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IMPACT OF MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN RESOURCE-BASED COUNTRIES: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN NIGERIA AND LIBYA

Oreitan Adigun^{1*}, Oluwatoyin A. Matthew²

¹ The Chartered Institute of Bankers of Nigeria, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.
oreitanadigun@gmail.com

² Department of Economics and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria.
oluwatoyin.matthew@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

Abstract

Resource-based economies are countries whose [Gross Domestic Product](#) (GDP) to a large extent comes from [natural resources](#), of which Nigeria and Libya fall into this category. The impact of monetary and fiscal policies on the economic growth of these countries cannot be overemphasized. It is against this backdrop that this study examined the comparative analysis of the impact of monetary and fiscal policies on economic growth in Nigeria and Libya, using the Vector Error Correction Model (VECM) and the Granger causality test. The secondary data used in this study were obtained from the World Development Indicators (WDI), spanning the period from 1990 to 2023. The results of this study showed that the error correction term for Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) is negative and significant, confirming the long-run equilibrium adjustment. In the short run, government expenditure, government revenue, and inflation significantly influence RGDP, while labour force participation and exchange rate show weaker effects. Therefore, this study recommended that expansionary fiscal policy should be embarked upon in the long-run as this will help boost economic growth in both countries.

Keywords: Fiscal Policy, Economic Growth, Monetary Policy, Resource-based, VECM

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT IN THE RENEWABLE ENERGY INDUSTRY FOR ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN NIGERIA

Olisah Nzemeka C.¹, Nwobodo Anthonia N.², Obiajulu Obichukwu O.³

¹Department of Physics and Industrial Physics, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria
nc.olisah@unizik.edu.ng

²Industrial Physics/Faculty of Natural Science, Enugu State University of Science and Technology,
Agbani, Nigeria
anthonia.nwaobodo@esut.edu.ng

³Department of Physics and Industrial Physics, Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria
o.obiajulu@unizik.edu.ng

Abstract

Nigeria faces severe climate change impacts and energy poverty affecting over 85 million people, threatening food security, health, and economic stability. Renewable energy offers the clearest path to climate resilience and sustainable growth, and Nigeria's youth — over 60 % of the population — are already proving to be the driving force behind this transition. Through solar mini-grids in the north, pay-as-you-go systems in the south, biogas projects, and digital climate solutions, young Nigerians are expanding energy access, creating green jobs, cutting

emissions, and powering resilient community infrastructure. Despite these achievements, lack of training, financing, policy support, and inclusion limits their impact. Evidence shows that trained youth technicians can electrify thousands of rural homes, and youth-led clean-energy ventures attracted over ₦12 billion in investment from 2020–2024. Strategic investment in skills, dedicated funding, policy inclusion, and removal of gender and regional barriers can unleash a youth-driven renewable energy revolution, enabling Nigeria to exceed its 30 % renewable target by 2030, create millions of green jobs, reduce inequality, and build lasting climate resilience. The conclusion is clear: Nigerian youth are not just beneficiaries — they are the primary engine of the country's sustainable energy future.

Keywords: Youth engagement, Renewable energy, Climate resilience, Nigeria, Energy transition

TRAINING TOMORROW'S ENGINEERS: PHYSICS EDUCATION STRATEGIES FOR AFRICA'S INDUSTRIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Adepoju Temitope Matthew (PhD)

Department of Science Education, Lead City University, Ibadan, Oyo State, +2348060220204 |
tadepoju@ymail.com

ABSTRACT

Despite Africa's possession of 30% of global mineral reserves, the continent remains trapped in a cycle of raw material exportation and manufactured goods importation, with Physics education inadequately preparing graduates for industrial transformation. This conceptual paper examines how Physics education can be strategically redesigned to support Africa's industrial self-sufficiency. Through systematic analysis of literature on Physics curricula, industrial skill requirements, and successful educational models from East Asia and emerging African initiatives, this study identifies critical disconnects between current Physics education and industrial needs. Findings reveal that colonial-era curricula, inadequate infrastructure, weak industry-academia linkages, and de-contextualized pedagogy create substantial barriers. The paper proposes a comprehensive framework emphasizing contextualized curriculum development, technology integration, industry partnerships, and teacher professional development. Implications suggest that coordinated policy interventions and multi-stakeholder collaboration are essential for transforming Physics education into a strategic driver of technological independence and sustainable economic development across Africa.

Keywords: Physics education, industrial self-sufficiency, Africa, engineering workforce, technological independence

3D PRINTING ADOPTION IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA

*Grace I. Okedele¹, Evans S. Osabuohien², Obindah Gershon³, David O. Olukanni⁴,
Rehema J. Monko⁵

^{1,2,3}Department of Economics and Development Studies, Covenant University, Nigeria.

¹grace.okedelepgs@stu.cu.edu.ng; graceokedele@gmail.com

²evans.osabuohien@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

³obindah.gershon@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

⁴Department of Civil Engineering, Covenant University, Nigeria.

(david.olukanni@covenantuniversity.edu.ng)

⁵Department of Building Economics, Ardhi University, Tanzania (rehema.monko@aru.ac.tz)

Abstract

The paper is a systematic analysis of how 3D printing can be adopted to promote sustainable manufacturing infrastructure in the developing economies. Based on 90 peer-reviewed articles published in the period between 2015 and 2025, the review underscores the positive transformative advantages of using 3D printing and the ongoing limitations linked to its adoption. The analysis indicates that 3D printing boosts material efficiency, decentralised manufacturing, cost-reduction, and local innovation (which is a major factor of sustainability). However, uptake is still hampered by infrastructural issues which include unstable energy, high capital, poor policy provisions, and poor digital capacity. The paper highlights the necessity of combined industrial, energy and innovation policies to facilitate mass implementation of 3D printing. These are essential interventions that are required to transform the developing regions to have sustainable industrial change and inclusive economic growth.

