

Sustainable Development Conference on Entrepreneurship, Environment, Technology and Energy Research

CONFERENCE THEME:

Advances in Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Energy Research

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVE

The conference is organized by the Centre for Renewable Energy Research and Development Strategies in collaboration with Kuwait University (KU) and Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS). Special emphasis is on emerging energy conversion technologies, conservation and management strategies. Attendees include regional policy decision makers, leading academic scientists, researchers and practicing experts in;

- Environmental Sciences
- Engineering, Science & Technology
- Science Education & Technology
- Entrepreneurial Development
- Management & Social Sciences
- Agriculture, Rural Development & Tourism

CONFERENCE DATE:

28th – 29th July, 2016

VENUE:

Conference Hall, Department of Mechanical Engineering, University of Ibadan, Ibadan Nigeria

CONFERENCE SECRETARIATE

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University of Ibadan, Ibadan Nigeria

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Sustainable Development Conference on Entrepreneurship, Environment, Technology and Energy Research

CONFERENCE THEME:

Advances in Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Energy Research

CONFERENCE CONTACTS

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Day One: Wednesday 27th July, 2016		
Arrival of Guests/Conferees/Delegates		
Day Two: Thursday 28th July, 2016 Opening Session/ Plenary		
9:00	- 10:00am	Conference Registration
10:00	- 10:15am	Opening Prayer/ Welcome Remark by the LOC
10:15	- 10:30am	Institutional Brief/ Chairman's Opening Remark
10:30	- 12:00noon	Lead Speaker
12:00	- 1:00pm	Launch Break / Group Photograph
2:00pm	- 4:00pm	Plenary Session
4:00pm	- 5:00pm	Policy Review
Day Three: Friday 29th June, 2016 Plenary Sessions/Policy Briefing/Communiqué		
7:00am	- 8:00am	Breakfast
8:00am	- 10:00am	Conference Briefing
10:00am	- 1:00pm	Plenary Session
1:00pm	- 2:00pm	Launch Break
2:00pm	- 4:00pm	Plenary Session
4:00pm	- 5:00pm	Communiqué/ Closing Ceremony

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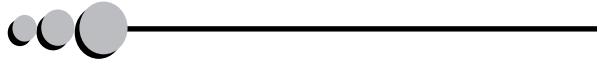
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Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS)

Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah established the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) on December 12, 1976, thus bringing to fruition his pioneering vision of a private-state collaboration to support scientific innovation and usher in a renaissance of the sciences in Kuwait. KFAS counts promotion of scientific development among its foremost goals, and prioritizes research and innovation. It financially supports scientific projects, the scientific community of Kuwait, and the scientific infrastructure nationally.

KFAS envisions an effective Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) system and culture, to which KFAS has contributed, that underpins the sustainable development of Kuwait. It aims to stimulate, support, and invest in initiatives and human resources that contribute to the building of that strong STI system and culture. The initiatives include improving public understanding of science; strengthening innovation and research capacity and enhancing an enabling environment; supporting the gifted and talented; translating knowledge into innovation; and encouraging private technology capacities.

KFAS Strategic Plan 2012-2016

KFAS launched a new strategic plan in 2012 with the aim of creating a more systematic strategy for launching scientific and innovative projects and developing human resources in the sciences among Kuwaiti citizens. In addition to supporting research and development capacity-building in priority fields such as water, energy, the environment, and the development and dissemination of STI culture, this new plan emphasizes strengthening the private sector and innovative systems. There are four main thrusts:

- Strategic Thrust 1: Advocacy of Scientific Culture
- Strategic Thrust 2: Scientific Research
- Strategic Thrust 3: Innovation in Science and Technology
- Strategic Thrust 4: Innovation and Enterprise

Strategic Thrust 1: Advocacy of Scientific Culture

KFAS advocates for a stronger sense of scientific culture throughout Kuwait through increased funding for science and math education, and encouraging novel curriculum developments that will engage students. Further engagement in science and technology is promoted through activities and events open to the public, with a special emphasis on activities for youth. Publication and dissemination of scientific and technological research and knowledge, particularly in an electronic format, and using novel forms of publication represent another crucial component of this thrust. Finally, KFAS provides direct financial support to students in the fields of math, science, and technology.

Strategic Thrust 2: Scientific Research

Through this thrust, KFAS aims to enhance and integrate research and development capacity within Kuwaiti scientific institutions so that they may better address Kuwaiti development priorities. KFAS provides grants for high quality research initiatives at all stages for public, private and academic researchers. It prioritizes multi-institutional efforts in the public and private sectors and international institutions. In addition, this thrust includes a unique environmental program that facilitates multi-disciplinary environmental research, advocates for eco-innovative solutions and ecosystem-based management approaches, and acts as a catalyst for the development of a long-term strategic plan for environmental sustainability in Kuwait. It also includes a water and energy program, which provides funding for research promoting efficient production and usage of water and energy, and more sustainable solutions for Kuwait.

Strategic Thrust 3: Innovation in Science and Technology

Through this thrust, KFAS supports innovation and assists in developing links to commercialization within the STI system. The projects funded under this thrust give Kuwait the ability to commercialize locally created technological advances. One program in this thrust supports innovators and provides financial support to increase inventive thinking. Another program nurtures incubation and commercialization, and assists new ventures as they mature into pilot-level projects and businesses until they receive funding from venture capital funds or investment companies. Finally, KFAS provides support and guidance for an innovation governance system with guidelines and regulations for innovators, inventors and entrepreneurs that build on previous programs and knowledge.

Thrust 4: Innovation and Enterprise

This thrust area supports the private sector, particularly companies who make annual contributions to KFAS. The first program area aims to increase demand and enhance absorptive capacity for innovation through identifying needs, disseminating information on best practices, and strengthening STI absorptive capacity and management capability development. This program also aims to enhance private and public sector partnerships for effective economic policies. A second program area targets management capacities through training, executive leadership education, local and international staff exchanges, and mentoring and coaching programs. A third program area provides innovation research vouchers as financial incentives to small and medium-sized enterprises, to strengthen their links with local and international research centers.

Cynthia Douglass

Director, Professional Development Initiative (PDI)
Embassy of the State of Kuwait
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Table of Contents

- Abstract Title / Author(s)**
1. **Combating Increasing Operating Costs for Sustainability in the Hotel Industry in Nigeria**
¹Matthew A Adejoh, PhD & ²Gabriel U Yesuf
 2. **The Influence of Perceived Desirability on the Entrepreneurial Intentions of University Students in Plateau State**
¹Mang, Niri Job ²Okeke, Augustine ³John, Osemudiamé Ibadin & ⁴Atang, Christiana Dauda
 3. **Associating Business Environment with Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development of Rural Communities in Imo State, Nigeria**
¹Osakpa, D. U. & ²Okonkwo, Dyke. A. R.,
 4. **An Assessment of the Perception of the Effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Education among University Undergraduates**
¹A.K. Fada & ²D.C. Aondo
 5. **Housekeeping as a Career**
Aishatu Ibrahim
 6. **Renewable Energy For Sustainable Development**
Abubakar Aminu
 7. **Achieving Sustainable Economy in Nigeria through Strategic Priorities Taking into Consideration Acceptable Stakeholders**
Nnaji for Eneh
 8. **Building Site Contaminants: effects on Building Construction and Prevention Strategy**
¹Nwafor, A. U. & ²Okechukwu, I. E.
 9. **Impact of Engineering Management Training on Entrepreneurship Development: a Case Study of Concrete Structure Production Company in Orlu, Imo, State, Nigeria**
¹A. U. Nwafor. & ²M. O. Ezechukwu
 10. **The Impact of Corporate Entrepreneurship (CE) on Company Sustainable Growth: Evidence from Taraku Mills Limited, Benue State**
¹Akintunde Olawande Ayeni & ²Patrick Onumah Agbo

Table of Contents

- Abstract Title / Author(s)**
11. **Techno-Economic Analysis of Wind-Solar Hybrid Renewable Energy for Outdoor Lighting in Nigeria**
¹Hammajam, A. A & ²Usman, I
 12. **Effects of Microprocessor-Based Systems Development Training on Entrepreneurship**
¹F.C. Ezetoha & ²A.O. Nwokeke
 13. **Impact of Microprocessor-Based Systems on Entrepreneurship Development**
¹F.C. Ezetoha & ²I. Onyemaobim
 14. **Design and Development of Solar Pond for Energy Storage**
¹Abdulsalam, M. & ²Abdul-Aziz, I. B
 15. **Entrepreneurial Studies for Engineering Programmes in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria: Problems and Improvement Strategy**
¹Nwolum F.C., & ²Okechukwu I. E
 16. **Impact of Solid Waste on the Environment: a Case Study of Dumpsite at Obosi, Anambra State, South-Eastern Nigeria**
¹Nwolum F.C. & ²Ezechukwu M. O
 17. **Evaluation of Abuja Distribution Network System Security and Reliability with Petri-Nets**
¹Patrick U. Okorie, ²Usman O. Alyu, ³Boyi Jimoh & ⁴Sani S.M
 18. **The Contribution of Adequate Energy Supply towards Boosting the Economies of Developing Countries; the Nigeria Experience**
¹Ven Egesi Jonathan C., ²Alaneme Justina C. (Mrs) & ³Egesi Juliet A. (Mrs.)
 19. **The Socio-Economic and Technological Effects of Energy Importation in Nigeria: a Paradigm Shift**
¹Ven Egesi Jonathan C., ²Alaneme Justina C. (Mrs) & ³Uchechi Dike
 20. **Encouraging Entrepreneurial Practice: a Panacea to the Problem of Unemployment in Developing Countries; a Paradigm Shift**
¹Ven Egesi Jonathan C., ²Alaneme Justina C. (MRS) & ³Ukpabi Monday Chidi

