



International Conference on Africa's  
Sustainable Development  
I C A S u D

# BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

*of the*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICA'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ICASuD) 2023

**Theme:** *Shifting Africa into a Production and Industrialized Economy Amid Global Socio-economic Disruptions*

**Date:** Wednesday 18 – Thursday 19 October, 2023

**Venue:** Virtual and Physical (Anchor University, Lagos Multipurpose Hall, Anchor University Lagos, Ipaja Ayobo, Lagos, Nigeria)

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**Published by**

**International Centre for policy research and Industry Linkages (ICePRIL),**

Shaveh Consulting,

No. 1 Sanni Road, off Ita Baale Bus-stop, Olomore, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria

**Email:** [icasud@shavehconsulting.com](mailto:icasud@shavehconsulting.com)

**Website:** <https://icepril.shavehconsulting.com/icasud/icasud-2022/>

**Tel:** +234-8079732250

ISBN: Print 978-978-996-079-8

Online 978-978-996-080-4

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11203915>

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## Track 1

# ECONOMIC IMPACT OF BUSINESS ON AFRICA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

## **ENTREPRENEURSHIP CURRICULUM CONTENT AND STUDENT'S OPPORTUNITY IDENTIFICATION**

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### **Abstract**

Unemployment and its pressure on the economy of nations is on an increase hence the need for nations to embrace entrepreneurship education for the entire population, especially the youths. This is because the economy of a nation is largely dependent on the youth population as they are the most active part of the population. This study discussed the role of entrepreneurship curriculum content on student's opportunity identification. The entrepreneurship curriculum content of students is said to have an impact on their ability to effectively identify opportunities when they come across one. It is believed that a student's cognitive processes and entrepreneurial activities serve as a precursor to several entrepreneurial acts. Data was obtained from a sample of 370 students using a structured questionnaire and analysed with SmartPLS statistical tool. The results show a significant relationship between entrepreneurship curriculum content and student's opportunity identification study. The study concludes that entrepreneurship curriculum content enhances student's opportunity identification skill and recommends among other things that institutions pay attention to the changes in the environment of business through the process of planning the curriculum requirements of the students thereby helping them build opportunity identification skills.

**Keywords:** *Entrepreneurship, curriculum content, entrepreneurship education, opportunity identification*



## **THE ROLE OF STUDENT BASED SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IN ADDRESSING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study investigates the role of student-based social enterprise in tackling youth unemployment. The specific objectives are, to: determine the influence of leadership training on the Enactus alumnus in the quest to overcome youth unemployment; ascertain the viability of the social enterprise for solving youth unemployment; investigate the potential benefits of the Enactus' social enterprise in the quest to solve the problem of youth unemployment. Exploratory research design was adopted for the study. Stratified random sampling technique was employed to identify the key informants. Ten interviewees were recruited, only five showed voluntary participation. The gathered data was analysed using content analysis. The results show an improvement in leadership and communication abilities; capitalizing knowledge bank of the social enterprise to explore business opportunities; exposure to project management. Therefore, it is recommended that more NGOs should combine social enterprise with their current missions in order to speedily reduce social vices in society.

**KEYWORDS:** Faculty Advisors, Enactus Nigeria, Enactus Alumni, Non-governmental organization, Third sector.



## TECHNIQUE TO ATTAIN SUSTAINABILITY IN GENDER-BASED SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP: A FOCUS ON NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

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### Abstract

Non-governmental organizations have become imperative to human existence and perform a major role in the inclusion and accessibility to economic, environmental and social equity. Particularly, the objectives are, to: dissect government policies and legislations that enable public participation of NGOs in social problem-solving in Nigeria; and explore the efforts of NGOs as a social agent in assisting the vulnerable people in the communities to overcome social challenges. This investigation is a qualitative approach that makes use of an open-ended structured instrument. It adopted a purposive non-probability sampling technique to ascertain the key experts. Note-taking and participants' observation were deployed to complement voice recording. The study made use of five discussants, this was given a nod by (Nyumba, Wilson, Derrick, & Mukherjee, 2018). The recorded session was transcribed accordingly. The data collected was themed, categorized and analyzed. The study revealed that there is access for NGOs to publicly participate in solving the social problem. The efforts of the free services have led to an increased standard of living for the vulnerable and disadvantaged, and job creation. It was concluded that the female gender dominated the humanitarian services. The study, therefore, recommended more social agent participation in social arrangement and engagement. The male gender is encouraged to participate in humanitarian services.