Keywords: 3D Printing Adoption, Innovative Technology, Sustainable Manufacturing, Sustainable Manufacturing Infrastructure

EFFECTS OF POLITICAL ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN DEVELOPING NATIONS

Surulere, Omosuyi Julius¹, Adegoke, Omofolasaye Omobolanle², Owolabi, Oluwapelumi
Bunmi³, Olapade, Faith Ayobami⁴

¹Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria,
suyilere01@gmail.com

²Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria,
adegokeoo@abuad.edu.ng

³Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria,
pbowolabi@abuad.edu.ng

⁴Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria,
olaayo28@gmail.com

Abstract

The study focuses on how political-economy approaches correspond with sustainability results in emerging economies. Panel data from 45 nations, spanning the years 2003 to 2022, serve as the empirical backbone. Quality-of-governance indicators, the robustness of democratic frameworks, and the variety of economic policies are examined about shifts in environmental performance. Sysgmm, instrumental-variables gmm, and bootstrap ols supply distinct lenses

for the investigations. Conventional markers such as CO₂ output and the uptake of renewable sources function as the dependent measures. Stronger inclusion in political decision-making, paired with transparent rule-making, typically aligns with improved sustainability scores. A further layer of analysis reveals that advances in e-governance when matched by effective state capacity, trigger additive gains for the environment. Generally, the interaction of digital administration and institutional heft emerges as a pivotal conduit for sustainable progress in settings constrained by fiscal and technical limits.

Keywords: Political Economy, Sustainability, Developing Nations, Governance, Environmental Policy

DEBT DURDEN AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA: A CHALLENGE TO ACHIEVING SDG-8

Oluwasegun A. Adekoya^{1,2}, Esho Mary Praise³

¹Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria, ²Ardhi University, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania,

³University of Minho, Portugal

oluwasegun.adekoyapgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

Abstract

Nigeria's rising public debt threatens fiscal sustainability and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8). While prior studies critically examine debt-growth dynamics, few studies consider the role of labor market vulnerability and macroeconomic stability in this relationship. This study investigates the dynamic interaction between debt, debt servicing, vulnerable employment, inflation, foreign direct investment (FDI), and economic growth in Nigeria (2000-2023) using a Vector Error Correction Model (VECM). Findings reveal that debt servicing hinders growth, and external debt supports growth when used efficiently. Vulnerable employment significantly influences growth, inflation has a negative effect on growth, while FDI has limited impact. The study contributes theoretically by extending debt overhang and endogenous growth frameworks to capture labor vulnerability as a growth transmission channel. This study proposes a policy action to emphasize prudent debt management and directing investment to productive sectors.

Keywords: Debt, Economic Growth, Sustainable Development Goals, Vulnerable Employment

Digital Transformation and Resource Efficiency in Africa: Evidence from Nigeria's ICT Expansion and Carbon Emissions

Oluwasegun A. Adekoya^{1,2}, Oluwasogo S. Adediran¹, David O. Olukanni¹, Rehema J.
Monko²

¹Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria, ²Ardhi University, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

oluwasegun.adekoyapgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

Abstract

This study investigated the role digital transformation plays in shaping environmental outcomes in Nigeria, with particular focus on carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. Using annual

time series data sourced from World Bank Development Indicators from year 2000-2024, the result after estimating through Autoregressive Distributed Lag, revealed that fixed broadband penetration significantly reduces CO₂ emissions in the long run, suggesting that advanced digital infrastructure enhances energy efficiency and supports resource-efficient production and service delivery. Internet usage, although negatively related to emissions, remains statistically insignificant, reflecting structural constraints in Nigeria's fossil-fuel-dominated energy system. The study recommends clean energy investments and effective institutional frameworks.

Keywords: Carbon Dioxide Emissions, Clean Energy, Digital Transformation, Resource-efficient.

Environmental Accounting Disclosures and Capital Structure Decisions of Listed Multinational Firms in Nigeria

Oguntamu Oluwaleke Sunday¹, Afolayan Oluwatobi Folayimika²

¹ Department of Accounting, Babcock University, Ilishan Remo, Nigeria,
Oguntamu0415@pg.babcock.edu.ng

² Department of Accounting, Babcock University, Ilishan Remo, Nigeria,
afolayan0434@pg.babcock.edu.ng

Abstract

This study explores the influence of environmental accounting disclosures on capital structure decisions among Nigerian multinational firms. We analyzed annual reports from 12 firms listed on the Nigerian Exchange Group between 2011 and 2024 using an ex post facto design. Environmental disclosures—carbon emissions, water efficiency, energy efficiency, and waste management—were assessed via content analysis. The debt to total assets ratio (DTAR) represented corporate financing decisions. Our findings, using a Generalized Method of Moments estimator, reveal that increased carbon ($p = 0.0002$) and water ($p = 0.0003$) disclosures significantly enhance DTAR, indicating better access to debt. Conversely, waste management disclosure negatively impacts DTAR ($p = 0.0305$), suggesting higher borrowing costs due to compliance. Energy efficiency had no significant effect. These results align with stakeholder theory, emphasizing the need for firms to balance environmental reporting and financing goals, while policymakers should consider incentives to ease the burden of sustainability reporting. Future research could explore sectoral and cross-country variations in these impacts.

