



# Eco-Feminism For Climate Action

Adenike Oladosu, Lead Climate  
Nigeria

## ☀ Call to Action

**Join Adenike Oladosu & others around the world in demanding climate action now. You can visit her website [womenandcrisis.blogspot.com](http://womenandcrisis.blogspot.com) or follow her on Twitter @the\_ecofeminist.**

## ☀ Values

- Solidarity
- Commitment
- Diligence
- Feminism
- Environmentalism

## ☀ Lessons Learned

**Unity brings strength.** The only way to defeat climate change is by joining together, regardless of age, race, gender, culture, or nationality.

**Education is the most powerful weapon we have.**

**We share the planet, which means we share our problems.** It is time to work together to find and share solutions to the problems.

**Traditional knowledge can contribute to climate resilience, and technology can improve people's quality of life.**

If we can make them work together, we will create a new world.

**Adenike Oladosu's journey into the environmental movement began when she witnessed the destruction that climate change was causing in the Lake Chad region in Nigeria.**

Climate change is leading to conflict, and conflict is making the effects of climate change worse. When conflict arises, there is more food insecurity, which affects the economy at large. The conflict was so bad that it took Adenike an extra year to finish her studies. That was when she knew she needed to act. She joined Fridays for Future, started by Greta Thunberg to demand climate action in communities across the world. Adenike calls her personal brand of activism "Eco-Feminism." She believes that solutions to climate change must prioritize the safety and wellbeing of women and girls. As Adenike became an international leader in the climate movement, she noticed that there was little focus on or consideration for communities in the Global South. But if international representatives do not recognize the current dangers of climate change in African countries, there will be global repercussions. Adenike's climate activism focuses on engaging the world's youth through education, and on increasing the use of renewable energy. Climate change should be the top priority for everyone, everywhere.

## ☀ Language Arts

**Research the effects of recent droughts in Nigeria and how these have affected the country in the past 30 years.**

With the information you collect, create a presentation (at least 10 slides) about the effect of drought on Nigeria's farmers, its economy, and its people.

**What is the connection between climate change and armed conflict in Nigeria (specifically Boko Haram)?** Create a 5-to-10-minute video using secondary sources (for example,

news outlets, videos from NGOs, etc.) in which you explain how climate change has created the ideal circumstances for terrorism and war in the country, and how terrorism is affecting Nigeria's youth.

**Write a research essay about biodiversity in Africa.** What kind of ecosystems exist within the continent? How fragile are they? How are they being affected by climate change, and what can be done to ameliorate the situation?

**Write a social media post (or series of posts, depending on the platform you choose),** in which you explain how climate change has exacerbated the migration of people from African nations into Europe, and how the situation has become a humanitarian crisis.

**Working in groups of 3-4 people, choose any one of the topics you've researched in the previous activities, and design an information campaign to bring awareness about this issue to people your own age.** Your campaign must use at least two social media platforms, photographs, and one written article/blog post that explains the issue.

## STEM Activities

**In this [Climate Change Impacts in Nigeria activity](#)<sup>1</sup>,** students will be introduced to the climate change risk profile for Nigeria, including the impact of climate change on major sectors of the country (agriculture, water resources, human health, ecosystems, energy, infrastructure, and disasters). Students will also analyze data to evaluate the current and future health risks in Nigeria due to climate change.

**Using this [EarthLabs activity guide](#)<sup>2</sup>,** develop a working definition of drought, and do a hands-on demonstration to illustrate the role of soil moisture in a drought. Examine precipitation data and streamflow levels, and use them to predict where drought is most severe in the United States. Check your predictions by comparing them to the Palmer Drought Severity Index.

**Read the article [The Intersection Between Ecofeminism and Agriculture](#)<sup>3</sup> written by Adenike, which you can find on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, or LinkedIn.** Research one way in which Nigerian women are impacted by climate change, and design a technological or scientific solution to help mitigate this.

## Sustainability Innovations

**When addressing eco-feminism, the topic of intersectional environmentalism is also discussed.** Read this [article](#)<sup>4</sup> by Leah Thomas. What is the difference between these two terms, and how are they at the forefront of current environmental and social causes?

**Assess the [UNICEF Chad Appeal](#)<sup>5</sup>. How does it plan to address COVID-19, environmental issues, and conflict-induced displacements?** If you and your classmates created a fundraiser to support Lake Chad, which area would you most like to assist in?

**[Women's Consortium of Nigeria](#)<sup>6</sup> is one of the largest NGOs in Nigeria;** it has 10 different focus areas that address opportunities for women and children in Nigeria.

**In addition to the focus on women's rights in Nigeria, the presence of business-focused NGOs is growing rapidly.** The Association of [Nigerian Women Business Network \(ANWBN\)](#)<sup>7</sup> is a coalition of 52 organizations that are collaborating to enhance the economic status of women in Nigeria.

## Sustainability Career Pathways

**Eco-feminist.** Sometimes having a mission like Adenike’s can help to shape one’s work, no matter what one’s career is. As an eco-feminist, Adenike puts women’s well-being and safety first—whether she’s working with villagers on education, agricultural issues, or societal reform. While one might think of feminist jobs as being in the realm of activism or academia, applying feminism to the many different environmental career paths can make them richer and more effective. Want to learn more about eco-feminism? [Start with Wikipedia’s overview](#)<sup>8</sup>.

**Environmental Security Expert.** Just as climate change can cause conflict, conflict can cause ecological damage. There is now a field of [environmental security](#)<sup>9</sup> that focuses on reducing environmental conflicts, and preventing environmental damage caused by conflict. Jobs are available in governments, with the United Nations, or institutions like the World Bank, and in “think tanks” like the [Woodrow Wilson Center’s Environmental Change and Security Program](#)<sup>10</sup>, which offers [internships](#)<sup>11</sup> in the field.

**Ecological Restoration.** One of the best ways to limit the local effects of climate change is to heal ecosystems and their functioning whether wetlands, lakes, forests, or others. The field of ecological restoration focuses on this, with restoration ecologists, field technicians, and others working together to “rewild” degraded areas. [Learn more about opportunities in this field here](#)<sup>12</sup>.

1 <https://tropicsu.org/lesson-plan-climate-change-nigeria/>

2 <https://serc.carleton.edu/eslabs/drought/4.html>

3 <https://next.blue/articles/the-intersection-between-ecofeminism-and-agriculture>

4 <https://www.thegoodtrade.com/features/ecofeminism-intersectional-environmentalism-difference>

5 <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/chad#download>

6 <https://www.womenconsortiumofnigeria.org/>

7 <https://www.anwbn.org.ng/>

8 <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecofeminism>

9 [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental\\_security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_security)

10 <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/program/environmental-change-and-security-program>

11 <https://www.wilsoncenter.org/opportunity/internships-the-environmental-change-and-security-program>

12 <https://www.ser-rrc.org/what-is-ecological-restoration/>

