



International Conference on Bilateral Strategies for Achieving Africa's Sustainable Development Goals

WED. 20TH - THUR. 21ST MAY, 2026

ABSTRACTS & PROCEEDINGS

Theme:

**Bilateral Strategies for Achieving
Sustainable Development Goals in Africa**

📍 UNIVERSITY OF JOS, NIGERIA





INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BILATERAL STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING AFRICA'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

THEME: Bilateral Strategies for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Africa
DATE: Wednesday 20th – Thursday 21st May, 2026 | **TIME:** 10:00am
VENUE: University of Jos, Nigeria

CONFERENCE LOC

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Department of Sociology,
University of Jos, Nigeria

Dr. Manco Rose Rindap
Department of Political Science,
Plateau State University, Nigeria

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MAUTECH, Nigeria

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Wright State University, USA

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BILATERAL STRATEGIES FOR ACHIEVING AFRICA'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – Wednesday 20th May, 2026

Arrival of Guest/Conferees/Delegates

DAY TWO – Thursday 21st May, 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
Plenary Session 2	- 1:00pm – 4:00pm
Policy Review Session	- 4:00pm – 5:00pm

DAY THREE – Friday 22nd May, 2026

Departure of Guest/Conferee/Delegates



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The University of Jos was established with the vision of being an innovative institution with great interaction between 'town and gown'. Today, the university still carries a high responsibility of fashioning tastes and attitudes of the future. We are committed to providing education that is globally competitive and relevant to the needs of today's employer and the developing challenges of Nigeria and beyond.

Brief History of the University

The University of Jos started as a Campus of the University of Ibadan in November, 1971, with the appointment of Professor E. A. Ayandele as its first Acting Principal. Its first home was the present Township campus of the University which is located along Murtala Mohammed way, Jos. Its first students admitted in January, 1972 were pre-degree students. Degree courses in Arts were introduced in October 1973 and in Science and Education the following year. The same year, the Bauchi Road Campus which then accommodated only the Faculties of Natural, environmental, Medical Sciences and Education was acquired. In October 1975, the then Military Government announced the establishment of seven new Universities and University Colleges including the University of Jos. Professor Gilbert Onuaguluchi was appointed its first Vice-Chancellor and he was in office from October 1975 - 1978. He was succeeded by Professor Emmanuel U. Emovon from 1st October 1978 - 1985. Professor Ochapa C. Onazi succeeded Professor Emovon. Professor Onazi served from 1st October 1985 - 1989 as the 3rd substantive Vice Chancellor. The 4th substantive Vice Chancellor is Professor M. Para Mallum who was in office from 1st October 1989 - 1993. Since then, the University has made enormous progress. By 1993, a new system for appointment of Vice-Chancellor in Nigerian Universities was introduced. There was therefore a delay in the appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor in 1993. In the interim, Prof. G. O. M. Tasie acted as Vice-Chancellor from October 1993 to March 1994. Eventually, Prof. N.E. Gomwalk was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University in April, 1994. His tenure ended in 1999. Professor M. Y. Mangwat was appointed Ag. Vice-Chancellor from January 2000 to May 4th 2001. He was later appointed substantive Vice-Chancellor with effect from 5th May 2001. After him, Professor Sonni Tyoden was Vice Chancellor from June 12, 2006 to June 11, 2011. He was the 7th substantive Vice-Chancellor of the university. The 8th substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University was Professor Hayward Babale Mafuyai from June 23, 2011 to June 22, 2016. The current and 9th substantive Vice-Chancellor is Professor Seddi Sebastian Maimako who assumed duty on the 23rd of June 2016.

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Director - IIPRDS & UN-African IP-SDGs
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Dated this day 5th November, 2019
University of Ghana, Accra

research for africa's development
research and capacity building accelerated economic development




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Conference Abstracts

Effect of Environmental Education and Sustainable Development in Jama'are Local Government Area Bauchi State Nigeria

Adamu, H. M.

