

Wed. 25th - Thur. 26th March, 2026



International Interdisciplinary Conference
on Governance, Security
& African Development Strategies

| Lagos State University, Nigeria |

**ABSTRACTS,
PROCEEDINGS
& INDUCTION**

Theme: Strengthening Governance &
Security Frameworks for Sustainable
Development in Africa



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INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON GOVERNANCE, SECURITY & AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

THEME: Strengthening Governance & Security Frameworks for Sustainable Development in Africa
DATE: Wednesday 25th - Thursday 26th March, 2026
TIME: 10:00am
VENUE: Lagos State University, Nigeria

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INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ON GOVERNANCE, SECURITY & AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – Wednesday 25th March, 2026

Arrival of Guest/Conferees/Delegates

DAY TWO – Thursday 26th March, 2026

OPENING SESSION/AWARD/PLENARY

Conference Registration	- 9:00am – 10:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark	- 10:00am – 10:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark	- 10:15am – 10:30am
Plenary Session	- 10:30am – 12noon
Launch Break/Group Photograph	- 12noon – 1:00pm
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Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm

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Departure of Guest/Conferee/Delegates

Research Linkages/Publications



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International Scientific Research Consortium (ISRC)
United Kingdom

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Welcome to **Lagos State University**

The Lagos State University (LASU), located at Ojo, was established as a Public University in 1983 by the enabling law of Lagos State. Established with the vision of pursuing the advancement of learning and academic excellence, the university has been unrelenting in the pursuit of its mission of becoming a citadel of learning, a community with the trademark of excellence in teaching, research and service to humanity, a catalyst as well as an agent for development.

In April 1981, an ad-hoc committee headed by the Late Dr. Femi Agbalajobi, who was then a member of the Governing Council of the Lagos State College of Science and Technology, was set up to look into the modalities for converting LASCOTECH into a University. This committee advised that the college should remain. Later, in 1982, another 12-man technical committee headed by Dr. Abisogun Leigh recommended the establishment of a multi-campus and non-residential university. It was suggested that the proposed institution should be named LAGOS STATE UNIVERSITY (LASU).

The Administrative structure of the university has been built on a network of units and departments including the Registry, Academic Planning Unit, General Administration, Academic and Students Affairs, Senior Staff Establishment and Welfare, Junior Staff Establishment and Training. The other organs of the university administration include: Works and Services, Health Centre, Multi Media centre, Information Unit and the Security Unit.

The Lagos State University currently operates three major campuses, namely: Ojo, Ikeja, and Epe. The Ojo campus is the Main Campus and the seat of the Central Administration. It houses the faculties of Arts, Education, Law, Management Sciences, Science and Social Sciences, School of Transport, School of Communication, Centre for Environment Studies and Sustainable Development (CESSSED), Centre for General Nigerian Studies, Centre for Planning Studies, Information and Communication Technology Centre (ICTC), Online and Distance Learning and Research Institute (ODLRI) and Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies. The Postgraduate School is also on the Ojo Campus.

The Lagos State University (LASU) currently has a total of 43,362 Students (inclusive of 1,052 students from the College of Medicine at Ikeja campus, 1,758 from Engineering Faculty and 2,810 from School of Agriculture both of which are from the Epe campus), distributed in various faculties for different programmes (Full-time Undergraduates = 29,991; Postgraduates = 2,921; Sandwich = 7,651; Diplomas = 1,747; Joint University Preliminary Examination Board [JUPEB] = 639 and Pre-Degree Science [PDS] = 413).

The University is currently under the able leadership of Professor Ibiyemi OLATUNJI-BELLO, MNI as the Vice-Chancellor and his progressive Management team; Professor Olufunsho Abayomi OMOBITAN (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic), Professor (Mrs) Adenike Omotunde BOYO (Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration), Mr Emmanuel FANU (Registrar), Mr Sa'id Mohammed OLAYINKA, FCA (Bursar) And Dr. Omawunmi Orighomisan Makinde (Librarian).

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Welcome Address:

International Interdisciplinary Conference on Governance, Security & African Development Strategies

It is with great pleasure and a profound sense of honour that I welcome scholars, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and development partners from across Africa and the wider global community to the proceedings of the 10th African Economic Development Conference, hosted by Lagos State University, Nigeria.

These proceedings contain peer-reviewed papers from the **International Interdisciplinary Conference on Governance, Security and African Development Strategies**, held on 26–27 March 2026. The conference was conceived as a strategic intellectual platform to foster rigorous scholarly engagement and promote policy-relevant discourse on the pressing development challenges confronting the African continent.

The theme of the conference, “*Strengthening Governance and Security Frameworks for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in Africa*,” underscores the urgency of advancing innovative, evidence-based, and collaborative approaches to development. Africa's contemporary development landscape is shaped by complex and interrelated challenges, including governance deficits, insecurity, economic volatility, unemployment, and institutional fragility. Addressing these issues requires sustained interdisciplinary inquiry, critical analysis, and constructive engagement among academics, policy makers, and development practitioners.

