



LOTANNA MICAH NNEJI, PhD

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(1) ACADEMIC HISTORY/POSITIONS

- 2023 **Assistant Professor;** Department of Biology, Howard University, Washington DC, USA.
- 2021-23 **Postdoctoral Research Associate;** Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA. Advisor: Professor Robert M. Pringle.
- 2018-20 **Postdoctoral Research Assistant;** Amphibian and Reptile Unit, Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China. Advisor: Professor Jing Che.
- 2015-18 **PhD Student;** Amphibian and Reptile Unit, Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China (University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China). Advisors: Professors Jing Che, Robert Murphy, Adiaha A. A. Ugwumba.
- 2014-15 **Teaching Assistant;** Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. Supervisor: Professor Adiaha A. A. Ugwumba
- 2011-12 **Graduate Assistant (National Youth Service Corp);** SIWES Unit, Office of the Vice Chancellor, University of Abuja, FCT, Nigeria. Supervisor: Professor I. D. Umar.

(2) RESEARCH INTEREST

Biogeography, ecology, evolution, systematics, comparative genomics, natural history, climate change studies, and conservation genetics of African wildlife (amphibians, reptiles, fish and to lesser extent mammals).

(3) EDUCATION

- 2018 **PhD Genetics**
University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.
- 2015 **MSc Zoology (Ecology and Environmental Biology) (PhD Grade; CGPA: 6.70/7.0)**
University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria.
- 2011 **BSc Biology (First Class Honors; CGPA: 4.71/5.0)**
University of Abuja, Federal Capital Territory, Abuja, Nigeria.
- 2005 **Diploma Science Laboratory Technology (Distinction; CGPA: 3.91/4.0)**
Federal Polytechnic Oko, Anambra State, Nigeria.
- 2001 **Senior School Certificate Education**
Okongwu Memorial Grammar School, Nnewi, Nigeria



(3.1) OTHER EDUCATIONAL TRAINING WITH CERTIFICATES

- 2021 **EDGE of Existence Conservation Leadership Course**, organized by Zoological Society of London.
- 2020 **Science Telling Bootcamp**, organized by US National Geographic
- 2019 Exploring Conservation Online Programme organized by United for Wildlife and US National Geographic on the following certified courses:
- (1) **Introduction to Conservation**
 - (2) **Prioritizing Species and Spaces**
 - (3) **Conservation Project Planning**
 - (4) **Scientific Expeditions for Conservation**
 - (5) **Understanding Illegal Wildlife trade**
 - (6) **Ocean challenges and solutions.**
- 2019 **Introductory E-course on Climate Change**: organized by United Nations Institute for Training and Research, and One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership.
- 2019 **Specialized module on Human Health and Climate**: organized by United Nations Institute for Training and Research, One UN Climate Change Learning Partnership and World Health Organization.
- 2019 **Specialized module on IUCN Red List Assessments**: organized by International Union for Conservation of Nature – IUCN.
- 2019 **Making moves course on creating conservation movements**: organized by Brooke Tully.

(4) FELLOWSHIP, HONORS, AWARDS, DISTINCTIONS, SCHOLARSHIPS

- 2021-23 Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship, Princeton University, NJ, USA.
- 2019 Full Scholarship discount to the Making Moves: Creating Conservation Movements online course.
- 2015-18 Chinese Government Scholarship for Ph. D Programme -University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.
- 2015 Best Graduating M. Sc Student- Ecology and Environmental Biology Unit, Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria (CGPA: 6.70/7.0)
- 2011 Overall Best Graduating B. Sc (Hons) Student of the University- University of Abuja, Nigeria (CGPA: 4.71/5.0).
- 2005 Best Graduating ND Student- Department of Science Laboratory Technology, School of Applied Sciences and Engineering, Federal Polytechnic, Oko, Nigeria (CGPA: 3.91/4.0)

(5) GRANTS SUBMITTED AND AWARDED (* = Main Applicant; + = Main Co-Applicant)

- 2023: *Meridian National Geographic Grant: ‘*Developing Multidisciplinary Approach towards sustainable conservation of the threatened Nigerian-Cameroon highlands*’ (Amount: \$149,996).
- 2022: *First Booster Rufford Small Grant: ‘*Enhancing studies and sustainable conservation actions for amphibians and reptiles in highly biodiverse and threatened Nigerian montane regions*’ (Amount: £10,000).
- 2022: *Emerging Conservationist Grant by the Conservation Nation for the project ‘*Saving the Critically Endangered and Endemic Toad in Nigeria*’. (Total amount awarded: \$5000).



