



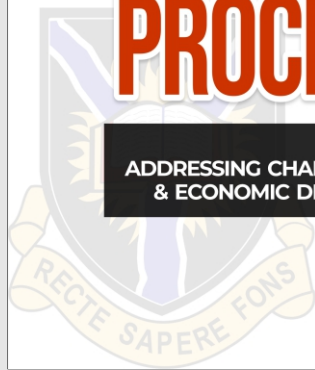
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN,
NIGERIA

AFRICAN-EUROPEAN REGIONAL
GOVERNANCE & DEVELOPMENT
CONFERENCE

12TH - 13TH OCTOBER, 2023

ABSTRACTS
&
PROCEEDINGS

THEME:
ADDRESSING CHALLENGES OF GOVERNANCE
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA





AFRICAN-EUROPEAN REGIONAL GOVERNANCE & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

THEME: Addressing Challenges of Governance & Economic Development in Africa

DATE: Thursday 12th – Friday 13th October, 2023

TIME: 9:00am

VENUE: University of Ibadan, Nigeria

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AFRICAN-EUROPEAN REGIONAL GOVERNANCE & DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – Thursday 12th October, 2023

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

Conference Registration	- 8:00am – 9:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark	- 9:00am – 9:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark	- 9:15am – 9:30am
Research Training	- 9:30am – 12noon
Launch Break/Group Photograph	- 12noon – 1:00pm
Plenary Session	- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm

DAY TWO – Friday 13th October, 2023

OPENING SESSION/PLENARY

Conference Registration	- 8:00am – 9:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark	- 9:00am – 9:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark	- 9:15am – 9:30am
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Conference Abstracts

Economic Globalization and Women Empowerment in Nigeria: An Empirical Approach

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Abstract

Economic globalization is the increasing integration of different economies around the world. It involves the flows of goods and services, capital and trade in assets, technological transfer and ideas and the movement of labour across borders. Like many other countries of the world Nigeria economy has been integrated through globalization. However, there are debates in literature as to whether economic globalization widens gender gap or improves it. While a school of thought believes that globalization increases mobility and employment opportunities for women the other school of thought believes that the positive impact of globalization is wiped off by its negative effects. Hence, this study investigates the impact of economic globalization on women employment in Nigeria. It is an analysis of the impact of economic globalization in the form FDI inflow, trade openness, technological transfer, migration and foreign debt on women employment in Nigeria. The study disaggregates women employment into service, agriculture and industry. Data shall be collected from CBN statistical bulletin, World Development indicators and IMF statistics between 1990 and 2022. It is expected that the results from this study will serve as a policy statements for government and policy makers in harnessing the benefits of globalization for women empowerment and in achieving gender equality in the country.

Keywords: *Economic Globalization, Women, Employment, Empowerment*

The Mediating Role of Innovation on the Relationship Between Competitor Orientation and SME's Performance

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Abstract

Very few studies have examined the indirect relationship between competitor orientation and the performance of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), despite the reported possibility of an indirect relationship in the literature. This has thus led to a significant dearth of knowledge in the literature. To fill this knowledge gap, this study examined whether innovation significantly mediates the relationship between competitor orientation and firm performance. To this end, two hypotheses were formulated for testing by the study. The study sampled SMEs in Kaduna state. Owner/managers of the SMEs formed the respondents of the study. The SMEs that were sampled for the study were selected using proportionate stratified and systematic sampling technique. The study used copies of questionnaire to collect needed data for the study. A total of 424 copies of questionnaire were used for final analysis processed on SmartPls statistical software. Based on empirical analysis, the study found out that competitor orientation is a positive and significant predictor of the performance of SMEs. The study also found out that innovation significantly mediates the relationship between competitor orientation and firm performance. The study recommends that managers and owners of SMEs ensure that their employees in their organisation always share competitor information among themselves. Sharing competitor information can help employees to stay up-to-date on industry trends and developments, which can be useful for strategic decision-making.

