

**Gender Differentials and Climate Change Perceptions on Non Timber Forest Products  
(NTFPs) Use and Trade in Ago-Owu Forest, Osun State**

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Natural & Applied Sciences, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria**

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(MSc) in Environmental Management and Toxicology**

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## Certification

This is to certify that **Bolatito Kehinde OGUNDELE** with the matriculation number **LCU/PG/002503**, carried out this research work titled “Gender Differentials and Climate Change Perceptions on Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) Use and Trade in Ago-Owu Forest, Osun State” in the Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences, Lead City University Ibadan, Oyo State, for the award of Masters’ Degree (MSc) in Environmental Management and Toxicology and this has not been previously submitted.

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**Date**

## **Dedication**

This thesis is dedicated to Almighty God and to my wonderful family.

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## Acknowledgement

I acknowledge Lead City University and members of A-library for their support and impact on this work.

I sincerely appreciate the efforts and support of my supervisor Dr. Tinuola Ekanade, I am grateful for her corrections and scrutiny that made this research work worthwhile. I also acknowledge the effort and support of the Head of Biological Sciences Department, Dr (Mrs) Felicia Adesina, and other lecturers namely Dr. Omotayo Sindiku, Dr. Idowu Ologeh, Dr Bukola Bamkefa just to mention a few.

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Even though the above-mentioned institutions and persons have assisted in the process of this research work, I alone stand responsible for the errors, if any, found in the work.

## Abstract

NTFPs are increasingly touted as having significant value in the tropical area as the political economics of forest resources shifts globally. This study investigated the gender differentials in the use and trade of NTFPs in three selected markets around Ago-Owu forest namely Araromi market Omu, Total market Apomu and Oba Olatunde Falabi market Ikire. It was also aimed at investigating the contribution and impact of NTFPs to the livelihoods of local traders in Ago-owu forest and how climate change has affected the availability of the products to the traders. From the three selected markets, a hundred and one traders who agreed to be interviewed were used as respondents in the study. The survey was done using a semi structured questionnaire eliciting information on demographics, perceptions on NTFPs, gender differentials and perceived effect of climate change. Findings indicated that common NTFPs available in Ago-owu include Garden egg (*Solanum macrocarpon*), Bologi (*Solanecio biafrae*), Field pumpkin (*Curcubita pepo*), Fire wood (*Crassocephalum crepidoides*), Water leaf (*Talinum triangulare*), African mango (*Irvingia gabonensis*), Avocado (*Persea Americana*), Jute leaf (*Corchorus spp*), Wrapping leaves (*Thaumatococcus danielli*), Walnut (*Juglans spp*), Locust bean (*Parkia biglobosa*), Spinach (*Spinacia oleracea L.*), Tomatoes (*Solanum lycopersicum*), Okro (*Abelmoschus esculentus*), Water yam (*Dioscorea alata*), Cocoyam (*Xanthosoma sagittifolium*), Plantain (*Musa acuminata*), Cocoa (*Theobroma cacao*), Kolanut (*Cola acuminata*), Bitter yam (*Dioscorea dumetorum*), Bitter Kola (*Garcinia kola*), Mandarin orange (*Citrus reticulata*) and Snail (*Gastropoda spp*). The study established the significance of NTFPs to traders' livelihood as it formed at least 85 % of their income. Furthermore, respondents perceived extreme rainfall to be a strong agent of climate change and has caused crop destruction. Male traders were more inclined to harvest activities while women were more prominent in gathering, processing and transporting activities.

**Keywords:** Forest, NTFPs, Market, Livelihood, Climate Change

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## List of Acronyms

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
NTFPs	Non-Timber Forest Products
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
UN	United Nations
WHO	World Health Organization
MAPs	Medicinal and Aromatic Plants
MFP	Minor Forest Products
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Products
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CITES	The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
GDP	Gross Domestic Products
USD	United State Dollar
INR	Indian Rupee