



NIGERIAN INSTITUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

A Division of The Nigerian Society of Engineers

OSUN STATE CHAPTER

SPECIAL EDITION • JUNE 2026

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2026

*Preserving Nature, Protecting Communities,
Securing the Future*



Environmental Sustainability Seminar 2026 — official flyer

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NATIONAL THEME

Urbanization and Climate Change: Building Resilient Cities
for a Sustainable Future

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THE SHORT VERSION

The NIEE Osun State Chapter took part in the national World Environment Day 2026 weeklong engagement programme with two public activities: a virtual expert seminar and a live television and radio panel discussion. Both were framed by the chapter sub-theme Preserving Nature, Protecting Communities, Securing the Future.

Four experts spoke, drawn from academia, government and engineering practice, across pollinator conservation, deforestation and flooding, municipal and industrial waste, and the environmental cost of artisanal gold mining. The chapter closed the week with five legislative recommendations for the national whitepaper, an announced schools programme, and new membership interest from scientists and engineers across the state.

The week in numbers

500–2,000+

ESTIMATED PERSONS REACHED

4

EXPERT PRESENTATIONS DELIVERED

30 min

LIVE TV AND RADIO BROADCAST

3

STATES REPRESENTED BY SPEAKERS

8

INSTITUTIONS ENGAGED

1

SCHOOLS PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

Environmental Sustainability Seminar 2026

Monday 8 June 2026

7:15pm – 8:30pm

Zoom · ID 819 1615 7800

Sub-theme: Preserving Nature

The chapter opened its World Environment Day programme with a virtual seminar that brought four subject experts before an audience of engineers, scientists, planners and students. Two civil and environmental engineers and two non-engineering scientists each delivered a structured talk, followed by questions and discussion.

Prof. Felix A. Oginni moderated. The chapter chairman, Engr. Prof. Ife Adewumi, hosted, and the seminar drew the national leadership of the Institution: the National Chairman, Engr. Caius Ikem Umekesiobi, FNSE, FNIEE, FNICE, PMP, joined the session, and the National General Secretary, Engr. Yusuf Majolagbe, FNSE, FNIEE, PMP, gave the vote of thanks.

The four presentations were deliberately interconnected: what happens to pollinators when flowering trees disappear, what happens to cities when forests are cleared, what happens to water when waste is dumped, and what happens to communities when gold is mined without governance.

WHAT WENT WRONG, AND HOW IT WAS FIXED

The seminar was first set for Saturday 6 June 2026 but could not hold because of a technical fault in the Zoom setup. It was rescheduled to Monday 8 June and ran in full, with hosting support from the National General Secretary.



Preserving flowering plants for honey bees is preserving human survival.

Dr. Muritala Adebayo · HOD Pharmacognosy, Igbinedion University

Who was in the room

- Igbinedion University, Osun State University and Federal Polytechnic Ede
- Ondo State Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development
- Environmental Health Association of Nigeria (EHOAN), Osun State Branch
- NIEE National Secretariat, with the National Chairman and National General Secretary
- Members of the public, through live streaming

In their own words



DR. MURITALA ADEBAYO

HOD Pharmacognosy, Igbinedion University

Preserving flowering trees for honey bees

- Honey bees are among the most critical pollinators in nature, and flowering plants are their food source.
- About one third of the world food supply depends, directly or indirectly, on bee pollination.



MRS. RACHEL AKINTUNDE-ABIOYE

Director, Ondo State Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development

Biodiversity, deforestation and flooding

- Urban expansion, logging and fuelwood extraction strip habitats and harden the ground, accelerating runoff and flooding.
- The fixes are known: afforestation, sustainable forest management, land-use planning with EIAs, and enforcement against illegal logging.



ENGR. DR. MRS. SOLA FADIPE

Associate Professor of Civil Engineering, Osun State University

Waste, water pollution and flooding

- Blocked gutters, siltation and encroachment into waterways cut drainage capacity and worsen flooding.
- Nigeria recorded 10,837 suspected cholera cases and 359 deaths in 2024. Flooding that year killed 1,231 people and affected 5.2 million across 34 states.



DR. ABASS ADEKUNLE OLATUNJI

Pioneer HOD Chemical Engineering, Federal Polytechnic Ede

A choice between glitter and life

- Whether mining helps or harms a host community comes down to governance: regulation, enforcement, corporate responsibility.
- For Osun: mercury-free extraction, an EIA for every lease, remediation around Ilesa, and routine health screening near mine sites.

*Let the legacy of Osun gold be not just wealth extracted, but wisdom applied.
Let the soil and streams of Osun State flow clean for generations yet unborn.*

On air across Osun State

Wednesday 11 June 2026

5:00pm

Freedom TV Ominira

UNIQ FM, Ilesa

30 minutes, live

The chapter organised and funded a 30-minute panel discussion broadcast live on Freedom Television and UNIQ FM from Ilesa, and streamed on Facebook. The chairman, Engr. Prof. Ife Adewumi, moderated, and two of the seminar speakers returned to take the conversation to a general audience.

