

**Bio , Emem Umoh, WINCO, Nigeria.**

Emem Umoh is from Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. For over two decades; 1999 to 2016, she diligently contributed to nature conservation through her dedicated services in different capacities and sectors including government, academia, corporate and civil society organizations. In 2019, in her quest for a more focused and impactful career adventure, she founded the Women in Nature Conservation Organization (WINCO); a Women-led Non-Governmental Organization established exclusively for nature conservation. Emem has strategically and participatorily initiated and impactfully implementing a number of sustainable local conservation-based projects in her country, foremost of which are the “Ukpom Okon Community Mangrove Restoration and Tree Planting Project”, " Conservation for A Resilient Food Future Project” , “Engaging Local Communities in a Resilient Food Future Project”, “Stemming the tide and impacts of Massive deforestation in Community Forests” and Participatory Restoration and Management of the degraded Stubb’s Creek Forests Reserve in Nigeria”. These local projects and other regular tree planting, mentoring and advocacy activities, collectively tucked under the “Ibom Greener Project” had global impacts that culminated in her participation in a number of international conferences, meetings and key leadership role including her nomination as the Co-ordinator of Global Landscapes Forum (GLFx) Uyo Chapter, Nigeria in 2021. With her recent invention on Jackfruit value chain addition in Nigeria, Emem's current pursuit is to collaborate with relevant organizations to achieve a sustainable agricultural value chain model for local biodiversity conservation-led projects in the face of increasing climate change impacts, biodiversity loss, local extinction of endemic flagship species, food and nutrition insecurity.

Emem holds a Master of Agricultural Technology in Wildlife Management from the Federal University of Technology, Akure, Ondo State, Nigeria.