- 2022: + National Geographic Level 1 Grant for the project '*Diversity, distribution and community-based conservation of the marine fish communities in Nigerian Lagos Lagoon*' (Total amount awarded: \$19,745.00).
- 2022: +Mohamed bin Zayed for Species Conservation to support '*In search of a poorly known and endemic Ansoerge lutefish (Citharidium ansorgii) from the Niger River Basin in Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: \$12045).
- 2022: *Future Conservationist Award by the Conservation Leadership Programme for the project '*Conservation status of a poorly known and endemic lizard (Ondo Forest gecko) from Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: \$15000).
- 2022 – 23: +Save our Sea Grant to support '*Ecology and conservation of highly threatened and poorly known freshwater stingray (Fontitrygon ukpam) in Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: \$9900).
- 2021-24: +International Scientific Coordination Network - South (GDRI-Sud) to support '*West African Marine Fish DNA Barcoding Network (WAMBA-net)*'. (Total amount awarded: €60000).
- 2021-22: +First Rufford Small Grant to support '*Distribution, Conservation Status and Environmental Correlates of a Poorly Known and Most Threatened Stingray (Fontitrygon margarita) in Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: £6000).
- 2021-22: *British Ecological Society Grant to support '*Distribution Pattern and Conservation Status of two poorly known and endemic lizards of Nigeria - Cynisca gansi and Cynisca kigomensis*'. (Total amount awarded: £4995).
- 2020-21: *Mohamed bin Zayed for Species Conservation to support '*In search of poorly known and most threatened endemic lizards of Nigeria: Cynisca gansi and Cynisca kigomensis*'. (Total amount awarded: \$9000).
- 2020-21: *The Audubon Naturalist Society grant under Crowder-Messersmith Conservation Fund to support '*Community-based conservation outreach programmes for the protection of the threatened amphibian and reptile populations of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: \$3000).
- 2020-21: *US National Geographic BioBlitz event grant to support '*BioBlitz project on amphibian conservation and studies at the Cross River National Park, Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: \$2000).
- 2020-22: *EDGE (Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered Species) Fellowship and Grant for the project '*Status and Conservation of Cameroon Slippery Frog (Conraua robusta) in Nigeria*' by Zoological Society of London and US National Geographic. (Total amount awarded: £10000).
- 2020-21: *Second Rufford Small Grant to support '*Ecological studies and community-based conservation activities for amphibians and reptiles of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria*'. (Total amount awarded: £6000).
- 2018-20: *US National Geographic Early Career Grant for the project '*Diversity, distribution and Conservation of amphibians in Cross River National Park, Nigeria, Africa*'. (Total amount awarded: \$9900).
- 2018-19: *Idea Wild Grant for the project '*Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria*'.
- 2018-19 *Mohamed bin Zayed for Species Conservation to support '*Conservation of critically endangered frog Sclerophrys perreti from Idanre Hill, Nigeria: Approaches from species action plan and habitat restoration*'. (Total amount awarded: \$8493).
- 2018-19: +Whitley Wildlife Conservation Trust to support '*Diversity and conservation of forest butterflies of Cross River National Park, Nigeria*'. Total amount awarded: \$500).



2017-18: *First Rufford Small Grant to support ‘Biodiversity Assessment and Conservation of Amphibians and Reptiles of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria’. (Total amount awarded: £4900).

(6) PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (* = Equal first co-author; + = Corresponding author)

i. In writing

1. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Ciara M. Nutter, Joel O. Abraham, Segun. O. Oladipo, Adeola O. Ayoola, Kehinde M. Adedokun, Olaoluwa J. Ademola, Paul A. Mballa Ndzie, Arnaud M. Tchassam Fokoua, Geraud C. Tasse Taboue, Agboola O. Okeyoyin, Robert M. Pringle (2023). Resource partitioning by large herbivores in West African forests. *Proposed Journal – Journal of Ecology*.
2. Segun O. Oladipo, Adeola O. Ayoola, Edah Bernard, Kehinde M. Adedokun, Moshood K. Mustapha, **Lotanna M. Nneji**. Characterization of Marine Stingrays *Fontitrygon margarita*, *Fontitrygon margaritella* and *Dasyatis marmorata* (Günther, 1870; Compagno and Roberts, 1984; Steindachner, 1892) in Nigeria-Cameroon Coastal waters.