Keywords: Environmental accounting disclosures, corporate financing, capital structure decision, stakeholder theory, Nigerian multinational firms.

EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BOARD DIVERSITY, ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE, PERFORMANCE, AND FINANCIAL REPORTING TRANSPARENCY IN NIGERIA'S NON-FINANCIAL INDUSTRIES

Oguntamu Oluwaleke¹, Obinna-Igbokwe Tonye², Okodugha Nathaniel³

¹ Department of Accounting, Babcock University, Ilishan-Remo, Nigeria, penzaar2014@gmail.com

² Department of Business University of Bolton, Greater Manchester, United Kingdom,

obinnaigbokwetonye2@gmail.com

3 Business & Law Department, Anglia Ruskin University, United Kingdom, natoje2@yahoo.com

Abstract

This study examines the relationship between board diversity (BD), Environmental social governance (ESG) performance, and financial reporting transparency (FRT) in 35 non-financial firms listed on the Nigerian Exchange Group from 2017 to 2023. Using regression analysis, the findings reveal a significant positive association between ESG performance and FRT. Additionally, board diversity, including gender, ethnicity, and expertise was found to positively moderate the relationship between ESG performance and FRT. The research highlights how enhanced ESG performance contributes to improved financial reporting transparency. This study enriches the literature by providing empirical evidence on the interconnectedness of these elements in Nigeria's non-financial sector. The implications extend to policymakers, regulators, and corporate leaders aiming to promote sustainable business practices and elevate financial reporting quality. By advocating transparency, accountability, and ethical governance, the study offers a comprehensive framework for addressing sustainability and governance issues, alongside recommending fiscal incentives and penalties to encourage socially and environmentally responsible behaviors.

Keywords: Board diversity, ESG performance, financial reporting transparency, non-financial firms, Nigeria.

ENHANCING MENTAL HEALTH THROUGH ECO-POETRY FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Anthonia L. Anakwue¹ Jude U. Ofoegbu² Benjamin Anabaraonye^{3*}

¹University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: anakwuelaetitia@gmail.com

²University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: ofoegbujudeu@gmail.com

³University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: benjaminshines@gmail.com

Abstract

Climate change has been discovered to not only affect physical health but can also harm mental health in a profound way. The evidence of the impacts of climate change on mental health and wellbeing is growing rapidly. Through systematic literature review, data collection from relevant agencies and participant observation, this study identifies the role of eco-poetry in enhancing mental health for sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. This study recommends that government interventions to enhance climate resilience and mental health which includes the use of eco-poetry need to be well coordinated in order to tackle the problem in a holistic manner in Nigeria. It concludes with a clarion call to conduct further research in this field of enhancing mental health and climate resilience through the use of eco-poetry for sustainable economic growth in Nigeria.

Keywords: climate resilience, eco-poetry, mental health, sustainable economic growth.

THE ROLE OF ECOTOURISM IN ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Jude U. Kujoh¹ Anthonia L. Anakwue² Benjamin Anabaraonye³

¹University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: judekujoh123@gmail.com

²Institute of Education, University of Calabar, Nigeria. Email: anakwuelaetitia@gmail.com

³University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: benjaminshines@gmail.com

Abstract

Nigeria is renowned for vibrant cultures, diverse ecosystems, and rich history, making the nation an ideal location for ecotourism enthusiasts. Through systematic literature review of notable peer reviewed academic journals, utilizing translation tools where necessary, this study identifies the role of ecotourism in enhancing sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. Findings indicate that ecotourism, a sustainable form of travel, not only provides visitors with unforgettable experiences but also plays an important role in preserving the environment, supporting local communities, and safeguarding cultural heritage. This study further discusses how ecotourism can help preserve cultural heritage while enhancing sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. It identifies that through the adoption of ecotourism, Nigeria's valuable ecosystems can be protected and the variety of cultures honored and preserved. This study recommends more moral, technical and financial support from Nigerian government at all levels towards advancing the role of ecotourism in enhancing sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. It concludes with a clarion call for more access to green financing towards enhancing eco-tourism in Nigeria.

Keywords: Climate Resilience, Ecotourism, Education, Nigeria, Sustainable Economic Growth.

THE ROLE OF GREEN LIBRARIES IN ENHANCING GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Usang N. Onnoghen¹ Jude U. Kujoh² Somkenechi S. Unachukwu³ Benjamin N.
Anabaraonye^{4*}

¹University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: onnoghenusang@gmail.com

²University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: judekujoh123@gmail.com

³Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria. Email: ss.unachukwu@unizik.edu.ng

⁴University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: benjaminshines@gmail.com*

Abstract

Green libraries have a great role to play in climate change education, communication and enhancing climate resilience in Nigeria. Through systematic literature review of notable peer reviewed academic journals, utilizing translation tools where necessary, this study highlights the role of green libraries in enhancing green entrepreneurship for sustainable economic growth

in Nigeria. This study vividly defines the concept of green entrepreneurship and green libraries. Findings indicate that green libraries focus on social and economic sustainability, ensuring accessibility, community engagement, and responsible resource management. This study recommends green entrepreneurship education which can be promoted through the green libraries as valuable tool for sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. It concludes with the clarion call for further research and funding for green libraries to enhance green entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

Keywords: economic growth, education, green entrepreneurship, green library.