**Keywords:** Volunteer, Sustainable development, Non-governmental organizations, Free service, Social agent.

## Effect of Manpower Training and Development on Employee Performance

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### Abstract

The aim of this study was to examine the effect of manpower training and development on staff performance in Federal College of Education, Zaria. The survey research design method was used in this study which involves using a self-design questionnaire in collecting and using data from two hundred and forty eight (248) employees of the college. Linear regression analysis was used to analyze

the data with the aid of Social Statistical Package for social sciences (SPSS) version 22. The results revealed that the independent variables: manpower training, manpower development have significant strong positive influence on employees' performance. It is therefore recommended that Training and development of employees should be seen as prerequisite by the management of college of education and every other business organization and the contents should be well be planned in line with organizational objectives and that regular training should be done intermittently.

**Keywords:** Employee Performance, Manpower Training, Manpower Development, Organisational Success, Development Programmes

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE, FOREIGN AID AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

Nigeria while engaged in international trade in promoting her growth, also attracts some foreign aid. However, while the adverse effects of foreign aid for growth are much discussed in the literature, aid may enable Nigeria to develop a greater capacity for international trade. On that basis, the present study utilizing data over the period of 1990 to 2021 compares the contributions of international trade and economic growth to Nigeria and also the possibility that aid may boost the capacity of a developing country as Nigeria for trade to support her growth, Utilizing ADF unit root test and ARDL, the study finds that international trade relative to foreign aid is significant for boosting Nigeria's economic growth, while no evidence is found that aid boost Nigeria's capacity to trade in promoting her economic growth. The findings give rise to recommendations that will ensure Nigeria's greater reliance on international trade for her growth.

**Keywords:** Aid-for-trade, Autoregressive Distributed Lag, Economic growth, International Trade Nigeria.

## EMPLOYMENT INEQUALITY AND SOCIAL VICES AMONG YOUTHS IN POST COVID-19 ERA IN CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA

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### ABSTRACT

This study investigated employment inequality and social vices among youths in post covid-19 era in Cross River State, Nigeria. To achieve the purpose of this study, a null hypothesis was formulated. Survey research design was adopted for the study. Multiple sampling approaches were adopted in selecting the local government, wards and four hundred (400) respondents used for the study. A twenty item modified four point Likert scale questionnaire titled "Employment Inequality and Social Vices Questionnaire" (EISVQ) was the instrument used for gathering data for the study. To test the hypothesis formulated for the study, simple linear regression statistical tool was adopted for data analysis. The hypothesis formulated was tested at 0.05 level of significance. The result of the analysis revealed that employment inequality significantly predict social vices among youths in post covid-19 era in Cross River State.

**Keywords:** employment, inequality, social vices, youths, post covid-19 era, Cross River State, Nigeria.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATOR'S COMPETENCE AND STUDENT'S ENTREPRENEURIAL INTEREST

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## Abstract

Entrepreneurship educator's competence stands as a strong determining factor in implementing entrepreneurship education initiatives that would make meaningful effects both on the student's interest and consequently on the economy through the student's exhibition of entrepreneurial behaviours. This study discussed entrepreneurship educator's competence effect on student's entrepreneurial interest. The study's objective was to consider the influence of an entrepreneurship educator's competence on a student's entrepreneurial interest. A sample size of 370 students was surveyed and the responses were analysed using the SmartPLS tool. The result showed a strong influence of the educator's competences on student's entrepreneurial interest. One amongst other competences was the educator's knowledge and application in an actual enterprise. The study recommended that for entrepreneurship educators to be able to deliver sustainable quality education the criteria for choosing educators should go beyond a basic business education background to actual entrepreneurial qualities and better certifications.

**Keywords;** entrepreneurship education, entrepreneurial interest, educator's competence.

## WORK FAMILY CONFLICT AND ACADEMIC JOB STRESS ON LIFE SATISFACTION OF PRIVATE UNIVERSITY LECTURERS IN OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

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## Abstract

Work-Family Conflict and Academic Job stress can influence Life satisfaction thereby affecting optimal production of Lecturers. The study investigates the impact of work-family conflict and academic job stress on life satisfaction among private university lecturers and the role of marital status and work family conflict on life satisfaction. Cross-sectional survey design was used and randomly (head/ tail) selected alphabetically six private universities in Ogun state. The questionnaire consisted Life satisfaction scale, Work-Family Conflict scale and newly developed scale on Academics' job stress. 120 university lecturers was targeted and analysed with 2x2ANOVA and linear regression. Findings revealed that work-family conflict and academic job stress significantly influence life satisfaction of university lecturers, there was a significant interaction effect between marital status and work-family conflict on life satisfaction among university lecturers. This study recommends that university management should develop strategies to reduce lecturers' dissatisfaction, and employ more hands-on deck to reduce workload.