ii. Published articles

1. Oyeboji O, Onditi K., Azevedo J., Rahaingoson, F., **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeleye M. A., Stull, G.W., Zhang, R. and Yi, T (2023). Biogeographic patterns and environmental drivers of species richness in the globally distributed Millettoid/Phaseoloid clade (Fabaceae, subfamily Papilionoideae). *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*.
2. Bin Zuo, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Yan-Bo Sun (2023). Comparative genomics reveals insights into anuran genome size evolution. *BMC Genomics* 24, 379 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12864-023-09499-8>.
3. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Josué A. R. Azevedo, Oyetola O. Oyeboji, Liang Ma, Paul R. Elsen, Segun O. Oladipo, Gabriel Salako, Robert Puschendorff, Robert M. Pringle (2023). Patterns of species richness and turnover in endemic amphibians of the African Guineo-Congolian rainforest. *Diversity and Distributions*. In Press
4. Chunrong Mi, Liang Ma, Mengyuan Yang, Xinhai Li... **Lotanna M. Nneji** ... Yuval Itescu, David Wilcove, Zoltán Nagy , Xuan Liu (2023). Global Protected Areas as refuges for amphibians and reptiles under climate change. *Nature Communications*. 14, 1389 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-023-36987-y>
5. *Babarinde IA, Adeola AC, Chabi SAM, **Nneji LM**, Okeyoyin AO, Niba G, Ndifor WK, Oladipo OC, Adebambo AO, Bello SF, Ng’ang’a SI, Olaniyi WA, Okoro VMO, Adedeji BE, Olatunde O, Ayoola AO, Matuoke MM, Wang Y-y, Sanke OJ, Oseni SO, Nwani CD and Murphy RW (2023), Population structure and evolutionary history of the greater cane rat (*Thryonomys swinderianus*) from the Guinean Forests of West Africa. *Frontiers in Genetics*, 14:1041103. doi: 10.3389/fgene.2023.1041103.
6. Adeniyi C. Adeola, Semiu F. Bello, Abdussamad M. Abdussamad... **Lotanna M. Nneji**... Mohamed H. Yahyaoui, Ting-Ting Yin (2023). Polymorphism of prion protein gene (PRNP) in Nigerian sheep. *Prion*, 11, 44-54. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19336896.2023.2186767>.
7. Hai-Bing, X., Chen, Y., Adeniyi C. Adeola, Kun, W., Cui-Ping, H., ... **Lotanna M. Nneji**... Min-Sheng, P., Ya-Ping, Z. (2022). African Suid Genomes Provide Insights into the Local Adaptation to Diverse African Environments. *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, 39 (12), msac256, <https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msac256>.
8. Adeniyi C. Adeola, Semiu F. Bello, Abdussamad M. Abdussamad... **Lotanna M. Nneji**... Mohamed H. Yahyaoui, Ting-Ting Yin (2022). Scrapie-associated