THE ROLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN ENHANCING JOB SKILLS FOR PRODUCTION ECONOMY IN NIGERIA

Evelyn I. Orji¹ Thomas A. Omang² Blessing W. Anakwuba³ Carol E. Bichene⁴
Beatrice O. Ewa⁵ Benjamin Anabaraonye^{6*}

¹University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: eveonu4real@yahoo.com

²University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: omangthomas@gmail.com

³Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria. Email: bw.anakwuba@unizik.edu.ng

⁴University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: ebutacarol10@gmail.com

⁵University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: beatrice.ewa@unn.edu.ng

⁶University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: benjaminshines@gmail.com*

Abstract

The graduates of higher educational systems eventually become the social and human capital resources of the society. Through systematic literature review and participant observation, this study identifies job skill deficiency among graduates of higher education institutions in Nigeria. Findings indicate that higher education institutions in Nigeria play a great role towards creating a production-oriented workforce. This study recommends the production economy orientation of students in our higher education system which will prepare these future leaders with the desired mindset to foster a production economy thereby achieving zero poverty (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2) and promoting decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), in Nigeria. It concludes with a clarion call for a deeper research on the role of higher education institutions in enhancing job skills for production economy in Nigeria.

Keywords: climate action, higher education, job skills, production economy.

CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE ROLE OF ECO-MUSICOLOGY IN ENHANCING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Benjamin Anabaraonye^{1*} Jude U. Kujoh² Somkenechi S. Unachukwu³

¹University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria. Email: benjaminshines@gmail.com*

²University of Calabar, Calabar, Nigeria. Email: judekujoh123@gmail.com

³Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria. Email: ss.unachukwu@unizik.edu.ng

Abstract

In recent times, the role of eco-musicology has gained more recognition in religion, social activities and cultural activities, especially as the impacts of climate change exacerbates across countries and continents. Through systematic literature review of notable peer reviewed

academic journals, utilizing translation tools where necessary, this study critically analyzes the role of eco-musicology in enhancing sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. Findings indicate that eco-musicology has a great role to play in advancing global health, sustainable economic growth and climate resilience. It recommends the use of information communication technology (ICT) in promoting the role of eco-musicology in enhancing sustainable economic growth in Nigeria. It concludes with a clarion call for researchers and scholars passionate about eco-musicology issues to dig deeper in research towards maximizing the benefits of the innovative use of eco-musicology for sustainable economic growth in Nigeria.

Keywords: climate resilience, eco-musicology, innovation, sustainable economic growth.

ANALYSING THE POTENTIALS OF DEMAND FORECASTING FOR PRODUCTION PLANNING IN EMERGING ECONOMY FASHION INDUSTRY

Amaihian Bosede Augusta¹, Miracle Chukwunazaekpere Chukwuma², Adeniji Chinyere³

¹Senior lecturer, Covenant University. Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.
augusta.amaihian@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

² Masters of Business administration (MBA) graduate, Covenant University. Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.
miracle.chukwumapgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

³ Senior lecturer, Covenant University. Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria.
chinyere.adeniji@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

Abstract

Demand forecasting is an essential input for efficient production planning in fashion industry where demand volatility and resource constraints are prevalent. This study examines the potential influence of demand forecasting for production planning using a quantitative case study of a single fashion retail firm operating in Lagos, Nigeria. Monthly operating data on inventory, sales value and price data between the periods of **March 2023 to June 2024** were analysed. Simple Moving Average (SMA) and Exponential Smoothing methods were used to assess their applicability in inventory planning and pricing decisions, respectively. The findings reveal that SMA provides a stable basis for inventory planning by smoothing short-term demand fluctuations, while Exponential Smoothing demonstrates greater responsiveness to recent market changes relevant for pricing decisions. The study contributes to existing body of knowledge on how low-complexity forecasting techniques can meaningfully enhance production planning in data-constrained emerging economy settings.

Keywords: Demand forecasting; Production planning; Fashion industry; Emerging economies; Africa's resource economy

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AFRICA: LEVERAGING INNOVATIVE BUSINESS MODELS TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

Ogbari, Ejovwokeoghene Mercy¹; Ingomowei, Preye Samson²

¹Business, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Research Cluster, Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria. mercy.ogbari@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

²Business, Entrepreneurship & Innovation Research Cluster, Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Ota, Ogun State, Nigeria. preye.ingomoweipgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

Abstract

Social entrepreneurship has emerged as a critical tool for addressing development issues in Africa by using new and sustainable methods. Research has shown that the continent continues to grapple with major sustainable development challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and unemployment. These persistent issues highlight the need for inclusive and scalable solutions that go beyond traditional development frameworks. This study seeks to explore how social entrepreneurship, through the adoption of innovative business models such as impact investing, hybrid ventures, and social franchising, is addressing these challenges across Africa. A qualitative research method was applied in this study by drawing on case studies and secondary data to examine the role and impact of social entrepreneurship in fostering sustainable development. This paper also highlights successful initiatives and business models, including those focused on agriculture, education, healthcare, and environmental conservation. It also outlines the Africa Forward initiative, a collective effort by African social entrepreneurs to drive systemic change through narrative shift, ecosystem development, funding, job creation, and capacity development.