Keywords: *Competitor Orientation, Innovation, Firm performance*

Political Leadership and Education for Sustainable Development in Nigeria: An Assessment of Akwa Ibom State Universal Basic Education Board (Subeb), Uyo

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Abstract

Education for sustainable Development (ESD) targets at acquisition of knowledge, skills, values and attitudinal changes in both formal and informal sectors that leads to increased productive population in the state for job creation and economic self-reliance of the people in present generation without compromising the future generations. However, a gap exist as most leaders in the state failed to give top priority to education as potential nexus for development in Nigeria. Corruption among leaders in the education sector was identified as a major drawback to education in developing economies which result in poor funding of education, policy inconsistency at the implementation, insufficient qualified teachers', increased out-of-school children, lack of infrastructure, high rate of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, inequality and violent crime in the state. The main objective of the study was to examine the relationship between political leadership and ESD in Nigeria with reference to Akwa Ibom State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) using Education Index proxied by literacy rate (average adult year of schooling and expected year of schooling), education budget/implementation, quality and access to education. Transformational leadership and structural functional theories were adopted, which emphasized citizens' participation, inclusiveness, capacity building, transparency and accountability in public service. Descriptive research and Survey of study population of about 40,266 comprising of appointed education officials in 2,826 schools affiliated to SUBEB with sample size of 380 determined using Krejcie and Morgan table (1970) were employed. Simple random and stratified random sampling techniques were used to administer 12 items questionnaire on the respondents. Simple percentage, Pearson Moment Correlation Co-efficient and tabular form were adopted for data presentation and analysis. The study among others revealed that: Political leadership has significant direct relationship with ESD in Akwa Ibom State; Political leadership contributes to increase in number of schools built, increased enrollment/access to education, skills acquisition and empowerment for job creation/employment opportunities for improved citizens' welfare in the state. It recommended policy reforms to reduce anomalies in educational management and adequate funding to meet UNESCO education budget baseline of 26%, employment of more qualified teachers, training and re-training of teachers to develop technical skills in entrepreneurship education; provision of library, laboratories and other facilities for modern research/innovations.

Keywords: *Akwa Ibom State, Development, Education, Sustainable Development, Political Leadership.*

Inquiry Based Learning in Physics: A Panacea to National Economic Issues in Nigeria

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Abstract

The global economic meltdown has shut down, crippled and reshaped the economy of many nations of the world. Even the super economic powers of the world are quivering. Worst hit are the under developed economies like Nigeria whose currency can no longer even compete in world trade. The embattled economic situation of Nigeria has been blamed on the fact that Nigeria is only consuming and not a producing economy. Science and Technology drive an industrial economy and physics is the bed rock of Technology. An inquiry-based physics learning has become a global paradigm to salvage the teaching of Science and Technology and boosting industrial development. The study aims to review recent articles on Inquiry Based Learning in Physics as a panacea to industrial development in order to save the hailing economic saga in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Learning physics, Industrial development, Science and Technology*

Vocational Education as a Tool in Addressing Challenges of Governance and Economic Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

There is no gain in saying that education remains the key to the sustainable development of any country. The trend now the society shows that the level of one's growth, rather the effects is more pronounced on the level of skills possessed and the ability to apply the skills in the real world of work. The reality of challenges of governance and economic development today negatively affects almost every facet of our lives as Nigerians. Vocational education is tied to governance and economic development of any country, it is a vital aspect and of great contribution to addressing challenges of governance and economic development, it helps to reduce poverty in our country, when it is gainfully employed. The paper adapts Abraham Maslow's theory of needs, basic needs such as food, shelter and clothing are first of all provided. The paper identified several ways in which poverty inhibits governance and economic development in Nigeria, Vocational education is conceived as an aspect of carrier development that can assist the individual to know more about the practical aspect of the world of work. Successful completion of a vocational programme will enable an individual to be gainfully employed, job creation and thus eradicate poverty in the country thereby guaranteeing a secure future for the country. It is recommended that government at all levels should give more attention to the vocational education sector.

