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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 spans 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 soft and hard copies and prominently displayed on the institutional website as a resource for scholars and practitioners worldwide.

Papers must be based on original research, conform to the usual standard of academic publishing, be fully referenced, and presented in the standard format employed by the series. Papers will be evaluated based on their contemporary relevance, contribution to their selected fields of research, structure and analytical vigor. Please refer to the submission guide below.

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Length and Footnotes

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- 2) Articles should include an abstract of approximately 250 words that is not an extract from the article itself.
- 3) Details of the author should be supplied as the first footnote, attached by an asterisk to the author's name.

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- 6) In terms of punctuation, where a quotation is made directly within the author's own sentences, only punctuation forming apart of it should fall within the quotation marks. For example, the author's text is "followed by a relevant quotation". All footnotes should follow the final punctuation mark of the sentence except where that mark is a colon or semi-colon.

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- headings are not underlined;
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- footnotes are consecutively numbered by way of automatic numbering;
- footnotes are not separated by a full blank line;
- footnotes appear at the end of each page of the manuscript and not at the end of the manuscript;
- quotations have been checked for accuracy; and
- references comply with the style requirements

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We review articles on a rolling basis, for publication in any of our two editions published in a year. Authors should take note for the following deadlines:

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Fall Edition: Only articles submitted on or before 12 noon on **31st August** would be considered for publication in the Fall edition.

Deadlines are firm, articles submitted after the deadline may not be published. All papers should be submitted by email.

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- 8) Contributions are submitted to at least two referees and the identities of the contributors and referees are kept confidential.
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CONTENTS

Editorial Comment Professor Victor Ojajorotu <i>Guest Editor-in-Chief</i>	xi
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ARTICLES

1. Entrepreneurial Education and Africa's Attainment of Sustainable Development Goals Thanduyise Ngobese & Andrisha Beharry-Ramraj	1
2. The socio-economic impact of de-agrarianisation in Sub-Sahara: a re-look on rural livelihoods and employment Douglas Nyathi, Joram Ndlovu & Munyaradzi Dzvimbo	25
3. Policy Implementation and Good Governance for Sustainable Development in Nigeria Akinseye Olowu	52
4. Digitalization and Government Response to COVID-19 in post-pandemic in Africa Vincent Motau & Olusegun Obadire	68
5. Evaluation of Gender Mainstreaming in the appointment of senior management: A case study of the Office of the Premier in Limpopo Province, South Africa Ellah Nkhensani Ngobeni, Marubini Harry Mukwevho & Tsoaledi Daniel Thobejane	86
6. Assessing Consumers' Perception of Shrinkflation in Nigeria and its implication for Sustainable Development Gbenusola Akinwale & Victor Ojajorotu	106
7. Izzih-Ukelle Environmental Crisis and Implications for Sustainable Development Kelechi Johnmary Ani	128
8. External Financing Policies and Sustainable Energy Development in Africa: Evidence from Sub-Sahara African Countries Afees Oluwashina Noah & David, Oladipo Olalekan	142
9. The Effectiveness of Strategic Management Practices at a Public University in South Africa Sithembile Khuzwayo & Pfano Mashau	162
10. Assessing the extent to which customer feedback contributes to value co-creation: A focus on the tourism industry Siyasanga Mgoduka, Irrshad Kaseeram & Shalen Heeralal	187

11. The Role of Information Communication Technology in Improving Community Participation in Municipal Process in Rural Areas. Mooki Lobelo, Mphumudzeni Siphuma & Tshepo Dimpho Preston Segalwe	209
12. Reducing Schooling Drop-Out Rate to Facilitate Human Capital Development: A Case of South Africa N.S. Modiba	226
13. Investigating the Nexus between Financial Inclusion and Poverty Reduction in Nigeria (2013-2023) Olusola Anthony Ibitoye, Abiodun Thomas Ogundele, Joy Oluchi Monehin, Adeniran Abraham, Bamidele Segun Ilugbusi & Akomolehin Olugbenga Francis	241
14. Advancing Eco-Entrepreneurship in Nigeria through Transformative Implementation of Sustainable Business Model Innovations Josephine Ilesanmi	256
15. The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Advancing Sustainable Banking and Service Efficiency in Nigerian Financial Institutions: An Assessment of Selected Quoted Banks Abiodun Thomas Ogundele, Olusola Anthony Ibitoye, Oluwatoyin Olusola Akinterinwa, Adeniran Abraham, Felix Olusegun Ibukun & Apata Temitope Gift	282

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

This Special Issue explores the changing dynamics of development and the challenges faced by African peoples and governments. The contributions document how these challenges have undermined different African societies and the activities of both governments and African people in their quest to overcome the challenges they face. The special issue also documents local initiatives by people and government policies to sustain African development. Contributors interrogate African development dynamics as well as the different approaches undertaken so far across the continent.

The first article discussed the place of entrepreneurial education in Africa's pursuit of sustainable development goals. It highlights the importance of sustainable development goals both for African states and for global transformation. The subsequent article examines the socio-economic impact of de-agrarianisation in Sub-Saharan Africa with a special focus on rural livelihoods and employment. Unfortunately, the place of agriculture in ensuring food security within the African continent has largely been neglected by African leaders and other development actors thereby unleashing forces that have undermined the food security of the continent. In the article that follows, the contributor foregrounds the place of policy implementation and good governance in promoting sustainable development in Nigeria. This has been a key issue in development debates about the most populous African state. It has been argued that while the country has commendable policies, there seems to be a lack of the necessary will for implementation. Another important issue is the crucial role of digitalization and government responses to COVID-19 in post-pandemic in Africa which is also tackled by the article in question. The article that followed takes the special issue in a different direction. It offered an evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the appointment of senior management officers within the office of the Premier of Limpopo Province, South Africa. It makes a strong case for gender equity and gender mainstreaming. Next is a contribution that presents an assessment of consumers' perception of shrinkflation in Nigeria and its implication for sustainable development. This article dissects the negative implications of inflation on processes of nation-building. In addition, the article on the Izzih -Ukelle environmental crisis in Nigeria? highlights the negative implications of the crisis for sustainable development in African societies.

The place of policy formulation and management in African development remains continues to be the subject of thriving debate. This is linked, of course, to the problem of financing African development projects which is the focus of the next article. The author explores the role of external financing policies and sustainable energy development in Africa focusing on evidence from Sub-Sahara African countries. The article also refers to the effectiveness of strategic management practices at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.

The next three articles offer important assessments of the extent to which customer feedback contributes to value co-creation with a focus on the tourism industry. The significance of this subject to African development is to be found in the push and pull effect of production and consumption in the development dynamics of the real world. The next article in the issue discusses the role of information communication technology in improving community participation in municipal processes in rural areas. It also examines the need for the reduction of school drop-out rates in Africa with a special focus on South Africa. This is of course necessary to enhance human capital development across the continent.

The issue of poverty eradication through human capital development, financial inclusion and entrepreneurship are further interrogated by the last three articles in this Issue. They offer penetrating analyses on how green and sustainable business innovation can be harnessed to advance a just and inclusive decarbonization and energy transition in Nigeria. They also offer business management approaches and pathways through which financial

inclusion, technology deployment, including artificial intelligence can be harnessed to advance sustainable business innovation and entrepreneurship to unlock sustainable development across Africa.

You are highly encouraged to take your time and read through these rich and well researched articles. I am confident that this Special Issue will advance and improve the existing global knowledge on African development economy and make useful contributions to the research and intellectual needs of readers in different ways.

Victor Ojatorotu, PhD

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