*Department of Biology Education,
Federal College of Education, Jama'are*

Abstract

This study Centre on effect of environmental education and sustainable development in Jama'are local government area Bauchi state well-being of man and the sustenance of his livelihood are Closely associated with the environment. This study aims at effect of environmental education and how its lead to development in Nigeria as a whole. That the future of the Nigerian environment depends on the care and Conservation of the environment. This can only be achieved if Individuals and government are enlightened and educated to adopt Policies and practices conducive for sustainable development. The Paper also focuses on how environmental education as a tool for sustainable Development in Nigeria. It revealed that population growth contributes to environmental problem, Industrialization and urbanization have brought man's Environment negative factors like loss of biodiversity, global Warming, desertification, pollution and accumulation of toxic Wastes. The information used in this paper were derived from secondary sources. The importance of environmental, education was discussed and Recommendations were made on how environmental awareness can Be used in enhancing sustainable development in the country like Nigeria

Keywords: *Development, Education, Environment, Man, Sustainability*

A Causal Analysis Using Rainfall-Instrumented Two-Stage Least Squares Youth Unemployment and Socioeconomic Welfare in Gombe State, Nigeria

¹Kabiru Musa & ²Usman Aliyu

^{1&2}Department of Statistics,

Waziri Umar Federal Polytechnic, Birnin Kebbi, Nigeria.

Abstract

Youth unemployment remains a critical impediment to development in Sub-Saharan Africa, with Northern Nigeria exhibiting some of the highest rates globally. This paper investigates the causal impact of youth unemployment on socioeconomic welfare outcomes in Gombe State, Nigeria. Utilising a simulated micro-dataset structured after the Nigeria General Household Survey (GHS) and the Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS), we address the endogeneity of employment status through an Instrumental Variable (IV) strategy exploiting exogenous variation in local agricultural labour demand driven by rainfall shocks. Our Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) estimates suggest that OLS models underestimate the welfare cost of unemployment by approximately 40 percent. We find that youth unemployment significantly reduces household consumption per capita and negatively correlates with perceived security. The findings underscore the need for labour-intensive agricultural interventions and region-specific vocational policies targeting Gombe State's 11 Local Government Areas.

Keywords: *Agricultural Shocks; Welfare; Gombe State; Two-Stage Least Squares J15, O15, C26, R23 Youth Unemployment; Nigeria; Instrumental Variables*

Strategies Towards the African Development-Factor in the Twenty-First Century Millennium

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¹Department of History and International Studies, Faculty of Humanities,

²Department of History and International Studies,
Faculty of Humanities, School of Postgraduate Studies,
Federal University Gusau, Zamfara State, Nigeria

Abstract

Today much talk, about Much Ado about nothing but development is the central theme and concern about African development among intellectuals in Africa and the diaspora. Continental African states need to spring up like the “Asian Tigers” to develop. The politics of development and underdevelopment has been marshalled by development and underdevelopment scholars like W. W. Rostow and underdevelopment theorists like Paul Baran, Andre Gunder Frank, Pelee Jalee, Marion J. Levy, Joseph E. Stiglitz, Samir Amin, Rox Luxembourg, Claude Ake, Walter Rodney and their likes. They theorised about the “centre”–“periphery” question of development and underdevelopment. The developing countries (Africa), the “centre” exploit the human and material resources of the “poor” social formation for the growth, development, expansion and further reproduction of international capitalism. The “poor” states remain in squalor and abject poverty, while their national economies remain a backwater to the development of the “poor” social formations. The challenge currently is no longer the past facilitators of underdevelopment of the African continent like imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, globalization and the Bretton Woods Institutions. What can African States do to propel them to development? This paper examined the needed strategies that can be applied to catapult Africa to development. The pedagogy applied is the use of journal articles, magazines, newspapers, oral evidence and interviews, textbooks and field trips. The way forward is exhausted under recommendations.

Keywords: *Strategies, African Development-Factor, Twenty-First Century Millennium*

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

Julius Andrew Baji

Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Department of Environmental Management, Kaduna State University, Kaduna

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*

Civil Service Reform Strategies and Sustainable Development of Public Sectors in the Cross River State

¹Dr. Victoria Utitofon Inuaesiet, & ²Dr. Unwana Ita Okon

^{1&2}*Department of Public Administration,
University of Calabar, Calabar-Nigeria*

Abstract

A cross-sectional survey will cover digitalization and automation, financial accountability, and capacity building and training as strategies to enhance the sustainable development of the public sectors in Cross River State. Governance Theory will be adopted to explain the need for transparency, accountability, citizen-centered service delivery, and public participation in monitoring to enhance organizational sustainability. The study will cover selected public organizations, and a Taro Yamane sampling formula will be used to determine the sample size of the study. A structured questionnaire will be used to facilitate data collection. Content and face validity, and Cronbach's alpha reliability will be used to ascertain the reliability of the data. Descriptive statistics and multicollinearity with the variance inflation factor (VIF) will be used to ascertain the accuracy of the data set. The hypotheses will be tested using Multiple Regression Analysis. Findings and recommendations will be established after analysis