◆ **Keywords:** *Poverty, Governance, Economic Development, Vocational Education.* ◆

Art and Culture: The Role of Education in the 21st Century

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Abstract

In the rapidly evolving landscape of the 21st century, the interplay between art, culture, and education has emerged as a critical factor in shaping the future of societies worldwide. This paper explores the multifaceted role of education in fostering an appreciation for art and culture, while also recognizing its potential to contribute to the holistic development of individuals. Education serves as the primary conduit for transmitting cultural values, heritage, and artistic expressions across generations. By integrating art and culture into curricula, educational institutions can provide students with a rich and diverse understanding of human creativity, history, and societal norms. Exposure to various art forms, such as visual arts, music, dance, theatre, and literature, not only nurtures creativity but also cultivates empathy, critical thinking, and a broader perspective on the world. Furthermore, education plays a pivotal role in promoting cultural diversity and inclusivity. As societies become increasingly multicultural, educational institutions must embrace and celebrate the diverse cultural backgrounds of their students. By fostering an environment that values and respects different cultural traditions, education can create a sense of belonging, promote intercultural dialogue, and combat stereotypes and prejudices. Moreover, art education in the 21st century goes beyond traditional boundaries, encompassing new media, digital technology, and the ever-expanding virtual world. Students need to be equipped with the necessary skills to navigate these evolving landscapes and engage with art and culture in innovative ways. Incorporating digital literacy, media literacy, and critical analysis of online content into education can empower learners to become active participants and creators of digital art, while also encouraging them to critically evaluate its impact on society.

Keywords: *21st century art, Education, Technology, Culture and society*

Leadership Challenges in Africa Amid Absence of Adequate Security and Corruption After African Union Formation

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Faculty of Arts, Lagos State University, Ojo, Lagos, Nigeria.

Abstract

African states independence from the yokes of colonial rule from the middle of 20th century inspired strong prospects for a virile and prosperous continent. Today the hope is dashed by series of crisis in governance, insecurity and corruption. That, after decades of independence, Africa is still home to majority of the world's poor of both human and material resources. As the paper argues, the corruption level of many African leaders leaves much to be desired. The continent's resources are personalized at the expense of the people. The continent is bedeviled with abject poverty, economic backwardness, absence of social amenities; dictatorial rule, sit-tight leaders, intimidation of opposition parties, inadequate health facilities and unemployment. Therefore, not up to ten years when African Union came to limelight, that the Union started raising good hope of sustainable development and self-dependent which would enable the continent to establish virile institutions that would take the responsibility of tackling more problems under security, peace and corruption by way of constitutional ingenious engineering. African Union took a giant bold step suspending few nations as African Union members due to the way they brought changes of regime in an unconstitutional manner. It concludes that two decades after the formation of African Union governance inept, inadequate security and corruption are the greatest obstacles to Africa's sustainable development. The Union has to do more in order to evolve institutions capable of addressing security, peace and corruption problem in the continent.

Keywords: *African Union, Leaders, Governance, Corruption*

A Study of Library Automated System and Usage by Students' in Achieving Sustainable Academic Excellence in Colleges of Education in Delta State

Okwudibe, Ernest Onyebuchi

E-Library Unit, College Library

Federal College of Education (T) Asaba

Abstract

This study examines the extent to which the use of library automated system can influence students' academic excellence in colleges of education in delta state. The three colleges of education in Delta State were covered. They are Federal College of Education (Tech), Asaba, College of Education, Mosogar and College of Education Warri. 60 copies of questioner were administered to the respondents who are the library users in these colleges involved in the area covered. The result from the majority of the users revealed that there is a significant relationship between students' academic excellence and the use of library automated system. Achieving sustainable academic excellence depends largely on the level of students' access to ICT equipment and security at large. In an unsecured educational environment, the major constrain identified by the respondents includes: lack of internet access, unavailability of required ICT equipment, climate change, theft and lack of proper utilization of government intervention. The research recommend that college libraries should increase their internet access, acquire the needed ICT equipment for effective library automation system and proper utilization of government intervention.

Keywords: *Library Automated System, Usage, Sustainable Academic Excellence, Unsecured Educational Environment.*

Ceramics Education: A Means of Sustainability and Self-Reliance

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Abstract

The paper describes ceramics as pottery coated with glaze; It is an applied arts; and is generally classified under industrial design of fine and applied arts in vocational education. It also throws light on the prospect of the programme if adequately equipped with the right human and material resources to carry out and manage the learning activities. The paper concluded by calling on government both state and federal, philanthropist and lovers of ceramic to introduce incentives into ceramics education as it is done in the sciences so that the national drive for sustainability and self-reliance can be achieved through technological breakthrough.