Keywords: innovative business models, social entrepreneurship, sustainable development, sustainable development goals (SDGs)

STUDENTS' PERCEPTIONS OF SCHOOL COUNSELLORS' ROLE IN FINANCIAL LITERACY AND DEBT AWARENESS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN EKITI STATE

Olaoye Adekunle Olufemi (*Ph.D*), Faremi Sunday James (*Ph.D*) and Afolabi Samuel
Oluwaseun

Department of Education and General Studies,
School of Education
Federal College of Education, Ilawe-Ekiti, Ekiti State.

kunlefeolaoye@gmail.com¹, faremisunday2012@gmail.com² & samsotiga@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study examined secondary school students' perceptions of the role of school counsellors in promoting financial literacy covering budgeting, saving, spending, and money management and debt awareness in Ekiti State, Nigeria. A descriptive survey design was employed with a sample of 200 students. Findings indicated that students held moderately positive perceptions of their counsellors' involvement, with saving and money management being the most

recognized areas. Regression analysis revealed that counsellor-led financial literacy initiatives significantly predicted students' debt awareness. The study concludes that school counsellors are significant in shaping adolescents' financial abilities and recommends the structured integration of financial literacy into school counselling programs to develop debt-aware behaviours

Keyword: Financial Literacy, Debt Awareness, Budgeting, Money Management, School Counsellor.

INSTITUTIONAL LEADERSHIP DYNAMICS AND ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION IN TERTIARY HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS: A CASE STUDY OF INSTITUTIONS IN EKITI STATE

Faremi Sunday James (*Ph.D*), Olaoye Adekunle Olufemi (*Ph.D*) and Adekeye Idowu Israel

Department of Education and General Studies,
School of Education
Federal College of Education, Ilawe-Ekiti, Ekiti State.

faremisunday2012@gmail.com¹, kunlefemiolaoye@gmail.com² & isrealadekeye8@gmail.com

Abstract

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in sub-Saharan Africa are pivotal for economic transformation, yet they often struggle to fulfill this role due to persistent leadership challenges. While the link between leadership and institutional performance is acknowledged, empirical evidence quantifying the impact of specific leadership dynamics—strategic vision, resource mobilization, and innovation—on the economic transformation outcomes of HEIs remains scarce, particularly at the state level in Nigeria. This study examined the relationship between institutional leadership dynamics (strategic vision and policy direction, resource mobilization, and innovation) and economic transformation in a tertiary institution in Ekiti State, Nigeria. Using a cross-sectional survey design, data were collected from 100 principal officers across five institutions using validated scales (Institutional Leadership Scale, $\alpha = 0.84$; Economic Transformation Scale, $\alpha = 0.83$). Results revealed strong positive correlations between economic transformation and strategic vision ($r = 0.533$, $p < 0.001$), resource mobilization ($r = 0.784$, $p < 0.001$), and innovation ($r = 0.785$, $p < 0.001$). Multiple regression analysis confirmed their significant joint effect ($R^2 = 0.797$), with innovation emerging as the strongest predictor ($\beta = 0.798$). The study concludes that targeted leadership development focusing on these dynamics is crucial for enhancing the economic relevance of HEIs. It recommended capacity-building programs, robust leadership succession planning, and the fostering of public-private partnerships to drive sustainable economic contribution in Nigeria and sub-Saharan Africa tertiary institutions as a whole.

Keyword: Institutional Leadership, Economic transformation, Strategic Vision and Direction, Resource Mobilization, Innovation

INTEGRATING LEAN-AGILE PRACTICES AND SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY IN OFFSITE CONSTRUCTION: A REVIEW

Ajayi Kanyinsola¹, Augusta Amaihian² and Nsikan John³

¹Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Nigeria, and
kanyinsola.ajayipgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

²Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Nigeria, and
augusta.amaihian@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

³Business Management, John Hope University, Nigeria, and nsikan.john@jhu.edu.ng

Abstract

The traditional method of construction poses a challenge to the growing demand of building activities. The challenges include waste, delay, delivery, quality control, and safety risks. Offsite construction (OSC) provides a solution to their increasing demand in housing and infrastructural activities. This literature review explores the lean agile practices and social sustainability in offsite construction and their effect on creating a balanced value chain. The findings highlight the need for technological innovation, flexibility, and adaptability in efficiently managing construction projects, which drives sustainable housing. Construction companies can leverage this to gain a competitive advantage while ensuring the well-being of stakeholders.

Keywords: Lean agile practices, social sustainability, and offsite construction

COMMUNITY PERCEPTION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE PALM KERNEL SHELL (PKS) VALUE CHAIN IN CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA

Inyang Nelson INYANG¹, Itojong Anthony AYAMBA², Timothy Okey OGAR³, Martha
Desmond EWA⁴

¹Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Faculty of Environmental Sciences
University of Calabar, Calabar- Nigeria. inyangnelson@unical.edu.ng

²Department of Public Administration, Faculty of Administration and Management Sciences,
University of Calabar, Calabar- Nigeria. ayambaitojong@unical.edu.ng

³Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Faculty of Environmental Sciences
University of Calabar, Calabar- Nigeria. timexo2@yahoo.com

⁴Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Faculty of Environmental Sciences
University of Calabar, Calabar- Nigeria. marthaewa@gmail.com

Abstract

The Palm Kernel Shell (PKS) value chain is an emerging driver of sustainable bioenergy and rural livelihoods in Nigeria. Once regarded as agricultural waste, PKS now serves as a biomass fuel for industries. This study investigates community perceptions, participation, and governance challenges in the PKS trade across four communities in Cross River State. Using a mixed-methods approach, data were collected from 200 respondents through structured questionnaires, key informant interviews, and field observations. Results show 46% involvement in PKS activities, with benefits to food security, education, and healthcare. However, informality, limited cooperative membership (28%), and poor access to finance (72%) persist. Also, environmental concerns affect nearly half of respondents, while

gender exclusion and weak governance undermine equity and sustainability. The study recommends the need for improved governance, cooperative support, environmental safeguards, and inclusion of women and youth to realize the PKS sector's full potential as a sustainable, inclusive bioenergy economy.