The subject was narrow and deliberate: what artisanal gold mining and uncollected waste are doing to the water Osun people drink. The panel discussed heavy metal contamination of the Asejire reservoir and River Osun, both critical to the water supply of a large population.

The chairman used the platform to announce the chapter plan to establish Environment Care Clubs in secondary schools and tertiary institutions across the state, and to press the station to carry regular environmental jingles as part of its corporate social responsibility.

The station manager, Otunba Jare Ayo-Martins, noted that the station had already offered the chapter reduced broadcast rates, and said the jingle proposal would be considered.

WHAT WAS SAID ON AIR

- Gold mining is releasing lead, arsenic and mercury into the Asejire reservoir and River Osun, putting the health of communities that depend on them at risk.
- Mercury vapour from artisanal gold separation carries severe health consequences, including risks to pregnant women and fetal neurological development.
- Open dumping and open burning of waste are contaminating groundwater and the air, and driving waterborne disease.
- Mining operations routinely clear vegetation with no replacement or restoration plan, cutting carbon sinks and leaving degraded land.
- The polluter must pay: a funded mechanism is needed for remediation in affected communities, alongside tree planting to recover mined land.
- Management of solid minerals should move from the Federal Government to state governors, with host communities and local governments as major shareholders in mineral revenue.

“ *A choice between glitter and life. Economic extraction of gold must not come at the cost of rivers, forests and community health.*

WATCH THE REPLAY

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/17GYqTzA5W/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Five laws we are asking for

The chapter submitted five legislative recommendations for the national whitepaper to be presented to the Senate and House Committees on Environment, Urban Development, and Water Resources.

01

Devolve solid mineral management to the states

Amend the Minerals and Mining Act so that states regulate solid minerals, with a revenue-sharing framework naming host communities and local governments as major beneficiaries. State governors are already trustees of land under the Land Use Act 1978.

02

Make an EIA a strict condition for every mining licence

Strengthen the EIA Act so no mining lease is granted or renewed without an independently reviewed assessment, community consultation, and a funded, performance-bonded remediation and closure plan. Breach should void the licence.

03

Ban mercury in artisanal and small-scale mining

Prohibit the import, sale and use of mercury in artisanal gold mining, in line with Nigeria's obligations under the Minamata Convention, with funded technical assistance to move miners onto mercury-free methods.

04

Enact a National Solid Waste Management Framework Act

Set minimum standards for collection, segregation, transport and disposal; mandate segregation at source; prohibit open dumping and open burning; and establish extended producer responsibility funded by levies on waste-generating products.

05

Make environmental education a core curriculum subject

Mandate environmental literacy from primary to tertiary level, with NERDC developing the curriculum, and require environmental clubs in all secondary schools and tertiary institutions as a formal co-curricular activity.

What comes next for Osun

FLAGSHIP INITIATIVE

Environment Care Clubs

The chapter will establish Environment Care Clubs in secondary schools and tertiary institutions across Osun State as a recurring annual initiative, building structured environmental education and practical conservation activity into the school year. It is the most scalable of the chapter's commitments, and the one any other chapter could copy.

What the chapter put into the national whitepaper

CLEAN ENERGY

Move rural and peri-urban households off fuelwood and charcoal onto affordable solar cooking and lighting; solarise schools, health centres and local government offices; explore biogas from market and household organic waste.

WASTE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

A state-funded solid waste master plan with collection points, transfer stations and sanitary landfills in every LGA; segregation at source mandated by law; recycling and resource recovery in partnership with the private sector.

NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

A state-wide urban greening programme favouring flowering and fruit species; a target of one million trees over five years; formal protection of River Osun wetlands; retention ponds and permeable paving in new developments.

EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

Climate literacy in the primary and secondary syllabus; community awareness on mining pollution and waste, with EHOAN and the State Ministry of Environment; regular environmental jingles with Freedom TV and UNIQ FM.

Wins to build on

- New membership applications from scientists and engineers who followed the broadcasts.
- Freedom TV and UNIQ FM engaged as long-term environmental communication partners.
- The devolution proposal for solid mineral management placed in public and institutional discourse.
- A replicable model for other chapters: expert webinar, mainstream broadcast, and social media replay, at modest cost.

HONEST NOTE

The first seminar date was lost to a Zoom fault, the virtual format limited networking, the 30-minute broadcast slot capped the depth of discussion, and the EHOAN panelist could not attend on the day. All four are fixable next time.



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CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Engr. Prof. Ife Adewumi

Chairman, NIEE Osun State Chapter

WATCH THE BROADCAST REPLAY

facebook.com/share/v/17GYqTzA5W

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*Compiled from the Chapter World Environment Day 2026 Activity Report and
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Preserving Nature, Protecting Communities, Securing the Future

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