

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Dr. Eghosa Ekhator

Deputy Editor in Chief

I am pleased to present this Issue of the Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy. We received numerous submissions from different parts of the world focusing on diverse areas of sustainable development law and policy. After a rigorous peer-review process, eleven articles were accepted for publication.

This issue starts with Uche Val Obi, and he considers the various ways of mainstreaming distributive justice in the resources management in Nigeria. Obi discusses whether the recently enacted Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) 2021 has embedded distributive justice with respect to petroleum resources management in Nigeria. The second submission is by S.O Omoijuanfo Ihase, Michael U. Ukponu and Zacchaeus O. Opafunso. They consider the various regulatory conflicts afflicting the Nigerian Mining Industry. Their analysis is premised on a 2019 – 2020 study undertaken by the Ministry of Mines and Steel Development which exposed mining sector-related regulatory conflicts amongst the Federal, State and Local Governments and their ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) in the Federal Capital Territory and 17 out of the 36 States of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The third submission is by Leroy C Edozien who analysed Healthcare Waste Management Policy (HCWM) in Nigeria. Edozien conceptualises the RADICAL framework as a tool or strategy that could be applied in developing, implementing, and monitoring the national HCWM policy in a lower-middle-income country such as Nigeria. The fourth submission is by Yared Hailemariam. Yared Hailemariam undertakes a critical appraisal of the legal and policy framework for sustainable mining in Ethiopia. The article provides a comprehensive analysis of how the Ethiopian legal framework incorporates the principles of sustainable mining.

The fifth submission is by Nahom M. Kebede, and the article focuses on challenges and prospects of Intellectual Property Protection (IPR) in Ethiopia. This contribution also discusses several challenges militating against the successful protection of agricultural technologies in the intellectual protection regime in Ethiopia. The sixth submission is by Takunda Gumbu and this contribution focus on transaction cost economics approach to construction contracts in public-private partnerships. This contribution draws on empirical studies from six countries to identify several factors that affect transaction costs in construction contracts. The seventh submission is by Nkiruka Chidia Maduekwe. This contribution focuses on the protection of patient's data in the healthcare system in Africa. The article examines existing data protection legal frameworks in Africa to ascertain whether they provide effective remedy mechanisms patients can access should a breach occur.

The eight submissions is by Marie-Louise Fehun Aren who analyses how indirect digital economy taxation can used as a strategy to enhance

revenue mobilisation in Africa in Post-COVID-19 era. The contribution undertakes review of some economic and fiscal policies and laws to ensure a faster recovery from the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The ninth submission is a joint article by Onibokun and Sodipo on the opportunities and challenges of third party funding (TPF) of commercial arbitration in Nigeria. They discuss how TPF could assist in widening access to justice in accordance with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16. The tenth submission is by Mary Olawuyi who expertly unpacks the opportunities and barriers to the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) in Nigeria, and how business enterprises can align their environmental risk management programs in line with the UNGPs. The eleventh submission is by Mohammad Danish and Rima J. Isaifan and they analyse the various strategies or plans to enhance climate action in the Arab countries in the Middle East Region. This contribution focuses on the effects of climate change in the Middle East (ME) region and the strategies suggested to combat its impacts.

With infinite gratitude to our Editorial Board, Editorial Committee and the President and Founder of Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti – Aare Afe Babalola SAN, OFR, LLD – for their invaluable and continuing support, I wish all our readers a rewarding study and application of the scholarly work presented in this Issue.

Truly yours,

Dr Eghosa O. Ekhator | LL.M (Hull), Ph.D (Hull), FHEA
Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy
T +234 81 40000 988 | E: info@ogeesinstitute.edu.ng