Table of Contents

- Abstract Title / Author(s)**
21. **The Problem of Touting in Nigeria, Causes, Effects and Implications; a Paradigm Shift**
¹Ven Egesi Jonathan C., ²Alaneme Justina C. (Mrs) & ³Ejiogu Cynthia .I. (Mrs.)
 22. **Pattern and Distribution of Rainfall in Afikpo North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Nigeria and Implications for Agricultural Production: Impact of Global Warming and Climate Change**
¹Oga, I. O. & ²Oga, M. O
 23. **An Analysis of the Information Technology (IT) Attitudes, Cognitions, and Anxieties of Corporate Leaders at the Dangote Flourmill**
Abdullahi Muhammed
 24. **Outsourcing Women Empowerment In Nigeria**
Joyce A.M. Ejukonemu PhD
 25. **Planning for Succession and Firm's Sustainability: Evidence from Family Owned Businesses in Lagos and Ogun States**
¹Simon Oludare Adedayo, PhD, ²James Olanipekun Ojo, PhD & ³Otsupius, Anthonia Ighiebemhe
 26. **Strategies for Survival and Enterprise Development of SMEs in Emerging Market: Evidence Ondo State Nigeria**
¹Ayedun, Taiwo A. & ²Olufowobi, Tosin, D.
 27. **Interactive Marketing and Sales Growth as Measure of Business Performance of Small-Scale Agro-Allied Firms in Rivers State, Nigeria**
¹Otsu, Pius A.I., ²Otsupius, Anthonia Ighiebemhe & ³James Olanipekun Ojo, PhD
 28. **The Need for Mentoring in Entrepreneurship Development of the Professions: a Study of Estate Surveying & Valuation Profession**
Chikezie Okoronkwo FNIVS
 29. **Comparative Study of Value Management Practice and Workshop in the Nigerian Construction Industry**
Kantoma, B. S.
 30. **An Evaluation of Spatial Dichotomy in Solid Waste Generation and Management in Different Residential Density Areas of Abeokuta**
Lasisi, A.L

Table of Contents

- Abstract Title / Author(s)**
31. **Street Begging among People Living with Disabilities in a Nigerian Traditional Urban Centre: Causes and Implications for Public Policy**
Taiwo Amos Oluwole
 32. **Entrepreneurs and Corporate Ventures in Nigeria, Strategic Technical Partnership for Sustainable Development, Innovation and Competitiveness**
¹Awe, Kayode Obafemi (PhD ²Shabi Olawale & ³Tugbobo Bola
 33. **Human Resource Selection Policy and Employees' Job Satisfaction in Nigerian Banks**
¹Dr. Chieze, Anthony I., ²Dr. Kabuoh, Margret N. & ³Egwuonwu, Clara O.K.
 34. **Organisational Profitability and Public Relations: Case of Cadbury Nigeria's Plc.**
¹Kabuoh, M.N., ²Odomokwu, R. & ³Ogbuanu, B.K.
 35. **Social Factors as Determinant of Vended Food Consumption Patterns among Auto-Technicians in Ibadan Metropolis**
¹Dr. Alagbe, Akintunde, ²Dr. Kabuoh, Margret & ³Dr. Egwuonwu, Thomas K.
 36. **An Empirical Investigation of the Impact of Talent Management on Corporate Performance in Selected Microfinance Banks in Port Harcourt, Rivers State**
¹Dapper, Edwin M., ²Enyindah, Charles Wele & ³Lenu, Wege G.
 37. **Organizational Trustworthiness and Employee Involvement Practices among Employees in Maritime Firms in Lagos and Rivers States**
¹Charles Wele Enyindah PhD, ²Obijuru, Johnny U.N.O. & ³Wege, Lenu G.
 38. **Assessment of the Utilization Level of Facilities for Teaching and Learning of Metalwork in Vocational Technical Colleges in Rivers State of Nigeria**
¹S.W. Amadi PhD, ²D. O. Chiorlu & ³Obed O.O
 39. **Rural Technology and Improved Agricultural Production in Nigeria: Emerging Opportunities in Central Senatorial District of Cross River State**
¹Judith Otu & ²Bassey Anam
 40. **Transformation Concepts in Origami and Tessellation towards a Sustainable Smart Building**
¹Odetoye Adeola Sunday, ²Osunkunle Abdul Mageed, ³Kabiru Zakari & ⁴Bello Musbau Adewumi

Table of Contents

Abstract Title / Author(s)

41. **Impacts of Entrepreneurship on Clean Energy Systems for Transformation in Buildings**
¹Odetoye Adeola Sunday, ²Osunkunle Abdul Mageed, ³Kabiru Zakari & ⁴Bello Musbau Adewumi
42. **Effect of Inquiry-Based Teaching Technique on the Performance of Basic Technology Students in Rivers State Secondary Schools**
¹S.W. Amadi PhD, ²D. O. Chiorlu & ³Obed O.O
43. **Assessment of the Utilization Level of Facilities for Teaching and Learning of Metalwork in Vocational Technical Colleges in Rivers State of Nigeria**
¹S.W. Amadi PhD, ²D. O. Chiorlu & ³Obed O.O
44. **The Influence of Power Irregularities on Academic Activities in Nigerian Universities: the Pre-Service Teachers Opinion**
¹Babajide Veronica F.T, PhD, ²Engenti, Maureen N, PhD & ³Komolafe Adefunke Titilayo PhD
45. **Change Implementation and Competitive Positioning**
¹Bako Yusuf Adebola & ²Taiwo Akeem Ayinde

Conference Abstracts



Combating Increasing Operating Costs for Sustainability in the Hotel Industry in Nigeria

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Abstract

Sustainability is the most frequently emphasized issue in the hospitality industry in recent time. This is because of the excruciating effects of a combination of trends such as high cost of capital, emergence of new market niche, customers' demand for quality service delivery, government policies and increasing operating costs. Of these, high operating costs seem to exert more persistent force on the hotelier's drive to achieve profitability that guarantees success. This paper examines the biting effect of ever increasing operating cost in the hotel industry in Nigeria in the face of general fall in occupancies. Hotel operators and managers are expected to keep abreast with the nature of these costs and develop customized model that helps combat them.

Keywords: *Hotel, Operating costs, Falling occupancies, Sustainability*



The Influence of Perceived Desirability on the Entrepreneurial Intentions of University Students in Plateau State

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Abstract

Perceived desirability, a phenomenon which represents the propensity of an individual to act in an entrepreneurial manner based on the criteria of attitude towards entrepreneurship and social norms was used to assess the entrepreneurial intentions of University students in Plateau State. The Study was concerned with the rising unemployment in the predominantly civil service State which seem to have a corresponding decrease in the personal attractiveness of starting a business. It therefore aimed at assessing the entrepreneurial intentions of Students from the two Universities in the State using Shapero and Sokols' concept of 'perceived desirability'. Data for the analyses were collected from Primary sources (Questionnaires with moderate Guttman reliability coefficient of 0.630) from a total population of 184. The Krejcie, & Morgan, (1970) table for sample size determination was used to arrive at the sample size of 123. The data was analyzed using the Logistic regression modeling technique which revealed that attitude towards entrepreneurship does not have significant influence on the entrepreneurial intentions of University students in Plateau State. However, social norms have significant influence on the entrepreneurial intentions of University students in Plateau State. The study therefore recommends that cultural values be encouraged among University students but, more so, that the values espoused should be tailored towards the promotion of entrepreneurship.