**Keywords:** Work-Family Conflict, Academics Stress, Life Satisfaction, Lecturer

## STRATEGIC PLANNING AND SMES INNOVATION PERFORMANCE AMIDST FORMAL INSTITUTIONAL VOID: ORGANIZATIONAL RESILIENCE COMPETENCY AS AN INTERVENOR

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### Abstract

Amidst the rising global economic, social and health shocks that are obviously taking their toll of the way and manner businesses coordinate their activities, there is a need for ensuring more proactive capabilities of the firms' performance. While the literature on strategic planning and firm resilience are separately identified as organizational practices that enhance firm adaptability and performance, there is no known empirical evidence that reflects their combine interventions on the firm's existence. Therefore, this research aims to investigate the relationships between firm resilience, strategic planning and the performance of SMEs in the informal market of a developing economy. We utilized a descriptive research method that involved data gathering from 314 SMEs in the informal economy in Nigeria. The research analysis was implemented using SMART-PLS version 3.3.9. Structural equation modelling. The result reflected that firm resilience mediated the relationship between strategic planning and performance, and thus suggests that firms must consider firm resilience capabilities as a critical component in the planning of strategic planning activities. Theoretical and managerial implications are discussed.

**Keywords:** Firm resilience, Strategic planning, Performance, Informal economy, Developing economy

## THE DETERMINANTS OF INFORMAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN NIGERIAN WOMEN

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### Abstract

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the underlying factors driving informal entrepreneurship in Nigerian women. The study employed a qualitative research design using in-depth descriptive questions to explore and understand the factors responsible for starting a business without formal registration and remaining unregistered regardless of business growth and profitability among women-owned businesses in Lagos, the largest urban city in Nigeria. While there are already well-established contextual factors defining the Nigerian informal business environment, there is a need to bring illumination to specific factors affecting women entrepreneurship in the informal sector because of their growing importance to economic growth in both developing and emerging economies. This study sought to understand how motives, socio-cultural factors, generational differences based on age, and environmental factors influence the decisions of women to start and operate a business informally. Factors affecting these women's decision to remain in the informal market or transit into a formal



market were explored. 30 business owners were interviewed in this study and the findings showed that while economic and political/legal factors such as inadequate working capital, multiple taxation, filing of returns were found to be critical influences on the decision of female business owners to remain in the informal sector, a few other strong themes such as lifestyle, attitudes and ethnicity were found to be pronounced on analysis as critical determinants of informal entrepreneurship among women in Nigeria. Specifically, there were thin boundary lines among themes such as attitudes, values and ethnicity which had strong influences on these women's approach to starting a business and operating that business informally. The study concludes that female informal entrepreneurship may be more embedded in socio-cultural factors than economic or political/legal factors; however, there are hidden complexities surrounding this phenomenon. This study recommends that future studies should increase the geographic scope covered in this study and also employ mixed methods, specifically quantitative research designs to examine the generalisability of the factors identified in this study.

**Keywords:** Informal Entrepreneurship; Women-Owned Businesses; Economic Factors; Socio-Cultural Factors; Lagos

# Track 2

## IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY & DIGITAL INNOVATIONS ON AFRICA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION



## **FAST-GROWING AND FAST CLOSURE OF SMALL BUSINESSES: OPTIMIZING ONLINE MARKETING TOOLS**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Small and medium-sized firms (SMEs) are an important driver of the expansion, and sustainability of the Nigerian economy. Small and medium-sized businesses play a crucial role in the growth and lubricant of any economy. Despite the fact that most programs aimed at SMEs in Nigeria were poorly implemented, some of them did succeed. This study tried to pinpoint the difficulties and opportunities faced by Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), as well as how digital marketing may solve many of the SMEs' problems. To highlight key points on the topic of this study, pertinent literatures were reviewed. A sample size of 162 participants was carefully chosen for this investigation. The research sample was limited to small and medium-sized businesses in the study area that had an internet presence. For this investigation, the quantitative research design approach was employed. The acquired data were checked and analyzed using the pertinent statistical tools of IBM-SPSS software, version 25. The success of SMEs is significantly influenced by the level of marketing, according to the study's findings. The marketing of SMEs determines the long-term success or failure of the company. SMEs must become digital if they are to grow and operate effectively because without internet that facilitates online marketing, small businesses cannot gain worldwide visibility, and people won't buy from you if they are not aware of your goods or services. To assure SMEs stability and economy growth, the report advised SMEs and other economic stakeholders to use online marketing.

