

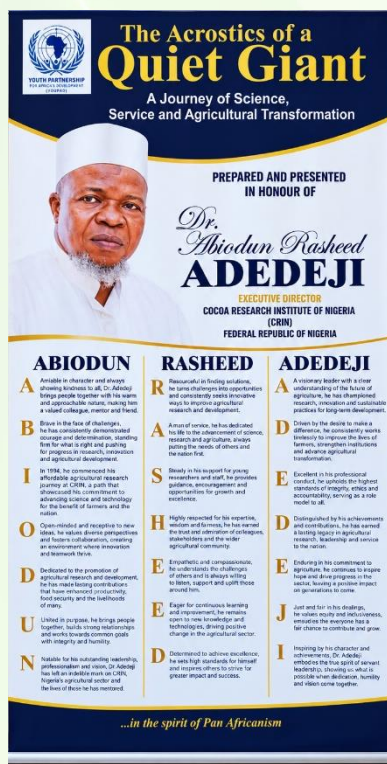


CRIN Herald

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF COCOA RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA (CRIN), IBADAN.

ISSUE 68 (OCTOBER 2026)

YOUTH PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICAS DEVELOPMENT PRESENTED AWARD OF EXCELLENCE TO THE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Youth Partnership for Africa's Development (YouPAD) visited CRIN on 3rd September 2026. The team was led by the president of YouPAD Ambassador Henry Nwanko. The purpose of the visit was to familiarise themselves with the institute as well as to appreciate the efforts of the Acting Executive Director in driving the course of the institute forward.

The president of YouPAD in his comment said that the breakthrough, achievement and success made by CRIN was what attracted them to come around as seeing is believing. He further said that the Acting ED is an icon of agricultural innovation and national development, hence he deserves the award of Thomas Sankara PAN-AFRICAN selfless leadership prize for excellence which was presented to the Acting ED. The award is for his contribution towards the delivery of CRIN mandate crops and appreciation of the success recorded which are outstanding.



The Acting Executive Director in his remark appreciated the organization for the award. He said the success and achievements seeing by them is the joint efforts of both staff and management of CRIN. He also retreated

that the institute will do more with the backing and support of the government and society at large.

We therefore congratulate the Acting Executive Director, management and the entire CRIN staff on this award.



Picture highlights during the presentation of award

FEDPA SEEKS PARTNERSHIP WITH CRIN TO STRENGTHEN AGRICULTURAL TRAINING



The Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) recently received a delegation from the Federal Polytechnic, Ayede (FEDPA), led by its Rector, Dr. Isiaka Tunji Adelabu, as part of efforts to build partnerships in agricultural education, research and practical training. The delegation had earlier visited the National Horticultural Research Institute (NIHORT), also in Ibadan.





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At CRIN, Dr. Adelabu said the Polytechnic was keen to tap into the Institute's wealth of experience and expertise. The Acting Dean of the School of Agricultural Technology, Mr. Bashiru Bello, added that FEDPA was particularly interested in staff and student capacity building, training, technical support and access to modern agricultural technologies.

Responding, the Acting Executive Director of CRIN, Dr. Rasheed Abiodun Adedeji, said the Institute was established in 1964 with a core mandate covering research into cocoa, coffee, cashew and tea. He described CRIN as one of the leading agricultural research institutes in Africa, with more than 60 doctorate degree holders.

Dr. Adedeji affirmed CRIN's readiness to collaborate with the Polytechnic, but stressed that all necessary structures and procedures must be put in place. He identified the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding as a key step towards formalising the partnership. He also emphasised the importance of soil testing before agricultural production, noting that it determines whether soil is suitable for the intended crops.

He said several organisations had partnered with CRIN and expressed confidence that the collaboration with FEDPA would benefit both institutions.

The Federal Polytechnic, Ayede's delegation expressed appreciation to CRIN's management for the warm reception accorded them. Both institutions voiced optimism that the partnership, once formalised, would usher in unprecedented development for FEDPA and CRIN alike.