- polymorphisms of the prion protein gene (PRNP) in Nigerian native goats. *Gene*. 855:147121 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gene.2022.147121>.
9. Yan-Nan Liu, Rong-Mei Chen, Qi-Ting Pu, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Yan-Bo Sun (2022). Expression Plasticity of Transposable Elements is Highly Associated with Organismal Readaptation to Ancestral Environments. *Genome Biology and Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evac084>.
 10. Adeniyi C. Adeola, Foluke E. Sola-Ojo, Yusuf A. Opeyemi, Abel O. Oguntunji, **Lotanna Micah Nneji**, Muslim K. Ewuola, Semiu F. Bello, Wasiu A. Olaniyi, Adeosun T. Adesoji, Alex P. Karuno, Oscar J. Sanke, Ebiakpo Lucky Daniel (2022). Genetic diversity and population structure of Muscovy duck (*Cairina moschata*) from Nigeria. *PeerJ* 10:e13236 <https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.13236>.
 11. Segun O. Oladipo, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Akinkunle V. Adeniyi, Olutomi A. Adeyemi-Ale and Kehinde M. Adelakun (2022). Environmental Correlates of Some Selected Fish Species in the Jebba Dam, North-Central Nigeria. *Journal of Tropical Ecology*. pp. 1 – 11, <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0266467421000511>.
 12. Md Mizanur Rahman, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Md Mosharrof Hossain, Kanto Nishikawa, Kazi Ahsan Habib (2021). Diversity and distribution of amphibians in central and northwest Bangladesh with an updated checklist for the country. *Journal of Asia-Pacific Biodiversity*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.japb.2021.12.002>.
 13. Ayoola Adeola, Ogunjemite Babafemi, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Olaniyi Oluwatobi, and Odewumi, Oluyinka (2021). Preliminary survey of non-human Primates in four forest areas of Yewa River Basin at the Nigeria-Benin Republic transboundary. *Biologia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11756-021-00891-x>.
 14. Jaynes, K., Myers, E., Gvoždík, V., ...**Lotanna M Nneji**... Leaché, A., Fujita, M.K., and Bell, R. (2021). Giant Tree Frog diversification in West and Central Africa: isolation by physical barriers, climate, and reproductive traits. *Molecular Ecology*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/mec.16169>.
 15. *Fang Yan, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Jie-qiong Jin, Zhi-yong Yuan, Jin-min Chen, Xue Mi, Hong-man Chen, Robert W. Murphy, Jing Che (2021). Multi-locus genetic analyses of *Quasipaa* from throughout its distribution. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ympev.2021.107218>.
 16. *+Adeyemi M. Ajao, **Lotanna M Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Segun O. Oladipo, Adeola O. Ayoola, Yun-Yu Wang, Akinkunle V. Adeniyi, Yusuf U. Olademeji (2021). Genetic diversity and population structure of the native Western African honeybee (*Apis mellifera adansonii* Latreille, 1804) in Nigeria based on mitochondrial COI sequences. *Zoologischer Anzeiger (Journal of Comparative Zoology)*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcz.2021.05.007>.
 17. Quan-Kuan Shen, Peng Min-Sheng, Adeniyi C. Adeola, ...**Lotanna M Nneji**... Ali Esmailzadeh, Yang Dong, Sheila C. Omeila and Ya-Ping Zhang (2021). Genome analyses unveil helmeted Guinea Fowl (*Numida meleagris*) domestication in West Africa. *Genome Biology and Evolution*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gbe/evab090>.
 18. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Babatunde E. Adedeji, ...Caroline Olory (2021). Species richness, distribution pattern, and conservation status of amphibians in Cross River National Park, South-eastern Nigeria. *Biologia*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11756-021-00751-8>.
 19. +Angela Ijeoma Ugo, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Babatunde Emmanuel Adedeji, Akindele Oluwatosin Adeyi (2021). A preliminary survey of amphibians from the Idanre Forest Ecosystem, southwestern Nigeria. *Journal of Wildlife and Biodiversity*. 10.22120/JWB.2021.139825.1201.



