



NISER NEWSLETTER



MAY 2026

NISER

VISION

TO BE A WORLD CLASS THINK TANK IN THE AREA OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY RESEARCH

MISSION

TO CONSISTENTLY GENERATE CREDIBLE KNOWLEDGE THROUGH QUALITY RESEARCH. CONDUCT SPECIALIZED TRAINING AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES WHILE INTERACTING WITH RELEVANT SEGMENTS OF THE NIGERIAN SOCIETY IN THE TASK OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

NISER examines implications of US/Israel - Iran conflict

The Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER) held a Virtual Policy Dialogue on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, bringing together policy-makers, researchers, industry professionals, and members of the public to assess the economic and geopolitical consequences of the ongoing US/Israel-Iran conflict for Nigeria and other developing economies.

The dialogue was declared open by NISER's Director-General, Prof. Antonia Simbine, who underscored the urgency of evidence-based policy conversations during periods of global uncertainty. She noted that developing countries like Nigeria are particularly exposed to the ripple effects of geopolitical crises and reaffirmed NISER's commitment to providing timely research and guidance to government and stakeholders.

Understanding the Crisis and Its Global Impact

The lead presentation was delivered by Dr. Iyabo Olanrele, a Senior Research Fellow at NISER, who outlined the scale and scope



Prof. Antonia Simbine, DG NISER



Dr. Iyabo Olanrele, Lead Presenter



Prof. Ahmed Rufai Alkali, Panelist

of the disruptions triggered by the conflict. Central to the crisis has been Iran's closure of the Strait of Hormuz; a critical chokepoint through which approximately 20 percent of global oil supply is transported. This has driven crude oil prices sharply upward and set off a chain of consequences across global energy markets.

Dr. Olanrele highlighted that the fallout extends well beyond energy markets. Global inflation has risen, growth projections have been revised downward, and supply chains have been strained across multiple sectors. Reduced LNG supply and surging fertilizer prices have added further pressure on global food security, while aviation and tourism have

been hit hard by rising jet fuel costs and widespread airspace closures across the Middle East.

Nigeria's position in this crisis is complex. As an oil-exporter, the country stands to gain a fiscal windfall from higher crude prices. Despite the Dangote refinery's substantial capacity, Nigeria's persistent reliance on imported refined products and the refinery's own need for imported crude feedstock leave the economy exposed to global fuel price shocks, domestic inflation, and exchange rate pressures. This dual reality (benefiting as a producer while suffering as a consumer) represents a significant policy dilemma that panelists expounded throughout the dialogue.

NISER is open for collaboration – DG

The Director General of the Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, NISER, Professor Antonia Simbine, has reiterated the resolve of Nigeria's premier Think tank to collaborate with international and local institutions for Social and Economic Research to boost the world's economy.



From R-L: D.G of INERA, Republic of Congo, Mr. Dominic Kankonde, Mrs. Lydiane Nahami of INERA, the representative of NISER's Director General, Professor J. O. Adeoti and Mr. Paul Domstop, IITA Researcher.

Professor Simbine, made this known on Thursday, May 7th, 2026, while playing host to the Director General and officials of Institut National Pour L'etude Et La Recherche Agronomiques (INERA), Republic of Congo, at NISER's Headquarters in Ibadan, Oyo State.

Represented by Professor John Adeoti, Head of NISER's Research Management Department,

NISER's Director General, welcomed her Congo counterpart, Mr. Kankonde, and his team to NISER.

Professor Adeoti, further introduced NISER as Nigeria's premier Think Tank, maintaining that NISER over time has contributed to nation building through rigorous research which has reshaped the economy of Nigeria.

He listed NISER's research policy focus to the INERA's team and termed their visit a triple-headed framework and highly commended them for their proposal for collaboration with NISER to carry out economic research to boost the economy of Africa and the world at large .