Dr. I.T. Adelabu and Dr. R.A. Adedeji

INAUGURATION OF ACTU CRIN BRANCH



The Anti-Corruption and Transparency Unit (ACTU) of CRIN was officially reconstituted on Wednesday, 9th September, 2026, with the swearing-in of seven members of staff. The reconstitution followed the expiration of the tenure of the former officials.

The event, held at the Lawrence Opeke Hall, CRIN, was conducted by a team from the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC), led by Mr. Tope Egunjobi and five other members of the agency.



The newly sworn in ACTU Excos.

Present were the Institute's management, led by the Ag. Executive Director, Dr. A. R. Adedeji and the Director (Research Operations), Dr. O. S. Ibiremo. The inaugurated members are Dr. O. O. Adenuga (Chairman), Mr. K. W. Oguntona, Mr. S. Ayanwole, Mr. O. E. Ojewale, Mrs. F. C. Awe, Mr. S. Adekojo and Mr. R. O. Aboribo.

In his remarks, Dr. Adedeji welcomed the ICPC team and stressed the importance of ACTU to the survival of CRIN, noting that he was once a member of the Unit. He solicited the Commission's support for the CRIN branch and raised the issue of inadequate funding, which



negatively affects ACTU's performance. He encouraged the new members to discharge their duties meritoriously, assuring them of management's support.

Dr. Ibiremo emphasised the need to build a functional system rather than individuals, so that the system continues to work after the exit of any individual or initiator from public office.

The inauguration lecture, delivered by Prince Adegboyega Akinleye of the ICPC, highlighted the importance of anti-corruption awareness, noting that 9th December is observed as International Anti-Corruption Day and 11th July as African Anti-Corruption Day. The new officers were charged to prevent corruption, promote ethical conduct and strengthen institutional integrity. The vision, mission, objectives and operational responsibilities of ACTU were also outlined, with emphasis on the active support of management and staff in promoting transparency, accountability and ethical standards.



Barrister Bisola Sanusi

The new members were administered the oath of office by Barrister Bisola Sanusi of the ICPC. The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr. K. W. Oguntona, who appreciated the ICPC delegation, management and all participants for contributing to the success of the event.



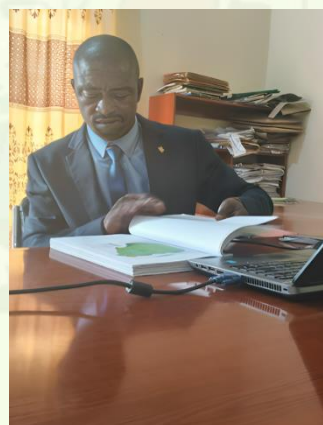
Group photograph of both Mgt. Staff and the newly sworn in ACTU Committee members

DIGGING DEEP, FARMING SMART: SEPTEMBER IN-HOUSE SEMINAR SPOTLIGHTS THE FUTURE OF COCOA



The Lawrence Opeke Conference Hall was buzzing on Monday, 14th September, 2026, as CRIN's monthly in-house seminar held at 10:00 a.m. Chaired by Dr. Paul Aikpokpodion, one of the Institute's esteemed Directors, the session featured two presentations built around one big question: what will it take to keep Nigerian cocoa productive for generations to come?

What Lies Beneath Our Cocoa Farms



Dr. Frank Efe Asowata

First up was Dr. Frank Efe Asowata of the Soils and Plant Nutrition Section, who took the audience underground with his study, "Soil Survey, Land Evaluation and Quality Assessment of Selected Soils under Cocoa Plantations in Southwestern Nigeria."

