

MEET A POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW



Dr Folaranmi Dapo BABALOLA

Dr Folaranmi Dapo BABALOLA is a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development. He is one of the Vice Chancellor Post-doctoral Fellow in the department. DR babalola obtained his PhD in Forest Economics at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria in 2011. He is a Lecturer at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria where he involves in research, teaching, student supervision, administration and community service.

Prior to his present fellowship, Dr Babalola has won various research grants among which include Young Fellowship of International Foundation for Science (IFS), Postgraduate fellowship of International Tropical Timber Organisation (ITTO), Research grant of African Forest Research Network (AFORNET). After joining the Department, he has also won other fellowship and awards, and participated in international scientific fora that create feasibility for the university. For instance, he was awarded the Netherlands Fellowship Programme to attend a two weeks course on “*competing claim on natural resources*” at Wageningen UR Centre for Development Innovation (CDI); combined sponsorship of International Council for Science (ICSU), the German Research Foundation (DFG) and International Social Science Council (ISSC) to participate in Young Scientist Networking Conference in Italy on “*Food Future*”; mobility grant of PAERIP (*Promoting African-European Research Infrastructure Partnership*) to attend high-level conference of Africa-Europe Research Infrastructure Cooperation; and received the award of Nigerian Young Academy (NYA). His application for membership of Southern Institute of Forestry was recently approved.

Dr Babalola has published in chapters of book as well as in local and international peer reviewed journals, and conference proceedings. He has authored a book titled “*Nigerian Forestry and National Development*” and recently edited a *Book of Abstracts* (containing 72 abstracts) for the First Students’ Conference of Tropical Biology Association African Alumni Group (TAAG) held in Nairobi from 2 to 4 July, 2013.

Dr Babalola's scholarly research interest is in socio-economic of forest resources; these cut across marketing and value chain analysis of forest products, forest governance, agroforestry, ecosystem services, and urban and community forestry. Since the commencement of his postdoctoral fellowship, he has been involved in teaching, research, student supervision and publication of scientific articles. Dr Babalola is currently working on turning his PhD thesis into a book and conducts a research on contributions of forest to livelihoods of forest-dependent communities in South Africa.