In this regard, the African Economic Development Conference serves as a vital intellectual forum for generating fresh insights and actionable strategies aimed at strengthening governance systems, enhancing security frameworks, and promoting inclusive economic growth. The contributions contained in this volume reflect the depth and diversity of contemporary scholarship on Africa, spanning key thematic areas such as governance and public sector performance, environmental sustainability, agriculture and food security, education and youth development, social protection, international relations, and technological innovation.

Taken together, the papers advance scholarly discourse while offering practical policy insights that are essential for fostering peace, stability, and sustainable development across the continent. They also demonstrate a strong commitment among researchers to producing knowledge that is not only theoretically grounded but also responsive to real-world challenges.

This volume further highlights the importance of collaborative research and cross-sectoral engagement in addressing complex societal issues. By bringing together experts from diverse disciplines and regions, the conference created a dynamic environment for knowledge exchange, professional networking, and the co-creation of innovative solutions to Africa's development concerns.

It is our expectation that the ideas, analyses, and policy recommendations presented in these proceedings will contribute meaningfully to ongoing academic debates, inform public policy, and support institutional reforms across Africa. As such, this publication serves not only as a repository of scholarly work but also as a valuable reference resource for researchers, development practitioners, government institutions, and international organizations committed to the continent's progress.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the conference organizers, members of the scientific committee, reviewers, and all contributors whose dedication and intellectual commitment made this publication possible. I also extend special recognition to the keynote speakers, paper presenters, and participants whose insightful contributions enriched the deliberations of the conference. The support of partner institutions and stakeholders is equally acknowledged and deeply appreciated.

As you engage with this volume, it is our hope that the insights presented will stimulate further research, encourage interdisciplinary collaboration, and inspire policies and actions that strengthen governance, enhance security, and accelerate sustainable development in Africa.

Once again, I warmly welcome you to this collection of scholarly work and wish you a rewarding and intellectually enriching experience.

Prof. Fatile Jacob Olufemi,

ACA, ACTI

Professor of Collaborative Governance, Comparative and Development Studies.

Department of Public Administration

Lagos State University.



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³Uchegbulam, Ifeanyi Sylvanus & ⁴Okehie, Chioma Stella (PhD)*



Conference Abstracts

The Impact of Integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Education for Entrepreneurship Skills Acquisition Among Students of Tertiary Institutions in Zamfara State, Nigeria

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Abstract

The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) has transformed various sectors, including education. In recent years, there has been a growing interest in integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into educational frameworks, particularly in the context of fostering entrepreneurship skills among students in tertiary institutions. Therefore, on the basis of literature review, the paper attempts to address the impact of integration of Artificial Intelligence in education for entrepreneurship skills acquisition among tertiary institution students in Zamfara State, Nigeria. In this stream, the paper highlights entrepreneurship skills acquisition, concept of Artificial Intelligence and possible impact on students for the integration of the two concepts in educational frameworks of higher institutions of learning. On the basis of their professional and specialization missions, tertiary institutions can make a good delivery in this regard. However, as challenges remain unavoidable, the recommendations given include, government should provide adequate infrastructural facilities in terms of electricity supply, installation of standard solar system, trained manpower, well-equipped entrepreneurial centres and students' reinforcement among others. The conclusion of this paper is drawn from the fact that Integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Educational frameworks for Entrepreneurship Skills Acquisition in Tertiary Institutions holds future prospects for functional education as well as youths and economic Development in the state and Nigeria as a whole.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence (AI), Entrepreneurship, Skills Acquisition, Integration and Education*

The Role of Quality Education in Empowering Youths for Sustainable Development in Nigeria

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Abstract

Quality education is a cornerstone for achieving youth empowerment and sustainable development, particularly in developing nations such as Nigeria. This paper examines the role of quality education in equipping Nigerian youths with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for socio-economic advancement and sustainable nation-building. The study highlights how inclusive, equitable, and relevant education fosters critical thinking, innovation, and self-reliance among young people, thereby enhancing their capacity to contribute meaningfully to economic growth and social transformation. Using a qualitative review of existing literature and policy documents, the paper analyzes the linkage between quality education, youth empowerment, and the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4). Findings reveal that poor funding, inadequate infrastructure, teacher shortages, and mismatched curricula remain key obstacles to educational quality in Nigeria. However, when quality education is effectively implemented—through skill-oriented curricula, improved teacher training, and ICT integration—it significantly enhances youth employability, civic engagement, and environmental consciousness. The paper concludes that achieving sustainable development in Nigeria depends largely on prioritizing educational quality and aligning it with the nation's developmental goals. It recommends strong policy commitment, increased investment in education, and partnerships among government, private sector, and civil society to create an enabling environment for youth empowerment through education.

