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CRIN ED Reaffirms Commitment to Sustainable Cocoa Production and Value Chain Development



The Acting Executive Director of the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), Dr. Abiodun Rasheed Adedeji, has reiterated the institute's strong commitment to

promoting sustainable cocoa production, improved productivity and enhanced quality through research-driven capacity building across the cocoa value chain.

Dr. Adedeji made this affirmation during the opening ceremony of CRIN's five-day pre-season training on Best Agricultural Practices (BAP) in cocoa production, held at the Lawrence Opeke Hall, CRIN Headquarters. The training brought together officers from sustainability companies, extension agents, farm managers and other key stakeholders.

In his welcome address, the Acting Executive Director highlighted CRIN's historical evolution from the West African Cocoa Research Institute (WACRI) to its autonomous status in 1964, emphasizing the institute's enduring mandate to drive research and innovation in cocoa and other mandate crops. He noted that CRIN's operations cover the entire cocoa value chain, drawing on multidisciplinary expertise from breeding, agronomy, soil science, crop protection, product development, extension services and agricultural economics.

Dr. Adedeji stressed that effective extension remains central to translating research outputs into tangible benefits for farmers and industry stakeholders. Despite operational challenges, including funding and equipment constraints, he affirmed that CRIN continues to deliver on its

responsibilities across its six mandate crops: cocoa, cashew, kola, coffee, tea and black plum.

He concluded by encouraging farmers and stakeholders to collaborate closely with CRIN, describing the institute as the most credible source of research-based knowledge for profitable and sustainable cocoa production.

Grow Africa Youth Initiative Honours CRIN Leadership and Staff



The Grow Africa Youth Initiative (GAYI) recently paid a courtesy visit to the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) to present an award of excellence to the Acting Executive Director, Dr.

Abiodun Rasheed Adedeji, in recognition of his outstanding leadership and contributions to sustainable agricultural development. The Initiative also conferred an award of recognition on the Management and Staff of CRIN for their continued commitment to research, innovation and capacity building within Nigeria's agricultural sector. Grow Africa Youth Initiative is a youth-focused development organisation dedicated to empowering young Africans through agriculture, leadership development and sustainable enterprise promotion.





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Photo Highlights from the Visit

2026 National Cashew Day and Flag-Off



Yar'adua Center, Abuja. The Acting Executive Director of Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN), Dr A. R. Adedeji speaking at the event with

The National Cashew Association of Nigeria (NCAN) in collaboration with the African Cashew Alliance (ACA) organized the 4th edition of the Nigeria Cashew Day on the 22nd January, 2026 at the Sheu Musa

the theme "Unlocking the full potential of Nigeria cashew industry through investment, innovation and global trade" appreciate the recognition given to CRIN, highlights the technologies and products developed by CRIN and emphasized the role and the strength of CRIN as major partner in the cashew value chain and the institute with national mandate on the crop. He implored the entrepreneurs to take up the developed technologies and products for commercialization to improve Nigeria economy and develop the value chain.



In the technical presentation made by the Cashew programme leader Dr. Dele Adeniyi, he buttresses the successes of cashew research activities on selection of elite cashew mother trees, cashew health map and pest

compendium, scion, clonal and cashew demonstration plot established across varied ecologies of Nigeria. He concluded dangerous insurgence of major pests on cashew parts, highlighted the institutional sustainability plan and vision for cashew varietal development, application of digital and biotechnological tools as contained in the National Cashew Research Strategy Plan. The event also had presentations made by other agencies and partners like African Cashew Alliance, Federal Ministry of Industry Trade and Investment, Nigeria Export Promotion Council, Bank of Agriculture, NEXIM bank, Federation of Agricultural Commodity Association of Nigeria, BUHLER among others.



Ibadan land will Collaborate with CRIN To Establish Cocoa Plantation - Oba Ladoja



In his determination to ensure the economic development and investment promotion in Ibadan land, His Imperial Majesty Oba Rasidi Adewolu Ladoja (Arusa1) has invited the management team of Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) to deliberate on how Cocoa plantation can be established in Ibadan.

"I am well pleased to receive you and your management staff in my palace and wish to express my gratitude for honouring my invitation", Olubadan stressed.

"I invited you and the experts in your institute to deliberate on how we can establish modern cocoa plantation that can stand the test of time through the modern agricultural technologies and techniques" the monarch further explained.

According to the paramount ruler, we are lucky to be in the forest region where cocoa plantation can thrive considering our favourable climatic condition, many agricultural experts surrounding us particularly Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria.

