**Temitope Onifade**

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[**www.onifade.org**](http://www.onifade.org)

Temitope currently works as a researcher for Canada Climate Law Initiative, housed at the Peter A. Allard School of Law, UBC, but working across Canada. Before joining the Canada Climate Law Initiative, he was a research consultant for the Commonwealth Climate and Law Initiative, housed at the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford, but involving researchers and lawyers across commonwealth countries. He is also an International Doctoral Fellow and a Vanier Scholar at UBC. He is interested in two key causes: sustainability and Africa. No single stakeholder or initiative can effectively drive global sustainability or solve Africa’s problems, so he explores synergies. How could non-state action supplement state policy? This question is at the centre of his current projects on hybrid regulation of low-carbon economies, transnational sustainability partnerships, and Africa's law and development.

Prior to joining UBC, Temi was a John Ballem QC LLD Postgraduate Fellow in Energy Law and worked under the Stikeman Elliot LLP Research Fellowship in Corporate Law (supervised by Dr. Fenner Stewart) at the Faculty of Law, University of Calgary. He has also been invited (by Prof. Jonnette Watson Hamilton) as a guest scholar to provide context for his article used as a compulsory reading in a Master of Laws course titled "Legal Research and Methodology" at the Faculty of Law, University of Calgary, and has assisted in teaching an interdisciplinary course titled "Environmental Law in the Energy Sector" in the Master of Science in Sustainable Energy Development, run by the Haskayne School of Business, Schulich School of Engineering and the Faculties of Law and Environmental Design at the University of Calgary. Prior to joining the University of Calgary, he taught "Environmental Law" as a lecturer to bachelor's students in the Sustainable Resource Management and Environmental Science programmes at Grenfell Campus, Memorial University. While at Memorial University, he was also a climate, resource and trade policy researcher for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, working on low-carbon transition in the provincial transportation sector and the provincial stake in the Trans-Pacific Partnership. During his national service in Nigeria, he worked as a Presiding Officer, Assistant Registration Officer and Poll Clerk for the Independent National Electoral Commission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Temi has also practiced law. He worked as a part-time associate at a corporate social responsibility law office called Social Impact Firm in Canada from 2017 to 2018. He drafted corporate documents for clients in the Americas, most notably the American Chamber of Commerce. He also co-founded a commercial firm called Lex Luminaire LP in Nigeria sometime in 2011 and was there till 2014. He was part of a team that represented clients such as Biofuel Development Farmers' Association and Green Energy Plant, had meetings with government representatives and  boards of companies such as the Odu'a Investment Company Limited, and handled property files. He also worked full-time at a general practice firm called GE Ezomo & Co in Benin within the Niger Delta area from 2010 to 2011. He prepared legal documents, wrote briefs and appeared in the Magistrate Court, Customary Court, High Court, Federal High Court and Court of Appeal, and wrote an appellate brief which went to the Supreme Court. He has also collaborated with the Law Firm of Femi Aborisade and Kunle Opeifa, a leading human and labour rights law office in Nigeria. He serves as an expert for energy and environment, and is the key consultant for international partnerships. As a law student in Nigeria, he interned with the country's Court of Appeal (supervised by Justice Chidi Nwaoma Uwa),  Federal High Court (supervised by Justice JE Shakarho) and Oyo state High Court (supervised by Justice Eni Esan) in 2010, and the law offices of Funmilayo Quadri and Wahab Shittu.