Keywords: *Ceramics education and pottery coated*

Democratic Governance and the Quest for Acceptable Revenue Sharing Formula in Nigeria

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Abstract

This study interrogated the interface between democracy and the agitation for an acceptable revenue formula we examined the various revenue striving formula and the inherent heated continuous debate associated with it. We relied of documentary/secondary source for data collection content analysis and percentages for data analysis relative deprivation, rising expectation, frustration aggression model as our theoretical framework. Our findings was that the argument and debate on revenue sharing formula is between the federal government and the south-south particularly the oil producing states who complained bitterly an of the environmental hazards suffered by their region, we also discovered that most people from the north are not in support of resource control while their southern counterpart grossly support it, thereby leading to a stalemate. Despite the plethora of committee and commissions setup by the federal government to tackle the problems ranging from Philipson commission of 1946, hick-Philipson commission of 1951 to armed forces ruling council AFRC 1992 and even to the present day we recommended among other that the argument on revenue sharing formula should based on the nation, socio-economic needs rather than the interest of a given geopolitical region. The federal government should stop focusing her tentacle only on distributive but productive politics. They should think of what to do to increase the revenue of the country or at least provide enabling environment for the increase of the wealth of our nation which is the essence of political economy. Division of the country is not the only solution to Nigeria hydra-headed calamities, rather the federal government should through the RMAFC increase the percentage of revenue accruing to the oil producing states in the south on account of the heavy and almost irreversible ecological damages suffered by these states. In as much as we recommend that the federal government should review the allocation to oil producing states upward; the governors must renew and restructure their minds to make sure that money allocated to their states are judiciously utilized.

Keywords: *Revenue sharing formula, economic development, political economy contribution of revenue government*

Intimidation, False Arrest and Political Repression: Implications Against Good Governance in Africa

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Abstract

Police brutality can take the forms of forced arrest, political repression, intimidation, assault, rape, looting and to some point killing through various crude methods. These acts are on the increase in Africa. In some other countries like South Africa, Somalia, South Sudan, Nigeria, police brutality has attracted criticism from human rights observers across the globe. There is also an increase in the number of people shot dead by police. Besides the police, the armed forces have been accused of carrying out atrocities on vulnerable citizens even on small girls. Perpetrators of the horrendous acts of violence use crude methods including civilians being burned alive, being hung from trees while others are cut into pieces. The paper through adoption of historical method of enquiry argued further that sexual violence has been used as tools of war to terrorize women and young girls with older women being forced to watch as their young daughters are gang raped by up to nine men. This paper concludes that the continued police brutality in Africa should be taken seriously and handled with utmost urgency. They need to be tamed to deter them from abusing power and taking advantage of the people they are meant to protect. More and more whistle blowers and human rights activists should continue calling to attention the end of the misuse of power by the armed forces across Africa.

Keywords: *Police, Africa, Brutality, Power, Human rights*

Educational Psychology and the Challenges of Good Governance and Sustainable Development in a Democratic Nigeria

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Abstract

This paper is a position paper, and it examined the governments' failure in achieving good governance and sustainable development. How leaders have used their latent functions in governance and its resultant consequence. How investment in education and human capital development could solve the problem of good governance and sustainable development through Educational Psychology. The paper, therefore, focuses on the educational sector and human capital development through Educational Psychology, using secondary sources of data. In conclusion, the research offers education and human capital development through Educational Psychology as the key remedy to the challenges of good governance and sustainable development in a democratic Nigeria.