On our part, we will make acres of Land readily available and source for the needed logistics to ensure the smooth take off of the project to its successful completion

In his speech, the Acting Executive Director of Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) Dr Adedeji Abiodun Rasheed thanked Olubadan and his council members for the opportunity given the Institute to play its role in agricultural development of Ibadanland and Oyo State as a whole, adding

that the agricultural plans of Olubadan of Ibadan land will be successfully implemented as desired.

Dr Adedeji Abiodun requested for necessary logistics such as expanse of land, farm imputes and other necessary resources for the project implementation

Present at the meeting were Balogun of Ibadan land, Oba (Barr.) Tajudeen Abimbola Ajibola, the Ekerin Balogun of Ibadan land Oba Akeem Mobolaji Adewoyin and other traditional title holders.



Oba Olubadan hosts CRIN Acting E.D. and Staff at his Palace





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CRIN Hosts 2026 Pre-Season Training on Best Agricultural Practices in Cocoa

The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) recently concluded its Pre-Season Training on Best Agricultural Practices (BAP) in cocoa production, which held from 26 to 30 January 2026. The programme brought together cocoa farmers, extension agents and other stakeholders across the cocoa value chain to enhance their technical capacity through research-driven and practical learning.

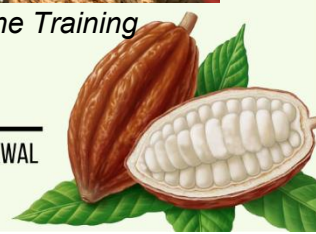
The training addressed key components of cocoa production, including farm sanitation and preparation, use of improved cocoa varieties, pruning and canopy management, soil fertility enhancement, integrated pest and disease control,

weed management, climate-smart agricultural practices and appropriate harvest and post-harvest handling techniques.

The pre-season training served as a strategic platform for effective knowledge transfer, ensuring that participants were well prepared for the forthcoming production season. It also reaffirmed CRIN's commitment to advancing sustainable cocoa production in Nigeria through innovation, capacity building and the promotion of best agricultural practices that meet international standards.



Picture Highlights During the Training





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Investor from Engineering Sector Moves to Diversify into Cocoa Sector

SKAAF Construction Company based in Edo state wishes to diversify into cocoa sector through the establishment of a big cocoa plantation in Edo state.

The Chairman of the company, Eng. Scaaf during a courtesy to Uhonmora Substation seeks for the supports of CRIN in the areas of supply of improved planting materials, field establishment, Good Agricultural



Practices including on-farm processing and drying of cocoa beans. He has acquired about 500ha of land in Orowa community in Esan South East LGAs of Edo State. The Head of Station, Uhonmora Substation Dr. Adebiyi has paid a visit to assess to location and possibility of cultivating cocoa in the area. The Chairman of the company, Eng. SKAFF promised to pay a visit to the Institute headquarters as he proceeds on the task.

Dr. Adebiyi pledged the supports of the Institute to making sure that his dream comes to reality.

CRIN Conducts 2026 Promotion Examination – 27 January 2026



On Tuesday, 27 January 2026, the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) successfully

conducted its 2026 staff promotion examination at its headquarters in Ibadan, Oyo State. The examination exercise formed part of CRIN's ongoing efforts to strengthen staff development, enhance merit-based progression and align the institute's human resource capacities with its strategic research mandate on cocoa and other commodity crops

The exercise brought together staff members across various departments and professional cadres who sat for the promotion tests as scheduled. CRIN management confirmed that the examination was administered under strict supervision to ensure fairness, transparency and competence-based evaluation in accordance with the institute's human resources

In a statement issued ahead of the examination, CRIN reiterated that the promotion exercise is an important component of internal capacity building and staff motivation, helping to reward performance and uphold institutional excellence in research, innovation and service delivery.

The institute has in recent years emphasised timely promotions and professional growth opportunities as key factors in maintaining staff morale and driving research productivity.

Further details on results and next steps are expected to be communicated to examinees and the wider CRIN community in due course.



Some members of Staff during the promotion Exercise





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Celebrating Coffee Culture and Opportunity: Coffee Festival International Nigeria 2025

The maiden edition of the Coffee Festival International Nigeria marked a major step toward revitalising Nigeria's coffee industry, drawing together a broad spectrum of stakeholders from within the country and across the global coffee community. Held from 28 to 30 August 2025 at Langfield Events, Jos, Plateau State, the festival was organised by Lingzhi Global Nigeria Limited and welcomed coffee farmers, processors, exporters, investors, researchers and young entrepreneurs from Nigeria's 36 states, several African countries and Brazil.

The festival provided a vibrant platform to promote global coffee culture, reposition Nigeria in the international coffee market and highlight opportunities across the coffee value chain. It also addressed the need for farmer training, youth empowerment and investment, while encouraging increased participation in coffee cultivation and processing.