20. Hollie Booth, Michael Clark, E. J. Milner-Gulland, ..., **Lotanna M. Nneji**..., Julia van Velden, David R. Williams (2021). Investigating the risks of removing wild meat from global food systems. *Current Biology*, 31, 1–10.
21. *Oyetola O. Oyebanji, Gabriel Salako, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Segun O. Oladipo, K.A. Bolarinwa, E. C. Chukwuma, A.O. Ayoola, T.E. Olagunju, D.J. Ighodalo, I.C. Nneji (2020). Impact of climate change on the spatial distribution of endemic legume species of the Guineo-Congolian forest, Africa. *Ecological Indicators*, 122, 107282.
22. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Babatunde E. Adedeji, Omotoso Olatunde....Caroline Olory (2020). DNA barcoding and species delimitation of butterflies (Lepidoptera) from Nigeria. *Molecular Biology Reports*, 47(12): 9441-9457.
23. Adeola. O. Ayoola, Bao-Lin Zhang, Richard P Meisel, **Lotanna M Nneji**, Yong Shao ... Dong-Dong Wu (2020). Population Genomics Reveals Incipient Speciation, Introgression, and Adaptation in the African Mona Monkey (*Cercopithecus mona*). *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msaa248>.
24. *+Segun O. Oladipo, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Abass T. Anifowoshe, Ifeanyi C. Nneji (2020). Molecular characterization of *Malapterurus minjiriya* Sagua, 1987 and phylogenetic relationships within the genus *Malapterurus* (Siluriformes, Malapteruridae) from Nigerian inland water bodies. *Journal of Fish Biology*, <https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.14547>.
25. *+Segun O. Oladipo, **Lotanna M Nneji**, Oluyinka A. Iyiola ... Moshood K. Mustapha. Patterns of Ichthyofaunal diversity and distribution across Jebba Hydro-Electric Power (HEP) Dam, Jebba, North-Central Nigeria. *Brazilian Journal of Biology*; <https://doi.org/10.1590/1519-6984.222952>.
26. *+Mizan Mizanur, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Eniang A. Edem.... Jing Che (2020). Amphibian assemblages and diversity patterns in two forest ecosystems of South-eastern Nigeria. *African Journal of Ecology*. DOI:10.1111/aje.12776.
27. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeola C. Adeniyi, Moshood K. Mustapha... Nwani Christopher (2020). DNA barcoding Silver butter catfish (*Schilbe intermedius*) reveals patterns of mitochondrial genetic diversity across African river systems. *Scientific Reports*, 10:7097. doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-63837-4.
28. Adeola, A.C., Min-Sheng, P., **Lotanna M. Nneji**,...Zhang, Y.P. (2020). Mitochondrial DNA variation of Nigeria Muscovy duck (*Cairina moschata*). *Animal Genetics*. DOI:10.1111/age.12924.
29. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola....Caroline Olory (2020). Testing the effectiveness of DNA barcoding for the biodiversity assessment of moths from Nigeria. *Diversity*, 12 (2):85.
30. Adeola O. Ayoola, Babafemi G. Ogunjemite, **Lotanna M. Nneji** and Oguchi B. Nkume (2019). Comparative reproductive behavior in captive Baboon (*Papio anubis*) and Red capped mangabey (*Cercocebus torquatus*). *Journal of Entomology and Zoology Studies*, 7(6):479-483.
31. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Gabriel Salako, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Segun O. Oladipo, Babatunde Emmanuel Adedeji and Adiaha A. A. Ugwumba (2019). Species Distribution Modelling predicts habitat suitability and reduction of suitable habitat under future climatic scenario for *Sclerophrys perreti* - a critically endangered Nigerian endemic toad. *African Journal of Ecology*, 00:1–11; <https://doi.org/10.1111/aje.12713>.
32. +**Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeola C. Adeniyi, Okeyoyin, A.... Ugwumba, A. A. A. (2019). Diversity of amphibians and reptiles of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria. *Herpetology Notes*, 12: 543 –559.



33. Chun-Hua Yang, Ting-Ting Fu, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Robert W. Murphy, Yan-Bo Sun and Jing Che (2019). Comparative skin histology of frogs reveals high-elevation adaptation of the Tibetan *Nanorana parkeri*. *Asian Herpetological Research*, 10 (2): 79 – 85.
34. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Agboola O....Calorine Olory (2019). First record of Foulassi screeching frog *Arthroleptis adelphus* Perret 1966 (Anura, Arthroleptidae) from Nigeria, with notes on its phylogenetic position. *Check List*, 15 (1): 253-258.
35. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeola C. Adeniyi, Yan Fang ... and Jing C. (2019). Cryptic lineage diversity of Nigerian red headed rock agama (*Agama agama*) associate with eco-geographic zones. *Current Zoology*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/cz/zoz002>.
36. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeola C. Adeniyi, Okeyoyin, A. Ugwumba, A. A. A. (2019). Assessing the effectiveness of molecular data for species identification and diversity studies of Nigerian herpetofauna. *Mitochondrial DNA: Resources*, 10.1080/23802359.2018.1561219.
37. Adeola O. Ayoola, Yunyu Wang, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeniyi C. Adeola, Babafemi G. Ogunjemite & Dong-Dong Wu (2018). Complete mitochondrial genome sequence for the *Cercopithecus erythrotis camerunensis* (Primate: Cercopithecidae). *Mitochondrial DNA: Resources*, 10.1080/23802359.2018.1546138.
38. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeola C. Adeniyi, Yan Fang ...Ugwumba A. A. A and Jing C. (2018). Cryptic diversity of Nigerian Agama within West African Radiation. *Russian Journal of Herpetology*, 25 (2): 97-112.
39. *Olayinka, A. Iyiola, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Moshood K. Mustapha...Wen-Zhi, Wang, Adeola C. Adeniyi (2018). DNA barcoding of economically important fish species of North – Central Nigeria uncovers cryptic lineages. *Ecology and Evolution*, <https://doi.org/10.1002/ece3.4210>.
40. Segun O. Oladipo, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Abass T. Anifowoshe...Adeniyi C. Adeola and Moshood K. Mustapha. (2018). Growth Pattern and Condition Factor of Seven Commercially Important Freshwater Fish Species of Jebba Lake, North-Central Nigeria. *Iranian Journal of Ichthyology*, 5(2).
41. Adeyi O. Akindele, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Adeyi O. Esther, Babatunde Agbaohun (2018). Combined use of earthworm (*Alma millsoni*) and bacterium (*Bacillus* sp.) improved the bioremediation of spent engine oil contaminated soil. *Chemistry and Ecology*, 34 (1).
42. Adeola, A.C., Olufunke, O.O., Bukola, M.O., Temilola, O. O., Bamidele, B., Sunday, C.O., **Lotanna M. Nneji**...Min-Sheng, P., Zhang, Y.P. (2017). Analysis of the genetic variation in the mitochondrial DNA, Y chromosome sequences, and MC1R sheds light on the ancestry of Nigerian indigenous pigs. *Genetics, Selection and Evolution*, 49: 52.
43. **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Oluwatobi T. Somande, Adeyi O. Akindele (2016). Earthworm-assisted bioremediation of petroleum hydrocarbon-contaminated soils from motorcar mechanic workshops in Ibadan, Oyo State, Southwestern Nigeria. *Bioremediation Journal*, 20 (4).
44. Adeyi O. Akindele, **Lotanna M. Nneji**, Idowu A. B. (2015). Ameliorative potentials of medicinal plants on the pathophysiological complications of diabetes mellitus: A review. *Journal of Medicinal Plant Research*, 9 (8): 262-288.