The work covered fifteen cocoa-producing LGAs across Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ekiti and Ondo States. It combined a survey of 300 farmers with 75 soil samples, classified using USDA standards and mapped with Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The research also produced a novel Soil Quality Index, giving the region a much-needed baseline. The verdict? Most of the soils are currently unsuitable for cocoa because of fertility constraints, notably deficiencies in phosphorus, potassium and organic matter. The good news is that integrated soil management can raise their potential to "highly" and "moderately suitable." Ekiti recorded



the highest soil quality scores (70–74%). In short, the soil is talking and it is asking for care.

Will Farmers Embrace Greener Practices?



Next, Dr. David J. Awodumila of the Extension Section turned the spotlight from soil to the farmer with "Adoption of Agroecosystem Analysis (AES) Techniques among Cocoa Farmers in Southwest, Nigeria."

Dr. David J. Awodumila Surveying 300 farmers across Ondo, Oyo and Osun States, the study found that 79.6% had moderate knowledge of AESA and 59.7% were favourably disposed to it. Adoption is real but partial: 72% showed medium adoption, with an adoption index of 36.7%. Sex, educational attainment and mode of land acquisition were found to significantly influence adoption. The study recommends improved extension services, better land policies, financial support schemes and continuous AESA training to make sustainable cocoa farming the norm.

The Big Picture

Together, the two presentations delivered one clear message: healthy soils and informed farmers are two sides of the same coin. Fix the fertility gaps, strengthen farmer training and Nigeria's cocoa future looks brighter.



Cross section of staff during the seminar

AYO ABODERIN DONATES BRAND-NEW JERSEYS TO CRIN SPORTS COMMUNITY



Mr. Ayo Aboderin has donated brand-new sports jerseys to the CRIN Sports Community, in appreciation of the support and encouragement he has received over the years.

The gesture follows his recent appointment as Assistant Coach of the Nigeria Under-16 Volleyball Team, which won the golden cup in Egypt.

Presenting the jerseys, Mr. Aboderin thanked God for the opportunity to serve his country through sports. He described the donation as his modest way of giving back, noting that sports promote teamwork, discipline, healthy living, unity and youth development.

The presentation was witnessed by the Acting Executive Director, Dr. A. R. Adedeji and the Administrative Secretary, Mr. Onatunde-Onanuga. Dr. Adedeji commended Mr. Aboderin for remembering his root, describing the donation as a worthy gesture that would strengthen the culture of sports in CRIN. He congratulated him on his appointment and the team's success.

Mr. Onatunde-Onanuga also appreciated his generosity, noting the importance of contributing to the community one has benefited from and encouraged him to remain a positive ambassador of CRIN.

Members of the Sports Community called the donation timely and encouraging, saying it would boost athletes' morale and participation.

The Management and staff of CRIN commend Mr. Aboderin's generosity and wish him continued success.



Health News

UNDERSTANDING SEIZURES AND EPILEPSY

Mrs. Bosede Famaye



What Is a Seizure?

A seizure is a sudden, abnormal burst of electrical activity in the brain that temporarily affects a person's movement, sensation, behaviour, awareness or consciousness. Having one seizure does not necessarily mean a person has

epilepsy. Seizures may occur because of temporary conditions such as very low blood glucose, fever, infections, stroke, drug toxicity or other medical problems. Epilepsy is a neurological disorder characterised by an enduring tendency to have recurrent, unprovoked seizures.

What Causes Seizure Disorders?

The cause may be identified or, in some cases, remain unknown. Common causes include:

- **Brain-related:** head injury, stroke, brain tumours, previous brain surgery, congenital brain abnormalities, reduced oxygen supply to the brain and scar tissue from previous brain injury.
- **Infections:** meningitis, encephalitis, cerebral malaria, neurocysticercosis and other parasitic infections.
- **Metabolic:** very low blood glucose (hypoglycaemia), very high or low sodium levels, abnormal calcium or magnesium levels, kidney or liver failure and severe dehydration.
- **Genetic:** some forms of epilepsy run in families because of genetic changes that increase susceptibility to seizures.
- **Pregnancy and childbirth:** birth injuries, lack of oxygen during delivery, brain infections in infancy and eclampsia during pregnancy.
- **Drugs and substances:** alcohol withdrawal, certain recreational drugs,

some medications (especially when taken inappropriately or in overdose) and poisoning.