Keywords: *Perceived desirability, Entrepreneurship and Intension*



Associating Business Environment with Entrepreneurship for Sustainable Development of Rural Communities in Imo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper shall investigate associating business environment with entrepreneurship for sustainable development of rural communities in Imo State, Nigeria. The objective of this paper shall be to ascertain if government officials responsible for business development and entrepreneurship, institutional entrepreneurship centers' staff, sole proprietorships, and successful individual businessmen are aware of associating business environment with entrepreneurship and the independence of sustainable development of rural communities in Imo State, Nigeria of other variables. The research shall adopt a survey-descriptive-association design because the events shall have taken place in their natural course of happening. What shall be required shall be the conduct of a thorough investigation on the variables in the problem. Population of the study shall consist of 200 government officials responsible for business development and entrepreneurship, institutional entrepreneurship centers' staff, sole proprietorships, and successful individual businessmen in Imo State out of which a sample of 60 subjects shall be identified, stratified, randomly selected and administered with a structured 12-item Likert's 4-point rating scale, designed to focus on and elicit responses from the respondents on the variables' characteristics. The instrument shall be administered over a two-week period with the help of Field Research Assistants for data collection. Data gathered shall be analyzed with 4×3 contingent tables and the data obtained converted to observed and expected frequencies for testing the null hypotheses with the χ^2 Test of Independence at the alpha level of 0.05 and Cramer's v-statistic to determine the independence and strength of association between business environment, entrepreneurship and sustainable development of rural communities in Imo State, Nigeria. Conclusions shall be based on the findings and appropriate recommendations made not only on improving business environment and entrepreneurship for sustainable development of rural communities not in Imo State but also Nigeria as a whole.

Keywords: *Business Environment, Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development*

An Assessment of the Perception of the Effectiveness of Entrepreneurship Education among University Undergraduates

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Abstract

The paper set out to investigate the perception of university undergraduates in Gombe State University about the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education offered by the university. Adopting a descriptive design and quantitative research approach, the study focused on 300L and 400L students of the Department of Business Administration of the University. These students have undergone entrepreneurship education as offered by the university. The study employed the entire population 129 in total (67 300L and 62 400L students). Data was collected through the use of well structured questionnaire. As a measure of reliability, cronbach's alpha was used and a coefficient of 0.83 was recorded. Findings reveal that the effectiveness of entrepreneurial education offered by the university is only effective with respect to certain outcomes but ineffective in other respects. Entrepreneurship education in an ideal sense should provide the recipients with the needed skills and attitude to be entrepreneurial. This study ascertained among others that entrepreneurial education has not encouraged the students to pursue entrepreneurial ventures. Entrepreneurship education also has not been so effective in the area of preparing the recipients to access funding from banks or other financial institutions. Among other recommendations, the study employs the university's management to embrace the culture of training and retraining of its entrepreneurship education staffers to be effective in motivating and encouraging the recipients of the education to pursue entrepreneurial ventures and how to access support from banks and other financial institutions.

Keywords: *Perception, Entrepreneurship and Education*



Housekeeping as a Career

Aishatu Ibrahim

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Abstract

The hospitality industry offers viable employment opportunities. The housekeeping is an aspect that can contribute significantly to job creation. This study, "The Housekeeping as a Career" was carried out in order to find out areas where hospitality graduates could be useful in their search for job opportunities. In conducting the study, relevant literatures were reviewed. Instrument used for this work were questionnaire and oral interview. In analyzing the results, descriptive statistics was used. Findings revealed that schools, hospitals, residential homes and. dyeing of fabrics are other areas where housekeeping offers employment opportunities. It is recommended that graduates of hospitality management should explore those establishments where housekeeping and home care are a vocation instead of concentrating on hotel establishments which are already saturated. Giving attention to accommodation practical right from laboratories in higher institutions is enough preparation to find worthwhile opportunities in the lodging subsector of the hospitality industry

Keywords: *Hospitality, Housekeeping, Career, Employment opportunities*



Renewable Energy For Sustainable Development


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Abstract

Energy commonly define as the ability/ capacity to do work. Is the bed rock for human economic growth and development, without energy life on earth will be very difficult, if not impossible, as such therefore there is need for constant supply of energy of various forms and nature on sustainable basis for man's continuous development on earth surface. With industrial revolution couple with population growth man's demand on energy continue to rise drastically and as such man continue to explore various form of energy at high rate, most of which are non renewable sources i.e fossil fuel and mineral thereby exposing these sources to exhaustion and depletion in a shorter future distance. With this fear in mind man is always trying to see how he can source through his ingenuity and talent other new sources, particularly from renewable sources, so that he will guaranteed himself continuous supply of energy for his industrial and economic growth and development on earth surface. It is on this basis, this paper is intended to look at how sourcing energy from renewable sources through human ingenuity can continue to uplift the standard of man kind on earth surface on a sustainable basis. The source of data for this paper are text book, journals and internet. Lastly, possible suggestion will be made.

Keywords: *Renewable energy, Economic growth and Sustainable development*



Achieving Sustainable Economy in Nigeria through Strategic Priorities Taking into Consideration Acceptable Stakeholders

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Abstract

The downward trend in the Nigerian economy has become a source of worry to both the leaders and the led, making it difficult for the managers of businesses to make decision that will see the business through. This work looks at the explosion of the Nigerian population from the year 2000 to date, the recent state of the Nigerian economy and the failed strategies that have been tried in the past, with a look at the acceptable stakeholders, sustainable economy and the strategic priorities to be considered in the Nigerian context. Theories of modernization, sustainable development and human development were used to analyze the problem of achieving a sustainable economy in Nigeria. The triple bottom line strategy was concluded to be a possible solution to the impending problem of unstable economy in Nigeria, with a view of social responsibility, environmental protection and economic priority. The Five Capitals proposed in the Human Development Theory were also seen as necessary capitals that need to be balanced for a sustainable economy to be achieved.

Keywords: *Sustainable economy, Stakeholders and Social responsibility*



Building Site Contaminants: effects on Building Construction and Prevention Strategy


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Abstract

This paper focuses primarily on building site contaminants and their effects on building construction. Adequate testing of site soil before building construction is inevitable factor for human safety and economic gain. Although the recent attention of people involved in building construction in developing countries in particular Nigeria focuses on how to maximize their profit on construction by skipping one or more process involved such as soil testing. This paper first presents the background information on building site soil contaminants. Further the details of soil contaminants present in many building sites and their sources of existence are elucidated. Some of the major effects of one or more of the contaminants on building construction are illustrated. Finally, the prevention of contamination on building construction via soil testing, remediation and monitoring are illustrated.

Keywords: *Site Soil, Contaminants, Building Construction, Effects, Remediation*



Impact of Engineering Management Training on Entrepreneurship Development: a Case Study of Concrete Structure Production Company in Orlu, Imo, State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper presents the study conducted between June 2014 and June 2016 to determine and analyze the impact of Engineering Management Training on entrepreneurship development. Empirical and survey methods were used for the study. Observations made and recorded by 5 senior workers and 5 contractors who patronize an enterprise (Pace Makers Concept) on productivity and information received from the owner of the company and the same 5 senior workers interviewed on management of the company before and six months after the owner received training on Engineering Management were used as primary source of data for study. The results based on design and construction of different kinds of concrete structures showed that the percentage increases in baluster, interlock and stair rail designed and constructed were 66.67%, 75% and 100%. The results also showed that the qualities of balusters, interlocks and stair rails produced improved by significant average percentages of 16.92%, 18.68% and 19.88%. The results on company's business management showed that it improved by percentage average of 51.14%. It is therefore suggested that Engineers who are entrepreneurs undergo Engineering Management training on regular bases.

Keywords: *Engineering Management, Training,
Entrepreneurship Development, Enterprise, Productivity*



The Impact of Corporate Entrepreneurship (CE) on Company Sustainable Growth: Evidence from Taraku Mills Limited, Benue State

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Abstract

The development, application and enhancement of new technologies are occurring at a breathtaking pace and this has propelled entrepreneurs to challenge existing assumptions and create values in novel ways. Corporate Entrepreneurial thinking and action helps businesses to improve their competitive position and financial performance. This study evaluates the impact of Corporate Entrepreneurship (CE) on Company Sustainable growth in Taraku Mills Limited (TML), Benue State, Nigeria. The study examined if the inability of implementing CE is not responsible for the current comatose state of the company's operation. Primary data was obtained from management and senior staff of the organization through the use of a structured questionnaire and analyzed using logistic regression model. Among others, the study found that there is a significant relationship between the application of innovation (change and new initiatives) and sales. There is also a positive relationship between new products/services with growth in company assets though such growth does not manifest in the short- run. The study findings also indicated that all CE dimensions (innovation, policy/structural changes, process/performance improvement, new product/service development and proactively/creative culture) have positive relationship with company sustainable growth. In conclusion, the study recommends the introduction of CE as a critical success factor in Taraku Mills Limited so as to resuscitate and revitalize the company for sustainable growth.

Keywords: *Corporate Entrepreneurial, Development and Sustainable growth*

Techno-Economic Analysis of Wind-Solar Hybrid Renewable Energy for Outdoor Lighting in Nigeria

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Abstract

Techno-economic analysis of wind-solar hybrid renewable energy generation system for outdoor lighting is presented in this study. The power generated would supply the energy requirements of the outdoor light where the system is installed. The system combines two green technologies; including small scale wind turbine and solar cell module. It is potable and can be install on top of the conventional street lights and other outdoor lights in order to provide on-site renewable power to the lighting system. The technical and economic analysis was conducted by using the life cycle cost (*LCC*) method. The *LCC* technique is used to calculate the cost caused by the system during its entire life cycle and makes cash flows time-equivalent. The evaluations show that based only on cost, it is preferable to maintain standard street lamp over wind-solar hybrid street lamp because it will be less expensive to operate on an annual basis (N2, 138,364.8 versus N5, 187,379.6). This calculation however does not consider government incentive under green energy applications for installation cost and the tax reduction.