The event attracted notable government officials, industry leaders and traditional rulers, reflecting strong institutional and policy interest in coffee as a viable contributor to economic diversification. Research and development perspectives were well represented, including the participation of Dr. S. A. Adeosun, Head of the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) Sub-Station, Mambilla, who joined other experts in engaging stakeholders on research-driven solutions for the sector.

Beyond technical discussions, the festival featured product exhibitions, cultural performances and a barista championship that showcased creativity and innovation in coffee beverage preparation. Interactive panel sessions further bridged dialogue between researchers, farmers and export agencies. Overall, the festival successfully combined knowledge exchange, culture and enterprise, laying a strong foundation for sustained growth and collaboration within Nigeria's emerging coffee industry.



Dr. S.A. Adeosun at the Coffee Festival



Dr. Seun Adeosun (second from left) among other panelists during Panelist/Questions and answers Section at the Coffee Festival International Nigeria



Coffee Products Exhibition at the Festival



Health News

Heat Stroke: What You Need to Know - Mrs. Bosede Famaye



Heat stroke is a serious heat-related illness that occurs when your body's temperature regulation system is overwhelmed, causing body temperature to rise rapidly, usually above **40°C (104°F)**. Think of it as your body's thermostat going

haywire: it can't cool itself down!

Causes of Heat Stroke

Heat stroke can result from several factors, including:

- Exposure to extreme heat, especially in hot or humid weather
- Physical exertion or exercise in hot conditions
- Poor air circulation or ventilation
- Wearing dark or heavy clothing that traps heat
- Certain medical conditions, such as heart disease, obesity or diabetes
- Medications that affect temperature regulation
- Dehydration or insufficient water intake
- Age (older adults are more susceptible)
- Being overweight or obese

Signs and Symptoms

Watch for these warning signs:

- High body temperature (above 40°C / 104°F)

- Confusion, agitation or altered mental state
- Slurred speech or difficulty speaking
- Seizures or loss of consciousness
- Dry, flushed skin with no sweating (or sometimes excessive sweating)
- Rapid heartbeat or palpitations
- Headache, dizziness or nausea
- Muscle weakness or cramps

Treatment

If someone shows symptoms of heat stroke, act fast!

Immediate Actions

1. Seek medical attention immediately, heat stroke is a medical emergency.
2. Move the person to a cooler area, such as shade or an air-conditioned room.
3. Remove excess clothing to help the body cool down.
4. Cool the body with cold water, ice packs or cold compresses.
5. Offer cool water to drink if they are conscious.

Medical Treatment

In a hospital setting, treatment focuses on cooling the body and supporting vital organs:

• Rapid Cooling:

- I. Ice water immersion or cold water bath
- II. Evaporative cooling (spraying water and using fans)
- III. Ice packs or cold compresses on neck, groin and armpits

• Supportive Care:

- I. IV fluids to prevent dehydration
- II. Oxygen therapy
- III. Cardiac monitoring
- IV. Medications to control seizures





• Medical Interventions:

- I. Blood tests to monitor organ function
- II. Medications to manage blood pressure, heart rate or other complications
- III. Continued treatment of underlying conditions

Note: Medications like anticonvulsants (for seizures) or sedatives (for agitation) should only be given under medical supervision, as they can sometimes worsen the condition.

Prevention Tips

Stay safe and avoid heat stroke with these tips:

- Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated
- Avoid strenuous activities during hot weather
- Wear light, loose-fitting clothing
- Take regular breaks in shaded areas
- Monitor weather forecasts and plan accordingly
- Check on vulnerable individuals, such as the elderly and young children

Complications of Heat Stroke

If left untreated, heat stroke can cause serious complications, including:

- Brain damage or permanent neurological damage
- Organ failure (kidney, liver or heart)
- Seizures or coma
- Death

When to Seek Medical Help

- If you suspect someone is experiencing heat stroke, call for emergency medical assistance immediately.
- Early intervention can save lives.

Stay cool, stay hydrated and take care of yourself and those around you, especially during heatwaves!

Market Survey

Price Report for January 2026

This report presents an overview of cocoa prices across selected Nigerian states for January 2026. Data were obtained from key cocoa-producing areas within the surveyed states and state-level averages were computed accordingly. During the reporting period, there was a general fall in cocoa prices across the surveyed States. Oyo state recording the steepest decline with about 23% fall in prices. Across the states, Abia reported the lowest average price at ₦4,250/kg, whereas Ondo and Kogi States recorded the highest average price at ₦7,750/kg in January. These inter-state differences highlight prevailing market conditions driven by supply fluctuations, production volumes and localized demand pressures.

It is also important to note that cashew remains in its off-season and as a result, no price data were recorded for cashew during the month under review.