Keywords: *Quality Education, Youth Empowerment, Sustainable Development, Nigeria, SDG 4, Educational Policy*

Nigeria's Role in Regional Integration: An Exploratory Analysis of Ecowas's Effectiveness in West Africa

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Abstract

This paper examines Nigeria's role in regional integration within the framework of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and evaluates the organization's overall effectiveness in promoting peace, security, and economic cooperation among member states. Since its establishment in 1975, ECOWAS has sought to foster integration and development in West Africa, with Nigeria playing a pivotal role as a founding member and regional power. However, the extent to which Nigeria's leadership has enhanced or hindered ECOWAS's effectiveness remains a subject of scholarly debate. Using a mixed-methods approach, the paper analyzes ECOWAS'S achievements and challenges in economic integration, peace and security. The paper reveal that Nigeria has been instrumental in financing ECOWAS, spearheading peacekeeping missions, and providing political leadership. Nevertheless, Nigeria's domestic challenges such as corruption, insecurity, and economic instability—limit its capacity to lead effectively. Moreover, while ECOWAS has recorded considerable success in conflict management and peacekeeping operations, it has been less effective in achieving deeper economic integration, particularly in trade facilitation, free movement of goods and services, and the implementation of the proposed common currency (ECO). The paper concludes that Nigeria's role is both indispensable and paradoxical: its leadership sustains ECOWAS but also generates perceptions of dominance that hinder collective ownership of the integration project. The paper recommends diversifying ECOWAS's funding sources, strengthening institutional frameworks, balancing peacekeeping with economic priorities, and ensuring greater shared responsibility among member states.

Keywords: *Regional integration, Economic Community and Ecowas's Effectiveness*

Non-Oil Export Diversification in Nigeria: Building Resilience for Economic Transformation

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Abstract

This study examined the impact of non-oil exports on Nigeria's economic growth from 1986 to 2021. Data were sourced from the Central Bank Statistical Bulletin, which includes the gross domestic product as the dependent variable, while the explanatory variables were the agricultural exports, manufacturing exports, service exports, and the exchange rate. In order to ensure robust empirical results, unit root tests were conducted using the Augmented Dickey-Fuller unit root test and the Zivot-Z Andrews structural adjusted unit root test. Given the outcome of the unit root tests, the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL), Dynamic ARDL simulation and Kernel-Based Regularised Least Squares (KRLS) models were deployed to estimate the variables. The results showed that agricultural exports had significant but decreasing average marginal effects on economic growth, while service exports had no significant but indicated increasing average marginal effects on growth in the economy. More so, it was revealed that manufacturing exports had a significant and positive influence on economic growth. The results also unveiled that exchange rates had a significant and increasing average marginal effect on economic growth in Nigeria. On the above note, the following recommendations were made, among others: that the government should reformat and implement agricultural-related policies that target the promotion of agricultural export products in Nigeria. More so, since manufacturing exports had a significant and positive influence on economic growth, the government should grant more soft loans to SMEs, and grant tax waivers or subsidies to industries operating in Nigeria.

Keywords: *Non-oil, Export, Diversification, Building, Resilience, Transformation.*

Assessing the Effectiveness of Digital Health Interventions (mHealth) for Postpartum Depression Screening and Support in Nigeria: A Review of Literature

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Abstract

Postpartum depression (PPD) is a severe public health challenge that affects maternal and child health outcomes across the globe. This is particularly severe in low-resource nations such as Nigeria. The article is a review of the efficacy of digital health interventions (mHealth) in postpartum depression screening and support. The paper adopts the health belief model as the theoretical framework. It synthesizes evidence on the available related research on mobile health (mHealth) programs to support postpartum depression and screening. The evidence shows that mHealth interventions, including web-based interventions, SMS-based chatbots, smartphone applications, and digital screening, have a promising potential of reducing the symptoms of depression, enhancing the accessibility of screening, or enhancing maternal mental health support. Some of the major results indicate that mHealth interventions are highly acceptable (user satisfaction remains at 4.0-4.5 out of 5), can considerably reduce depression levels (20-50% improvement rates in properly designed studies), and ensure good engagement rates (60-80% completion rates on well-designed studies). Nevertheless, some significant barriers to adoption in Sub-Saharan African nations, such as, Nigeria, include, low smartphone usage rates, inadequate digital infrastructure, cultural stigma of mental illness, and shortage of qualified medical staff. This review provides evidence-based recommendations that adopt effective mHealth interventions in Nigeria to alleviate postpartum depression, which requires low-cost, culturally relevant, and SMS-compatible solutions that should be incorporated into the existing maternal health services of the country and be reinforced with task-sharing models and community health worker engagement.

Keywords: *Digital Health Interventions, Postpartum Depression (PPD), Maternal Mental Health, mHealth (mobile health)*

Prevalence and Patterns of Male Involvement in Artificial Family Planning Involvement in Anambra State

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Abstract

This study investigates the prevalence and patterns of male involvement in artificial family planning (FP) in Anambra State, Nigeria. Despite men's roles as key decision-makers in the patriarchal context, their involvement in FP remains low, contributing to high fertility and maternal mortality rates. The theoretical framework for the study is the Symbolic Interactionist theory. This research targeted married men (18-65) residing in Anambra State. A sample of 625 respondents was selected using a multi-stage sampling procedure for the questionnaire, while a purposive sampling procedure was used to select nine in-depth interview (IDI) respondents. Instruments for data collection include a questionnaire and an IDI guide. Quantitative data were processed using Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and analyzed using percentages and frequency distribution tables. Transcription of the electronically recorded interviews and field notes provided data for the qualitative analysis. The findings of the study indicate that while there is significant awareness of artificial family planning among men, male involvement in artificial family planning is primarily through condom use. The study, therefore, recommends that the Anambra State Ministry of Health, in partnership with local non-governmental organizations, design and implement a multi-faceted, male-friendly family planning program.