Keywords: *Civil Service Reform, Strategies, Sustainable Development, Public Sectors*

Adult Education as a Pathway to Women Employment, Migration, and Social Integration: Evidence from West African Mobility Corridor

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^{1,2&3} *Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education,
Federal College of Education Okene, Kogi State*

Abstract

Adult education has increasingly been recognized as a transformative instrument for enhancing women's socioeconomic outcomes, particularly within dynamic migration contexts. This paper examines adult education as a critical pathway to women's employment, migration, and social integration, with specific evidence drawn from West African mobility corridors. In the West Africa region, migration is deeply embedded by regional frameworks such as free movement protocols that enable cross-border mobility for trade, employment, and education. This study adopts a qualitative and analytical approach to explore how adult education programmes particularly literacy, vocational training, and digital skills development equip women with relevant competencies and navigating migration processes. The paper reveals that adult education strengthens women's human capital, improves their participation in both formal and informal labour market and enhances their capacity for self-reliance. It further highlights that education facilitates social integration by enabling migrant women to adapt to new cultural environments, access social services, and build supportive networks within host communities. Despite these benefits, challenges such as limited access to quality education, gender inequality and precarious employment conditions persist. The study concludes that promoting inclusive and gender-responsive adult education policies is essential for maximizing the developmental benefits of migration for women in West Africa. It recommends increased investment in adult education programmes tailored to the needs of migrant women to foster sustainable employment and social integration.

Keywords: *Adult education, Women Employment, Migration, Social Integration*

Principals' Leadership Styles and Teachers Job Performance in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Nigeria

Bako Samuel Dulang

*Government Senior Secondary School, Kabong,
Jos, Plateau State*

Abstract

This study investigates the relationship between Principals' Leadership Styles and Teachers' Job Performance in Public Senior Secondary Schools in Jos North Local Government Area of Plateau State, Nigeria. The researcher aims to identify the dominant leadership styles adopted by Principals – transformational, transactional, and laissez – faire and examine how these styles influence the effectiveness, motivation, and productivity of teachers. Data collected from a sample of teachers and principals through structured questionnaires. The findings revealed that transformational leadership positively correlates with higher levels of teachers' job performance, while transactional leadership shows moderate influences, and laissez – faire leadership is associated with lower teacher effectiveness. The study underscores the importance of adopting leadership styles that foster collaboration, motivation, and professional development. Based on the findings, recommendations are made for policy makers and educational administrators to promote leadership training programmes that enhance school management and improve teaching outcomes.

Keywords: *Principals' Leadership Styles and Teachers' Job Performance*

Climate Finance and Green Technology Transfer: An Analysis of Nigeria – European Union (EU) Relations

Shehu Dogara

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Adeleke University, Ede Osun State, Nigeria*

Abstract

Nigeria's socioeconomic stability is under serious threat due to climate change. This has necessitated a quick transition to a low-carbon economy through significant climate finance and green technology transfer. This paper emphasises on analysing the evolving collaborations between Nigeria and the European Union (EU) with specific focus on the effectiveness of EU-driven financial mechanisms and technology transfer in fostering sustainable development within Nigeria. Utilising secondary data and policy analysis, the study finds that, although the EU is a vital partner in financing renewable energy, agriculture, and green industrialisation, unfortunately, the actual influx of technology is still limited. The study also reveals that the efficacy of this cooperation is hindered by several issues, including elevated capital costs, a scarcity of viable projects, and insufficient local technical capacity to adopt transferred technologies. The findings emphasize that for Nigeria to meet its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), there must be a paradigm shift in partnership from mere financial aid to comprehensive capacity building, localizing technology maintenance, and strengthening the regulatory framework. The study concludes that, cultivating a strong Nigeria-EU green alliance requires enhanced local ownership of projects and targeted affordable, and suitable green technological solutions to effectively stimulate green growth.

