous species that can prevail in the area and equally withstand the climatic condition of the sites, and this includes, Water Pear (*Syzygium guineense*), African Locust Beans (*Parkia biglobosa*), Mahogany (*Khaya senegalensis*), Mango (*Magnifera indica*) and Baobab *Adonsonia digitate*.

The tree species are meant in the future to mitigate the impact of climate change, provide shade and also serve as source of food (fruits), medicine(herbs) and habitats to some other living organisms especially birds.

Supported by IHS, Equinix Limited, Polaris Bank Nigeria Plc and KENNA.



Events

Giants of Our Heritage: Raising Awareness and Action for Nigeria's Elephants

The Nigerian Conservation Foundation, in partnership with Wild Africa, marked World Elephant Day 2026 with the “Giants of Our Heritage” campaign, highlighting the importance of protecting Nigeria’s remaining elephant populations.

The campaign used digital content and public conversations to draw attention to the threats facing elephants, including poaching, the illegal ivory trade, habitat loss and fragmentation.

As part of the commemoration, NCF and Wild Africa hosted an X Space, bringing conservation voices and members of the public together to discuss the status of Nigeria’s elephants, the challenges they face and the action needed to secure their future.

The World Elephant Day campaign also spotlighted NCF’s conservation work in Omo Forest Reserve, one of the last remaining natural forests in Southwestern Nigeria and an important refuge for elephants and other wildlife.

Working with government agencies, conservation organisations, communities and other partners, NCF supports efforts to monitor elephant populations, combat poaching, conduct research, promote environmental education and strengthen conservation efforts in the landscape.



Protecting elephants requires more than raising awareness. It requires sustained action and support. Through the “Protect the Gentle Giants” initiative, members of the public are encouraged to support ongoing efforts to protect elephants and the forests they call home.

Listen to the X Space:

<https://x.com/i/spaces/1aKbdEdjZPrJX?s=20>

**Support elephant conservation:
Protect the Gentle Giants**

Naija Eco Vibes Podcast

Discover Our Latest Podcast Episodes



Stories From the Field II: Lessons From Nigeria

Our hosts sit down with Shittu Usman, Climate Lead, and Joshua Dazi, Programmes Development Manager at the Nigerian Conservation Foundation, to share firsthand stories from the field, explore how local knowledge strengthens conservation, discuss the realities of implementing environmental projects, and reflect on the lessons learned along the way.

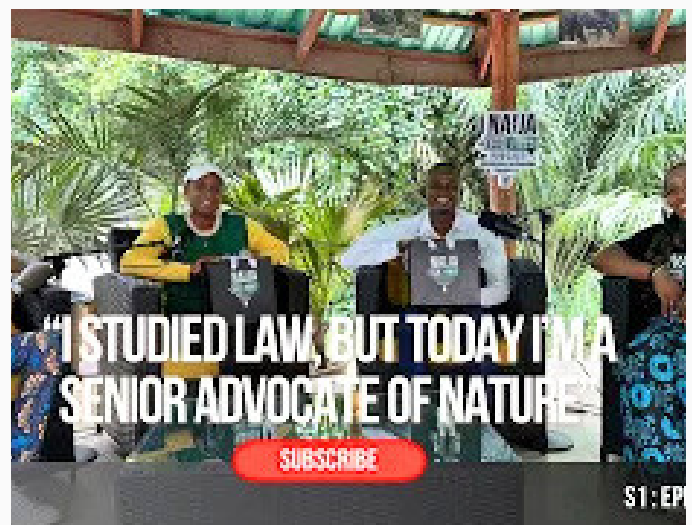
[WATCH](#)

Climate Careers: Green Jobs and Youth Opportunities in a Changing World

Climate change is not just an environmental crisis. It's opening new frontiers for jobs, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

In this episode, we sit with two incredible changemakers to explore how young Nigerians can tap into green jobs, climate-smart businesses, and sustainable opportunities in a changing world.

[WATCH](#)



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Engagements

NCF at Open Day for Gardeners 2026: Leaving the Earth Better Than We Found It

The Nigerian Conservation Foundation joined garden lovers, eco-enthusiasts and nature enthusiasts at the Open Day for Gardeners 2026, held at the Ecobank Pan African Centre in Victoria Island, Lagos.

Convened by Mrs. Dolapo Osinbajo, the event brought together gardening enthusiasts and members of the public to celebrate green spaces and promote a stronger connection with nature.

A key highlight was the seminar, “Leaving the Earth Better Than We Found It,” delivered by Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, who emphasised that appreciating nature must go beyond admiring its beauty to taking responsibility for protecting it.

The three-day event featured seminars, plant and flower displays, model gardens and a photography competition, creating an engaging space for participants to learn, connect and celebrate gardening.

At the NCF stand, the team engaged visitors in conversations about nature conservation, shared information about the Foundation’s work and welcomed new members to the conservation movement.

The event provided an opportunity to connect everyday gardening and green spaces with the wider goal of building a healthier and more environmentally conscious Nigeria.



About Us

The Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) is Nigeria's premier environmental non-governmental organization dedicated to nature conservation and sustainable development. The Foundation was founded in 1980 by the late Chief S.L Edu and registered as a Charitable Trust in 1982.

Our Vision

A leader in creating sustainable societies where people and nature thrive.

Our Mission

To protect and restore natural resources, tackle emerging environmental threats in partnership with communities and other stakeholders, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Core Value

- ➔ Integrity
- ➔ Partnership
- ➔ Accountability
- ➔ Innovation
- ➔ Resilience
- ➔ Excellence

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