**Keywords:** Fast-growing, Small Businesses, Online marketing, Economy, Sales growth

## **THE IMPACT OF PAYMENT SYSTEMS ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SELECTED WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIES**

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### **Abstract**

The study examines the impact of payment systems on economic growth in West African economies from 2005 to 2021 using panel Fully Modified OLS method. The proxies for payment systems are the number of ATMs per 100,000 adults, mobile money payment (MMP), the number of Deposit Money Bank branches (DMBBs) per 100,000 adults. The findings revealed a significant positive influence of ATM and DMBBs on economic growth in West Africa. However, MMP highlighted insignificant effect on economic growth. The study concludes that greater accessibility to ATMs and the presence of a higher number of DMBBs enhances financial transactions, stimulates economic activities and improved access to credit thereby driving economic growth. Based on these findings, policymakers and stakeholders in West Africa are encouraged to focus on expanding the number of internet banking facilities such as ATMs and establishing more DMBBs to aid internet banking.

**Keywords:** Payment systems, economic growth, West African economies

## KEY FACTORS AFFECTING AWARENESS LEVEL OF INDUSTRY 4.0 TECHNOLOGIES AMONG LECTURERS AND STUDENTS IN A HIGHER INSTITUTION OF LEARNING

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### Abstract

One of the ways of promoting a shift to an industrialized economy is by teaching and adopting Industry 4.0 in higher institutions of learning. However, the awareness level of Industry 4.0 is relatively low, hence it is necessary to investigate the factors responsible for the low awareness rate. The study aims at investigating the factors affecting the awareness level of Industry 4.0 technology among lecturers and students with the view to introducing it into their curriculum. Adopting a qualitative research design and a census sampling technique, an open-ended questionnaire was used in eliciting information from lecturers and students while thematic analysis was used in categorising the factors. It was discovered that the key factors affecting lecturers' awareness level can be categorised into three while that of students into eight. The study thus concluded that information factors were the major factors affecting the awareness level of industry 4.0 technology among lecturers and students. Professional bodies should organise workshops and seminars where information on Industry 4.0 will be disseminated to lecturers and students.

**Keywords:** Industry 4.0 technology, innovative curriculum, key factors, lecturers, students.

## DIGITAL INNOVATION AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN SUB-SAHARA AFRICA

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### ABSTRACT

Poverty has implications for economic growth and people's welfare. The United Nations set 17 Sustainable Development Goals for which Poverty is at the center with the remaining 16 Goals dependent on the achievement of the first Goal which is poverty eradication. Countries in Sub Sahara Africa are lagging behind in achieving sustainable development in the region. Literatures established that poverty level is concentrated in this region. The United Nations has indicated that countries in the

region need to develop strategies to combat poverty in their region and the actualization of 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Digital innovation with the potentials for creating jobs with emerging technologies and enhance performance of SME holds attractive potentials in addressing the poverty issues, however, there is paucity of studies in this area. The present study aims to explore how digital innovation can be used as a veritable tool to alleviate poverty in Sub-Sahara Africa. The study employed a structured questionnaire to obtain data from six hundred and fifty-five (655) SMEs/Startups in five Sub-Sahara Africa countries. Data obtained were analyzed with the Structural Equation Model on R programming with the help of SEMinR package. The study found that digital innovation has significant effect on job creation and SMEs performance. The study suggested that digital innovation is a veritable tool that can be used in Sub-Sahara Africa region to alleviate poverty and improve economic growth which is crucial for the attainment of 17 Sustainable development Goals set by United Nations against the schedules target for 2030. It is evident that countries in the region need a policy focus that drive, facilitate and permeate digital innovation to achieve sustained poverty eradication initiative

**Keywords:** Poverty, Innovation, Technology, Development, SMEs, Sub-Sahara Africa, Economic Growth, SDG

## DIGITAL WALLET ADOPTION AND ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SMEs) IN DEVELOPING ECONOMY

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### Abstract

This study examined digital wallet and economic sustainability of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in a developing economy, with focus on south east Nigeria. The main thrusts of the study were to investigate the impact of quick teller e-wallet on competitiveness of SMEs and to ascertain the effect of Opay e-wallet on cost reduction of SMEs. A sample of 367 was obtained from a population of 7,992 gotten from the number of SMEs registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission. The data obtained through the utilization of a structured questionnaire was evaluated and displayed in descriptive tables, illustrating the frequency and percentage of replies from the participants. Regression was used to examine the hypotheses, and the statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) version 26 for the analysis. The findings indicate that the quick teller e-wallet and Opay e-wallet impact positively on the operations of SMEs in South East, Nigeria. The study concludes that Digital wallets play crucial roles in transforming the business landscape for SMEs in South East, Nigeria, and recommends that, embracing such digital financial solutions is vital for SMEs to adapt to changing market dynamics, improve operational efficiency, and achieve sustainable economic growth in the South East region of Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Digital wallet, Economic, Sustainability, SMEs, Developing economy