Keywords: Palm Kernel Shell, community perception, sustainable livelihoods, political economy, Cross River State, inclusive policy.

FROM CERTIFICATES TO CREATION: REPOSITIONING EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS IN NIGERIA TO DRIVE PRODUCT INNOVATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Ingomwei Preye Samson ¹, Michael Obinna Iwelu ²

¹Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Nigeria,
preye.ingomoweipgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

²Department of Sociology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, iwelumichael17@gmail.com

Abstract

Nigeria's education system prioritizes theoretical knowledge and certificate acquisition, resulting in a workforce ill-prepared for product innovation and sustainable economic growth. This study addresses the disconnect between academic training and practical skills needed for industrial productivity and sustainable development. Through a literature review of academic journals, policy reports, and global case studies, this paper explores how Nigeria's education system can be repositioned to produce graduates capable of creating sustainable products that drive economic growth. Findings reveal that countries emphasizing product development, technical training, and sustainability education achieve higher innovation and self-reliance levels. In contrast, Nigerian graduates often lack essential skills for innovation and leadership. This study concludes that a paradigm shift from certificate-based learning to product-oriented education is crucial. Recommendations include curriculum reform, industry-academia collaboration, and integrating entrepreneurship and sustainability into academic programs. These reforms are vital for transforming education into a catalyst for economic resilience and sustainable development in Nigeria.

Keywords: Product-Oriented Education, Sustainable Development, Educational Reform, Economic Self-Sufficiency

ASSESSING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS OF PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE ON SOIL QUALITY IN LAGOS, NIGERIA: A CASE FOR IMPLEMENTING TAKE-BACK PROGRAMS

*Iretiolu C. Lasore^{1,2}; Labunmi Lajide⁴; Zacchaeus S. Ololade^{3,4}; Joshua O. Babayemi⁵

¹Department of Chemical Sciences, Anchor University, Lagos, Nigeria

²Center for Global Health, Anchor University, Lagos

³Department of Pharmaceutical and Medicinal Chemistry, University of Medical Sciences, Ondo, Nigeria

⁴Department of Chemistry, Medicinal and Organic Chemistry Unit, University of Medical Sciences, Ondo, Nigeria

⁵Department of Biosciences and Biotechnology, University of Medical Sciences, Ondo, Nigeria
bmlajide@unimed.edu.ng⁴, sololade@unimed.edu.ng^{3,4}, jbabayemi@unimed.edu.ng⁵,
clasore@aul.edu.ng^{1,2}

Abstract

This study examined pharmaceutical residues in soil from waste storage sites in Lagos, Nigeria, revealing environmental and public health risks due to poor waste management. 16 soil samples were analyzed for Ciprofloxacin, Paracetamol, and Bromazepam, with concentrations ranging from 0.29 to 269.66 mg/kg across five samples (S001, S015, S012, Xp1, S008). Paracetamol showed the highest levels (269.66 mg/kg in S008), followed by Bromazepam (153.60 mg/kg in S008) and Ciprofloxacin (25.04 mg/kg in S008). Sample Xp1, distant from waste sites, had lower concentrations, indicating contamination hotspots. These levels exceed typical soil concentrations (0.01–10 mg/kg), suggesting inadequate disposal practices. Ciprofloxacin's presence raises concerns, as sublethal levels may promote resistance in soil microbes. Paracetamol may disrupt microbial activity and nutrient cycling, while Bromazepam could affect soil invertebrates. Exceeding WHO limits, these findings highlight the need for sustainable pharmaceutical waste management, including Pharmacy-led Take-back programs, to align with SDGs 3, 6, and 12.

Keywords: Waste, Pharmaceutical, Soil, Take-Back

Navigating Africa's Resource Economy: Debt Resolution and Policy Design for Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Recovery

Adewale AdeseunAdesile¹, Aina Adeboye Philip, PhD²

¹Department of Public Administration, Ogun State Institute of Technology, Igbesa, Ogun State; adeseunadesile@gmail.com

²Center for General Studies, Ogun State Institute of Technology, Igbesa, Ogun State; adeboyeaina@gmail.com

Abstract

Africa's resource-rich economies face a complex web of challenges that threaten long-term sustainable development. This paper examines the intricate relationship between Africa's resource economy, mounting debt burdens, and the political economy factors that shape policy outcomes. Through a comprehensive analysis of current economic conditions and policy frameworks, this study identifies key pathways for sustainable and inclusive economic recovery. The research reveals that while Africa's abundant natural resources present significant opportunities, poor governance structures, debt sustainability challenges, and inadequate policy design have hindered optimal resource utilization. The paper proposes a framework for debt resolution mechanisms coupled with sustainable resource management policies that prioritize inclusive growth. Key findings suggest that successful economic recovery requires integrated approaches that address governance reforms, debt restructuring, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion simultaneously. The study contributes to the literature by providing empirical evidence from multiple African economies and offering

practical policy recommendations for achieving sustainable development goals while managing resource wealth effectively.

