

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Dr. Olujobi, Olusola Joshua

The Guest Editor-in-Chief

I am delighted to present this Special Issue of the Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy. We received numerous submissions from around the globe, covering a wide range of topics related to sustainable development law and policy. Following a thorough peer-review process, we have accepted nineteen articles for publication in this issue.

This issue opens with an article by Imhade P. Okokpujie, Lagouge K. Tartibu, Olusola J. Olujobi, Stella I. Monye, Ngozi S. Monyem, and Elizabeta S. Olarinde. Their study, "The Efficiency of the Solar-Wind Hybrid Energy Generating System: Its Policy Assessment and Operations in Nigeria," critically evaluates the operational efficiency and policy considerations of solar-wind hybrid systems in Nigeria. The study highlights these systems' potential to address Nigeria's energy deficit and underscores the necessity for supportive policies to integrate these systems into the country's existing energy infrastructure.

The second article by Jake Okechukwu Effoduh examines how artificial intelligence (AI) could potentially alleviate energy poverty in Africa, contributing to Sustainable Development Goal 7. This piece highlights the paradox of AI's potential benefits against the backdrop of widespread energy deprivation and discusses both the successful application of AI in other regions and the barriers to its implementation in combating energy poverty with panaceas.

The third submission, authored by Peace Amayo Ogbodo-Nathaniel, Olusola Joshua Olujobi, and Vera Bidemi Monehin, is an examination of the legal, policy, and institutional framework for promoting renewable energy projects as a panacea for sustainable development in Nigeria. Topic is significant given Nigeria's abundant natural resources, transitioning to renewable energy can reduce dependence on fossil fuels, mitigate climate change impacts, and enhance energy security. By examining existing laws and policies, as well as the roles of various institutions, this study aims to identify gaps and propose solutions that can foster an environment conducive to investment in renewable energy in Nigeria.

The fourth article, by Oluwatoyin Esther Akinbowale, Mulatu Fekadu

Zerihun, and Polly Mashigo, uses a quantitative approach to assess how climate finance affects South Africa's economy. It offers valuable insights into the relationship between financial flows and economic outcomes, utilizing quantile regression to provide a holistic understanding of how climate finance interacts with various economic sectors for sustainability.

Chukwunye Augusta Ojeih, Olumide Ogidan, Yewande Fadeke Oluwajobi, and Bamidele Olasehinde Adebayo contribute the fifth article, which focuses on balancing biotechnology innovation with adequate regulatory oversight. This article outlines the complexities involved and benefits from examples of successful regulatory frameworks from other countries. It also discusses potential future trends in biotechnology regulation.

The sixth submission by Olusola Joshua Olujobi, Oshobugie Suleiman Irumekhai, Oluwatosin Micheal Olujobi, and Adetutu Deborah Aina-Pelemo addresses the significant challenges faced by indigenous oil companies in Nigeria. The article offers strategies for business sustainability, providing case studies of indigenous oil companies and comparing them with industries in other countries to glean insight for enhancing Nigeria's oil sector.

Hassan Hayatullah Boladale and Raimi Idris Olawale contribute the seventh article, which examines the recalibration of the correlation between climate change mitigation policy and environmental performance in Sub-Saharan Africa. This piece emphasizes the need for policy adjustments and explores the direct impacts on biosphere resilience and renewable energy transition.

The eighth article, authored by Prof. Oluyemi O. Fayomi, Olalekan W. Adigun, and Dr. Zainab Abdulwahab Zubair, discusses innovative models for combating unsustainable resource exploitation in Nigeria. It presents solutions with real-world examples of successful models or pilot projects that could benefit host communities and mitigate environmental degradation from poorly regulated operations by multinational companies. The article reviews significant policies and laws to ensure environmental sustainability.

In the ninth article, Imhade P. Okokpujie assesses hydrogen and bio-fuels as sustainable alternatives to traditional fuels for internal combustion engines and examines their legal frameworks in Nigeria. This assessment provides a comprehensive overview of these alternative fuels' potential and discusses practical challenges related to energy infrastructure and market readiness, aligning with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The tenth submission, a joint effort by Empire Hechime Nyekwere, Uche Nnawulezi, Omoleke Muslim, Marry-Ann O. Ajayi, and Ngozi Chinwa Ole, offers a legal perspective on fossil fuel subsidy reforms. It outlines the environmental benefits of such reforms, addresses political and economic challenges to implementation, and provides examples of successful subsidy reform initiatives from other countries to offer valuable insights for Nigeria.