Keywords: *Renewable energy, Wind-solar and Hybrid energy system*



Effects of Microprocessor-Based Systems Development Training on Entrepreneurship


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Abstract

The development of entrepreneurship has been the concern of entrepreneurs. While microprocessor-based systems development knowledge may help in the development of systems, equipment, tools and devices needed for entrepreneurship development in diverse ways, people are not ready to acquire it. This paper presents the study conducted between 2014 and 2016 to determine and analyze the effects of microprocessor-based systems development knowledge acquired through training on entrepreneurship development. Experimental method was used for investigating the research problem. Data recorded by 5 Computer engineering graduates of Federal Polytechnic Oko in Anambra State who were trained on microprocessor based-systems development for one year on systems applied in entrepreneurship that they developed were used for the study. The results based on 10 best systems used for entrepreneurship developed and sold by each of the trained graduates showed that knowledge of microprocessor-based systems development acquired through training helped in producing numerous systems used in various entrepreneurship processes. The results also showed that microprocessor based-systems development/ production business is an enterprise that has great potential of transforming entrepreneurship. It is therefore urged that microprocessor-based systems development be integrated in entrepreneurship workshops and trainings.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, Microprocessor-Based Systems, Development, Knowledge and Training*



Impact of Microprocessor-Based Systems on Entrepreneurship Development

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Abstract

The achievement of aim of entrepreneurship has remained a challenge in developing Countries. While microprocessor-based systems have the potential to aid the achievement of this aim, entrepreneurs are slow to adopt their usage. This paper presents the study conducted in May 2016 to investigate the impact of micro processor-based systems on entrepreneurship development. Empirical method was adopted for this study. Records made through experience and observation by the 2 entrepreneurs (researchers) and their 3 senior workers on the application of microprocessor-based systems on their business (production of microprocessor-based systems) were used as primary source of data. The results have shown that microprocessor-based systems are applied in almost all the entrepreneurship processes. Potential applications of microprocessor-based systems were highlighted. It is therefore recommended that usage of microprocessor-based systems be adopted by all entrepreneurs.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship Development, Microprocessor-based Systems, Processes, Potential Applications, Business*



Design and Development of Solar Pond for Energy Storage

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Abstract

This research discusses basic principles of design, and development of a solar pond, and thermal energy extraction from the solar pond. A solar pond is simply a pool of saltwater which collects and stores solar thermal energy. The saltwater naturally forms a vertical salinity gradient in which low-salinity water floats on top of high-salinity water. The layers of salt solutions increase in concentration (and therefore density) with depth. Below a certain depth, the solution has a uniformly high salt concentration. An experimental salinity gradient solar pond with a total volume of 2.4 m³ is designed and constructed at ABU Zaria (11° 11' N 7° 38' E). Each wall of the pond is 1.28 m deep into the soil but inclined at an angle of 12° to increase the exposed surface area of the solar pond at the top. This arrangement ensures more solar energy per volume of the pond and yet maintaining its structural stability. The standard single brick wall construction of the pond has a cemented plaster of 6 cm thick and is further insulated by 30 cm thick layer of sand at the outside all around the pond to reduce heat losses to the surrounding soil. On the inside of the walls, a 0.5 mm polypropylene sheet is used to prevent seepages of saline water through the cemented walls into the soil. Temperature sensors are then placed in each zone i.e. Upper Convective Zone (UCZ), Non Convective Zone, (NCZ), & Lower Convective Zone, (LCZ) of the solar pond as well as on the outside heat exchanger, to measure their respective temperatures. Based on the results recorded, it shows an appreciable increase in temperature on every sunny day varying with heat intensity on that day and slight decrease in temperature a cloudy day. The maximum temperature drop of about 3.5 °C is observed. Average temperature rise of the UCZ on a sunny day during the monsoon season vary from 1 °C to 3 °C. Maximum temperature of 65 °C is achieved against the ambient temperature of 38.2 °C on the same day and thus giving a temperature rise of about 27 degrees which is quite significant in terms of total thermal energy storage considering the total mass of saline water in UCZ.

Keywords: *Thermal energy, Solar pond and Temperature*



Entrepreneurial Studies for Engineering Programmes in Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria: Problems and Improvement Strategy

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Abstract

Achievement of higher order learning outcomes such as creativity, problem solving and critical thinking has remained a challenge for tertiary institutions in Nigeria. While newer programs such as Entrepreneurial Studies have the potential to support these intended outcomes, academic practice in teaching and assessment are slow to change. This paper reports on an investigation of academic practice in teaching, assessment and handling practical on Entrepreneurial Studies for Engineering Programmes in tertiary institutions in Nigeria. Empirical research method was used for this study and data was collected through observations made by 40 Entrepreneurial Studies lecturers and Engineering students of five federal tertiary institutions in the South-East geo-political zone of Nigeria federation on the nature of Entrepreneurial Studies. The results have shown that the current teaching and assessment methods and manner the practical/projects are handled negatively affect Entrepreneurial Studies for Engineering Programmes in Nigeria tertiary institutions by significant percentages of 79.17%, 81.87% and 92.5%. Improvement strategy was developed based on the findings of this study and involves adoption of alternative teaching and assessment methods, regular training of lecturers and funding of students practical/projects.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurial Studies, Engineering Programmes and Improvement Strategy*



Impact of Solid Waste on the Environment: a Case Study of Dumpsite at Obosi, Anambra State, South-Eastern Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper presents the study conducted to investigate the impact of solid waste on the environment of Obosi in Anambra State of South-Eastern Nigeria. Experimental method was adopted for this study. The concentration of dumpsite was investigated using Graweon digital gas monitor while water from 4 boreholes around the dumpsite were tested with the Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (AAS). The results of the ambient air quality show that the gaseous emission for two seasons (dry and wet seasons) for NO₂, SO₂ and CO was 0.72ppm, 0.32ppm and 49.43ppm for dry season and 0.52ppm, 0.27ppm and 38.6ppm for wet season respectively. These values do not conform to United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) 2008 ambient air quality standard and thus may contribute to the acid rain deposition, global warming and health hazard within the study area. The results also show that pH of water samples obtained from four boreholes (BH₁ – BH₄) around the dumpsite were low (range: 5.81 to 6.47) and therefore acidic. Direct impacts such as respiratory sickness arising from these gases (NO₂, SO₂, CO₂, CH₄) at the dumpsite can be reduced by relocating people who live very close to the dumpsite and preventing scavengers who do brisk business at the dumpsite. The gases can also be processed and treated to produce electricity, heat, fuel and various chemical components. However, the long term solution to the risk offered by the dumpsite is its replacement by a sanitary landfill.

Keywords: *Solid Waste, Dumpsite, Ambient Air Quality,
Gaseous Emission, PH.*



Evaluation of Abuja Distribution Network System Security and Reliability with Petri-Nets

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Abstract

Comprehensive evaluation of the reliability of distribution of electric power systems requires sophisticated stochastic modeling. This paper therefore considered an application of Petri- Nets (PN) to model complex interaction among the factors affecting power quality. This presents a methodology for fault location in distribution systems of electric energy through remote management of fault indicators in a distribution network of Abuja. The selection of the network is based on features such as quality indicators (SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI, CAIFI and ASAI), network topology, and others. As the power systems increase in size and complexity, the real-time operation becomes an important and demanding task. When the system is under faulty condition, a great deal of information reaches the operator monitor desk, making it hard and stressful to take the right decision to restore to normal state of operation. To cope with this situation, a fault diagnosis method based on petri-nets (PN) is reported in this work. The proposed method aims to ease the burden of the power system operators by presenting a simple diagnosis of faults location in both, the substation, the transmission and the distribution lines. A fault diagnosis system based on PN has been developed which is independent of the power system topology. Flexibility and effectiveness of the PNs model have been validated to be as a decision support for restoration scheduling. It can point out the fault type, the faulty phase(s), and whether relays or circuit breakers that have failed. Two case studies were analyzed and presented.

Keywords: *Petri-Net, Electric Distribution Network, Security, Reliability, Abuja*

The Contribution of Adequate Energy Supply towards Boosting the Economies of Developing Countries; the Nigeria Experience

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Abstract

Energy have been defined as the strength and utility required for sustained physical or mental country. It can also be taken for the power by which anything acts effectively to move or change other things or accomplish any result. Let the above be as it many. In this research our interest is sustainable energy which implies the energy that is consumed at insignificant rates compared to its supply and with manageable collateral effects, especially environmental effects. On the other hand, sustainable energy is an energy system that serves the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. In the light of the above, the real question we need to answer without compromising is how we the developing countries have gone when it come to energy supply not even its reserve. The truth is always bitter must be told given the kind of epileptic power supply witnessed in developing countries, the African continent inclusive much need to be done in order to achieve any meaningful developmental efforts or projects. This research is occasioned by the neglect of the developing countries when it come to energy reservation. The scholars adopted several techniques in gathering data for in-depth analysis. The work also incorporated some theories in order to make it/our analysis more concrete. The paper concluded with the researchers making recommendations on how we can manage the problem of energy reservation in Africa in general and Nigeria in particular.