Keywords: Resource economy, debt sustainability, political economy, inclusive growth, sustainable development

SUSTAINABILITY AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMY RECOVERY IN SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

ADEGOKE, Omofolasaye Omobolanle¹, SURULERE, Omosuyi Julius², FOLAYAN
Funmilayo Christianah³, YANRIN Oyinemi Ferdinard⁴, Dr. OGUNTUASE, Oladele
Abiodun⁵, EPHENUS Kehinde Kebiere⁶, OLUFEMI Owokalu⁷, OLAPADE Faith
Ayobami⁸

¹Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
adegokeoo@abuad.edu.ng

²Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
suyilere01@gmail.com

³Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
folayanfunmilayo@gmail.com

⁴Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
emifred11@yahoo.com

⁵Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
oladeleoguntuase2021@gmail.com

⁶Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
kenziology1@gmail.com

⁷Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
olufemi.owokalu@gmail.com

⁸Department of Business Administration, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria,
olaayo28@gmail.com

Abstract

This research evaluates the influence of sustainability measures on the inclusive economic recovery in the southwestern part of Nigeria. It takes a look at six states and employs a combination of methods to analyse and compare the economic, environmental, and social indicators. The findings reveal that the adoption of green economy practices, renewable energy usage, and organic farming has a major positive impact on inclusive growth and a corresponding decrease in environmental degradation. Moreover, the regions with well-coordinated sustainability strategies enjoy enhanced employment, fair income distribution, and improved environmental quality. The study highlights the indispensable functions of local government, community participation, and cooperation between the public and private sectors, thus providing the region's policymakers with hints for aligning economic recovery with environmental sustainability.

Keywords: Sustainability, inclusive economy, economic recovery, Southwest Nigeria, green development.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE, INNOVATION AND YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT: RECENT EVIDENCE FROM WEST AFRICA

Oluwarotimi Ayokunnu Owolabi¹, Mercy Chidera Omeire² & Chinazamekere
Faithful Nnadi³

¹ Department of Economics and Development Studies, & Centre for Economic Policy and
Development Research (CEPDeR), Covenant University, Ogun State, Nigeria.

oluwarotimi.owolabi@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

²Department of Economics and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ogun State, Nigeria.

mercy.omeirepgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

³Department of Economics and Development Studies, Covenant University, Ogun State, Nigeria.

chinazam.nnadi@stu.cu.edu.ng

Abstract

Digital infrastructure and innovation, both of which the youth can utilize to engage with initiatives of countries in promoting economic progress and in relation sustained development, are arguable as being under-utilized especially in West Africa countries despite high levels of access to digital infrastructure and a vibrant youth population with potentials to innovate. Based on the aforementioned, this present study explores the role of Digital infrastructure and innovation for reducing youth unemployment in West Africa utilizing balanced panel data from 2014 to 2023. Engaging panel data unit root test, and Two-Stage fixed effects estimation, the present study found that digital infrastructure boosts innovation that in turn reduces youth unemployment, and thus suggests the need for policies that will enable the maximization of entrepreneurial opportunities on account of digital infrastructure provided and harnessing youth innovation potentials, for addressing effectively high youth unemployment that threatens sustainable development of West African countries.

Keywords: Innovation, Mobile Subscriptions, Sub-Saharan Africa, Sustainable Development, Youth Unemployment

ECOLOGICAL SUCCESSION AND NATURAL REGENERATION IN ABANDONED QUARRY ECOSYSTEMS: A CASE STUDY OF AKAMKPA LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, CROSS RIVER STATE, NIGERIA

Inyang, Inyang Nelson, Ayamba, Itojong Anthony, Ewa, Martha Desmond & Ogar,
Timothy Okey

inyangnelson123@gmail.com

Department of Geography and Environmental Science, Faculty of Environmental Sciences

University of Calabar

Calabar.

P.M.B 1115 Calabar.

Abstract

Quarrying significantly supports Nigeria's infrastructure but has caused severe environmental damage, especially in Akamkpa LGA, Cross River State. This study examines natural regeneration potential in abandoned quarries, revealing widespread neglect despite legal mandates under the Nigerian Minerals and Mining Act (2007). Over fifteen sites remain unrestored, exposing communities to ecological and

safety risks. Using a mixed-methods approach, vegetation surveys, soil and biodiversity analyses, and community interviews, the study identified early secondary succession with pioneer species stabilizing soils and some structural vegetation recovery. However, concerns remain over elevated heavy metals and invasive species. While 91% of locals reported natural regrowth, only 9% knew of formal reclamation efforts, highlighting governance gaps and lack of corporate responsibility. The study concludes passive regeneration shows promise but is insufficient without enforceable regulation, community involvement, and proactive ecological planning to mitigate long-term environmental hazards.

Keywords: Quarry abandonment, ecological succession, passive restoration, regulatory failure, biodiversity recovery.