Keywords: *Educational Psychology; Education; Human Capital; Nigeria; Development; Government and Governance.*

Impact of Fadama Agricultural Policy on Economic Development in Akwa Ibom State

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Abstract

This research was conducted to assess the impact of fadama agricultural policy on economic development in Akwa Ibom State with specific reference to Onna Local Government Area in Akwa Ibom State. To achieve this objective, survey and descriptive research designs were adopted which enable the use of both primary and secondary data. The research adopted the structural functional approach espoused by Gabriel Almond (1966) to analyze the subject matter. This is because, fadama agricultural policy is one of the structures (strategy) established to achieve certain goals and perform many functions, which help in economic development such as poverty eradication, improve farmers' income, improve infrastructural facilities, etc. Three hypotheses were formulated and tested using Correlation Coefficient (r). The results of the test showed that poverty eradication, improved infrastructure and improved rural dwellers' income have significant relationship with fadama agricultural policy in Onna Local Government Area. It was discovered that through fadama agricultural policy, soft loans were granted to farmers, access to sustainable entrepreneurial opportunities improved, agricultural programmes were mechanized, health facilities were renovated and upgraded and also, grants to beneficiaries for investment, improved beneficiaries own assets were provided. It was concluded that any effort aimed at improving food sufficiency and security should be seen as laudable and given priority attention. It was therefore recommended that government, relevant agencies and stakeholders should ensure the structures put in place by fadama policy to eradicate poverty, are sustained and maintained; there should be adequate provision of infrastructural facilities to promote and enhance the smooth implementation of fadama agricultural policies; government should ensure timely disbursement of funds, payment of counterpart funds etc.; government should ensure sustainability of established community development organizations, improve knowledge on the use of farm equipment etc.

Keywords: *Fadama, Agriculture, Policy, Economic, Development*

Impact of Gentrification on Urban Growth Sustainability and Development in Africa

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Abstract

Essence of this paper is to examine the impact of gentrification within the context of urban growth and how it could be sustained that will enhance expected development in Africa. Remarkably, since the post-colonial time, cities in Africa face big problems, much of which is providing adequate urban services and an adequate standard of living for its teeming populations. A corollary to this challenge is managing physical spaces within the city. With the passage of time, African cities with high population densities are usually plagued by slums and they pre-exists modern urban planning, megacity framework and development in Africa. It is instructive to note that, gentrification programmes are often accompanied by forced evictions and demolition of physical structures and relocation of affected persons, communities and businesses. Usually evicted persons relocate to empty spaces under pedestrian bridges, beach fronts and other open spaces within the metropolis. This comes with urban problems-abuse, physical, psychological and sexual exploitation, increase in crime rate and social vices, etc. Where should evicted persons go to? Is it true that development induced displacements, demolitions and forced evictions increase the experience of poverty for residents of communities affected? What should be the contents of policy framework aimed at addressing urban sprawl? The paper concludes that in order to harness the potential of urban growth sustainability and development, city governance will have to be improved in virtually every city in Africa. Therefore, as cities continue to grow; increasing attention must be given to the quality of their urban environment.

◆ **Keywords:** *Cities, Africa, Persons, Development, Framework* ◆

Questioning African Diaspora's Role in the Development of Africa within Globalization Circle

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Abstract

This paper examine the role of Diaspora Africans in the emergent development in sub-Saharan Africa by questioning why Diasporas are not apparently as effective in the quest for development in an African setting as they have proven thus far in other regions. It argues that, changing diasporic engagement and activities on the continent should be examined against the backdrop of the emergence of a 'liberalisation from below' which emphasizes local ownership of development outcomes, the historical variety of African state forms and the continuities in the exercise of power and the nature of these states. In doing so, it brings into focus the ongoing transformation in state–society relations whereby the dependence—of elites and ordinary citizens alike—on external resources continues to deepen, and the importance of this context in drawing any conclusions about the role of Diasporas as agents of transformation. In the past, both African Studies and Development Studies have ignored questions of the Diaspora Africans. In this paper through analytical methodology interrogation of necessary primary and secondary sources it is argued that the formation of the Diaspora Africans has been intimately linked to the evolution of a globalised and radicalized capitalism, while the linkages between capitalism, imperialism and displacement are dynamic. The paper address key issues such as; social networks in the Diaspora, remittances and return, development organizations, religious networks, cultural dynamics, and political institutions. It concludes that both politically and economically the Diaspora has an important part to play in contemporary social processes operating at an increasingly global scale.

