



Dr. Carol Ibe

Originally from Nigeria, Carol understands the need to develop the right capacity to advance bioscience education, research, and innovation to achieve food security and sustainable livelihoods in sub-Saharan Africa. This led her to set up the JR Biotek Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to upskilling and empowering Africa-based crop agricultural researchers to improve African crops and to foster links between the lab and market in support of smallholder farmers. Carol received her PhD in Plant Sciences (as a Gates Scholar) from the University of Cambridge and completed her postdoctoral research (in crop genetics and pathology) at the renowned John Innes Centre in the UK. Her research focused on improving the productivity and resilience of key global staple cereal crops for enhanced food security. As Research Manager at the University of Cambridge's Global Challenges (an interdisciplinary centre aimed at addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals with a particular focus on the poorest half of the world's population by 2030), Carol contributes her wealth of experience to harness and impact-driven research and partnerships between Cambridge and global South partners. Her excellent leadership skills and absolute dedication to improving the lives of others have led to several awards including the highly prestigious University of Cambridge's Society for the Application of Research Awards (CSAR) and the 2019 Bill Gates Sr. Prize.