Exploring the intersection of law and policy as applicable to environment and business, particularly in the energy sector, Temi has produced over 20 research outputs that have appeared in various scholarly, professional and policy outlets, including Energy Policy (Elsevier), Journal of Energy and Natural Resources Law (Taylor and Francis), Human Rights Review (Springer), Global Journal of Comparative Law (Brill), Nigerian Yearbook of International Law (Springer), Renewable Energy Law and Policy Review (Lexxion), International Legal Research Informer (American Society of International Law) and several books. Some policy and professional outputs are for Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, American Chamber of Commerce Haiti and Biofuel Development Farmers’ Association in Nigeria, among others. Temi has also had the opportunity to participate in conferences and served on panels across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and the Caribbean, including the “Sustainability and Resistance” series of the Office of Regional and International Community Engagement at UBC in Vancouver, the American Society of International Law Research Forum at Brooklyn Law School, the Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship at Columbia University in New York, “Unintended Consequences of Regulation” at Oxford University, American Law and Society Association Meeting at New Orleans, and Canadian Law and Society Association Meetings at Calgary and Vancouver. He has chaired and convened conference panels, and has served on publication teams. He was an Editorial Advisor for an International Bar Association committee, and has worked as an editor, advisor, referee or proof-reader for over 10 Elsevier, university and/or professional publications. He has also co-authored successful research grant applications, including Project 390 of the Liu Institute for Global Issues titled "Liu Institute Network for Africa Showcase: Building Connections Between and Within.”

Temi was elected Senator representing Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies in the UBC Vancouver Senate (https://senate.ubc.ca/), the highest academic decision-making body of the university, where he serves on the academic standing appeal committee (highest academic appeal board of UBC) and library committee (academic board of the UBC library). He is a First Director of Holistic Sustainable Development Network International (http://www.hsdni.org/) and  a Director of Human Dignity Foundation. He is the Project Director for “Community Sustainability Global” (www.csgproject.com) — a new partnership that brings experts and organizations, especially social enterprises, NGOs and governments, together to enlighten community members in Africa and North America on sustainability, teach them sustainability-promoting skills and help them cut back on unsustainable practices. As a Liu Scholar, he also co-founded the Liu Institute Network for Africa — an interdisciplinary network of graduate students, post-graduate and post-doctoral fellows, professors and other stakeholders at UBC, overseen by the Liu Institute for Global Issues at the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs (https://www.linaubc.ca/)— which facilitates projects on global issues affecting Africa and African issues affecting the world. He advocates regularly for minority groups and causes as a co-host on Vancouver Coop Radio (https://www.coopradio.org/) and has featured on other broadcast media.

Supervised by Dr. Stepan Wood (Professor and Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Law, Society and Sustainability), Temi's PhD is generously funded by the Federal Government of Canada's highest doctoral scholarship, the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. He has also been awarded the Joseph Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, the International Doctoral Fellowship and the Four Year Doctoral Fellowship, among other awards, for his PhD. Outside UBC, his most prestigious award is the Scholarship for Energy and Natural Resources Law Studies of the International Bar Association (an international competition open to Post-docs, PhD students and master’s students, which he won as one of the three awardees globally), but there are several others from American Society of International Law, African Bar Association, Columbia University, University of Calgary, Memorial University, Oyo State Government and other organizations. Making a total of 34 awards, he is grateful to have received close to $1,000,000 in support of his work.

Temi has non-specialized law degrees from Obafemi Awolowo University (supervised by Prof. Ademola Popoola) and University of Ibadan (supervised by Dr Bukola Ruth Akinbola) in Nigeria, and specialized policy and law degrees from Memorial University (supervised by Dr Andreas Klinke) and University of Calgary (supervised by Prof. Alastair Lucas QC and Dr. Fenner Stewart) respectively. He has taken specialized courses of the World Bank, the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Uppsala University and the University of Calgary focusing on interwoven themes that interest him, including climate change, energy sector strategies to support green growth, human rights and the extractive sectors, and aboriginal relations.

Outside law and policy, Temi loves graphic design and the arts.  He has led a band of the National Youth Service Corps of Nigeria and played various parade drum lines, was a professional dancer with Alpha Dancers and the Law Dance Group at the Obafemi Awolowo University, and sang and released an album with Youth Voices International at the Methodist Church of Nigeria. He also rides bikes, plays table tennis, hikes and loves downhill skiing.