## IMPACT OF DIGITAL MARKETING ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

This study evaluated the impact of digital marketing on Nigeria's socio-economic development and sustainability. The study was conducted to determine if social media impacts on job creation in Nigeria and to examine the effect of email marketing on environmental preservation in Nigeria. A simple random selection of 181 sample size of a population of 331 was used. The respondents completed a Likert scale-structured questionnaire. To display the frequency and percentage of responses from the respondents, the data was evaluated and displayed in descriptive tables. With the help of SPSS Version 26, a linear regression statistical technique was utilized to evaluate the hypotheses. The results show that social media strongly influences the generation of jobs in Nigeria, and that; email marketing has significant effect on environmental preservation in Nigeria. The study concludes that digital marketing propels economic expansion, generates job opportunities, improves information accessibility, and fosters environmental awareness; and recommends that, businesses and policymakers should recognize its potential and leverage its benefits to foster sustainable socio-economic development.

**Keywords:** Digital marketing, Socio-economic, Development, Sustainability

## PROCUREMENT AUTOMATION AND SUPPLY CHAIN PERFORMANCE IN NIGERIA'S OIL AND GAS SECTOR

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## ABSTRACT

Automation of supply chain function is widely reported in the literature, but little is known about how the adoption of automated or e-procurement improves oil and gas supply chain performance. We provide this insight by investigating the effect of procurement automation on oil and gas supply chain performance in Nigeria. The study utilizes the survey approach through the closed-ended structured questionnaire to collect data from 164 oil and gas supply chain engineers and business executives. Data were analyzed using structural equation modeling. Findings showed that the adoption of four e-procurement strategies (i.e e-requisition, e-sourcing, e-tendering, and e-invoicing) is positively related to improved supply chain performance in the form of reduced inventory costs, and reduced contract delivery delay. From these findings, the study suggests building technological capacity to implement procurement that integrates the basic requirements of e-sourcing, e-tendering, e-requisition, and e-invoicing in order to boost supply chain performance.

**Keywords:** E-procurement, supply chain management, electronic tendering, supply chain performance, contract management.

## A STUDY ON SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE AND ATTITUDE TOWARDS ACADEMIC WORK AMONG STUDENTS OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE GAMBIA

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## Abstract

This study aims to establish the relationship between social media usage and attitudes towards academic work among the students of higher education Institutions in the Gambia. The study is important as some studies found it negative to students learning (Lenhart, 2010, Sharive, 2018) and thus needs attention. The study adopts quantitative research with two hundred and twenty-eight students chosen randomly from a population of nine hundred and ninety-seven (997) students and identified using Krejci Morgan's (1970) table. The respondents are year two students from the University of The Gambia (UTG) and the University of Science Engineering and Technology (USET). The study uses survey methods to collect and analyze data using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences). The study uses descriptive analysis-test ANOVA and correlation. The key finding suggests that students' SM usage decreases their attitude toward academic work.

**Keywords:** Time displacement theory, Social Media usage, Students, attitude to academic work, Higher Education Institutions.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE BASED DATA TRACKING METHODS FOR SUPPLY CHAIN PERFORMANCES OPTIMIZATION

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### ABSTRACT

This study explores the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) in data tracking and supply chain management. It examines the methods, performance, and limitations of these processes, and identifies the contributions of AI to improve performance. The research focuses on real-time data tracking in supply chains, aiming to optimize performance metrics. IoT devices like sensors and RFID tags monitor and collect data at various stages of the supply chain, enabling critical information collection. The collected data is then transmitted to a centralized platform where ML algorithms analyze the information in real-time. Machine Learning models can predict bottlenecks, identify inefficiencies, and optimize routing and inventory management. Real-time analytics provide valuable insights for supply chain managers, enabling proactive decision-making and responses to unexpected events. The study also highlights the potential impact of emerging technologies and provides recommendations for successful implementation and potential challenges to be addressed.

**Keywords:** Data tracking methods, supply chain, operational performance, Internet of Things, Machine learning

## BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF DATA TRACKING IN SMART CITY AND BEST PRACTICES

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### ABSTRACT

Data tracking is crucial for the development of smart cities, as it can improve urban services, resource allocation, and quality of life. However, as technology is integrated into smart city architecture, ethical data tracking procedures become increasingly important. This study reviews data tracking in smart cities, highlighting its benefits, challenges, and ethical issues. Advantages include evidence-based decision-making, improved service delivery, and increased public safety. To build responsible data

monitoring practices, it emphasizes transparent communication channels, explicit data governance, privacy regulations, and cross-sector collaboration. Challenges include data security, privacy protection, and handling potential biases in data analysis. The chapter also discusses the need for cutting-edge methods for data anonymization and privacy protection. The chapter concludes by highlighting the need for further research and creativity in data tracking, focusing on social justice and ethical data sharing structures.