Theses:



- **Lotanna M. Nneji.** 2018. Biodiversity assessment and DNA barcoding of herpetofauna of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria. PhD Dissertation, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, China.
- **Lotanna M. Nneji.** 2015. Enhanced bioremediation of spent engine oil contaminated soils with earthworm [*Alma millsoni* (Beddard, 1891)] and bacterium. MSc Dissertation, Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria.
- **Lotanna M. Nneji.** 2010. The antibacterial activity of the methanolic root extract of *Parinari curatellifolia*. BSc Dissertation, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Abuja, Nigeria.

(7) CONFERENCE/WORKSHOP ATTENDED

- 2022: Conservation Management and Leadership Workshop Held remotely via computer July 5 – 29, 2022, Conservation Leadership Programme.
- 2021 EDGE of Existence Conservation Leadership Course Held remotely via computer 23rd November - 3rd December 2021, Zoological Society of London
- 2020 Conservation Tool Course, held at the Southern African Wildlife College, Organized by Zoological Society of London in conjunction with US National Geographic, from January-February 2020.
- 2018 The Molecular Tree of Life: From Coalescence to Comparative Genomics. Organized by Jiangsu Normal University, China. From May 27- 31st 2018.
- 2016 The International Biogeography Society Special Meeting. Theme: '*The Biogeography of Ecology*'. Organized by International Biogeography Society, in Beijing, China from May 4 – 8, 2016.
- 2015 2nd International Conference on Scientific Research and Innovation. Theme '*Scientific Research and Innovation in Nigeria*' Organized by Premier Faculty of Science, University of Ibadan, Nigeria from 16 -20 March 2015.
- 2014 9th Annual National Conference of Zoological Society of Nigeria: Theme '*Wildlife, Zoonoses, Environmental Management and Food Security in a Developing Economy*' organized by the Department of Zoology, Faculty of Science, University of Ibadan, Nigeria from November 30 - December 03 2014.

(8) PAPERS PRESENTED IN CONFERENCE

- 2023: Eugene, V. (Presenter), **Nneji, L.** (Presenter), Pauwels, O. S. G., Vergie, M., Ernst, R., Oladipo, S., CHIRIO, L., Greenbaum, E., 2023 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, "Evolution on the Forest Floor: Patterns of Diversification of Vipers (Bitis: Macrocerastes) in the African Rainforest," Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Spokane, WA, United States. (2023).
- 2023: **Lotanna M. Nneji** (presenter), 2023 Teen Conservation Leadership Conference, "Curiosity, Connection and Contribution," Chicago Zoological Society, Brookfield Zoo, IL, United States. (July 21, 2023).
- 2019: Lotanna M. Nneji (presenter), Adeniyi Charles Adeola, Jie-Qiong Jin, Adiaha A. A. Ugwumba, Min-Sheng Peng, Robert W. Murphy, Jing Che (2019). Phylogeography of Red Headed Rock Agama (*Agama agama*) from Nigeria. Featured in Joint Meeting of Ichthyologist and Herpetologist, July 24-28th 2019. (Unavoidably absent for oral presentation but was featured in the conference book of abstract)
- 2017: Adeola A. C., Olufunke O. O., Bukola M. O., Temilola, O.O., Bamidele, B., Sunday, C. O., **Nneji, L. M.**..... Min-Sheng P., Zhang Y. P. (2017).