Keywords: *Male Involvement, Artificial Family Planning, Prevalence, Patterns, Reproductive Health*

Impact of Curriculum Reform on Youth Skill Acquisition and Employability

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Abstract

Curriculum reform plays a critical role in equipping young people with the competencies required to meet the dynamic demands of the 21st-century labor market. This paper examines the impact of curriculum reform on youth skill acquisition and employability, with particular attention to how educational restructuring aligns learning outcomes with national development goals. The study explores the extent to which modernized curricula—emphasizing practical learning, entrepreneurship education, digital literacy, and vocational training—enhance the employability of youths in both formal and informal sectors. Using a mixed-method approach, data were collected from educators, employers, and recent graduates to assess perceptions of curriculum relevance, skill applicability, and job readiness. Findings reveal that curriculum reforms that integrate experiential learning and industry collaboration significantly improve youths' technical, cognitive, and soft skills, thereby reducing unemployment and underemployment rates. However, challenges such as inadequate teacher training, poor infrastructure, and limited stakeholder participation hinder effective implementation. The paper concludes that sustained curriculum innovation, supported by policy consistency and private sector partnerships, is vital for nurturing a skilled, adaptable, and productive youth workforce capable of driving sustainable national development.

Keywords: *Curriculum reform, youth empowerment, skill acquisition, employability, education policy, sustainable development*

Strengthening School Administration Capacity to Support Entrepreneurship Programmes for Enhancing Student Enrollment and Retention in Secondary Schools in North-West Nigeria for National Development

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Abstract

This paper explores the importance of empowering school administrators with the necessary skills and competencies to effectively support entrepreneurship programmes designed to boost student enrollment and retention in secondary schools across North-West Nigeria. It argues that, in a region challenged by high dropout rates, low progression levels, deepening poverty, and limited job prospects, entrepreneurship education serves as a vital mechanism for equipping young learners with practical skills for self-employment and contributing to national development. The paper emphasizes that the effectiveness of these programmes depends heavily on the leadership, managerial capacity, and professional readiness of school administrators responsible for programme planning, implementation, resource allocation, and stakeholder engagement. Using theoretical insights, policy documents, and research evidence, the paper identifies the essential administrative capacities required to sustain impactful entrepreneurship programmes. These include strong instructional leadership, strategic school planning, effective resource mobilization, continuous staff development, curriculum oversight, and productive partnerships with industries, NGOs, and local communities. It also outlines how inadequate administrative structures, poor funding, lack of training, and weak monitoring systems hinders the successful implementation of entrepreneurship education, ultimately undermining student enrollment and retention. It recommends targeted strategies such as specialized training for school heads, adequate resource provision, adoption of innovative teaching approaches, and stronger school and industry collaboration to promote practical learning experiences. In conclusion, the paper asserts that developing capable and forward-looking school administrators is essential for maximizing the potential of entrepreneurship education as a driver of human capital development, economic stability, and national progress. Enhancing administrative capacity must therefore be prioritized to improve educational outcomes and prepare young Nigerians for meaningful engagement in a rapidly evolving economy.

Keywords: *School Administration, Entrepreneurship Education, Enrollment, Retention, Capacity Building, North-West Nigeria, National Development*

Impact of Insecurity on Educational Administration and School Effectiveness in Northern Nigeria

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Abstract

This research explores the extent to which widespread insecurity in Northern Nigeria influences educational administration and the overall performance of primary and secondary schools. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study analyzes the mechanisms through which violent attacks, inter-communal clashes, banditry, kidnapping, and other security challenges disrupt school leadership, allocation of resources, teacher distribution, curriculum implementation, and student achievement. The study seeks to: (1) identify the forms and patterns of insecurity that most significantly affect school operations; (2) determine how insecurity shapes administrative planning, governance, and decision-making at both school and district levels; (3) examine the relationship between levels of insecurity and key indicators of school effectiveness including attendance, retention, academic outcomes, teacher motivation, and infrastructure quality; and (4) highlight adaptive administrative strategies and policy responses aimed at sustaining learning in insecure environments. Data will be sourced from selected states and local government areas across Northern Nigeria that experience varying degrees of insecurity. Quantitative data such as school records, assessment scores, attendance and retention data, and structured questionnaires for head teachers and district officials will be analyzed using descriptive statistics and multivariate regression to determine how insecurity predicts school performance indicators. Qualitative data, including interviews with administrators, teachers, parents, and education authorities, as well as focus group discussions with community stakeholders, will provide deeper insight into administrative challenges, coping strategies, and policy implementation constraints. The integration of these data will enhance the credibility of the findings and guide policy recommendations. The study is expected to reveal both the direct impacts of insecurity such as school shutdowns, teacher migration, and destruction of facilities and indirect impacts, including diverted budgets, weakened monitoring systems, and declining community support. It will also identify effective administrative practices that help maintain schooling despite security threats. The study concludes with practical, evidence-based recommendations for government agencies, development partners, and school leaders to strengthen resilience, protect educational processes, and reinforce governance structures in insecure settings.

