Olanike ADEYEMO

Home Country
Nigeria

Degree
PhD in Veterinary Public Health

Expertise
Aquatic Epidemiology
and Toxicology

Research Focus
Environmental Health
and Fish Food Safety

Host University
University of Florida, United States

Fellowship Awarded
2013

Olanike Kudirat Adeyemo was born and raised in Ibadan City, Nigeria, and is one of eight children. Her parents strongly believed that education was the best legacy and set her on this path from an early age. At her secondary school, students were allotted subjects based on their academic performance—leading her to study Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Following this, Olanike entered the veterinary profession, where she then gravitated into academia.

Olanike's interest in veterinary medicine was enhanced by her training at the University of Ibadan, where she obtained a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM), Master of Veterinary Public Health (MVPH) and a PhD in Aquatic Epidemiology and Toxicology. During a two-year period as an associate of the UK-based Leadership for environment and development (Lead) international program, she was tutored in the basics of effective leadership, systems thinking, negotiation skills, conflict resolution and issues of sustainability and development.

Aquaculture has markedly increased in Nigeria, and Olanike believes this has resulted in a series of developments detrimental to the environment and to human health. Her research, therefore, focuses on aquatic epidemiology involving the health assessment of fish, environmental health, and human health issues related to fish food safety.

On her return to Nigeria, Olanike intends to teach at the University of Ibadan, where she will continue her focus on the management of fish disease and highlighting the public health risks associated with the consumption of contaminated seafood. She plans to mentor the next generation of researchers—especially women—in the field of aquatic epidemiology and fish food safety, continuing her efforts in the area of sustainable food security.