- **Unknown:** in some people, extensive investigations do not identify a specific cause.

Signs and Symptoms

These depend on the part of the brain involved and may include sudden loss of consciousness, blank staring, sudden stiffening of the body, rhythmic jerking of the arms and legs, sudden falling, temporary confusion, abnormal behaviour or movements, unusual smells, tastes or sounds, sudden fear, lip smacking, drooling or foaming at the mouth, tongue biting, loss of bladder or bowel control and temporary difficulty speaking. After a seizure, the person may feel sleepy and exhausted, with headache or muscle pain.

How Are Seizures Diagnosed?

Diagnosis begins with a detailed history of the event and a physical examination. The healthcare professional may also recommend:

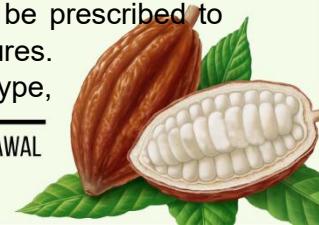
- **Neurological examination:** assesses muscle strength, reflexes, speech, vision, coordination and mental status.
- **Electroencephalogram (EEG):** records the brain's electrical activity and can show abnormal patterns linked to epilepsy.
- **Brain imaging (CT scan or MRI):** identifies tumours, stroke, bleeding, structural abnormalities or previous brain injuries.
- **Blood tests:** may include blood glucose, electrolytes, full blood count and kidney and liver function tests.
- **Lumbar puncture:** considered when an infection such as meningitis or encephalitis is suspected.

Treatment

Treatment depends on the type of seizure, its underlying cause and the person's medical condition. Where a cause is identified, it should be treated: low blood glucose corrected urgently, infections treated with appropriate antimicrobials and electrolyte abnormalities corrected.

Anti-seizure medicines, such as carbamazepine, phenytoin and lamotrigine, may be prescribed to prevent or reduce recurrent seizures.

The choice depends on seizure type,



age, sex, pregnancy status, other medical conditions, possible drug interactions and individual needs.

Important: Anti-seizure medication should never be started, stopped or changed without medical supervision.

What To Do When Someone Has a Seizure

Most seizures stop on their own within a few minutes.

- Keep the person away from dangerous objects.
- Protect the head with something soft and loosen tight clothing around the neck.
- If possible, gently turn the person onto their side.
- Stay with them until they recover and note how long the seizure lasts.

Do not restrain their movements, put anything in their mouth, or give food, water or medication until the person is fully conscious and able to swallow safely.

When Is It an Emergency?

A seizure lasting 5 minutes or longer, or repeated seizures without recovery of consciousness in between, may indicate status epilepticus, a medical emergency. Seek emergency medical help immediately.

Possible Complications

- **Physical:** falls and fractures, head injuries, burns, dental injuries, aspiration of saliva or vomit, breathing difficulties and muscle injuries.
- **Neurological:** status epilepticus, brain injury from prolonged seizures or severe lack of oxygen and memory or concentration difficulties in some people.
- **Psychological and social:** anxiety, depression, social isolation, stigma, difficulty attending school or keeping a job and restrictions on driving and certain occupations.

Living Safely with Epilepsy

- Take prescribed medication regularly and never stop it suddenly unless advised by a healthcare professional.
- Get adequate, regular sleep and manage stress.

- Avoid excessive alcohol and recreational drugs.
- Identify and avoid personal seizure triggers where possible.
- Attend regular medical reviews and keep a seizure diary when recommended.
- Take safety precautions around water, heights, fire and machinery.
- Ensure family, caregivers and close friends know basic seizure first aid.