Keywords: *Adequate Energy, Developing countries Economic*



The Socio-Economic and Technological Effects of Energy Importation in Nigeria: a Paradigm Shift

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Abstract

Many definitions on energy abound but it all depends on the perspective from which the scholar is approaching the concept. In our sense here, let's see it as the habitual tendency to and readiness for effective action. Let it be sounded as early as now in the work that it is hard to dream of a country without sustainable energy reserve or adequate energy supply. We never can say never in an economy like ours (Nigerian's) where nothing can be predicted. The kind gloves with which our leaders and experts alike have handled crucial issues in Nigeria is one that calls for serious concern. Until now no one can believe that we do not have stable power supply/energy not to talk of reservation. One cannot keep aside when he/she have not had enough of something. Energy supply is one thing that generate income, motivate entrepreneurs and make life worth living but all these make little or no sense to our unpatriotic leaders who are only interested in things or issues that must go their way. This research aims at x-ranging the advantages of energy supply and reservation in this great country Nigeria. The researchers adopt certain techniques of data collection both primary and secondary in other to boast a rich vein of data. The scholars adopted some theoretical standpoints to back up their work. The work concluded with the researchers calling shot on the idea that a country like Nigeria will keep importing everything including energy when we can generate the amount we consume and more with the help of our indigenous expert if given adequate encouragement and support.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurs and Sustainable energy*



Encouraging Entrepreneurial Practice: a Panacea to the Problem of Unemployment in Developing Countries; a Paradigm Shift

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Abstract

The problems bedeviling the economies of the less developed countries seem to be unending and ever present simply because the governments come and go pretending to be unaware and unconcerned about problems facing their countries. This singular act seem not to go away and is characteristic of the leaders of developing countries. This research is occasioned by the over dependence of developing countries on the economies of the more developed countries especially for technology and finished products. The researchers adopted given data collection techniques in their effort to have a rich pool of data for detailed analyses. Such techniques included interviews, use of questionnaires, newspapers, magazines, journals and the internet. A few theoretical frameworks were x-rayed too. The work concluded with the researchers calling on the governments of the less developed countries to encourage their indigenous entrepreneurs for this will go a long way in solving majority of the problems we (the developing countries face at present).

Keywords: *Entrepreneurial practice and Unemployment*



The Problem of Touting in Nigeria, Causes, Effects and Implications; a Paradigm Shift

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Abstract

Many losses can be traced to touting on our various highways in Nigeria. Among the problems or issues of concern is that a lot of road accidents can be traced to the activities of touts on our various highways. These touts are menace to our drivers simply because at different places they position themselves demanding one form of payment, palm greasing, tip or the other of which when drivers refuse to comply, quarrels or crisis may erupt. And this ugly situation have always resulted in accidents. Another issue of worry is the image of countries where it is characteristic of. This research adopted several techniques in its data collection effort. Such techniques included oral interviews, sampling of opinions, textbooks, journals among others. Some theories were introduced to make the work more concrete. The work concluded with the researchers suggesting measures that can be put in place to check the activities of touts on our high ways.

Keywords: *Touting, Measures and Techniques*



Pattern and Distribution of Rainfall in Afikpo North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State, Nigeria and Implications for Agricultural Production: Impact of Global Warming and Climate Change

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Abstract

The purpose of the field work was to observe and generate data on the pattern and distribution of rainfall in Afikpo North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State for the years 2013 and 2014. A self designed recording instrument was used in the exercise and data were collected and analyzed using frequency Tables and graphs. The result will help to suggest to farmers on how to plan their farming activities in order to among others, minimize losses of farm produce on the farm. Some of the results showed that there was absence of the usual “August break” in the month of August and heavy downpours were experienced between the months of August and October and there was absence of the usual “double maxima” in the months of July and September of the two years. Recommendations, among others, were that farmers should not allow crops, as has been the usual practice, to dry-up in the farms between the months of September and October to reduce losses of farm products in the farm.

Keywords: *Global warming, Climate change, Rainfall pattern Agriculture*



An Analysis of the Information Technology (IT) Attitudes, Cognitions, and Anxieties of Corporate Leaders at the Dangote Flourmill

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Abstract

This study built the case for examining the little-understood relationship between a corporate leader and information technology. It interrogated over one hundred resources in the fields of business, technology, and psychology for relevant knowledge, empirical data, and current research methods related to the problem. Next, this research developed demographic analysis and integrated methods for measuring attitudes, cognitions, and anxieties of leaders towards information technology into the Corporate Leader-IT Relationship Evaluation Instrument. This instrument was administered to nineteen corporate leaders at the Dangote flour. The data was collected, loaded into SPSS, and resulting reports and demographic cross-tabulations were analyzed.

Keywords: *Information Technology (IT), Anxieties, Dangote flourmill*



Outsourcing Women Empowerment in Nigeria


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Abstract

Despite the huge economic potential in Nigeria, rural women are faced with overwhelming challenges that militate against the realization of their abilities to create wealth. To deal with the current poverty rate of 62.6%, the Nigerian government established Entrepreneurial Development Program (EDP). This program derived from the initiative of the International fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to outsource its entrepreneurial component to relevant organizations with the competence to implement its content. Working on the same initiative, the office of the first lady of Nigeria championed another project to work with 8 other agencies towards two goals: firstly, to create entrepreneurial activities among groups and individuals to improve by sharpening their business skills. Secondly, to provide employment for the nation's growing population. This paper examines the effect of government outsourcing on women and the implications for rural women in small businesses in Nigeria. The paper asks how outsourcing as a form of service delivery, limits or empowers the access of rural women to these entrepreneurial opportunities. The thesis is that, government outsourcing programs does not benefit the rural woman. The paper includes guidelines for future contract design and management that would encourage the outsourced agency to reach out to rural women who actually need to be empowered.

Keywords: *Economic potential, Entrepreneurial and
Agricultural development*



Planning for Succession and Firm's Sustainability: Evidence from Family Owned Businesses in Lagos and Ogun States

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Abstract

Family businesses constitute a large number of commercial activities worldwide, contributing significantly to the global economy. Succession is a key issue influencing the sustainability of family businesses. Studies indicated that approximately 50% of family businesses do not have adequate succession planning. There are many family business failures in Nigeria, especially at the demise of the owner/founder. The main objective of this study is to find out the factors that are responsible for the failure to effectively plan for succession and its effects on a firm's sustainability in the small family businesses in Lagos and Ogun States of Nigeria. The study adopted the descriptive research design method. The population of study was limited to the family business owners who are members of the National Association of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (NASME). A stratified sampling technique was used to select the family businesses, from where a random sample of 327 was selected. Pearson's Product Moment Correlation was used to analyze the data. The results revealed that there was a strong positive correlation between planning for succession and firm's sustainability, with an r value of correlation coefficient at 0.93 and significant level of $P < 0.05 @ 0.000$. In conclusion, succession planning remains a critical issue in family-owned businesses, and a major determinant of a firm's sustainability. The owner/founder must act proactively by crafting succession plan early enough in the life of the business. To ensure a high survival rate of small family businesses, succession must be put into a strategic plan, to make sure that a successor has adequate capability and knowledge of the family business.

Keywords: *Family Business, Succession, Sustainability, Succession Planning*

Strategies for Survival and Enterprise Development of SMEs in Emerging Market: Evidence Ondo State Nigeria

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Abstract

The SMEs have also been recognised as catalyst in the socio- economic development of any country and as veritable vehicles for the achievement of microeconomic objectives and sustainable development. As urban population grows due to escalating rural-urban migration, the dynamism of the environment and changes in consumption pattern, the small and medium enterprises innovating in products has been a challenge especially in the fast food industry; hence their survival is not guaranteed. The study focused to examine the strategies adopted by SMEs for their survival and development of fast food industry in order to achieve sustainable growth and development. The study employed survey research design by collecting primary data from a sample size of 365 through the administration of structured questionnaires. Hypothesis was set to determine whether there is a significant difference between survival strategies and enterprise development and simple linear regression model was adopted to test the significant level of the hypothesis. The result showed a positive effect of $R = 0.574$ and the R^2 value of 0.329 revealed that 32.9% of the variation in enterprise development is explained by variation in survival strategies adopted by the business enterprise, thereby accepting the null hypothesis. Policy recommendations were made in line with the findings emanated from the study.