Keywords: *Insecurity, Educational Administration, School Effectiveness, Northern Nigeria, Resilience, Conflict-affected Education*

Comparative Evaluation of the Nutritional Composition, Antioxidant Capacity and Sensory Properties of Beetroot Jam with the Conventional Fruit Jams

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Abstract

Rising health concerns and nutritional gaps have spurred interest in innovative food products like vegetable-based jams. This study evaluated beetroot jam's potential by comparing its nutritional composition, antioxidant capacity, and sensory properties with conventional fruit jams (orange and pineapple) and a commercial strawberry jam. Jams were produced using standardized methods with beetroot, orange, and pineapple as primary ingredients, alongside sugar, pectin, and lemon juice. Analyses included vitamin content (ascorbic acid, beta-carotene, and Folate), mineral content (magnesium, potassium, manganese, and iron), total antioxidant capacity (TAC), and sensory evaluations. Analysis of Variance (Least Significant Difference and Duncan Multiple Range Test) was used to compare mean data at $p < 0.05$. Beetroot jam outperformed others with the highest ascorbic acid (0.080 ± 0.009 g/100g), beta-carotene (718.947 ± 5.35 µg/g), Folate (11.513 ± 0.111 µg DFE), and mineral levels, significantly surpassing the commercial control ($p < 0.05$). The commercial strawberry jam exhibited the highest TAC ($51.18 \pm 0.17\%$), followed by pineapple ($43.86 \pm 0.16\%$) and beetroot jams ($38.30 \pm 0.15\%$), with beetroot still showing notable antioxidant activity. Sensory scores indicated orange jam was most preferred overall (8.15 ± 0.59), but beetroot jam (7.00 ± 1.17) was comparable to the commercial brand (6.90 ± 1.41) and significantly favoured for texture (7.15 ± 1.60 vs. 6.35 ± 1.35). These findings highlight beetroot jam as a nutritionally superior alternative to conventional fruit jams, with acceptable sensory qualities, strongly justifying its promotion for commercial and household use to leverage its health benefits and vibrant appeal.

Keywords: *Vegetable and Fruit jam, Beetroot, Nutritional composition, Antioxidant capacity, Sensory properties*

The Role of Food Systems Transformation in Enhancing Agricultural Resilience in Zamfara State, North West Nigeria

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Abstract

Food systems worldwide face increasing pressure from climate change, environmental degradation, population growth, and socio-economic inequalities. These challenges threaten food security, rural livelihoods, and ecological sustainability. Transforming food systems is essential to strengthen agricultural resilience — the ability of farming systems to adapt to shocks, recover from disruptions, and sustainably produce food. This paper explores the interconnection between food system transformation and agricultural resilience, identifies key drivers and barriers, and outlines strategies for integrated, climate-smart, and equitable agricultural development. Emphasis is placed on sustainability, technological innovation, inclusive policies, and community participation as critical enablers of resilient food systems.

Keywords: *Food Systems, Environmental degradation and Agricultural Resilience*

Physicochemical, Functional and Sensory Properties of Instant Fufu Produced from Three-Leafed Yam (*Dioscorea Dumetorum*) and Cassava Starch Flour

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Abstract

This study investigated the physicochemical, functional and sensory properties of three-leaved yam (*Dioscorea dumetorum*) instant fufu. The three-leaved yam tubers were washed, cooked, drained, peeled, sliced, dried, milled, sieved and used for proximate and anti-nutritional analyses. Different ratios (100:0, 9:5, 90:10, 85:15 and 80:20) of the three-leaved yam flour and cassava starch flour were formulated, and standard methods of analysis were used to determine their proximate, functional and sensory properties. The proximate composition of three-leaved yam flour showed that the moisture content was 7.60 %, the ash content (8.23 %), and the carbohydrate content was 78.17 %. The anti-nutritional contents of the three-leaved yam flour for saponin and oxalate were 0.2 % and 102 mg/100g, respectively. The results indicated that the saponin and oxalate contents reduced significantly during cooking. The results of the bulk density ranged 0.77–0.87 g/ml, the water absorption capacity ranged 240–450 % and the swelling capacity ranged from 2.40–3.40 ml/g. Sample A had the highest mean value for water absorption capacity and swelling capacity, and sample E had the highest mean value for bulk density. All samples analysed for sensory attributes were generally accepted ($p = 0.05$), but sample C was mostly preferred by the panellists. Thus, the three-leaved yam flour and cassava starch flour is recommended for fufu production up to 80:20.

Keywords: *Yam flour, cassava flour, proximate, anti-nutrients and functional properties*

Issues and Challenges on Gender Inequality in Post Basic Education in Marginalized Communities in Nigeria for Sustainable Development in Africa: Way Forward

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Abstract

The issues of gender inequality have attracted attention globally, international organization like the United Nation (UN) has been making efforts to ensure that women all over the world are given equal rights like their male counterparts in all sphere of life endeavors. These challenges undermine human capital development and hinder broader African development goals including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The paper examines the major issues contributing to gender inequality in post basic education in marginalized communities. The paper equally tries to x- ray the Nigerian Universal Basic Education (UBE) Act 2004, vis – avis equal right of education for all Nigeria children with an explicit focus on equality. The paper recommends adequate resourcing, budgetary allocation at all levels of education sector, policy implementation and curriculum, community engagement, economic support program, digital learning solution, and multi sectorial collaboration as key step towards bringing the educational gender gap.