Keywords: *Diaspora Africans, Development, State, Transformation*

Kidnapping and the Growth of Poverty Among People in Three Selected Sub-Sahara Africa Nations

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Abstract

The study observed in its general approach the impact of Kidnapping and the growth of poverty among people in three selected Sub-Sahara Africa, the study specifically approached looked at Nigeria, Niger and Mali on how kidnapping has become a liquidated industry that manufactures money and other scarce resources that could be utilized for the purpose of human and social development, yet, the money and other scarce resources were converted in paying ransoms. The study detected the socio-economic and political implications of kidnapping and the rises of poverty among people due to destruction of life and properties. The study employed a conceptual framework, data were collected from secondary sources particularly, updated literatures from 2019 to date and specifically, on terrorism and poverty. The study demonstrated how the rise of poverty triggered and manufactured crime and criminal acts in the three nations. The study findings argued that, there is a need for urgent and emergency international and domestic interventions for rapid social control. A sustainable architectural model on war on terrorists between the three nations needs to be reviewed and an effective mechanism to end the conflict established.

Keywords: *Kidnapping, Poverty, People & Sub-Sahara Africa*

Renewable Energy Technologies and Development Sustainability: Implications Against Environmental Problems for Good Governance in Africa

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Abstract

Providing amiable solutions to environmental problems as real achievement concerning what we are encountering presently demands potential long-term actions for development sustainability which will eventually foster good governance in Africa. Within this context, a renewable energy resource seems to negate all other options and remain the most reliable, effective as well as efficient solutions. The more reason why there is an indepth connection between development sustainability and renewable energy. Argument of this paper by way of interrogating primary and secondary sources further centered on anticipated patterns of future energy use and consequent environmental impacts (focusing on acid precipitation, stratospheric ozone depletion and the greenhouse effect). It should be noted that the greatest challenges to development sustainability are environmental issues. For instance, in a region like Africa, issues like environment-related problems such as land degradation, water security, climate change, conflicts, deforestation, natural disasters, and urbanization are very important. Therefore, the paper discusses relations between renewable energy and development sustainability citing few cases with an illustrative example. Series of issues relating to environment, development sustainability as well as renewable energy, are examined from both current and future perspectives. The conclusions and recommendations of the paper offer potential solutions to current environmental problems as identified along with renewable energy technologies.

Keywords: *Environmental problems, Solutions, Africa, Development sustainability*

Alternative Laboratory Method in the Teaching of Physics a Solution to National Economic Problems

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Abstract

The world economic situation is becoming epileptical. Worst hit are the third world countries who rely primarily in imported goods from foreign countries. Over reliance on importation of goods and services has reduced Nigeria economic into one of a mere consuming economy. To salvage this situation the nation has to embrace 21st century technology in order to build industries that will provide needed goods and services. Science is the soul of technology and technology runs industries. The laboratory is key to scientific discoveries and advancement. The state of our science teaching especially physics is still at the talk and chalk method. For meaningful development in the nation industries alternative laboratory method will be employed. This study aimed at reviewing recent works on the effect of alternative laboratory work on the performance of physics students and consequently on the nation's economy. Recommendations were also highlighted.

Keywords: *Economy, Alternative laboratory, Science and technology*

Effect of Management Effectiveness on Lecturers' Job Involvement in Colleges of Education in North-East Zone of Nigeria