The eleventh article by Tayo Douglas, Adebisi Anthony Adepoju, and Yewande Fadeke Oluwajobi explores the impacts of green technology on the promotion of renewable energy in Nigeria and the imperative of regulatory mechanisms. The analysis details specific regulatory practices that have succeeded or failed in promoting green technology, offering comparative insights to enhance the adoption of renewable energy sources in Nigeria.

The twelfth article, a joint contribution by Paul Atagamen Aidonjio, Oluwaseye Oluwayomi Ikubanni, Adesoji Kolawole Adebayo, Olusola Joshua Olujobi, and Mundu M. Mustafa, examines the role of digital and scientific technology in complementing global legal frameworks for clean energy transition. It presents a forward-thinking approach with detailed examples of how these technologies have been used in practice to support legal frameworks.

In the thirteenth submission, Damilola Joseph Anifowose and Oluwaseye Oluwayomi Ikubanni analyze the impact of federalism on clean energy transition through a comparative study of Nigeria, the United States, and Australia. This comparative analysis provides valuable insights into how federal structures influence policy effectiveness and implementation in different countries.

The fourteenth article by Yewande F. Oluwajobi, Oreoluwa Omotayo Oduniyi, Adetutu A. Adewole, and Akinjide O. Oluwajobi examines the legal frameworks for the sustainable use of outer space for energy security. It addresses the emerging field of outer space energy use and offers a unique perspective on strengthening international agreements or treaties related to this field and their implications for global energy security.

The fifteenth submission by Adebola Adeyemi discusses the promotion of renewable energy through a decentralized electricity regulatory framework, with a focus on Nigeria's Electricity Act 2023. The article critically examines the potential benefits of decentralization and explores the practical challenges and successes of similar approaches in other jurisdictions.

Oriola O. Oyewole's sixteenth article provides a thorough examination of the ICC Prosecutor's role in advancing SDG 16, focusing on justice and accountability. It offers a strong legal perspective on how the ICC Prosecutor's actions have impacted access to justice and accountability.

The seventeenth submission, by Peace Amayo Ogbodo-Nathaniel, Olusola Joshua Olujobi, Cynthia Chukwufumnanya Izu, and Nathaniel Imomion Ogbodo, explores the nexus between clean energy and human rights by evaluating Nigeria's legal framework for advancing sustainable development goals. This article outlines how human rights considerations have been integrated into clean energy policies, providing concrete examples of potential improvements.

The eighteenth article by Onyinyechi Lilian Uche, Ebele Ogwuda, and Kenechukwu C. Asuku offers a comprehensive appraisal of Nigeria's legal and institutional mechanisms for energy security. It provides detailed recommendations for improving these mechanisms, drawing on successful practices from other advanced countries to promote energy security, equity, and economic prosperity in Nigeria.

Finally, the nineteenth submission, a joint effort by Adebola Abass Jabar and Oluwaseun T. Adeosun, examines the sustainability and reporting practices of carbon-intensive industries in Sub-Saharan Africa. The article provides a solid analysis with specific examples of best practices in carbon emissions reporting and their impact on sustainability outcomes.

BOOK REVIEW

This collection, "Contemporary Issues in Nigerian Law," pays tribute to Professor Elisabeta Smaranda Olarinde by addressing pressing legal challenges in Nigeria today. The essays, contributed by esteemed legal scholars, provide insightful analyses and propose innovative solutions to enhance the nation's legal landscape. This book is a valuable resource for practitioners, academics, and students alike, fostering deeper understanding and engagement with contemporary legal issues.

We extend our deepest appreciation to our Editorial Board, Editorial Committee, and Aare Afe Babalola SAN, OFR, LLD, President and Founder of Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, for their invaluable and ongoing support. We hope that our readers find this special issue both enriching and

inspiring in their study and application of the scholarly work presented.

Yours sincerely,

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