Key Message

A seizure is not always epilepsy and epilepsy is not a sign of weakness or a reason for stigma. Early diagnosis, appropriate treatment, proper first aid and support from family, colleagues and the wider community can reduce complications and improve the quality of life of people living with seizure disorders.

Seizure First Aid: What To Do

Most seizures stop on their own within a few minutes.



DO:	DON'T:
 1. keep the person away from dangerous objects	 1. restrain their movements
 2. protect the head with something soft	 2. put anything in their mouth
 3. loosen tight clothing around the neck	 3. give food, water or medication until fully conscious and able to swallow
 4. gently turn the person onto their side if possible	
 5. stay with them until they recover	
 6. note how long the seizure lasts	

CALL FOR EMERGENCY HELP
if a seizure lasts 5 minutes or longer, or seizures repeat without the person regaining consciousness (status epilepticus).

Living safely with epilepsy



Cocoa Research
Institute of Nigeria
September Health Corner



Know the signs.
Act calmly.
Support, don't stigmatise.





Market Survey

PRICE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

This report provides an overview of cocoa prices across selected states in Nigeria for September 2026. Price data were collected from major cocoa-producing locations within the surveyed states and state-level average prices were subsequently computed.

During the reporting period, cocoa prices increased in all the surveyed states except Osun where prices reduced by 4% and Oyo where prices remained unchanged. The most prominent increases were recorded in Cross River and Kogi States, where the average cocoa price increased by approximately 5% compared with August 2026. Among the surveyed states, Kogi and Cross River States recorded the lowest average cocoa price at ₦5,500/kg, while Oyo and Ondo States recorded the highest average price of ₦6,250/kg in September 2026. These price variations reflect underlying supply and demand dynamics in the market during the reporting period.

It is also noteworthy that cashew is currently in its off-season and no price data were available for this commodity in the current month.

COCOA COST PER KG (LOCAL PRICE) SEPTEMBER 2026			
STATE	MINIMUM PRICE (₦)	MAXIMUM PRICE (₦)	AVERAGE PRICE (₦)
Cross River	5000	6000	5500
Kogi	5000	6000	5500
Kwara	5500	6000	5750
Ondo	6000	6500	6250
Osun	6000	6000	6000
Oyo	6000	6500	6250

Source: CRIN Survey, 2026

Economics and Statistics Sections



October Birthday Celebrants

Happy Birthday to our amazing CRIN staff!

Olukotun Olubunmi Simeon —	1-Oct
Meliga Kashim —	1-Oct
Aderinlewo Shulammite Olayinka —	1-Oct
Aribido Mary Marietu —	1-Oct
Raji Ibrahim —	1-Oct
Husein Yahaya —	1-Oct
Adetunji Titus Adeyinka —	2-Oct
Agbebaku Endurance Enuiola —	3-Oct
Olatunji Comfort Abosede —	3-Oct
Opara Isreal Oluwatobiloba —	3-Oct
Arumeni Christian I —	4-Oct
Etuke Charles Etakefe —	5-Oct
Ajayi Yemisi Adeola —	5-Oct
Ayidu Sunday Samson —	5-Oct
Alhassan Gloria Eshikotse —	5-Oct
Olutade Bamidele Olusesan —	5-Oct
Onifade Elizabeth Oyeyinka —	6-Oct
Adeogun Moruf Alao —	6-Oct
Atanda Kolawole Olusola —	7-Oct
Bello Moshood Adebayo —	7-Oct
Oladokun Johnson Okeowo —	7-Oct
Olayiwola Adekunle Moruf —	9-Oct
Adeloju Kayode Akanni —	9-Oct
Arowolo Damilola Bukola —	9-Oct
Emmanuel Felicia Oluwafunbi —	10-Oct
Abubakar Mohammed —	10-Oct
Okoh Mercy —	10-Oct
Kunnuola Arinola Felicia —	10-Oct