Keywords: *Gender inequality, post basic education, marginalized communities, sustainable development*

Innovative Approaches to Entrepreneurship Education for Girls in Marginalized Communities

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Abstract

This study explores innovative approaches to entrepreneurship education for girls in marginalized communities, focusing on digital platforms, mentorship programs, and vocational training. The analysis reveals that these approaches can enhance girls' entrepreneurial skills, confidence, and economic opportunities. Key factors influencing the effectiveness of these approaches, including contextual relevance, community engagement, and tailored support, were identified. The findings highlight recommendations for educators, policymakers, and practitioners to develop inclusive and sustainable entrepreneurship education programs that empower girls in marginalized communities.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurship, education, girls, marginalized communities, innovative approaches, digital platforms, mentorship, vocational training*

Adult and Non-Formal Education as Measures for Strengthening Governance, Peace, Conflict Resolution and Security Frameworks for Sustainable Development in Africa

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Abstract

This Paper examined the role of Adult and Non-formal Education (ANFE) in building an strengthening Governance and Security frameworks for sustainable Development in Africa. ANFE aims at preventing violent conflict in advance and educating individuals and societies for peaceful and harmonious co-existence which in turn promotes tolerance, non-violence, equity, respect for one another and social justice among others. Literate individuals and societies resolve conflicts peacefully without resorting to violence or war which adversely affects the socio-economic, religious, political and cultural life of the people and development of any nation. The growing tension among African nationalities a times are caused by underdevelopment, political, social and economic inequalities which often erupt into bloody clash and violent conflicts and the consequences have left more burdens on the African communities and Nations leading to weakened Governance and security frameworks in sustaining meaningful development. This Paper therefore, examines the various aspects of ANFE in Strengthening Governance and Security Frameworks for Sustainable Development in Africa, some of the problems facing ANFE, causes and solutions to the problems, as measures for strengthening governance and security frameworks for sustainable development in Africa.

Keywords: *Adult and non-formal education, Governance, Sustainable development, Security frameworks*

Building an Inclusive Education System: Strategies for Integrating Marginalized Groups

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Abstract

This paper explores the role of education in promoting inclusive education, and its impact in Building social transformation, particularly in rural areas. It studies the role of inclusive Educational Policies in empowering marginalized groups. The paper discusses the challenges and opportunities of inclusive education policies. It further identifies the gaps in access, infrastructure, and teaching quality that perpetuate educational inequality between urban and rural regions. The research highlights the potential of inclusive education to serve as a catalyst for social equity by addressing socio-economic disparities, improving social mobility, and fostering community empowerment. However, an emphasis was placed on rural communities, ethnic minorities, refugees and people with disabilities to gain skills and increase employability through a combination of policy analysis. The paper concludes that, the successful implementation of this inclusive education policy requires collaboration and commitment from governments, educators, communities, and international partners. By adopting and utilizing this policy framework, African nations can build an education system that empowers every child to reach their full potential and contribute to the development of their societies. Lastly, it was suggested that, inclusive education policies can effectively reduce inequalities if implemented with contextual sensitivity and community involvement. The study underscores the importance of ongoing monitoring, resource allocation, and stakeholder collaboration to achieve long-term educational and social transformation.

Keywords: *Inclusive education, education policy, Strategies for Integrating Marginalized Groups*

Effects of Urban Public Housing Contextual Dimensions on Project Success in Kaduna State

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Abstract

Urban public housing delivery in developing countries is shaped by complex contextual conditions that extend beyond conventional project management concerns. This study examines the effects of urban public housing contextual dimensions on project success in Kaduna State, Nigeria, focusing specifically on Contextual dimensions, which are conceptualised as project context and partner context, while project success is measured using multidimensional indicators including project efficiency, organisational benefits, project impact, future potential, and stakeholder satisfaction. A mixed-methods research design was adopted, with quantitative data analysed using Partial Least Squares Structural Equation Modelling (PLS-SEM). The findings reveal that both project context and partner context exert statistically significant and positive direct effects on project success, with project context demonstrating a stronger explanatory power. The study highlights the importance of contextual assessment in public housing planning and provides evidence-based insights for improving housing delivery outcomes in Nigeria and similar developing country contexts.

Keywords: *Urban public housing; contextual dimensions; project success; project context; partner context; Kaduna State*

The Impact of Farmers-Herders Conflicts on Rural Development in North Western in Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper examine farmer-herders conflicts in north- western Nigeria which has escalated in to a major security and development challenges, significantly impacting the region's agrarian areas. The paper also examine the impact of herders farmers-conflicts on rural development in north western Nigeria the paper will also trace the root course of the conflict and analyses the prevalence of the conflicts identify the actors and non actors of the conflicts. This paper utilized secondary data, drawing on books reports, journal articles, and other related documented materials to analyze the complex issues surrounding the farmers herders' conflicts. The paper further revealed the consequence of the conflicts including displacement of people in the communities decline in agriculture activities and low productivity, food insecurity among others the paper will also examine the strategies and mechanism to address the challenges the paper included by emphasize by the necessary approach to mitigate the farmers herders' conflicts and promote sustainable rural growth and development as well as promoting economic diversification and climate change to build a more peaceful and prosperous future for the region.