Keywords: *Climate change, Climate finance, Green technology, Socioeconomic, Sustainable development, Renewable energy*

Post-Independence Strategies for Peace-Building and Democratic Governance in South Sudan

¹Okafor Celestine Ogechukwu, ²Inakefe, Gabriel Inakefe, ³Chiazor Simeon Elumelu, ⁴Ruth Obioma Ngoka, ⁵Bassey, Virtue Uduak & ⁶Amadi, John Onyekachi

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Abstract

Since its independence in 2011, South Sudan has faced recurring conflicts and governance crises that have undermined the consolidation of peace and democracy. Despite several peace agreements, implementation of integration programmes and international interventions, the country remains politically unstable and economically fragile. This study examines the post-independence strategies adopted to promote peace-building and democratic governance in South Sudan, emphasizing the institutional and structural factors that constrain their effectiveness. The study adopted Post-Conflict State-Building Theory and the Marxian Conflict Theory as its analytical frameworks and employed a qualitative research design. Data were obtained from secondary sources, including policy documents, peace agreements, and scholarly works, and analyzed through qualitative descriptive analysis. Findings indicate that post-independence peace-building strategies in South Sudan have been dominated by elite interests and external influence, emphasizing power-sharing over meaningful institutional reform. The study argued that the concentration of political and economic power among former liberation elites has established inequality and fragility, while presumed demobilization and integration efforts have failed to resolve fundamental structural contradictions. Therefore, the study concludes that these dynamics have perpetuated instability and undermined the prospects for sustainable peace and democratic consolidation. The study recommends the democratization and reform of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) and other political parties to enhance internal competition and accountability. It further advocates a comprehensive overhaul of the military sector to retire aging combatants and prevent the recycling of warlords into the national army.

Keywords: *Democratic Governance, Post-Independence Strategies, Peace-Building, South Sudan, State-building*

The Slavery Paradox: Foreign Debt and Nigeria's Economic Sovereignty

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Federal University Dutsin-Ma, Katsina State, Nigeria

Abstract

This article investigates the “Slavery Paradox” in Nigeria—a structural condition where political independence is undermined by chronic foreign loan dependence. With Nigeria's external debt exceeding \$45 billion by 2025 and debt servicing consuming the vast majority of retained revenue, the nation faces a fiscal trap that prioritizes external creditors over essential social investments. The study argues that Nigeria's reliance on foreign loans, governed by stringent international conditionalities, functions as a mechanism of neocolonial control that systematically erodes economic sovereignty and hallows post-colonial autonomy. Adopting a qualitative research design, the article synthesizes historical fiscal data, policy surveillance reports, and conceptual reviews. It utilizes neocolonialism theory to explain the macro-level power dynamics of international lending and structural adjustment theory to analyse the technical mechanisms, such as privatization and austerity, through which sovereignty is diminished. Findings reveal a “revolving door” of capital flight, where borrowed funds are frequently diverted to offshore accounts, further depleting national wealth. The article concludes that reclaiming sovereignty requires a strategy of “strategic decoupling.” It recommends that fiscal measures, such as the Nigeria Tax Act 2025, must be restructured to prioritise domestic welfare and industrialisation over creditor-mandated revenue extraction. By emulating developmental blueprints from Botswana, Rwanda, and Vietnam, Nigeria can transition from debt-induced subservience to a self-reliant developmental state.

Keywords: *Slavery Paradox, Economic Sovereignty, Foreign Loan Dependence, Neocolonialism, Structural Adjustment.*

Integrating Indigenous Knowledge Systems into Bilateral Educational Frameworks: Towards Inclusive Sustainable Development Goals

Oyedokun Mary Ajibuwa

*Department of Social Studies, School of Arts and Social Sciences
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Abstract

As African nations seek to accelerate the 2030 Agenda through international partnerships, the integration of localized epistemologies into formal agreements remains a significant academic and policy gap. This study investigates the synergy between Indigenous Knowledge Systems (IKS) and Bilateral Educational Frameworks as a catalyst for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nigeria. The research specifically addresses SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) by analyzing how local social values and traditional ecological knowledge can be mainstreamed into cross-border educational exchange programs. Adopting a qualitative research design, the study utilizes a thematic analysis of existing bilateral educational memoranda and a review of Social Studies curriculum standards. The findings reveal that while bilateral strategies often succeed in infrastructure and technology transfer, they frequently marginalize indigenous pedagogical models, leading to a “cultural gap” in learner outcomes. Furthermore, in line with the conference's focus on emerging technologies, the paper explores the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in digitizing and preserving indigenous data to ensure its seamless integration into global educational platforms. The study concludes that for Africa to achieve truly inclusive development, bilateral partnerships must evolve from mere knowledge importation to a model of “knowledge co-creation” that respects local social heritage. It recommends that policy negotiators and Social Studies educators prioritize “Epistemic Diplomacy” to ensure that global educational standards are contextually grounded.

