



## Student Highlight

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### WHAT'S MORE

- *Yusuf is proficient in data analysis, creating infographics, and leveraging AI tools for research purposes.*
- *He has a strong passion for sustainable development and has dedicated time to evaluating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in developing countries.*

## Yusuf Adebowale

Master of Arts in Rural Development Student

### GETTING TO KNOW YUSUF ADEBOWALE

Yusuf Adebowale was born in Lagos, and hail from Ijebu-Ode, Ijebu Ode LGA of Ogun State, Nigeria. He had his higher education at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. There he obtained a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Extension and Rural Development. He also obtained a Higher National Diploma in Agricultural Extension and Management, and Agricultural Technology at the Lagos State Polytechnic (Now Lagos State University of Science and Technology), in Ikorodu, Nigeria. Throughout his academic career, Yusuf received scholarships from the British American Tobacco Nigeria (BATN) and the British America Tobacco Iseyin Agronomy (BATIA). Currently, Yusuf is in the final semester of the Master of Arts in Rural Development (MARD) program here at Brandon University.

Yusuf is a focused self-starter and has developed good interpersonal skills while conducting research with others. He works efficiently as an individual and believes he is a valuable team member. He seeks new challenges and tries to think outside the box while looking for creative solutions to any given problem.

### WORK AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Yusuf has over 8 years of experience as an instructor, researcher, and data analyst in Nigeria and Canada. Over the past months, Yusuf has been working as a research volunteer at the Rural Development Institute (RDI). Through the MARD program, and as a research volunteer at RDI, he has gained new insights and experience with regard to understanding complex research methodologies and approaches, data analysis techniques

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*Rural development is the heartbeat of sustainable development.*

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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and gaining team collaboration skills. These experiences have created an ideal platform for Yusuf to hone new skills and learn alongside experts and other students. Yusuf believes that the MARD program has helped him build the right, relevant and reliable competencies capable of contributing positively to agricultural industries, especially with consideration to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Therefore, his ultimate vision with the MARD program is to acquire intellectual and practical skills to make a meaningful contribution to solving a variety of problems confronting the food system in the world, particularly in third-world countries.

#### YUSUF'S INSIGHTS ON THE MARD PROGRAM AND FUTURE ASPIRATIONS

In the next 10 years, Yusuf sees himself in a leadership role within the field of agriculture and food processing. These are anchored in his commitment to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of knowledge and societal well-being. On a personal level, he aims to cultivate a continuous passion for learning and intellectual curiosity as he is dedicated to continuous growth, fostering a mindset of adaptability and resilience in the face of evolving research landscapes.

Professionally, he aspires to make substantive contributions to his field of expertise, engaging in research that addresses significant challenges and pushes the boundaries of current knowledge. He envisions collaborating with diverse teams, fostering interdisciplinary approaches, and leveraging emerging technologies to explore innovative solutions. In addition, he hopes to foster an inclusive, creative, and ethical research culture and would like to leverage his experiences and knowledge from the MARD program to mentor and lead teams to success.

The Rural Development Institute is grateful to be affiliated with a variety of communities, agencies, academics and students across Canada and beyond. These relationships have facilitated the development of unique networks allowing for collaborative projects to take form, and RDI wants to extend its appreciation to all rural researchers.