Keywords: *Conflicts, farmers-herders conflicts impact, rural development, north western Nigeria.*

The Role of Peer Support and Social Networks in Enhancing Mental Health Outcomes in Nigerian Communities

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Abstract

Mental health disorders pose significant challenges to public health in Nigeria, where access to formal mental health care remains limited. This paper explores the catalytic role of peer support and social networks in improving mental health outcomes within Nigerian communities. Peer support, defined as emotional, informational, and practical assistance exchanged among individuals sharing similar experiences, has emerged as a valuable component in addressing mental health needs where traditional services are scarce. Drawing on recent empirical evidence from Nigeria and comparable contexts, this study examines how peer-delivered interventions enhance psychological well-being, increase social connectedness, and reduce stigma associated with mental illness. The paper highlights effective mechanisms such as peer counseling, navigation, and community engagement facilitated by trained laypersons to promote emotional support and coping strategies. It also underscores the importance of culturally sensitive approaches that leverage existing social networks to foster resilience and help-seeking behaviors. Limitations and challenges, including training, supervision, and sustainability, are discussed alongside recommendations for integrating peer support models into national mental health strategies. This research contributes to the growing evidence base advocating for community-driven mental health solutions in Nigeria, emphasizing the potential to bridge service gaps and enhance the quality of life for affected populations.

Keywords: *Peer Support, Social Network, Mental Health, Outcomes*

Questionnaire Design in Management Sciences: A Review of Literature

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Abstract

The study reviewed academic literature on questionnaire designing and broadly explained the types of questionnaire, and features of a well-designed questionnaire. The study also highlighted some challenges faced by researchers in the process of developing questionnaire. Moreover, questionnaire designing is more challenging, because it involved special skills, time and extra work. The major objective of the study is to review academic literature on questionnaire design in management sciences. While the specific objective is to; examine practical procedures involved in designing of questionnaire in management sciences. The study demonstrated practical illustrations involved in designing and adapting questionnaire. The study revealed that researchers usually faced challenges in designing robust questionnaire including its content, appearance and usage that leads to inappropriate and biased findings in a study. The study also discovered that most researchers experienced issues related to non-response when self-report questionnaires are used; also, researchers faced challenges of mentoring from senior researchers when it comes to questionnaire designing. The study affirmed that; questionnaire is one of the vital tools in research methodology, and it was also asserted that processes involved in questionnaire designing are rigorous and tedious. It was also established that inefficient design of questionnaire can affect the quality of the research outcome. The study also suggested that more articles on questionnaire design should be written and researchers must be mentored.

Keywords: *Instruments, Management Sciences, Questionnaire, Questionnaire Design, Scale, Survey*

Strengthening Governance and Security in Africa: The Role of English Language in Promoting Transparency and Accountability

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Abstract

This study explores the role of English language in promoting transparency and accountability in Africa governance, with a focus on security. Effective governance and security are crucial for sustainable development in Africa, and English language plays a significant role in facilitating communication, access to information, and citizen participation. This study examines how English language can be leveraged to promote transparency and accountability in African governance, particularly in the security sector. A mixed-methods approach was employed, combining surveys, interviews, and case studies of African countries. The findings highlight the significance of English language in promoting transparency and accountability, and recommend strategies for harnessing its potential to improve governance and security in Africa. This research contributes to the growing body of literature on governance, security, and transparency in Africa, and highlights the importance of language in promoting good governance and stability.

Keywords: *Transparency, accountability, security, English language, African governance, good governance*

The Impact of Border Towns on Socioeconomic Growth and Development: A Case Study of Jibia and Maradi Border Towns in Nigeria and Niger Republic

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Abstract

This research paper examines the impact of border towns on socioeconomic growth and development, focusing on the case study of Jibia in Nigeria and Maradi in Niger Republic. Border towns of ten serve as critical nodes for trade, cultural exchange and economic interaction between neighboring countries. This study employs a mixed-methods approach, utilizing both qualitative and quantitative data to analyze the socioeconomic dynamics in these towns. The findings reveal that Jibia and Maradi significantly contribute to regional economic growth through trade facilitation, job creation and cultural exchange. The paper concludes with recommendations for policy interventions aimed at enhancing the benefits of border towns for socioeconomic development.

Keywords: *Border Towns, Development and Socioeconomic growth*

The Role of Education in Effective Management of Gender Base Violence Among Women and Girls in Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper examines Gender Base Violence and the role which education can play in effective management of Gender Base Violence from conflicts perspectives, the paper views women and girls at an alarming risk who believe to be oppressed, marginalized and alienated. The causes of Gender Base Violence were also clarified. Also, in the paper the role of education in promoting social cohesion among gender were highlighted. The paper however concluded that many programmes introduced to educate the society about the effect of GBV were constraints with religious or socio-cultural challenges which make it difficult to control. Among the recommendations made were therefore, there is the need for more proactive measures in tackling challenges facing some of the strategies and programmes initially introduced to educate the society such as enrolment of girls' child in schools, introduction of GBV in designing the school curriculum, non-discrimination among gender, women empowerment, community awareness and sensitization, GBV Campaign, radio programmes among others.