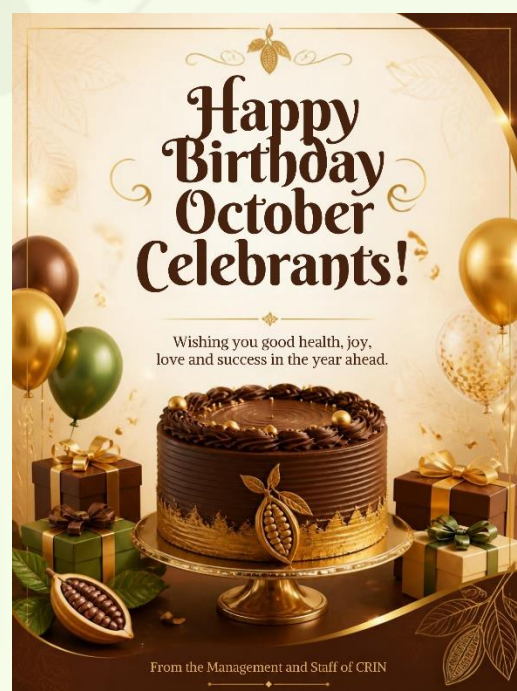




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Oniosun Basiru Femi —	10-Oct	Babayemi Kolawole Amos —	21-Oct
Aliyu Balarabe —	10-Oct	Onipe Siyaka Joseph —	21-Oct
Egesi Nwabueze Emmanuel —	11-Oct	Adesina Moturayo Christiana —	23-Oct
Omotere Ayomibo Tititlayo —	11-Oct	Falusi Loveth Elizabeth —	24-Oct
Fowosere Elizabeth Folasade —	12-Oct	Agboluaje Aduragbemi Oladayo —	24-Oct
Afolabi Olabode Thomas —	12-Oct	Agbeniyi Ayomide David —	24-Oct
Gidiga Johnson Jolorunfemi —	13-Oct	Onigbinde Adeniyi John —	25-Oct
Tijani Rashidat Romoke —	13-Oct	Mokwunye Francis Chukwuka —	25-Oct
Osungbade Abolanle Ayoade —	13-Oct	Ogunlade Moses Ogunwole —	26-Oct
Titloye Maureen Eruke —	14-Oct	Odosote Ayodele Ayodeji —	26-Oct
Oladeipo Kemi —	14-Oct	Gbadamosi Taye —	26-Oct
Akinrinola Olawale Akinsola —	15-Oct	Ejikeme Paulina Ogar —	27-Oct
Adebayo Ayoade Oludele —	15-Oct	Laoye Fiyinfoluwa Tijesunimi —	27-Oct
Oladunjoye Gboyega Samuel —	15-Oct	Adeyemi Adewumi Risikat Eniola —	28-Oct
Tijani Fatai Abimbola —	15-Oct	Adewumi Ibrahim —	29-Oct
Umontia Mercy —	15-Oct	Oghenejabor Rita Eime —	29-Oct
Oladele Olayemi Oladiran —	16-Oct	Oladunmoye Oladimeji Adeyemi —	30-Oct
Titiloye Isaac Sesan —	17-Oct	Adeeyo Rukayat Folasade —	30-Oct
Oyefi Jolade Agnes —	17-Oct		
Okedara Titilope —	17-Oct		
Makinde Kehinde Olawale —	17-Oct		
Bolaji Oyedele —	17-Oct		
Ekereobong Sunday —	17-Oct		
Adewusi Eunice Modupe —	18-Oct		
Aleburu Iyabo Omo —	18-Oct		
Owoyemi Julius Olatunde —	18-Oct		
Oyepeju Tunde —	18-Oct		
Oguntona Victor Olusola —	19-Oct		
Raheem Waheed Olaniyi —	20-Oct		
Nmeregini Ursula Nneka —	21-Oct		
Oladejo Gbemisola Anike —	21-Oct		





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- Soil and Biological Services

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