Keywords: *Bilateral Strategies, Indigenous, Knowledge Systems (IKS) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Inclusive Pedagogy, Social Studies Education, Epistemic Diplomacy*

Enhancing Library Services through Digital Transformation: Strategies for Sustainable Governance and Inclusive Information Access in a Dynamic Global Economy

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Abstract

Digital transformation has become a critical driver of inclusive growth and sustainable governance, particularly within the rapidly evolving global knowledge economy. As libraries reposition themselves as strategic stakeholders in national development, there is a growing need to adopt innovative digital practices that enhance service delivery, strengthen governance structures, and promote equitable information access. This paper explores practical strategies through which libraries and information centres can leverage digital technologies to support inclusive growth while aligning with principles of sustainability and accountability. Drawing on recent empirical studies and global policy frameworks, the paper examines key dimensions of digital transformation in the library sector, including the integration of smart technologies, development of digital literacy programmes, deployment of data-driven decision systems, and adoption of resilient governance models. It also highlights barriers faced by libraries such as funding constraints, infrastructure gaps, and skill shortages and proposes scalable strategies for addressing these challenges in developing and emerging economies. The paper argues that libraries, when empowered through sustainable digital governance, can significantly contribute to social inclusion, economic participation, and knowledge democratisation. By presenting a roadmap for implementing inclusive and sustainable digital initiatives, this study positions libraries as catalysts for national and global development within an increasingly digital and interconnected world.

Keywords: *Digital Transformation, Sustainable Governance, Information Access, Knowledge Management, Digital Literacy*

The Cold War and its Impact on African Political Development

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Abstract

The Cold War represented one of the most significant geopolitical rivalries of the twentieth century, profoundly shaping political, economic, and security developments across the globe. In Africa, the ideological confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union significantly influenced the political trajectory of newly independent states during the post-colonial era. This study examines the impact of the Cold War on African political development, with particular emphasis on governance, state formation, military intervention, ideological alignments, and regional conflicts. The study argues that Africa became a strategic arena for proxy competition between the capitalist Western bloc and the communist Eastern bloc, leading to increased foreign intervention in the internal affairs of African states. Through political alliances, military assistance, economic aid, and ideological influence, both superpowers sought to expand their spheres of influence across the continent. Consequently, many African states experienced political instability, military coups, authoritarian governance, civil wars, and weakened democratic institutions. Adopting a historical and qualitative research approach, the study relies on secondary sources, including scholarly publications, archival materials, official reports, and historical documents. The analysis is anchored on Dependency Theory and Realist Theory to explain the strategic interests of external powers and the political vulnerabilities of post-colonial African states during the Cold War period. The study further reveals that while the Cold War contributed to infrastructural development and military modernization in some African countries, it also intensified political polarization, ethnic conflicts, economic dependency, and governance crises. The research concludes that the legacies of the Cold War continue to shape contemporary African politics, security challenges, and international relations. It therefore recommends stronger democratic institutions, regional cooperation, and strategic foreign policy frameworks to reduce external dependency and promote sustainable political development in Africa.

Keywords: *Post-Colonial Era, Geopolitical and Political Development*

AI-Supported Virtual Laboratories for Sustainable Teacher Education in Nigerian Teacher Education Institutions

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Abstract

The persistent shortage of laboratory facilities and limited practical training opportunities in Nigerian teacher education institutions continues to hinder the effective preparation of science and technology teachers. Emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and virtual laboratories offer innovative solutions to bridge this gap. This paper explores the integration of AI-supported virtual laboratories for sustainable teacher education in Nigeria. The study adopts a conceptual and descriptive research approach, drawing from recent empirical studies and global best practices. Findings from the reviewed literature indicate that AI-enhanced virtual laboratories improve experiential learning, reduce operational costs, enhance accessibility, and promote learner-centered pedagogy. The paper argues that integrating AI-driven virtual labs into teacher education curricula can strengthen pedagogical competence, improve practical skills acquisition, and support sustainability in teacher training institutions. The paper recommends policy support, digital infrastructure development, and capacity building for lecturers to ensure effective implementation.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Laboratories, Teacher Education, Educational Technology, Sustainability, Nigeria*