**Keywords:** Data Tracking, Smart City, Benefits, Challenges, and Best Practices

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## Track 3

# IMPACT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ON AFRICA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

## MITIGATING EFFECTS OF GLOBALIZATION AND GOVERNANCE QUALITY ON FINANCE-ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ASSOCIATION: EVIDENCE FROM ECOWAS

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### Abstract

An industrialized economy is important for economic growth and development. It is, however, doubtful if financial development could be optimized for sustainable environment amidst disruptions in global relations and economic governance. Therefore, the thrust of this study is to determine if globalization and governance quality interacting with financial development could produce mitigating effects on environmental degradation in ECOWAS sub-Region. The study adopted cross-sectional auto-regressive distributed lag (CS-ARDL) technique. Results indicate that when carbon emission (CO<sub>2</sub>) stands as proxy for environmental quality, financial development (FD) interacting with each of globalization, political stability (PSA) and governance effectiveness (GES) improved significantly environmental quality in the long run. Similarly, adopting ecological footprint to measure environmental quality, the interaction of FD and GLO significantly worsened environmental quality in the long run while FD interacting with each of PSA and GES significantly improved environmental quality in the long term. The study recommends adoption of environmentally-friendly technologies.

**Keywords:** Globalisation, governance quality, sustainable environment, financial development.

## LIQUIDITY MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF SELECTED LISTED DEPOSIT MONEY BANKS IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

The study examined the effect of liquidity management on the financial performance of ten selected listed deposit money banks in Nigeria by analyzing the banks' data from 2012-2021. Financial performance was measured with return on assets while liquidity management was measured with liquidity ratio, loan to deposit ratio and cash reserve ratio. The study is based on commercial loan theory. The hypothesis of the study was analyzed using panel regression model. The study found out and concluded that the three proxies which measured the liquidity management of these banks have a joint significant effect on financial performance of deposit money banks in Nigeria with prob. (f-stats.) of 0.0000.

**Keywords:** Liquidity management, financial performance, cash reserve ratio, liquidity ratio, return on assets.

## FIRM CHARACTERISTICS AND PERFORMANCE DISCLOSURE OF FOOD MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN NIGERIA USING BALANCE SCORECARD

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### Abstract

This study aimed to examine the influence of four firm characteristics (Firm Size, Leverage, Liquidity, and Sales Growth) on the extent of performance disclosures by Nigerian food manufacturing companies using the Balanced Scorecard (BSC) Model. The research focused on a population of food manufacturing companies in Nigeria, which consist of 21 companies. A sample of 10 companies was randomly selected, and their annual reports from 2017 to 2021 were content analyzed using a adapted checklist. Descriptive statistics and Inferential statistics, such as the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of normality and one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA), were utilized for further analysis. The findings indicated significant variations in financial performance disclosure among food manufacturing organizations, particularly concerning leverage and sales growth. However, no significant differences were observed in non-financial performance disclosure, specifically in the areas of customer, internal business, and learning and growth perspectives. Furthermore, the study highlights the need for improved disclosure of non-financial performance measures to ensure the interests of relevant stakeholders, such as customers and employees, are adequately considered.

**Keywords:** Firm Characteristics, Performance Disclosure, Financial Performance, Non- Financial Performance, Balance Scorecard.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND RETURN ON EQUITY OF MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN NIGERIA AND KENYA

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### Abstract

Poor performance of businesses in the manufacturing sector, particularly in third-world countries where manufacturing companies play a significant role in the economy, has remained a persistent challenge. Inefficiencies in financial management practices often lead to poor profitability and the eventual failure of these companies in extreme situations. This study investigated the impact of financial management practices on the return of equity of listed manufacturing companies in Nigeria and Kenya between the years 2011 and 2021. The research design adopted for this study was ex-post facto, and secondary data was collected from the annual reports of selected manufacturing companies (10 each from Nigeria and Kenya) between 2011 and 2021. Panel regression models and various post-estimation tests were employed to validate the assumptions of multiple regression models. The study found that financial management practices have significant effects on the return on equity of companies in the manufacturing sectors of Nigeria and Kenya.