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Prof. Antonia Simbine

The task of positioning NISER as Nigeria's foremost research hub was reiterated to members of staff from Knowledge Management Department (KMD), Public Affairs, ICT and research officers from other units of the Institute in an enlarged meeting that came up on Wednesday, May 6, 2026.

In his speech to the forum, Prof Andrew Onwuemele, Head, Knowledge Management Department(KMD), NISER reprised the roles of staff members in the various units and com-

‘Be creative, improve on your output’ -

Onwuemele

ing NISER's activities and the upgrading of the ICT facilities for better performance in the Institute.

mended them to do more at improving NISER's visibility, especially through social media handles. He noted that the Institute is willing to support staff who are creative and output oriented in projecting NISER to the world. He therefore welcomed ideas from staff and encouraged them to put in their best.

The meeting was characterized by a proposal presentation by the Public Affairs unit, plans and strategies on upscal-



Prof Onwuemele (Right) presides over the Meeting

NISER trains staff on fire safety

The Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER) has trained its staff in fire safety and emergency preparedness through a sensitization workshop held at the Institute's Conference Room in Ibadan. The programme was organized in collaboration with Fire Tamers Company Ltd to provide staff with practical knowledge to prevent and respond to fire incidents at work, at home, and during official assignments. The Director-General, Professor A. T. Simbine, declared the workshop open and thereafter announced plans for further training in fire safety and first aid to strengthen emergency readiness across the Institute.

The Director of Administration, Mr. E.

Udofia said the initiative builds on an earlier retreat by the Oyo State Fire Service, where selected NISER staff received training to cascade knowledge to colleagues. Under the theme "Promoting Fire Safety Culture and

Emergency Preparedness in NISER," participants learned to identify fire classes, use extinguishers, test alarms, and apply first aid and CPR techniques. Six NISER fire marshals led presentations and practical sessions on extinguishing fires with blankets, foam, water, and CO₂ extinguishers. The workshop closed with a call from Dr. Benedicta Isunueo for staff to maintain fire safety practices.



A training workshop on

quantitative research for field enumerators involved with the MasterCard Foundation funded study on Youth in Indigenous Enterprises in the informal Economy took place on Monday, May 11, 2026 at NISER Conference Room utilizing both physical and online platforms as media for the hybrid training.

The study, an initiative of the MasterCard Foundation is being undertaken by NISER in partnership with the Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER), Ghana benchmarking on a growing

Mastercard: NISER trains field enumerators on quantitative research protocol

youth population in Africa to engender dignified and fulfilling work for young men and women in Africa. In her welcoming address, the Director General, NISER noted that the study was a Pan African study coordinated by ISSER and implemented with other executing partners across 7 African countries. She further added that the goal of the research is to generate evidenced-based insight that will enhance youth employability in the continent.

The study is a 3-year project(2025 -2027) which had already concluded its qualitative phase of the re-

search, which took place between September 3rd – 30th, 2026 across 6 geo - political zones in Nigeria amassing 155 in-depth interviews and 235 Key Informant Interviews (KII) from youths in the informal economy sector. Youths selected for the study were youth

entrepreneurs purposively selected from 4 critical indigenous enterprises of Beauty and Cosmetics, Arts and Crafts, Textiles and Agro-processing industries.

The Director General, NISER address was later followed by a Project Overview and Debrief of the Qualitative Study by

Dr Cecy Balogun after which training on the quantitative data collecting instrument, approach and fieldwork protocols were presented by Dr Iyabo Olanrele and Dr

Segun Awode. The meeting ended with a closing remark from Prof. A. Aluko, Head, Social Policy Department who emphasized the need for field enumerators to imbibe a sense of professionalism in discharging their duty in order to generate high quality data.

On a practical note, Prof. Simbine made the training very interactive as she ensured active participation from every one present, especially from the Institute's Youth Corpers . She felt the compelling need to involve these ones even as she noted that her journey into NISER began when she was posted to NISER as a Youth Corper. This shared experience, she had hoped would kindle a 'Can Do Spirit' in the Corpers to aim high in life and to embrace research as a profession.