The Impact of Forced Migration and Internal Displacement on Women and Children in Dutsin-Ma Local Government Area

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Abstract

Forced migration and internal displacement pose significant challenges to vulnerable populations, with women and children disproportionately affected. In Dutsin-Ma Local Government Area (LGA), Katsina State, recurring conflicts and economic instability have intensified displacement, disrupting livelihoods, education, and access to healthcare. This study examines the physical, psychological, and socio-economic impacts of forced migration on women and children in the area. Using a qualitative approach, data were collected through interviews, and focus group discussions with displaced households. Findings indicate that affected women and children face increased risks of malnutrition, gender-based violence, and psychosocial stress, alongside limited access to essential services. The study also explores coping mechanisms employed by displaced families and the role of local support structures in mitigating adverse effects. By highlighting the specific vulnerabilities and resilience strategies of women and children, the research provides evidence-based insights for policymakers, humanitarian organizations, and community actors. These findings underscore the urgent need for targeted, context-sensitive interventions to enhance protection, recovery, and well-being among displaced populations in Dutsin-Ma LGA.

Keywords: *Forced Migration, Internal displacement, Women, Children, Vulnerability*

Foreign Direct Investment and Trade Diplomacy as a Tool for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria

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Abstract

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and trade diplomacy have emerged as critical mechanisms for promoting economic growth, technological transfer, and sustainable development, particularly in developing economies. In Nigeria, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires substantial financial resources, improved infrastructure, job creation, and enhanced industrial capacity. This study examines the extent to which FDI and trade diplomacy can serve as strategic tools for achieving the SDGs in Nigeria. It explores the relationship between investment inflows, trade policies, and sustainable development outcomes, including poverty reduction, employment generation, industrialization, and environmental sustainability. The study adopts a qualitative and analytical research approach, relying on secondary data from government publications, international development reports, and peer-reviewed literature. It assesses the trends, sectoral distribution, and developmental impact of FDI in Nigeria, as well as the role of trade diplomacy through bilateral, regional, and multilateral trade agreements such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Findings indicate that FDI has contributed significantly to economic sectors such as oil and gas, telecommunications, finance, and services, leading to increased revenue, employment opportunities, and infrastructure development. However, its overall contribution to sustainable and inclusive development remains constrained by challenges such as policy instability, infrastructural deficits, security concerns, and weak institutional frameworks. The study further reveals that effective trade diplomacy can enhance Nigeria's integration into global markets, promote export diversification, and attract investment into critical sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, renewable energy, and technology. The paper concludes that a strategic alignment of FDI policies and trade diplomacy with national development priorities is essential for accelerating progress toward the SDGs. It recommends policy consistency, institutional strengthening, improved infrastructure, and targeted investment incentives as key measures for maximizing the developmental benefits of FDI and trade relations.

Keywords: *Foreign Direct Investment, Trade Diplomacy, Sustainable Development Goals, Economic Growth, Industrialization, Investment Policy*

World Bank Interventions and Poverty Reduction in Southeast Nigeria, 2015-2024

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Abstract

The World Bank plays a vital role in reducing global poverty by funding essential development projects. However, its interventions in Southeast Nigeria have produced mixed results, which inform the essence of this study. This research was guided by three objectives: examine the significant impact of World Bank clean energy investments on electricity access in Southeast Nigeria; assess the significant role of World Bank-supported programs (SEPIP, BESDA, and EEP) in reducing educational deprivation; analyze how World Bank-supported policy initiatives under the State Action on Business Enabling Reform (SABER) have significantly influenced regional poverty reduction strategies; and evaluate the significant effect of World Bank-funded Social Safety Net programs on reducing the poverty gap in Southeast Nigeria between 2015 and 2024. The study used Oscar Lewis's Culture of Poverty theory as its framework and anchored on a mixed-methods approach. The study population included 22,012,828 residents of Southeast Nigeria. A sample of 384 was used. Interviews were conducted. Quantitative data were analyzed using regression analysis, while qualitative data were examined through thematic analysis. The main findings are: World Bank interventions between 2015 and 2024 delivered significant and visible socio-economic benefits in South-East Nigeria, albeit with varying levels of impact across the energy sector, education sector, governance and institutional reforms, and social protection systems. Recommendations include intensifying sensitization campaigns to overcome cultural resistance, scaling up program coverage to reach excluded vulnerable groups, institutionalizing integrated approaches that combine infrastructure development and human resources, and strengthening enforcement mechanisms for consistent implementation and accountability.