IMPACT OF CREDIT FACILITY ASSESSMENT ON PERFORMANCE OF SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISES IN SOUTH-WEST NIGERIA

Adekunle Oriyomi Abidemi¹, Olasupo Festus Sunday² Kolawole Peace Egunoluwa³

¹Accounting and Finance Programme, Bowen University, Iwo, Nigeria,
okewooriyomi4real@gmail.com

²Accounting and Finance Programme, Bowen University, Iwo, Nigeria. supovestus@yahoo.com,
ORCID: 0000-0002-0081-3103

³Accounting and Finance Programme, Bowen University, Iwo, Nigeria.
peace.kolawole@bowen.edu.ng, ORCID: [0000-0003-2604-2594](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2604-2594)

Abstract

This research aims at evaluating the impact of credit facility assessment on the performance of small and medium scale enterprises in South-West Nigeria. It targets microfinance credit assessment, cooperative credit assessment, trade credit and development bank assessment, as they are part of the financing options available for small and medium scale enterprises in South-West Nigeria. A descriptive and explanatory research design will be employed. About 387 registered small and medium scale enterprises will be randomly selected from Osun, Oyo and Ogun State. This study intends filling the gap by simultaneously examining these four alternatives financing options and identifying which is the most suitable for small and medium scale enterprises in the South-West, Nigeria.

Keywords: Credit facility assessment, Microfinance credit assessment, Trade credit, Small and Medium Enterprises, Financial performance.

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS OF FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT ON ECONOMIC GROWTH IN NIGERIA

Oyetade Oluwatoyese

Department of Economics, KolaDaisi University Ibadan, Nigeria.
oluwatoyese.oyetade@koladaisiuniversity.edu.ng

Abstract

This study investigates the effect of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) on economic growth in Nigeria using the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) bounds testing approach over the period 1981–2023. Given the policy relevance of attracting foreign capital for economic development and growth makes the understanding of the nature and significance of FDI's impact very crucial and critical. The study employs Real Gross Domestic Product (RGDP) as

a proxy for economic growth, while FDI, trade openness, government expenditure, inflation, and exchange rate serve as explanatory variables. Unit root tests reveal that the variables are integrated at different levels of I (0) and I (1) making the ARDL method appropriate for estimating both short-run dynamics and long-run relationships. The bounds test confirms the existence of a long-run relationship between FDI and economic growth. Empirical results indicate that FDI has a positive and statistically significant impact on Nigeria's economic growth in both the short and long run. Other control variables such as trade openness and government spending also contribute positively, while inflation and exchange rate instability exert a negative influence. The findings suggest that policies aimed at improving macroeconomic stability, strengthening institutions, and ensuring an investor-friendly environment are essential to maximizing the benefits of FDI. The study recommends targeted reforms to make Nigeria a more attractive destination for sustainable and growth-enhancing foreign investments.

Keywords: FDI Inflows, Trade openness, Economic growth, Nigeria, Bound Test

LEVERAGING CAUSE MARKETING FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSUMER ENGAGEMENT: A STUDY OF UNILEVER'S PERSONAL CARE CAMPAIGNS AMONG POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS IN NIGERIA

Aka, Deborah Oluwaseun¹, Fatoyinbo, David Ayomikun²

Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Ota Nigeria,
deborah.aka@covenantuniversity.edu.ng

Department of Business Management, Covenant University, Ota Nigeria,
david.fatoyinbopgs@stu.cu.edu.ng

Abstract

The growing need for sustainable economic recovery in Africa has intensified interest in corporate strategies that align business growth with social responsibility. This paper examines how cause marketing campaigns influence consumer engagement, focusing on Unilever's personal care product lines among postgraduate students in Nigeria. It explores how Unilever designs and implements cause-driven initiatives that foster sustainable consumer behavior and support Africa's resource economy through responsible consumption. Anchored on the sub-themes of policy design around sustainability and inclusive economic recovery, the study uses a mixed-methods approach to assess perceptions of campaign authenticity, value alignment, and impact on brand loyalty. Findings will provide insights for policymakers, academics, and industry practitioners on leveraging cause marketing to promote sustainability, advance corporate social responsibility, and contribute to Africa's broader development goals.

Keywords: Cause Marketing, Consumer Engagement, Sustainable Consumption, Policy Design, Nigeria.

HARNESSING WOMEN-LED SOCIAL VENTURES FOR HEALTH EQUITY AND RESOURCE-BASED SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN AFRICA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW ALIGNED WITH SDG 3

Ehikioya, Benjamin Ighodalo¹, Osarolube, Miracle Obarianasemi²

(Department of Banking and Finance, Covenant University Ota, Nigeria
benjamin.ehikioya@covenantuniversity.edu.ng)

(Department of Business Management, Covenant University Ota, Nigeria
miracle.osarolubepgs@stu.cu.edu.ng)

Abstract

This study examines the role of women-led social ventures in promoting health equity and driving Africa's resource-based self-sufficiency, aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3). These ventures are critical in delivering maternal and child health services, disease prevention, and improved healthcare access, they often face barriers such as limited funding, gender bias, and policy exclusion. These challenges undermine their scalability and long-term impact, especially in underserved African regions. A systematic review of 26 peer-reviewed articles published between 2019 and 2024 was analysed using the PRISMA framework, with data drawn from Google Scholar and ResearchGate. Findings reveal that women-led social enterprises use gender-sensitive, community-driven approaches to address health disparities, acting as grassroots engines of innovation and resilience. The study concludes that supporting these ventures through inclusive policies and strategic investments can strengthen local health systems and reposition African resources toward sustainable self-sufficiency, advancing both gender equity and public health development.

Keywords: Women-led social ventures, Sustainable Development Goal 3 (SDG 3), global health, maternal and child health, healthcare disparities.