Keywords: *Gender Base Violence, Education*

The Role of Peace Education in a Conflict Resolution in Nigeria

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Abstract

In every society, conflict is inevitable as people strive to coexist and pursue their daily lives. Peace is a basic human necessity and everyone's right. In human society, education is a right to every citizen in Nigeria, regardless of ethnicity, religion, gender, or social background. In this regard, peace education is a process of equipping individuals with the values, knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to resolve conflict peacefully and to live harmoniously with themselves, others, and the environment. It involves both formal and informal learning that promotes non-violence, social justice, human rights, and democratic values to prevent violence at all levels. Therefore, peace education should be the primary solution to conflict in Nigeria. This paper examines the Nigerian security issues and conflicts, and looks into measures to prevent constant crises. Consequently, it explores the causes of conflict, types of conflict, and peace and peace education. The study employed secondary sources of data collection and the study found that peace education remains the most peaceful way of preventing and resolving conflict in Nigeria. Therefore, the study concludes that Nigeria should improve the use of peace education in preventing and resolving conflict.

Keywords: *Peace, Education, and Conflict resolution*

Effect of Integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) on the Teaching and Learning of Trigonometry Within Secondary Schools in Gusau, Zamfara State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study investigates the impact of integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) on teaching and learning of Trigonometry in secondary schools within Gusau town, Zamfara State Nigeria. The research aims to explore the effectiveness of AI-based instructional materials in enhancing students' understanding and retention of Trigonometry concepts. In general, the study examines the impact of AI-based instructional materials on students' performance in Trigonometry and assesses the perceptions of teachers and students towards the integration of AI in Trigonometry education. The research was a pre-test post-test quasi-experimental control group design. A survey of 300 students (150 males and 150 females) was drawn from twenty -two public secondary schools within the Gusau town. Four intact classes were used by the researchers for both experimental and the control groups. The experimental group was taught using Integrated Artificial Intelligent Strategies (IAIS) whereas the control groups were taught conventionally. Data collected was analyzed using descriptive statistics to answer the research questions raised for the study while the hypotheses were tested using analysis of covariance (ANCOVA). Result of the study revealed that students taught using Integrated Artificial Intelligent Strategies (IAIS) achieved higher mean scores than those students taught using conventional method. The result also revealed non-significant difference in the mean achievement and the mean attitude scores of males and female's students taught Trigonometry using Integrated Artificial Intelligent Strategies (IAIS). Some recommendations were made among which are that the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education has the potential to revolutionize the teaching and learning of Trigonometry in secondary schools.

Keywords: *Trigonometry, Integrated Artificial Intelligence Strategies (IAIS), Gender, Attitude*

Land Use Sustainability and Rural Development Policies in Zamfara State

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Abstract

Land use sustainability and rural development policies are crucial for promoting sustainable development, ensuring food security, and improving the livelihoods of rural communities. Effective policies balance economic, social, and environmental needs, addressing challenges like climate change, population growth, and urbanization. This abstract highlights the importance of integrating land use sustainability and rural development policies to achieve sustainable and equitable development outcomes.

Keywords: *Managing land resources, Effective policies, Well-being*

Business Environment and Sustainability of Higher Education Institutions in Nigeria: A Study of K. O. Mbadiwe University Ideato

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Abstract

Recognizing the complementary role and necessity of potentialities of business environment in modern societies, it is as well necessary in considering some sustainable criteria for setting up higher education institutions in various business environments. In keeping with the most productive current trends in higher education for business, this work blends the reflection of functional sustainable approaches to operating higher education institutions in Nigeria. Its orientation and content are therefore, directed to the internal and external environments of higher academic business operation in business environments. Accordingly, aspects of this type of business analysis and operations are treated within the realistic framework of continuous environmental dynamics. The higher institutions operating and prevailing in the educational sector are crucial in their capacity building and feeding roles that they touch virtually, all strategic commercial, industrial and sundry organizations in the nation's economy, hence the need and objective is to install and maintain quintessential framework for optimum sustainability. Statistical models are applied to substantiate all inferences, for credible findings and reliable conclusion; the research method and design are purely exploratory and qualitative, adopting K. O. Mbadiwe University Ideato, as the Case for the Study.

Keywords: *Business Environment, Sustainability, Higher Education Institutions*

Capital Consolidation Policy and Strategic Business Alliances (SBAs): A Discourse on Nigerian Political Economy

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Abstract

In every political economy where sometimes, some business organizations are predisposed to dire strait, insolvency, potential liquidation or verged on the moribund, those business organizations and leadership groups must seek feasible policies and strategies to improve their capital base for resilience and resuscitation, further achieving sustainable corporate governance. Consolidation is viewed as the reduction in the number of banks and other deposit seeking institutions with a simultaneous increase in the size and concentration of the consolidation entities. Strategic Business Alliances (SBAs) are strategies which aim at business expansions and are equally recommended for capital consolidation. The objective of this discourse is therefore, expository, seeking ways to review and establish the relevance and correlation between these two strategic business concepts in the Nigerian political economy. The research holds an extensive application of relevant information and data, spanning through the strata of 2005-2026 of the Nigerian Capital Consolidation Policy with reliable summary, findings and conclusion.

Keywords: *Capital Consolidation Policy, Strategic Business Alliances (SBAs). Nigerian Political Economy.*

