

AJADI SODIQ ABAYOMI; STATEMENT OF PURPOSE FOR MASTERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, POLICY, AND MANAGEMENT (MESPOM) UNDER THE ERASMUS MUNDUS SCHOLARSHIP.

The contamination of the aquatic habitats and water pollution due to the continual oil spillage arising from the widespread presence of illegal oil refineries in Abonnema community in Rivers State, Nigeria, captivated my interest towards becoming a certified environmentalist that will help to make proactive and effective policy to alleviate the impacts of illegal oil refineries in Nigeria.

Through a regular sensitization campaign to the people in my home country about the environmental consequences of their actions, I realized the need to increase my expertise in Environmental management through a graduate programme. Based on my passion for an enabling environment in Nigeria, the ClimateWorks foundation from the US sponsored my participation in the COP27 conference in Egypt. This opportunity allowed me to interact with MESPOM Alumni members at the conference, where I discovered that MESPOM programme is a melting pot of cultures that move together in different countries.

The ways to mitigate the looming environmental crisis in Nigeria prompted my decision to choose MESPOM, which I believe will broaden my knowledge on the subject matter through learning from a strong research team of professors in Environmental Science and integrated knowledge from management and policy. The structure of the modules in CEU, UAegean and Lund University, most especially the course module on EO in monitoring Sustainable Development Goals, Environmental Application of GIS: spatial analysis and modelling, Aquatic pollution and wastewater management, which perfectly aligned with my future aspiration of solving the major environmental issues in Nigeria.

My academic records and experience in the field of Environmental Management will make me a suitable candidate for this programme. After the completion of the programme, if selected, my immediate goal is to apply the knowledge gained towards supporting indigenous NGOs in Nigeria through workshops, seminars and conferences. In the future, I plan to work with UNEP and use the interdisciplinary background from the MESPOM programme towards developing policies that will protect the environment in achieving the UN SDGs 3, 6 and 14 in ensuring good health and well-being, clean water and sanitation and also protecting the life below water.