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Abstract

The study investigated the effect of management effectiveness on lecturers' job involvement in Colleges of Education in North-East Zone of Nigeria to address challenges of governance and economic development. Null hypothesis guide the study. A survey research design was employed for the study, the population of 3,001 that comprised of 376 administrators and 2,625 lecturers. The sample size of the study was 497 made up of 202 administrators and 295 lecturers using the multistage sampling procedure. The instruments used for the study were questionnaires developed by the researcher titled: Management Effectiveness Questionnaire (MEQ) and lecturers' job involvement Questionnaire (LJIQ). The reliability of the research instruments was determined using Cronbach Alpha. The Cronbach Alpha reliability coefficient of the instruments was established as $r = 0.96$ and $r = 0.89$ respectively. The data collected were analyzed using Regression Statistics to test the null hypothesis at 0.05 level of significance. The study revealed that the beta coefficients for each of the five administrators' management variables effectiveness constructs was significant predictors of overall lecturers' Job involvement in (i.e. administrators' planning effectiveness (APE) ($\beta = .060$, $P = 0.000$), administrators' organizing effectiveness (AOE) ($\beta = .977$, $P = 0.000$), administrators' coordinating effectiveness (ACoE) ($\beta = -.022$, $P = 0.018$), administrators' directing effectiveness (ADE) ($\beta = -.501$, $P = 0.000$) and administrators' controlling effectiveness (ACE) ($\beta = .484$, $P = 0.000$). It was inferred that the effect of administrators' management effectiveness on lecturers' job involvement was positive/negative and significant. The study established that out of the five constructs of administrators' management effectiveness status given above: the three constructs APE, AOE and ACE exhibited significant positive effect on lecturers' job involvement, while the one construct ACoE exhibited no significant negative effect on lecturers' job involvement and the other construct ADE exhibited significant negative effect on lecturers' job involvement and collectively explained 96% in prediction. Therefore, administrators in those Colleges of Education should improve their present planning effectiveness, organizing effectiveness, coordinating effectiveness, directing effectiveness, controlling effectiveness on lecturers' job involvement. Based on the findings, it was recommended that administrators in those Colleges of Education should improve their management effectiveness on lecturers' job involvement in Colleges of Education in North-East Zone of Nigeria for the smooth running of the Colleges of Education system to address challenges of governance and economic development.

Keywords: *Management Variables, Management, Effectiveness, Administrators, Planning, Organizing, Coordinating, Directing, Controlling and Lecturers', Job Involvement*

Contending Issues and Africa's Development in the Twenty First Century: An Overview

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Abstract

Development is essential in the life of a state and continent. The imperative of development is traceable to the positive impacts it brought on the wellbeing of the people in particular and state general. However, despite this imperativeness and positive impacts on the wellbeing of people and productive system of a state, many African states are facing contending issues that are serving as obstacles to realization of sustainable development in this globalized era. The theoretical framework for the analysis is underdevelopment theory. The objective of the study is to investigate nexus between development and contending issues that are causing dearth of sustainable development in Africa. The study adopted qualitative research methods in which secondary data is employed for analysis. The study identifies fragile statehood and weak institutions, prevalent intrastate political conflicts and insecurity, primary production and dependent economy, debt peonage, poor regional integrative policy, overdependence on foreign development plans, brain drain of the best human resource, poor funding of education and research institutes, low per capital income/ poverty, wrong ideology of technology transfer and globalization. The study recommends action centered and pragmatic leadership, geo-economics strategy, good agricultural policy, removal of Anglo francophone dichotomy, good governance that will stimulate stable and strong political institutions, adequate funding of education and academic research, improvement of citizens per capital income to reduce poverty level and desertion of wrong ideas of technological transfer to technological inventions and innovation. The study concludes that addressing these constraints of poverty, political instability, conflict and insecurity, over dependence on Eurocentric development plans can usher in much needed sustainable development in Africa.

Keywords: *Africa, Contending Issues, Development, Economy, State*

Youth Unemployment and Insecurity in Akwa Ibom State: An Empirical Analysis

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Abstract

Youth unemployment has become a troublesome issue in many parts of the world. In Akwa Ibom State, it has become one of the most serious socio economic problems confronting the state and this has resulted in increased rate of crime and insecurity such as criminality, terrorism, thuggery, rape, drugs abuse, kidnapping, militancy, arm robbery and many more social crimes. The study examines the relationship between youth unemployment and insecurity in Akwa Ibom State. The study adopted Frustration Aggression theory as a theoretical guide. Both primary and secondary data were used in the study, and Pearson Product Moment Correlation (PPMC) was used to test all the hypotheses formulated at 0.05 alpha level by establishing relationship between the independent variable and dependent variable. The research major findings includes that, there is a relationship between youth unemployment and insecurity in Akwa Ibom State, there is a relationship between criminality and insecurity in Akwa Ibom State, and there is a relationship between poverty and insecurity in Akwa Ibom State. Based on the findings, the study recommended that, Government should introduce payment of unemployment benefits to unemployed youths, Students should be made to undergo theoretical and practical entrepreneurial education to acquire requisite skills before graduating from secondary and tertiary institutions in the country and government at all levels should put in place and sustain programmes and policies geared towards reduction of poverty and unemployment in the country.