**Keywords:** Capital structure, Return on equity, Financial Management Practices, Liquidity, Investment.

## IMPACT OF CREDIT TO PRIVATE SECTOR ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN NIGERIA (1991-2021)

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### Abstract

Given the rising rates of youth unemployment alongside private sector credit, it became necessary to test if there exists any relationship between the two as economic theories posit. The study was based on the monetarist theory of a growing economy as a result of a growing money supply. This study was an attempt to examine the influence of private-sector credit on youth unemployment rates in Nigeria from 1991 through 2021. Data which were obtained from the World Bank - World Development Indicator were analyzed using the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF) unit root test, Auto-regressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) Bounds Test and Johansen Co-integration test. The unit root test revealed that the time series variables were integrated into orders 0 and 1. The Johansen co-integration test was used to detect the possibility of any co-integration among the variables and the findings revealed that a long-run

relationship exists between youth unemployment rates and private sector credit, however, monetary credit to the private sector is statistically insignificant. Results reveal that private-sector credit has a positive relationship with youth unemployment rates. With this on the table, the researcher recommends that much reliance should not be placed on the credit to the private sector for correcting youth unemployment rates in Nigeria in the long run without consideration of the reasons private sector credit fails to have as reduce youth unemployment rates as it should. Other youth unemployment reduction methods may include introducing skill-building programs to the education syllabus and giving out credit facilities to young and aspiring entrepreneurs.

**Keywords:** Youth, Unemployment Rate, Credit, Private Sector

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# **Track 4**

## **AFRICA'S ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABILITY THINKING**

## ILLEGAL PETROLEUM REFINING AND HEALTH SECURITY IN RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA

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### Abstract

This work observed illegal petroleum refining and health security in Rivers State. The study aimed to discover the impact of exposure to residues from refining crude oil, from illegal petroleum refining, on the health of individuals. Its objectives were to determine the health challenges associated with illegal petroleum refining and to discover the nexus between health security and illegal petroleum refining. A cross-section survey research design was used to achieve the study's objectives, and structured questionnaires were used to obtain quantitative data. Secondary data came from journal articles and publications. The estimated population of the study amounted to 686,900 and the sample size was derived by the utilization of the standard formula which amounted to 384. The hypotheses were tested using correlation analysis and a descriptive approach to test the relationship between illegal petroleum refining and health security. The study concluded that there are significant health challenges associated with the operations of illegal petroleum refining.

**Keywords:** Health safety, illegal petroleum refining, crude oil, rivers state, respiratory illness.

## THE ROLE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION IN ENHANCING SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

Entrepreneurship education is seen as one of the most powerful instruments known for developing entrepreneurship skills, creating employment and making the beneficiaries self-reliant in modern societies. It has the capacity to turn job seekers to job creators. This study highlighted that the goal of entrepreneurship education is primarily to produce competent, skilful and dynamic entrepreneurs that will effectively compete in the world of work. The implementation of the findings of the study would help in strengthening entrepreneurship education as a discipline across campuses in Nigeria. Through literature review and participant observation, this study identified that entrepreneurship education will enhance self-employment and self-reliance amongst the youths thereby eradicating poverty and hunger in Nigeria. It concluded with the clarion call for further research in this field of entrepreneurship education for socio-economic growth and sustainable development in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Education, Entrepreneurship, Nigeria, Socio-Economic, Sustainability.



## **ENHANCING SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN AWKA MUNICIPALITY**

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### **Abstract**

This paper examines the green skills, jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities in solid waste management which are available for the youths in Awka municipality which in turn addresses the problems of poverty and hunger in the state and in the nation. Through literature review, data collection and participant observation, this study identified the great need for individuals, institutions and communities in Awka municipality to adopt proper solid waste management strategies which addresses the profound socio-economic effects of accumulated solid waste in Awka municipality. This study recommended and concluded with proper solid waste management strategies which has capacity to provide green skills, green technology and green jobs for youths in Awka municipality for our sustainable economic growth.

**Keywords:** Awka, Economic Growth, Municipality, Sustainable Development, Solid Waste Management.

## **ROLE OF NATURE EDUCATION IN ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN NIGERIA**

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### **Abstract**

Nature Education is vital for enhancing climate resilience, preserving biodiversity and achieving environmental sustainability in Nigeria. This study identifies the numerous benefits of nature and how nature can be factored in development planning for sustainable environment in Nigeria. Through literature review and participant observation, this study further gives information about the usefulness and importance of nature education research to our educational system as a means towards enhancing

climate resilience, preserving biodiversity and achieving environmental sustainability in Nigeria. It concludes with the clarion call for in-depth nature education research towards enhancing climate resilience for environmental sustainability in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Biodiversity, Climate Change, Nature Education, Research, Sustainability.

