

JOURNAL OF  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
LAW AND POLICY

AFE BABALOLA UNIVERSITY, ADO-EKITI, NIGERIA

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VOLUME 11 ISSUES 1 and 2

FALL & SPRING 2020

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Print ISSN: 2467-8406

e-ISSN: 2467-8392

***Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy***

is a publication of the Institute for Oil, Gas, Energy,  
Environment and Sustainable Development (OGEEES)

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Printed in Nigeria.

**Citation:** Cite as (2020) 11 (1) and (2) Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy, Afe Babalola University, Nigeria

## SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

### *Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy*

Print ISSN 2467-8406

e-ISSN 2467-8392

*Volume 11 (1) and (2) 2020*

The Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy is a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal published by the Institute for Oil, Gas, Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti, Nigeria. It is published in June and October by the Afe Babalola University Press, Nigeria.

The Journal promotes the dissemination of research results and scholarly papers by teaching and research scholars in Africa and across the world in broad areas of sustainable development law and policy. The thematic focus of the journal span across broad areas of sustainable development law and policy ranging from the economic, social and environmental dimensions. As such papers that explore broad themes of sustainable development such environment, natural resources, green economy, international trade, banking, taxation, public policy, public private partnerships, alternative dispute resolution, human rights, peace, and conflict studies are normally given top consideration.

The Editorial Board of the Journal comprises international development scholars and experts from Italy, United Kingdom, Indonesia, Nigeria, Canada and the United States that provide leadership and lend their expertise to promote and enhance the scholarly relevance of the journal internationally.

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The Editorial Committee of the *Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy (JSDLP)*, Afe Babalola University, Ado Ekiti welcomes the submission of unsolicited manuscripts. We welcome submissions that focus on any aspect of sustainable development law and policy ranging from the economic, social and environmental dimensions. Consequently, papers that explore broad themes of sustainable development such as agriculture, banking, e-commerce, environment, natural resources, public private partnerships, alternative dispute resolutions, human rights, peace, and conflict studies would be most welcome. We also welcome book reviews, case comments and public lectures.

Selected articles would be published in hard copy and also prominently displayed on the institutional website as a resource for scholars and practitioners worldwide.

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**11TH VOLUME OF THE JOURNAL OF  
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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

**Eghosa Ekhator**

<https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/jsdlp.v11i2.1>

I am pleased to present this Special Issue of the *Journal of Sustainable Development Law and Policy*. This edition focuses on the impact and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in different sectors (including the roles of multinational companies) in Africa. Sustainable development has been a recurring theme in the international sphere in different mutations. For example, the Brundtland Commission also known as the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) defined sustainable development as ‘the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.<sup>1</sup>

The 193-Member United Nations General Assembly formally adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015, along with a set of bold new Sustainable Development Goals. The SDGs are the heirs to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and has been hailed as one of the major achievements of the international community.<sup>2</sup>

The journal invited submissions for this special issue on “The Role of Multinational Corporations in the actualization of the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa”. Although authors were free to choose any topic that is related to this broad theme, the journal is particularly interested in recent developments in Africa or best practices from other parts of the world that could inform legal and policy reform Africa. Furthermore, this issue also encouraged papers that focused on in the impact of SDGs on different sectors in Africa.

We received numerous submissions, each dealing with a different slant of the theme. After a rigorous peer-review process, ten submissions were accepted for publication. This special issue starts with Augustine Edobor Arimoro and Habibah Musa’s submission, where they consider how SDGs can impact positively on the various issues surrounding access to water in Nigeria. Arimoro and Musa suggests that rural communities have critical roles to play in water resources management and implementation of SDGs in Nigeria. The second submission in the issue is by Cleverline Brown and Nlerum Okogbule. This paper discusses some of the harmful environmental practices occurring in the petroleum industry in Nigeria. Brown and Okogbule argue that there is a compelling need for a reassessment of environmentally harmful acts in the country especially taking into consideration the SDGs and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The third submission in this special issue is by Laura Ani. Her submission focuses on the importance of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in actualising SDGs in Africa. The paper evaluates the impacts of global CSR on international trade and

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<sup>1</sup> WCED 1987, 3. The Brundtland Commission which was headed by the former Norwegian Gro Harlem Brundtland and the report titled - WECD Our Common Future is credited as the catalyst for the successfully thrusting the notion of “sustainable development” into mainstream discussion around the world.

<sup>2</sup> Jan Anton Van Zanten and Rob Van Tulder, ‘Multinational enterprises and the Sustainable Development Goals: An Institutional Approach to Corporate Engagement’ 1 (3-4) (2018) JIBP 208

implications in Nigeria. She argues that the adherence to international CSR will have positive impacts on the implementation of the SDGs in Nigeria.

The fourth submission in this special issue is by Nojeem Amodu which focuses on the role of multinational corporations in the implementation or actualization of SDGs in Africa. This paper suggests that in the implementation or realization of SDGs in Africa, states and multinational corporations have an invaluable role to play. The fifth submission which is by Chairman Okoloise, discusses the role of international financial institutions in emerging markets and developing economies. This paper assesses the extent to which the implementation of the international financial corporation (IFC) Sustainability Framework can feasibly protect resource-rich communities, safeguard human rights, and ensure sustainable development outcomes in Africa. The sixth paper in this issue is by Olubunmi Afinowi. This submission focuses on the concept of adaptation and its application or implementation at both international and national levels. The paper examines adaptation to climate change as a developmental challenge and how the the principles of sustainable development can aid climate change action. The seventh paper by Alex Oche then examines the opportunities and limitations of financing sustainable development initiatives. The next two papers, respectively by Adenike Akinsemolu and John Kilani, examine the roles of extractive companies in advancing the SDGs. Drawing lessons from practical programs and initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, they analyse how responsible business enterprises can integrate SDG concepts into their spheres of operation to address pollution and other negative externalities. The last paper is a short commentary on innovative approaches for teaching gender equality in universities, most especially in order to enhance capacity for achieving SDG 5 on gender equality and women empowerment.

The articles in this special issue are just a snapshot on the current state of scholarship and research on the implementation of SDGs in Africa and beyond. However, these articles address some of the most pressing issues on the implementation of SDGs in Africa and beyond, including the roles that should be played by multinational corporations in this process.

The publication of this special issue would not have been possible but for the efforts of members of the editorial team and our external reviewers who volunteered their time and intellect to enhance the quality of the articles selected. Their immense contribution is gratefully acknowledged. Furthermore, this special issue was developed during the current Covid-19 pandemic which impacted on the submission and publication process. We sincerely thank the various contributors who were able to submit their papers to this special issue in these unprecedented times.

Sincerely yours,

Dr Eghosa O. Ekhator  
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