Keywords: *Poverty reduction; World Bank interventions; Sustainable Development Goals; Mixed-methods research*

The Role of Adult Education in Promoting Trade, Investment, and Industrialization for Sustainable Economic Development in Africa

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Abstract

Trade, investment, and industrialization are essential drivers of sustainable economic development in Africa. However, the success of these economic activities largely depends on the availability of skilled and knowledgeable individuals who can participate effectively in productive economic sectors. Adult education plays a significant role in building human capacity by equipping adult learners with relevant knowledge, skills, and competencies needed for economic empowerment. This paper examines the role of adult education in promoting trade, investment, and industrialization for sustainable economic development in Africa. The study adopts a conceptual approach by analyzing existing literature on adult education and economic development. It highlights how adult education programmes such as vocational training, entrepreneurship education, financial literacy, and digital skills development contribute to enhancing economic participation and productivity among adult learners. The paper also discusses challenges affecting the effective utilization of adult education for economic transformation, including inadequate funding, poor training infrastructure, and limited policy implementation. The paper concludes that strengthening adult education programmes and integrating economic skill development into adult learning systems are essential for promoting trade, attracting investment, and supporting industrial growth in Africa.

Keywords: *Adult Education, Trade, Investment, Industrialization and Sustainable Economic Development*

Foreign Direct Investment and Trade Diplomacy as a Tool for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria

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Abstract

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and trade diplomacy have emerged as critical mechanisms for promoting economic growth, technological transfer, and sustainable development, particularly in developing economies. In Nigeria, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) requires substantial financial resources, improved infrastructure, job creation, and enhanced industrial capacity. This study examines the extent to which FDI and trade diplomacy can serve as strategic tools for achieving the SDGs in Nigeria. It explores the relationship between investment inflows, trade policies, and sustainable development outcomes, including poverty reduction, employment generation, industrialization, and environmental sustainability. The study adopts a qualitative and analytical research approach, relying on secondary data from government publications, international development reports, and peer-reviewed literature. It assesses the trends, sectoral distribution, and developmental impact of FDI in Nigeria, as well as the role of trade diplomacy through bilateral, regional, and multilateral trade agreements such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Findings indicate that FDI has contributed significantly to economic sectors such as oil and gas, telecommunications, finance, and services, leading to increased revenue, employment opportunities, and infrastructure development. However, its overall contribution to sustainable and inclusive development remains constrained by challenges such as policy instability, infrastructural deficits, security concerns, and weak institutional frameworks. The study further reveals that effective trade diplomacy can enhance Nigeria's integration into global markets, promote export diversification, and attract investment into critical sectors such as agriculture, manufacturing, renewable energy, and technology. The paper concludes that a strategic alignment of FDI policies and trade diplomacy with national development priorities is essential for accelerating progress toward the SDGs. It recommends policy consistency, institutional strengthening, improved infrastructure, and targeted investment incentives as key measures for maximizing the developmental benefits of FDI and trade relations.

Keywords: *Foreign Direct Investment, Trade Diplomacy, Sustainable Development Goals, Economic Growth, Industrialization, Investment Policy*

Using Atmospheric Sensor Data and Machine Learning to Forecast Short-Term Precipitation

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Abstract

Accurate short-term precipitation prediction is critical for numerous sectors, including agriculture, transportation, and disaster management. Traditional numerical weather prediction models are computationally intensive. This study explores the efficacy of a simple, data-driven machine learning model for rain prediction using readily available atmospheric variables: temperature and relative humidity. We employed a Logistic Regression model to classify weather conditions into "Rain" or "No Rain" based on these two features. The model was trained and evaluated on a historical weather dataset. Results indicate that while temperature and relative humidity are fundamental predictors, a model based solely on them achieves a moderate level of accuracy, demonstrating their predictive utility but also highlighting the necessity for incorporating additional variables for more robust forecasts. The model achieved an accuracy of 81% and an F1-score of 0.76 on the test set, with relative humidity being the most significant feature.

Keywords: *Precipitation Prediction, Machine Learning, Logistic Regression, Classification, Meteorological Data, Python.*

Note

[illegible]