## **MEDIA ELITE OR POLITICAL ELITE? WHO IS SUPERIOR IN THE WORSENING OF NIGERIA'S SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SYSTEM?**

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### **Abstract**

Democratisation in low-income developing nations is identified to increase corrupt practices among politicians, aided by the media of communication. While threat to life, government interference, injury, intimidations are rife, journalists are the accessories in the pervasive corrupt practices. This study is designed to examine the media elite, political elite, socio-economic and political system with the aim of unravelling the challenges associated with the sectors, and the way out. This paper adopts a qualitative descriptive approach to conduct an in-depth review of available literature to examine the elements involved in media system, political elite, roles of corruption in the socio-political and economic system. The paper conducts empirical studies on political and media elitism based on the findings from the literature review. The paper concludes that it is time Nigerian political elite woke up to their responsibility by providing good governance, which de-emphasizes personal aggrandizement, corruption, ethnocentrism, tribal affiliation, religious sect, to the people.

**Keywords:** Media Elite, Political Elite, Superiority, Socio-Economic, Political System

## **THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL TOURISM AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN CALABAR MUNICIPAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA.**

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**ABSTRACT**

The paper examined the relationship between educational tourism and the economic development of Calabar Municipal, Cross River State, Nigeria. To achieve the purpose of this study, a null hypothesis was formulated to guide the study. The study adopted the survey research technique. The research adopted multiple sampling approaches. Simple random sampling technique was used to select 232 subjects used as sample in each ward in the Local Government Area. A twenty-item modified four (4) points Likert scale questionnaire titled Educational Tourism and Economic Development Questionnaire (ETEDQ) was the instruments used for gathering data for the study. To test the hypotheses formulated for the study, Pearson's product moment correlation statistical tools was used for data analysis. The hypothesis formulated was tested at 0.05 alpha level. The results from data analysis and hypothesis testing indicated that there is a significant relationship between educational tourism and the economic development in the study area.

**Keyword:** educational, tourism, economic development, Calabar Municipal, Local Government Area, Cross River State, Nigeria.

**INFLUENCE OF THE PRIMOGENITURE RULE ON THE DYNAMIC  
CAPABILITY OF FAMILY-OWNED SCHOOLS IN NIGERIA.**

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**Abstract**

Family-owned schools are set up to transfer the business's management and ownership to family members. This process is however fraught with challenges posed by cultural practices such as the primogeniture rule which have contributed to the poor survival rate of family-owned businesses. Thus, the study examined the influence of the primogeniture rule on the dynamic capability of family-owned schools in Nigeria. The study utilized the quantitative approach. 500 copies of the questionnaire were distributed among 9 family-owned schools, and 357 responses were collected and ranked. Partial Least Squares were used to test the impact of the primogeniture rule on the dynamic capability of family-owned schools. The study revealed that there is a positive correlation between primogeniture rule and the dynamic capability of family-owned schools. The study recommends applying the primogeniture rule in family businesses, only if the first child possesses the necessary experience, interest and competence to manage the business.

**Keywords:** Dynamic capability, Family-Owned Schools, Primogeniture, Succession Planning.

## THE ROLE OF POETRY IN ENHANCING NATURE EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

Poetry has always been associated with intensity of emotions expressed in literary form with a sense of rhythm and beauty. This study identified poetry as a valuable tool which can be used in promoting nature education for sustainable economic growth and environmental safety in Nigeria. It also identified poetry as a valuable tool which can be used in climate change education across various campuses, companies, communities and cities in Nigeria. Through literature review and participant observation, this study identified how poetry is being used innovatively in nature education in Nigeria to achieve the sustainable development goals. This paper is significant as it explores new opportunities and benefits in the innovative use of poetry for nature education thereby enhancing climate resilience for sustainable development.

**Keywords:** Education, Nature, Nigeria, Poetry, Sustainable Development

## DISCLOSURE ON RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CARBON EMISSION ON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF QUOTED INSURANCE COMPANIES IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

This study examines the influence of the disclosure of renewable energy and carbon emission on the financial performance of quoted insurance companies in Nigeria from 2013 to 2021. The sample size used for the purpose of this study consists of a total of 16 quoted insurance companies listed on the Nigerian exchange. The research made use of the regression analysis for the data generated using E-views software. Findings reveal that the coefficient of the disclosure on RE (Renewable Energy) and CE (Carbon Emission) have positive and statistically significant effect on ROA (Return on Assets). The disclosures of renewable energy and carbon emission are therefore seen to have positive effect on the financial performance of quoted insurance companies in Nigeria.

**Keywords:** Renewable energy, Carbon emissions, financial performance