Keywords: *Youth Unemployment, Insecurity, Empirical Analysis*

Human Capital Development and Economic Growth in Nigeria

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Abstract

The study looks at the relationship between economic growth and human capital development in Nigeria using time series data from 1986 to 2020. By using the endogenous modeling technique cast within the autoregressive distributed lag (ARDL) framework, the bounds testing investigation demonstrated the existence of co-integration between economic growth and human capital development indicators. The findings also show that during the studied years, Nigeria's economic growth was positively impacted by indices of human capital development, though these benefits were typically statistically negligible. Additional information indicates that any temporary disruption totally restores balance. According to the study's conclusions, the government should give funds for the development of human capital priority treatment, paying particular attention to Nigeria's health and education sectors since they have the greatest room for expansion. Similar to this, government officials need to try to pay attention to the school enrollment issue.

Keywords: *Bounds Test, Economic Growth, Endogeneity, Human Capital Development, Nigeria*

Environmental Accounting and Financial Performance of Listed Oil & Gas Companies in Niger Delta Region of Nigeria

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Abstract

This research examines the effects of Environmental Accounting and Financial Performance of Listed Oil & Gas Firms in Nigeria. Survey research design was adopted in this study and Secondary sources of data was used, through the extracted audited annual financial reports of Oil firms listed in the Nigerian Stock Exchange from 2009 -2021. Descriptive statistics were adopted to describe the mean, standard deviation, kurtosis and skewness of the study variables while, the data were analyzed using regression technique (Ordinary Least Square).and in order to empirically investigate the effect of the variable, regression model involving ordinary least square method was used to test hypotheses formulated. The finding revealed that a significant relationship exists between environmental costs and financial performance of listed oils and gas firms in Nigeria. The study recommends among other things that oil and gas firms should be environmentally responsive and friendly to enable them gain competitive advantage, high liquidity and reduced hostility and agitation from Host Communities in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria. The New Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021 by the Nigerian Government should be closely monitored by all stakeholders for the full implementation, because this will in a positive way brings stability of environmental friendliness to the region which will enhance financial Performance. It also recommended that the management of oil companies in the Niger Delta region of Nigeria should develop a well-articulated environmental costing system and a transparent disclosure of the 3% operating cost for host Communities Trust fund in their financial statements in order to guarantee a conflict free corporate atmosphere for maximum productivity which will in return improves corporate performance.

Keywords: *EA, FP, Environmental Remediation, Decommissioning cost, Community Development Cost*

Ethno-Religious Conflicts and Nigeria's Foreign Policy Under Obasanjo, 1999-2007

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Abstract

This study examines the impact of ethno-religious conflicts on Nigeria's foreign policy under President Olusegun Obasanjo between 1999 and 2007. It argues that these conflicts had significant effects on Nigeria's foreign policy, shaping its priorities and strategies. The paper employs a qualitative research methodology using mainly secondary sources obtained in conventional and electronic libraries. The study shows that Obasanjo administration sought to use foreign policy to promote peace and stability in Nigeria, particularly in regions affected by conflict. It also reveals that Nigeria's foreign policy during this period was characterised by more proactive approach to addressing ethno-religious conflicts, including diplomatic efforts to engage neighbouring countries and international organizations. Despite these efforts, however, the study also highlights some of the challenges faced by Nigeria in managing these conflicts, including resource constraints and institutional weaknesses. The study concludes by emphasizing the need for continued efforts to address the root causes of ethno-religious conflicts in Nigeria, and the importance of a more strategic and coordinated approach to foreign policy in promoting peace and stability.

Keywords: *Ethno-Religious Conflicts and Nigeria's Foreign Policy Under Obasanjo, 1999-2007*