Mitochondrial DNA, Y-Chromosome sequences, and MC1R sheds light on the ancestry of Nigerian indigenous pigs. A paper presented in the 36th International Society for Animal Genetics Conference, Dublin, Ireland, 2017.

- 2016: **Nneji, L.M.**, Adeola, A.C., Ugwumba, A.A.A, Fang, Y. and Che, J. (2016). *Species identification and biodiversity studies of Herpetofauna of Nigeria using Molecular Data.* A poster presentation in International Biogeography Society Special Meeting, Beijing, China, 2016.

(9) RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Planned

1. Whole genome studies of the evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered species of sting rays from Nigeria and Cameroon." (Planning). (October 1, 2023 - December 1, 2024).
2. Testing the effectiveness of the use of environmentally derived DNA to study the distribution patterns of threatened frog species in Obudu Plateau, Nigeria (Planning). (April 1, 2023 - April 1, 2024).
3. Animal-ecosystem interactions and patterning in West and Central Africa (Planning). July 1 2024
4. De novo sequencing of African snakes for comparative studies on trait evolution and biogeography (Planning) (January 1, 2023 - January 1, 2026).
5. DNA barcoding of Nigerian snakes for systematics and phylogenetic studies (Planning). (January 1, 2024 - January 1, 2025).
6. Biogeography and macroecology of vertebrates from African tropical ecosystems (Planning). (January 1, 2024 - January 1, 2027).

Ongoing/Writing Results

1. Testing the effectiveness of environmental DNA surveys in monitoring the marine fish diversity in Nigerian Lagos Lagoon" (On-Going). (September 30, 2022 - Present).
2. Diet analyses of West and Central African herbivores using DNA metabarcoding technique" (Writing Results). (July 1, 2021 - Present).
3. Phylogenomics and biogeography of African viper snakes" (On-Going). (July 1, 2021 - Present).
4. Allopolyploidization, Niche Evolution, and Systematics of Central African Night Frogs". (October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2024).
5. Whole Genome sequencing of evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered ray fishes from Africa" (Writing Results). (November 1, 2022 - December 1, 2023).

Completed

1. Whole genome sequencing and demographic history of the African Mona Monkey" (Complete). (January 1, 2020 - March 1, 2021).
2. Amphibian diversities in Afi and Ikpan Forest ecosystems, Nigeria" (Complete). (August 30, 2018 - December 30, 2020).
3. Amphibian diversities in Cross River National Park, Nigeria" (Complete). (April 30, 2018 - December 30, 2020).
4. Testing the effectiveness of DNA barcoding in the identification of butterflies from Nigeria" (Complete). (December 1, 2018 - December 1, 2020).
5. Testing the effectiveness of DNA barcoding in the identification of moths from Nigeria" (Complete). (December 1, 2018 - December 1, 2020).



6. Amphibian and reptile diversities in Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria" (Complete). (September 1, 2015 - June 1, 2018).

(10) GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISED

- 2018 to date: Babatunde E. Adedeji; PhD Student; Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria (*Co-assisted Dr. A.O. Adeyi*).
- 2018-20: Md Mizanur Rahman; PhD Student; Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China (*Co-assisted Professor Jing Che*); 2018- 2020.
Current position: Postdoc Fellow at Chonnam National University, South Korea.

(11) UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING:

- 2023: Tiffany Connor; Honors student; Department of Biology, Howard University, USA

(12) TEACHING:

- July – Sept 2022: Mentor on the course ‘The causes and effects of climate change’ (The GEC Academy, Beijing, China).
- 2014-2015: Teaching Assistant, General Biology (Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria).
- 2014-2015: Teaching Assistant, Animal Physiology (Department of Zoology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria).
- 2010-2011: Co Instructor, General Biology (Department of Biological Sciences, University of Abuja, Nigeria).

