



**2nd Biennial Africa
Climate-Smart Agriculture Stakeholder Conference**

**Thematic Paper Presentation on
Compatibility assessment of
agroecology and CSA practices**

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BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OF NEGLECTED AND UNDERUTILIZED NIGERIAN HORTICULTURAL CROPS

Funmilayo Mary Oloyede
Osun State University

mary.loyede@uniosun.edu.ng, +234 706 976 6796



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Background

Biodiversity

- Ecosystem functioning
- Ecological purpose
- Food and nutrition.
- Medicinal purpose
- Sustainable crop production
- Soil health
- Animal feed
- Energy
- Raw materials for Industries
- Economic purpose



Bidens pilosa



*Crassocephalum
crepidioides*



Solanum nigrum



*Solanum
macrocarpon*

WHY NEGLECT AND UNDERUTILIZATION?

- *Ignorance of the crops and their potentials by the elites*
- *Seed constraints and difficulties in the propagation process*
- *Lack of adequate acceptance by people*
- *Some NUHS are considered as weeds*
- *Constraints in production techniques and processing*
- *Lack of organized markets*
- *Poor financial support*
- *Lack of national promotion policies*



*Trichosanthes
cucumerina* Fruit



Cucurbita pepo Fruit

Lists and descriptions of selected NUS

LEAF VEGETABLES

- *Crassocephalum creppidioides*
- *Bidens pilosa*
- *Ocimum gratissimum*
- *Ocimum basilicum*
- *Solanum nigrum*

FRUIT VEGETABLES

- *Cucurbita pepo*
- *Trichosanthes cucumerina*

CEREALS AND LEGUMES

- *Vigna subterranea*
- *Phaseolus lanatus*

SHRUBS AND FRUIT TREES

- *Chrysophyllum albidum*
- *Irvingia gabonensis*



*Chrysophyllum
albidum*



Adansonia digitata



Irvingia gabonensis



Phaseolus lanatus

CONSERVATION STRATEGIES FOR NUS

- Recognition
- Establishment of Gene Banks
- On farm/feed banks
- Media
- Popularization by Research
- Role of Extension Agent

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

- Conserving NUS will foster nutritional, medicinal, and ecological and economic benefits.
- Embracing the conservation of the NUS has to be done deliberately by all stakeholders: governments, NGOs, farmers' groups and individuals.
- Hence, poverty and ill-health will reduce in Africa.
- Conserving NUS is a means to mitigate and adapt to climate change
- The promotion of NUS for industrial exploitation should be the priority of the national, continental and global agricultural research systems and the governments.



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Thank you



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