

Short biography

Fidelis Atuo is well experienced in team management, project coordination and management of donor funds. He has successfully completed several funded projects in the Cross River region of south-east Nigeria including a Conservation Leadership Program funded project on the globally threatened Grey-necked Picathartes in South-east Nigeria where he served as team leader. He holds a masters in Conservation Biology from the A.P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute, Jos, Nigeria and a Ph.D in Natural Resource Ecology and Management from the Oklahoma State University, USA. He has also received several professional trainings from the Tropical Biology Association (TBA), the Acopian Center for Conservation Learning at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Pennsylvania, U.S.A, and the Conservation Leadership Program among others.

Atuo, Fidelis Akunke

Email address: fidelis.atuo@okstate.edu

Telephone: +14053348095

Current address: Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078, USA

Nationality: Nigeria

Date of Birth: 22 Apr 1981

Education

1. Bachelor of Science (B. Sc) degree in Zoology. University of Calabar, Nigeria; 2001 - 2006
2. Master of Science (M.Sc) degree in Conservation Biology. A.P. Leventis Ornithological Research Institute, University of Jos, Nigeria; 2008 - 2009
3. PhD Candidate, Natural Resource Ecology and Management; Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, USA; 2012 – 2017

Professional trainings

3. Certificate in Conservation Science, Acopian Center for Conservation Learning, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Pennsylvania, U.S.A. August – December 2011.
2. Certificate in Tropical Ecology and Conservation; Tropical Biology Field Course in Kirindy Forest, Madagascar. Tropical Biology Association, Department of Zoology, Cambridge University, U.K. October – December 2010.
1. Certificate in Conservation Management and Leadership. Conservation Leadership Program, University of Calgary, Calgary, Canada. June – July 2010.

Previous Work

1. Team Leader; Grey-necked Picathartes Research Project, Nigeria; 2010–2011.
2. Conservation Science Intern; Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Kampton, Pennsylvania, USA; 2011.
3. Research Biologist; Wildlife Conservation Society, 109 Marian Road Calabar, Nigeria; 2009–2010.
4. Assistant Museum Curator; Jos Wildlife Park, Jos, Plateau State, Nigeria; 2006 – 2007.
5. Graduate Research Associate, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma, USA; 2012–date

Peer reviewed articles

5. **Atuo, F. A;** Abanyam, P.U and O’Connell, T. J (2015) An assessment of socio-economic drivers of avian body parts trade in West African rainforests. *Biological Conservation* 191: 614–522.
4. **Atuo, F. A;** Ivande, S. T and Wala, Z. J and O’Connell, T. J. Current distribution, breeding population and habitat use of the globally threatened Grey-necked Picathartes (*Picathartes oreas*) in south-east Nigeria; a call for conservation action (2016). *Ostrich – African Journal of Ornithology* 87: 101–112.
3. **Atuo, F. A;** Hillis N and O’Connell, T. J (2014) Documented record of scaled quail in Ellis County, Oklahoma: a unique county record? *Bulletin of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society*, 47: 1–4.

2. **Atuo, F. A;** Ivande, S. T; Wala, Z. J and O’Connell, T.J (2014) Effects of hunting camps on breeding grey-necked picathartes (*Picathartes oreas*) in south-east Nigeria. *Oryx – International Journal of Conservation*, 48: 460–464.
1. **Atuo, F. A** and Manu, S. A (2013) Territory size and habitat selection of Cinnamon-breasted Rock Bunting (*Emberiza tahapisi*) in Nigeria. *Ostrich – African Journal of Ornithology*, 84: 71-78

Articles in review

4. **Atuo, F. A.** and O’Connell, T. J: Using multiple offset detection techniques to estimate spatially explicit resource selection by the Mississippi Kite in a heterogeneous mixed-grass prairie landscape. *Journal of Field Ornithology*
3. **Atuo, F. A.** and O’Connell, T. J: Sympatric predators in mixed-grass prairie landscapes: the functional role of compositional heterogeneity. *Landscape Ecology*
2. **Atuo, F. A.** and O’Connell, T. J: Landscape complexity creates contrasting pattern of predation risk for ground foraging birds in grassland ecosystems. *Animal Ecology*
1. **Atuo, F. A,** O’Connell, T. J; Saud, P; Determan, B. and Crose, J.A: All that glitters is not gold: Killdeer nesting selection of graveled oil pads suggest an ecological trap. *The Journal of Wildlife Management*

Research Grants

3. **Atuo, F. A** (2016) Mitigating trade on avian derivatives in south-east Nigeria. Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation, the Rufford Foundation, UK. £5,000.
2. **Atuo, F. A.** and Abanyam, P. A (2014) Trade on Avian Body Parts: Implication for Biodiversity Conservation in South-Eastern Nigeria. Rufford Small Grant for Nature Conservation, the Rufford Foundation, UK. £6,000.
1. **Atuo, F. A;** Ivande, S. T and Wala, Z. J (2010). Assessment and conservation status of the globally threaten Grey-necked Picathartes in south-eastern Nigeria. Future Conservationist Award, Conservation Leadership Program, Washington DC, USA. \$12,500.

Selected conference presentations

- Atuo, F. A;** O’Connell, T and Abanyam, P. U (2015) Evaluating the socio-economic drivers of avian body parts trade in West African rainforests: balancing culture and conservation. Student Conference on Conservation Science (SCCS) –Beijing, China.
- Atuo, F. A** and O’Connell, T (2015) Spatially explicit densities of two generalist predators at two mixed-grass prairie landscapes: implications for quail conservation in the great plains. The 27th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB), Montpellier, France.
- Atuo, F. A** and O’Connell, T (2014) Spatio-temporal segregation of multiple raptors in mixed-grass prairie landscapes: effects of scale. The joint meeting of the American Ornithologists’ Union, the Cooper Ornithological Society, and the Society of Canadian Ornithologists. Estes Park, Colorado, United States.
- Atuo, F. A;** Ivande, S. T and Wala, Z. J (2011) Saving the last population of the globally threatened Grey-necked Picathartes (*Picathartes oreas*) in West Africa. The 25th International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB), Auckland, New Zealand.