Keywords: *Strategy, Development, SMEs, Survival and Emerging Market*



Interactive Marketing and Sales Growth as Measure of Business Performance of Small-Scale Agro-Allied Firms in Rivers State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The study is set out to determine the extent of relationship between interactive marketing practice and business performance of agro-allied firms in Rivers State, using sales growth as a yardstick for measuring performance. The cross – sectional survey design was adopted for the study. Ten (10) out of 416 agro-allied firms registered with the ministry of commerce and industry (Rivers State Yellow Pages Directory, 2013 – 2014) with population of 400 management staff were randomly selected, while Taro Yemen's formula was used to determine 200 management staff as the respondents (sample size) for the study. The study made a combined use of both primary and secondary data. Descriptive and inferential analyses were carried out. The major statistical tool adopted is Spearman's rank order correlation, using SPSS version 15.0 for the analysis of the hypothesis. The results of the analysis revealed that, there is a positive and significant relationship between interactive marketing and Sales Growth ($\rho=0.695$), showing a high association between the variables. Conclusively, as business faces incredible challenges like happenings in the global market, changes in modern marketing and economic conditions, interactive marketing practice can help organizations survive and perform in the current global market. The study therefore recommends amongst others, that: interactive marketing practice should be effectively implemented in the agro-allied firms, so as to effectively enhance business performance. In addition, interactive marketing should be encouraged, such that it could contribute to sustainable sales growth.

Keywords: *Interactive Marketing, Business Performance,
Agro-Allied Industries and Agribusiness.*

The Need for Mentoring in Entrepreneurship Development of the Professions: a Study of Estate Surveying & Valuation Profession

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Abstract

The real estate sector of the economy is a vibrant one because of the myriad of issues connected with land and land resources. It is attractive not just because of profits and investments in real estate but also because of prestige, political power and social status which property conveys. As many people enter the labour market after graduation, they are faced with various professional challenges that when unattended to may lead to their doom. The reason for this is that probationers in the real estate sector do not have the technical and managerial ability to forge ahead because the human resource base is shallow. This paper examined mentoring as work force development strategy that enables firms and organizations to attract, engage, develop and retain young talents in real estate practice. The study utilized the T Test statistic in analyzing data collected with the questionnaire and interview schedules. The study concluded that the dearth of mentors in the professions is a cogent reason for the proliferation of quacks and charlatans in the professions. The paper recommended the establishment of a mentors club in the real estate practice as well as other professions; the formation of consortium for enlarged resource base and technical knowledge among others.

Keywords: *Mentoring; Professions; Resource Base; Entrepreneurship; Human Capital.*



Comparative Study of Value Management Practice and Workshop in the Nigerian Construction Industry

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Abstract

The construction industry is often perceived to be the life wire of its respective economy as it cuts across all aspects of human activities and the Nigerian Construction Industry (NCI) is not an exception to this. Past studies has shown that the NCI is constantly censured for its ailing performance as evident that the client value system is not successfully achieved. Studies elsewhere suggest that value management (VM) practice is capable of simplifying the process by achieving clients' and stakeholders' satisfaction. A methodology standard was developed by the Society of American Value Engineers (SAVE) to provide the process and structure that is used to apply the value study in VM workshop. Stakeholders involved in VM practices encounter the problem of having participants dispersed in location from the workshop venue. Therefore, the introduction of a virtual collaboration method to VM studies is an effective and economical way to solve the problem, especially in the construction industry. However, there is currently a lack of knowledge on the implementation of virtual VM studies. Hence, this paper studied comparatively and holistically the existing VM workshop and a new concept of the virtual VM workshop with a view to harness the whole value system through a virtual collaborative effort by the virtual team. In order to implement virtual VM workshops, a virtual value management system (VVMS) has to be developed through information system (IS) to enable participants' remote participation and virtual collaboration. A qualitative and quantitative approach was used for the comparative study through extensive literature review and an experimental overview to test the effect of the virtual VM workshop. It was observed that through the support of the VVMS, VM study can be delivered virtually to a satisfactory level.

Keywords: *Value management (VM); Value Methodology; Virtual workshop; Virtual collaboration.*

An Evaluation of Spatial Dichotomy in Solid Waste Generation and Management in Different Residential Density Areas of Abeokuta


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Abstract

The task of sustainable management of ever increasing solid wastes generated in Nigeria cities is a major challenge for municipal governments across the country. Studies on the pattern of generation and management of solid waste in different urban centre's have been variously carried out, but such studies have largely taken urban centre as a monolithic entity without considering the peculiarities of individual social areas within a city. This study is therefore an attempt to make up for this yawning gap. A total of 120 household heads were randomly selected from low density (LD), Medium Density (MD) and High Density (HD) areas of Abeokuta, from whom data on solid waste generation and management were collected through the use of self-administered questionnaire. A separate questionnaire was also administered on the Ogun State Environmental Protection Agency (OGEPA). Data analysis was both descriptive and qualitative. The result shows that significant variation exist in certain aspects of solid waste generation and disposal across the three density areas which called for careful consideration in solid waste management policy to ensure sustainability.

Keywords: *Solid waste, Waste management, Waste generation, Government, Household*



Street Begging among People Living with Disabilities in a Nigerian Traditional Urban Centre: Causes and Implications for Public Policy

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Abstract

This study examined street begging among people living with disabilities in a Nigerian traditional urban centre. Data were obtained from 109 randomly selected beggars living with disabilities in five different locations (Sango, Iwo Road, Sabo, Challenge and Oja Oba) where they congregated using questionnaire that was either directly responded to by the beggars or indirectly through their caregivers or both. Information obtained were the socio-economic characteristics of the disabled beggars, disabled beggars' perceived reasons for begging and physical appearance of the disabled beggars and environmental conditions of the begging locations. Data on socio-economic characteristics of the beggars were analyzed using frequency counts, percentages, chi-square, and analysis of variance. The Relative Importance Indices (RII) generated from the beggars' rating of fifteen perceived reasons listed in the questionnaire were used to determine the important rated reasons why they begged. Pearson Product Momentum Correlation coefficient was also employed to determine the relationships between selected beggars' socio-economic characteristics and some high rated reasons for begging. Physical observation was also carried out to know the physical appearances of the disabled beggars and environmental conditions of the begging locations. The findings on socio-economic characteristics of beggars living with disabilities revealed that 74.3% were male, 49.5% were married, 59.6% were illiterates, 43.1% were youths, and 33.0% were northerners. The RII showed that physical defects (4.32), lack of economic opportunities (4.09), broken home (3.78), lack of skill for gainful employment (3.39), abandonment (3.36), old age (3.18), homelessness (3.17) and chronic diseases (3.17) were the high rated reasons beggars living with disabilities solicited for alms. It was revealed that homelessness and lack of economic opportunities had positive significant relationships with income ($r= 0.606$, $p<0.05$; $r= 0.701$, $p<0.01$), educational level ($r= 0.593$, $p<0.05$; $r= 0.566<0.01$) and household size ($r= 0.788$, $p<0.01$; $r=0.564$, $p<0.01$). It was also observed that the physical appearances and environmental conditions of the begging locations could have health implications on the disabled beggars as well as the generality of people living around the locations where they congregated due to very dirty attires they wore, infectious diseases, and varying irritants rampant in the locations. Based on the findings of the research, recommendations were made to control the incidence of begging among people living with disabilities in the study area.

Keywords: *Beggars, Street begging, Disabled beggars, Reasons for begging, Ibadan metropolis.*

Entrepreneurs and Corporate Ventures in Nigeria, Strategic Technical Partnership for Sustainable Development, Innovation and Competitiveness


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Abstract

Entrepreneurs, their start-ups and businesses in Nigeria and Africa experience many challenges and few survive two to five-year range. Some of the challenges include lack of business savings and plans, handful corporate investors and venture capitals and the need for these fund centre to appropriately understand entrepreneurs, their businesses and markets. The study examined the structures and operations of the strategic technical partnership between corporate investors/venture capitals and entrepreneurs businesses for enhancing sustainable business performance innovation and competitiveness. Such corporate include banks, governments, and private equities, and investors, non-governmental organizations operating in banking, financing agricultural and technological sectors. Findings showed there exists urgent need for more alliance, understanding and patience with the enterprises, structures and markets by corporate investors and capitals. These bodies can organize as syndicates to help in funding research and innovations in project execution and marketing strategies and stretching new technologies. It is recommended for the development of the entrepreneurial spirits, more of training, coaching and mentoring of the business desiring and trainable entrepreneurs in view of the weakness noticed in Nigerian entrepreneurs.