DG, NISER with participants at the MasterCard Training

The Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research (NISER), on Monday 25th May, 2026, held the latest edition of the NISER Research Seminar Series (NRSS) at the Institute's Conference Room to present projections on the prospects of the Nigerian economy from 2026–2028. The seminar featured both physical and virtual participants

Declaring the seminar open, the Director-General of Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research, Professor Antonia Simbine, described the projections as evidence-based research aimed at guiding Nigeria through current economic challenges.

She noted that the projections were developed from an assessment of previous economic trends and government reforms, especially efforts to cushion the effects of fuel subsidy removal. She expressed optimism that the 2026–2028 outlook would

NISER projects Nigeria's Economic fortunes for 2026-2028

witness growth in non-oil activities, infrastructural development, and economic diversification, while commending the Federal Government's reform initiatives.

Presenting the paper, Dr. Segun Awode stated that the projections indicate improved economic performance driven by reforms and infrastructure investments. According to him, the gains would include improved forex inflow, exchange rate stability, increased government revenue, and enhanced trade opportunities, although challenges such as inflation and high transportation costs may persist.

Key projections highlighted include:

- * Steady GDP growth
- * Declining inflation,
- * Improved fiscal performance



Dr Segun Awode

* Reduced unemployment rates between 2026 and 2028. The discussants, Professor Sulaiman Yusuf and Elder David Adeosun, commended the NISER macro-economic modelling team for the quality of the projections while calling for stronger welfare policies, improved social data systems, and greater inter-agency collaboration to support effective policy implementation.

The seminar ended with closing remarks by Professor Oluwakemi Okuwa, who appreciated the Director-General, presenters, discussants, and participants for their contributions to the successful seminar.

SOCIAL EVENT



**Behold !!!
Dr and Mrs
Temitope
Afolalu**

Thursday, 23rd April, 2026 will remain a day forever etched in the annals of the Afolalu's dynasty – family of the Director of Finance and Account, NISER, Mrs. Omotola Afolalu being the day that her first son, Dr. Temitope Afolalu wedded his delectable heartthrob at the Aurora Conference Centre Oshogbo, Osun State.

All roads virtually led to the city of Oshogbo, a city recognized by UNESCO for her rich cultural heritage – Osun-Osogbo festival, was

home to NISER staff, family and well-wishers of the Afolalu's and the Adedjeji's (Bride's family) as their children became husband and wife – Dr and Mrs. Temitope Afolalu. The event witnessed a massive turn out of NISER's Staff and Management team who came bedecked in all the finery of the chosen Aso-Ebi for the occasion in addition with their joy for the Afolalu's. The overwhelming presence of NISER's staff and management team was indeed an avowal of the testament of love and regard proposed in Mrs Afolalu by management and staff of

the Institute.

The colourful traditional wedding ceremony pulled no stops in its decorations, designs and presentations of the wedding ceremony as every item of the event was observed in vintage Yoruba traditional flair and cultural display in its frenzy and performance. The bride and the groom were besides themselves with joy as they had eyes only for each other even as the Groomsmen and the Bridesmaids serenaded the event with their outfits, dance and jollity in obeisance to Yoruba culture.

The eventful ceremony was a joyous occasion for family and friends of the Afolalu's and the Adedjeji's immersed in the celebration of love by the couple and the presence of well-wishers

from far and near. In her own words, Mrs Afolalu described the wedding as an over joyous and memorable moment for her being the day that her first son got married. According to her, "I was overwhelmed at the presence of NISER staff. The crowd was unbelievable. About 72 staff members came to the event including management and staff. I felt elated and happy. I felt happy knowing that my people stood behind me. It is a most wonderful experience indeed to have."



**The couple
with Mr. and
Mrs. Afolalu.**



**NISER's
Management
Team powerfully
present at the
occasion.**