COCOA COST PER KG (LOCAL PRICE)

STATE	MINIMUM PRICE (₦)	MAXIMUM PRICE (₦)	AVERAGE PRICE (₦)
Abia	4000	4500	4250
Cross River	7000	7000	7000
Kogi	7500	8000	7750
Kwara	7000	8000	7500
Ondo	7500	8000	7750
Osun	7000	7500	7250
Oyo	6500	7000	6750

Source: CRIN Survey, 2026

Economics and Statistics Sections



Staff of the Month



Mr. Kayiwedo Solomon Azubuike completed his Primary School Leaving Certificate in 1983 and later obtained the West African Examination Council (WAEC) Certificate in 1989.

In furtherance of his education and professional growth, he attended Akwa Ibom Polytechnic between 2007 and 2009, where he gained additional academic exposure relevant to his career in agricultural field services.

Mr. Kayiwedo joined the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) on 3rd January 2012. Since his employment, he has served the Institute with dedication, discipline and a high sense of responsibility. Through years of consistent hard work and commitment to duty, he has steadily progressed in service and is currently holding the position of Chief Agricultural Field Overseer (CAFO).

Throughout his career, Mr. Kayiwedo has worked closely with research scientists and technical teams in supporting field operations, maintenance of experimental plots and other institutional activities. His practical experience, reliability and cooperative attitude have earned him recognition as a dependable field staff who contributes meaningfully to the achievement of CRIN's research objectives.

Mr. Kayiwedo Solomon Azubuike is happily married and remains committed to effective service delivery and the advancement of the Institute.

February Birthday Celebrants

Hearty birthday celebrations to the members of staff that will be celebrating their birthdays this month. Wishing you all the very best in your life endeavours. Congratulations!



Abodunrin Peterkin Yemi —	February 1
Omitade Oluseyi Omoniye —	February 1
Adewumi Ngozi Fidelia —	February 1
Oguntona Kunle Williams —	February 2
Okere Monday John —	February 2
Ojo Omolabake Esther —	February 2
Muhammed Mohammed —	February 2
Adepoju Oluranti Kubura —	February 2
Asein Fredrick Aimioje —	February 2
Ojo Idowu Olufunke —	February 2
Owoyele Bosede Yinka —	February 2
Azzan Olawale A. —	February 2
Udoh James Samuel —	February 2
Awoyemi Taiwo —	February 3
Okoh Chuks Victor —	February 3
Ipinmoroti Rotimi Rufus —	February 4
Alade Bolajoko Folasade —	February 4
Esan Babatunde Emmanuel —	February 5
Magaji Precious —	February 5





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Ojo Agboola —	February 5	Ajayeoba Oludare Babatunde —	February 18
Abubakar Yahaya —	February 5	Lawal Anister Jonathan —	February 18
Oniyide Josephine O —	February 6	Adeyemi Eunice Abosede —	February 20
Asowata Frank Efe —	February 7	Emaku Jacob A —	February 21
Adegbala Amos Adebayo —	February 7	Ogundeji Babatunde Ayodeji —	February 22
Adebola Idowu Rhoda —	February 7	Adeboye Kehinde —	February 22
Oladipo Oluwafemi Bayode —	February 8	Oladimeji Taofeek —	February 22
Olugbesan Adebola Rebecca —	February 8	Suleiman Atinuke Sarat —	February 24
Oyeniran Sunday Matthew —	February 8	Taiwo Olayinka Akanni —	February 25
Jamgbadi Imoudu —	February 8	Adebowale Victoria Aderonke —	February 25
Ogunkua Olumide Olabanji —	February 9	Musa Satu Celina —	February 25
Adewumiju Oluwasayo Funke —	February 9	Opara Toyosi Nurat —	February 26
Arowosafe Funmilayo Funke —	February 9	Babayemi James —	February 27
Adetunji Esther Olufunmilayo —	February 10	Olalekan-Adeniran Mujidat A. —	February 28
Akintoye Oluwadamilola Sandra —	February 10		
Eze Cordelia —	February 10		
Igbinador Richard Osaretin —	February 11		
Olasupo Festus Olakunle —	February 11		
Okere Florence Funmolayo —	February 11		
Adepoju Sola Muslim —	February 11		
Ayere Cletus —	February 12		
Alaba Olubukola Olayinka —	February 12		
Sanni Ibrahim —	February 12		
Makinde Gbolagade —	February 13		
Popoola Olalekan —	February 14		
Ganiyu Bolanle —	February 15		
Olubajo Bowale Sesan —	February 15		
Ojo Oluwatoyin Josephine —	February 16		
Azeez Taofeek Olatunji —	February 16		
Nwankwo Amobi Oscar —	February 17		
Okonche John —	February 17		

COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA

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- Value Additions

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