Keywords: *Corporate Ventures, Corporate Capital, Entrepreneurs, Strategic Partnership and Innovation*




Human Resource Selection Policy and Employees' Job Satisfaction in Nigerian Banks

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Abstract

Erroneous employment in an organisation could be frustrating to the human resource department and the organisation at large. This could lead to poor productivity and job dissatisfaction by the employees. This study seeks to assess the relationship between human resource selection practice (HRSP) and employees' job satisfaction in Nigerian banks. Information was gathered via research instruments on both respondent bio data and study variables. The total population of the entire management staff in the branches of the ten selected banks in Lagos State was 2015, applying total enumeration, 1713 respondents returned their questionnaire correctly. The data collected for the study were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics, Pearson product moment correlation and multiple regression analysis. The result of the regression analysis came out as $df = (1712, 1)$, $r = 0.762$, $F = 9.894$, $P = 0.002 < 0.05$. This indicates a significant relationship between selection policy and employee promotion which leads to satisfaction. The study recommends the need for Nigerian banks to follow due process during recruitment and selection process. This is to maintain corporate integrity of best industry practice, encourages employees' productivity and satisfaction hence reducing staff turnover.

Keywords: *Human resource, Selection policy, Employees,
Job satisfaction and Management staff*



Organisational Profitability and Public Relations: Case of Cadbury Nigeria's Plc.


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Abstract

The importance of public relations (PR) to any organization cannot be over emphasized. The way an organization relates to the public has a lot to say of such organization especially in the maintenance of corporate image which enhances the realization of set goals and promotes profitability. This study assesses the effect of public relations on increased profitability of Cadbury Nigeria's Plc. Both primary and secondary data required for this study were gathered from two sources, the first from a field study and the second from text books, journals and past studies. The population for this study was 195 employees in the marketing and sales department of Cadbury Nigeria plc. Lagos, the sample size derived from the population was 131 but 127 respondents returned their questionnaires. Structured questionnaire was implored for the elicitation of relevant data regarding the respondent's biodata and study variables. Information generated was analyzed firstly on percentage and frequency tables and finally hypothesis test was carried out using regression with the aid of statistical package for social science (SPSS). Result indicated there is a significant effect of PR on profitability growth of Cadbury Nigeria's Plc:the $R = 84.2\%$, $R^2 = 81.1\%$ which is high and moderate, and t-calculated value is 7.897 which is greater than t-tabulated of 1.984. This study recommends the adoption of PR by organizations as a tool for enhanced profitability.

Keywords: *Public relations, Profitability, Cadbury Nigeria Plc.,
Organization and promotion.*



Social Factors as Determinant of Vended Food Consumption Patterns among Auto-Technicians in Ibadan Metropolis

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Abstract

To meet the growing demand for vended foods of an increasing population, the need to develop marketing policy and strategy cannot be ignored for better management of consumer behaviour and understanding of food consumption patterns. This study therefore investigated social factors as determinant of vended foods consumption patterns among auto-technicians in Ibadan metropolis. The study employed the survey research design. The population consisted of 5,468 registered members of National Auto and Technical Association (NATA) in 11 Local Government Areas in Ibadan metropolis, out of which 2,014 members were selected through scientific sampling method. Data generated were analysed using frequency, mean, standard deviation and regression analysis at 0.05 alpha level. The findings revealed that social factors ($F_{.stat} = 181.624$; $R^2 = 0.295$; $p(.000) < .05$). The study concludes that social factors are determinants of vended food consumption patterns among auto-technicians in Ibadan metropolis. For this reason, this study recommends that social factors (environment, health, family, religion) should be imbibed and considered in the development of marketing strategies and tapping of marketing opportunities. Occupational change is recommended to improve standard of living which enhances employment.

Keywords: *Social factors, Consumption patterns, Vended foods, Auto-technicians & marketing opportunities.*

An Empirical Investigation of the Impact of Talent Management on Corporate Performance in Selected Microfinance Banks in Port Harcourt, Rivers State


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Abstract

This study empirically investigated the impact of Talent Management and Corporate Performance in Microfinance Banks in Rivers State. The study adopted a cross-sectional survey design. The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) and Statistical package of Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 was utilized. A tripartite research questions and hypotheses were proposed and developed respectfully to lay solid foundation for this research investigation. A sample of 145 employees was determined using the Taro Yamene's sampling technique. The findings show that Talent Management significantly impacts on corporate performance in Microfinance banks in Rivers State. It also indicates that organizational innovativeness does not affect Talent Management customer Market competitiveness and customer care services in the Microfinance banks in Rivers state. It is therefore recommended that talent management should be employed as a strategic tool to enhance corporate performance. This underscores the essence of capacity building in the Management of Microfinance Banks in Rivers State. The concomitant policy thrust of this study is that the enhancement of Talent Management of employees in this sector will enhance firm's performance and aid in the prosperity of Port Harcourt particularly and Rivers State generally.

Keywords: *Talent management, corporate performance, microfinance banks, innovativeness, competitiveness*



Organizational Trustworthiness and Employee Involvement Practices among Employees in Maritime Firms in Lagos and Rivers States


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Abstract

This study examined the relationship between organizational trustworthiness and employee involvement practices in the Nigerian maritime industry. Three research questions and hypotheses were proposed to examine the relationship between organizational trustworthiness and employee involvement practices. The quantitative research data was orchestrated with the aid of a five point Likert scale questionnaire distributed to 278 which is the sample size derived from a population of 963 employees using Krejcie and Morgan's table of sample size determination. On the reliability of the study variables, they all met the Cronbach Alpha of 0.7 and above. The validity of the instruments was also ensured by experts in the field of study. The Spearman correlation was utilized to test the three hypotheses. The results of the study revealed that the predictor variable (organizational trustworthiness) has a relationship with the measures (empowerment, team orientation and capacity building) of the criterion variable (employee involvement practices). The study recommends that maritime firms should ensure the institutionalization of ethical values and norms which portray organizational sincerity and trustworthiness in order to improve employee involvement practices in organizations.

Keywords: *Organizational Trustworthiness, Employee Involvement, Empowerment, Team Orientation, Capacity Building*



Assessment of the Utilization Level of Facilities for Teaching and Learning of Metalwork in Vocational Technical Colleges in Rivers State of Nigeria


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Abstract

The main aim of this study was to assess the utilization level of facilities for teaching and learning of metalwork in vocational technical colleges in Rivers State Nigeria. Three research questions were formulated to guide the study. Survey research design was adopted in conducting the study. The study's sample contained four technical instructors, 38 metal-work technical teachers and 78 metal-work students, for a total population of 117 respondents. A questionnaire based on four point was used as the data collection instrument. The analysis was done using percentages, mean scores and standard deviations. It was found that the facilities in the workshop were not effectively utilized for teaching and learning. Instructional materials like transparencies, audiocassette tapes, video, slides, and filmstrips were not utilized for teaching and learning and teachers lack skill for improvisation. It was recommended that (a) facilities like obsolete machines and equipment be replaced and properly maintained through adequate funding (b) institutions training technical teachers should include courses on improvisation in specific trade areas as a mandatory requirement for graduation.

Keywords: *Facilities, Metalwork and Vocational Technical Colleges*



Rural Technology and Improved Agricultural Production in Nigeria: Emerging Opportunities in Central Senatorial District of Cross River State

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Abstract

Nigeria's huge agricultural resource base offers great potential for growth. Recent government statistical reports have showed this. The agricultural sector reportedly grew by 7 per cent a year between 2003 and 2007, and at a slightly lower rate in recent years. Still, the area of land under cultivation could be doubled. Of an estimated 71 million hectares of arable land, only about half is presently under production. And there is substantial scope for an increase in irrigation, which now covers only 7 per cent of irrigable land. Irrigation and other inputs would substantially increase average yields through improved rural technology. This study identifies forms of rural technologies and how they can be improved to enhance agricultural production in Central Senatorial District of Cross River State. Survey research design is employed and primary data are drawn using a structured research questionnaire. The questionnaire was administered to 300 respondents randomly selected in the study area. Data obtained was analyzed using Chi square statistic technique. Results obtained showed that farmers adapt better with rural rather than modern technologies in irrigation. It is therefore recommended that government should encourage the use of rural technologies in irrigation and other inputs. This is believed will not just improve output, but will enhance the development and sustainability of rural technologies.

Keywords: *Rural Technology, Irrigation, Agricultural Production, Development and Sustainability*

Transformation Concepts in Origami and Tessellation towards a Sustainable Smart Building

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Abstract

Origami, from 'oru', meaning 'fold' and 'kami', meaning 'paper', is an ancient Japanese art while tessellation evolves a great idea developed into geometrical interlocking shapes or form to produce a modular template. Origami and tessellation in relation to architecture were established as a conceptual system suggesting further use of both techniques and methods for exploring the transformation of three-dimensional entities in the design of spatial structures. In Islamic art and Japanese architecture, origami plays a very important role in the evolution of design thoughts both in theory and practice. As a result of the above, this paper is aimed at studying the various transformations of origami and tessellation concepts in sustainable architecture. The 21 respondents contacted showed a positive agreement by carefully correlating general and specific views. The provision of smart cities is to improve on this situational trend, certain innovative constructions, cutting-edge technologies, principles, laws and regulations among others. Ever increasing demands for smart building systems can never be under estimated which calls for adequate sustainability. As a result of the above, this paper revisits as well as appraises the issues such as innovative designs systems, amphibian architecture systems, digital city systems, intelligent building systems, zero-energy emission systems, 3d printed homes or hybrid, vertical and modular systems etc. for implementation.