(13) SOME FIELD RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2021: Field survey for the collection of faecal samples of mammals from protected areas in Nigeria.
- 2021: Field survey for the collection of faecal samples of mammals from protected areas in Cameroon.
- 2021: Field survey of marine stingrays in coastal waters in Lagos State, Nigeria.
- 2021: Field survey of endemic worm lizards of Nigeria.
- 2020: Ecological and social science survey of an evolutionarily distinct and globally endangered (EDGE) species - the Cameroon slippery frog in Nigeria
- 2019: Field survey of non-human primates in Cross River National Park, Gashaka Gumti National and Idanre forest reserves in Nigeria.
- 2018-19: Field survey of critically endangered and endemic frog – *Sclerophrys perreti* from Idanre hills (UNESCO World Heritage Site), Nigeria.
- 2018-19: Field collections of amphibians of Afi forest reserve and Ikpan forest ecosystems, Nigeria.
- 2018-19: Field collections of amphibians and reptiles of non-protected forests in southern Nigeria.
- 2018: Field collections of wild and domesticated greater cane rats from Nigeria.
- 2018: Field collections and survey of amphibians of Idanre forest reserve, Nigeria.
- 2017: Field sampling of helmeted Guinea Fowl (*Numida meleagris*) from Nigeria.
- 2017: Field collections and survey of Nigerian lizards within the genus *Agama* from 26 states in Nigeria.
- 2017-20: Field collections and survey of amphibians and reptiles of Oban (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and Okwango Divisions of Cross River National Park, Nigeria.
- 2017-18: Field collection of moths and butterflies from South-eastern Nigeria.



- 2016-17: Field collections and survey of amphibians and reptiles of Gashaka Gumti National Park, Nigeria.
- 2016-18: Field collection of freshwater fishes from different river bodies in Nigeria.

(14) MEDIA APPEARANCES AND INTERVIEWS

1. "The World's frog day," The Conservation Nation. (<https://twitter.com/ConservNtn/status/1637869196926148627>; March 20, 2023).
2. "The International Day of Forest," National Geographic Society. (<https://twitter.com/InsideNatGeo/status/1506046745276518401>; March 21, 2022).

(15) PUBLIC SERVICE

- 2020: Conservation education and outreach programmes within the support community zones of Gashaka Gumti National Park Nigeria on the conservation needs of animals including amphibian and reptiles in the park. <https://www.rufford.org/projects/lotanna-micah-nneji/ecological-studies-and-community-based-conservation-activities-for-amphibians-and-reptiles-of-gashaka-gumti-national-park-nigeria/>
- 2018-20: Capacity building and training of rangers at the Cross River National Park Nigeria on the techniques of collection, identification and study of amphibians and reptiles in the park.
- 2017: Capacity building and training of rangers at the Gashaka Gumti National Park Nigeria on the techniques of collection, identification and study of amphibians and reptiles in the park. https://www.rufford.org/projects/lotanna_micah_nneji
- 2018: Conservation education and outreach programmes in the secondary schools within the support community zones of Gashaka Gumti National Park Nigeria to enlighten youngsters on the conservation needs of animals including amphibian and reptiles in the park. https://www.rufford.org/projects/lotanna_micah_nneji
- 2018: Conservation education and outreach programmes within a community in Gashaka Gumti National Park Nigeria to enlighten public on the need to conserve herpetofauna. https://www.rufford.org/projects/lotanna_micah_nneji.

(16) SERVICE TO THE BROADER SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITIES

Grant Review for: British Ecological Society (*reviewed 20 grants*); Conservation Nation (*Reviewed 6 grants*)

Editorial board member: *Mitochondrial DNA Part B Resources*

Society: *Publication Committee Member, British Ecological Society*

Peer-reviewed (for 17 international journals): *African Journal of Ecology; Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems; Brazilian Journal of Biology; Bioremediation Journal; European Journal of Entomology; Food Control; Food Webs; International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health; Journal of Arid Environments; Manila Journal of Science; Mediterranean Botany; PeerJ; Plants (MDPI); Genes (MDPI); Scientific Reports; Science of the Total Environment;*



17. PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBER

- i. Member, British Ecological Society
- ii. US National Geographic Explorer
- iii. PhotoArk EDGE Fellow (Zoological Society of London)
- iv. Sigma XI

18. Referees: *on request*