Keywords: *Architects, Concepts, Smart building, Transformation, Theory and practice*



Impacts of Entrepreneurship on Clean Energy Systems for Transformation in Buildings

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Abstract

Entrepreneurship means building something of recognized value around perceived opportunities. Clean energy systems refer to an energy source that is an alternative to fossil fuel such as wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, biomass, etc. Therefore, This paper is presented to showcase series of clean energy systems in our environment vis-à-vis the sources, uses and challenges. It is a fact that most of the world's energy resources are produced used by buildings and construction industry which as a result, constitute problems of global warming, pollution, depletion of the ozone layer, waste issues, and climate changes, etc. To save our planet of these problems is going back to the basis; a technology in green architecture to achieve an a clean and sustainable energy in buildings. A review of the characteristics of the various energy technologies in buildings suggests modifications in architectural planning and design in such areas as site planning/landscaping floor planning, environmental control systems, construction materials and methods. Also, in response to challenging issues of national transformation, the study adopted in this paper is a literature reviews to asses various contributions of architects using a qualitative approach. It was recommended that government, private and public entitles have architects in which their impacts must be identified and put into practice for a transformed systems in Nigeria using entrepreneurship as a tool.

Keywords: *Architecture, Energy, Entrepreneurship, Systems, Technology, Transformation*

Effect of Inquiry-Based Teaching Technique on the Performance of Basic Technology Students in Rivers State Secondary Schools

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Abstract

The study investigated the effect of Inquiry-Based Teaching Technique on the performance of basic technology students in Rivers State secondary schools. The performance of students taught with inquiry-based teaching technique was compared with that of those taught with conventional teaching technique. Two research questions guided the study while two hypotheses were formulated for the study. Quasi-experimental design, specifically, the non-randomized control group design involving two intact classes were used. The population was 157 basic technology students of two secondary schools in Rivers State. These students in the intact classes were assigned either to experimental group (inquiry-based teaching technique) or control group (conventional teaching technique). Basic technology Performance Test (MWPT) instrument were developed, validated and used for data collection. Reliability of the basic technology performance test was 0.75. Arithmetic mean and standard deviation were used to analyze data collected in respect to the research questions while ANCOVA was used to test the hypotheses at 0.05% level of significance. Findings of the study revealed that inquiry-based teaching technique has significant effect on student's performance in metal-work. This is evident in the mean performance of students taught with the inquiry-based teaching technique in turning operation $x = 25.12$ and knurling operation $x = 26.06$. While students taught with conventional teaching technique had a mean performance of turning operation $x = 20.54$, and knurling operation $x = 20.79$. There was significant difference ($P < 0.05$) in the mean performance scores of students taught with the inquiry-based teaching technique and those taught with the conventional teaching technique in basic technology. It implies that from the findings, that there is need for basic technology teachers to employ the use of inquiry-based teaching technique in teaching as it proved more effective in improving student's performance in basic technology. It is recommended that states and federal ministries of education including professional bodies like Nigerian Association of Teachers of Technology and examination bodies like National Business and Technical Examination Board (NABTEB) should organize workshops, seminars and conferences to train and encourage teachers on the use of this innovative technique among others.

Keywords: *Inquiry-Based Teaching Approach, Secondary School Students and Achievement Basic Technology*

Assessment of the Utilization Level of Facilities for Teaching and Learning of Metalwork in Vocational Technical Colleges in Rivers State of Nigeria


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Abstract

The main aim of this study was to assess the utilization level of facilities for teaching and learning of metalwork in vocational technical colleges in Rivers State Nigeria. Three research questions were formulated to guide the study. Survey research design was adopted in conducting the study. The study's sample contained four technical instructors, 38 metal-work technical teachers and 78 metal-work students, for a total population of 117 respondents. A questionnaire based on four points was used as the data collection instrument. The analysis was done using percentages, mean scores and standard deviations. It was found that the facilities in the workshop were not effectively utilized for teaching and learning. Instructional materials like transparencies, audiocassette tapes, video, slides, and filmstrips were not utilized for teaching and learning and teachers lack skill for improvisation. It was recommended that (a) facilities like obsolete machines and equipment be replaced and properly maintained through adequate funding (b) institutions training technical teachers should include courses on improvisation in specific trade areas as a mandatory requirement for graduation.

Keywords: *Facilities, Metalwork and Vocational Technical Colleges*



The Influence of Power Irregularities on Academic Activities in Nigerian Universities: the Pre-Service Teachers Opinion

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Abstract

The study investigated the influence of power irregularities on academic activities in Universities. The study is a survey type of descriptive research. The population consists of all undergraduate pre-service teachers in both state and Federal Universities in Lagos state Nigeria. A sample of 436 pre-service teachers was selected from six Departments in the Faculty of Education, University of Lagos using a stratified random sampling technique. A validated 30 items structured questionnaire (r value=0.91) was used in collecting data. Seven research questions guided the study and seven hypotheses were also tested at .05 level of significance. Data collected were analysed descriptively and inferentially. Results showed that pre – service teachers general opinion on the influence of power irregularities on academic activities in Nigeria Universities is high. All the independent variables made a total contribution of 99.8% to the dependent variables. Students' welfare made the highest contribution while the environmental conduciveness made the lowest contributions. Based on the results obtained some recommendations are provided.

Keywords: *Power, Irregularities, Academic, Activities, Universities*



Change Implementation and Competitive Positioning

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Abstract

Implementing complex organisational changes involve collective action by many people, each of whom contributes something to the implementation of change. Change may face a big problem if the required environment, technique and technologies are lacking. Descriptive survey research design was adopted. The population of this study comprised 43,820 management employees of the telecommunication industry (NCC 2012). Based on proportional stratified sampling technique, the survey sample size calculator software was used to select 2312 employees. A six point Likert scale type questionnaire used to collect data was validated by experts and a 0.81 Cronbach alpha coefficient confirmed its reliability. Of the 2312 questionnaire copies administered, 1435 were returned dully filled out.

Change implementation had a significant relationship with competitive positioning ($R^2=0.251$, $p\text{-value}=0.0000 < 0.05$); hence, the result showed a positive significant relationship. The study concluded that change implementation significantly determined competitive positioning and firms' performance. The study recommended among other things that managers should make change implementation an integral part of change management so as to ensure firms' performance. A major implication of the findings for the industry is that it has provided an insight into some of the implications change implementation on firms' performance in the Nigerian telecommunication industry. Implementing change judiciously is necessary.

Keywords: *Change implementation, competitive positioning, change management, Firms' performance*





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Deadline: 15th August, 2016

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit on 25th September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. The Sustainable Development Goals, otherwise known as the Global Goals, build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), eight anti-poverty targets that the world committed to achieving by 2015. The MDGs, adopted in 2000, aimed at an array of issues that included slashing poverty, hunger, disease, gender inequality, and access to water and sanitation.

Enormous progress has been made on the MDGs, showing the value of a unifying agenda underpinned by goals and targets. Despite this success, the indignity of poverty has not been ended for all. The new SDGs, and the broader sustainability agenda, go much further than the MDGs, addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people.

This study is sponsored by the African Research Council on Sustainable Development in partnership with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs for global partnership in achieving the goals. The Council invites scholars and multi-stakeholders to share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries, in particular developing countries. The outcome of the study will encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

SUBMIT A MANUSCRIPT

Download SDGs/ Subthemes on this link: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>. Contributions developed from any of the SDGs must have a clear topic, an abstract, a background to the study, which must show major development challenges and gaps in knowledge. The objective of the study must be clear, supported with detailed literature, theoretical discourse, models, methodology and strategic policy framework for sustainability.

PUBLICATION OF MANUSCRIPT

At acceptance of manuscript, authors will be asked to pay **USD200**. Manuscript will be published in a UN Development Policy Document (UN-DPD) as a framework for effective implementation of SDGs in developing countries. The study will be officially released in Coventry University, October 3rd, 2016. Contributing authors will receive complementary copies of published Policy Document. Reading will index in Googlebooks, International Fact Sheets/Achieves and Ulrich Periodicals Directory.

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Academic papers may be either conceptual or empirical. The length of the paper should be between 5000 and 8000 words. The references should be given in the style prescribed by the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition), which requires the (author, year) format within the text, and the alphabetical listing (by authors' surnames) of the references at the end. Conceptual papers should develop strong arguments and new theoretical perspectives on issues related to paper title, using evidence from prior research.

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We invite you to submit high quality papers for review and possible publication in special issues on International Scientific Journals. Papers submitted for publication are peer reviewed to make sure they are original, relevant and readable. Papers must be written in English or French. Every submission must include Author(s) Name, Institutional Address, E-mail, and Phone Number(s). Submit papers to irjp.journals@gmail.com. Authors will be informed about the status of their paper within 5-7 days, after peer review process.

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1

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2

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3

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4

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