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The conference presents an opportunity for research discussion on emerging issues affecting the development of the Nigerian Economy.

**THEME:** The Nigerian Economy beyond Oil: Identifying Sustainable Alternatives

**DATE:** Wednesday 17th – Thursday 18th November, 2021

**VENUE:** Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umuahia, Abia State

**TIME:** 9:00am

**CHIEF HOST**
Prof. Maduebibisi Ofo Iwe
Vice-Chancellor,
Michael Okpara University of Agriculture,
Umudike, Abia State - Nigeria

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

DAY ONE – Wednesday 17th November, 2021
Arrival of Guest/Conferees/Delegates

DAY TWO – Thursday 18th November, 2021

OPENING SESSION/AWARD/PLENARY
Conference Registration - 8:00am – 9:00am
Opening Prayer/Welcome Remark - 9:00am – 9:15am
Institutional Brief/Chairman's Opening Remark - 9:15am – 9:30am
Plenary Session - 9:30am – 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 19th November, 2021
Departure of Guest/Conferee/Delegates
About Us

The International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IIPRDS), Nigeria is a member of First Assured Brilliant Intl Limited, incorporated under the Companies & Allied Matters ACT of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Institute is a non-partisan organization, independent of government and other bodies. Since incorporated in 2013, IIPRDS has made significant contributions in quality research and international standard publications.

Vision/Mission

To be the world's leading research and publishing Institute on policy review and development strategies. Through independent, collaborative and institutional research, review existing development policies especially in developing economies of the world, research into evidence-based strategies to advance new measures for achieving sustainable development.

Research Focus & Publication

IIPRDS has organized several international research conferences and published proceedings in International multi-disciplinary journals indexed and domiciled in reputable Universities. Special issues are published in the African Development Charter series; a strategic economic and policy blueprint for Africa development.

IIPRDS international journals are published and indexed in 3 directories;
1. Science Publishing Corporation (SPC) Germany
2. International Scientific Research Consortium (ISRC) United Kingdom and
3. International Journals of Advanced Scientific Research (IJASR), Nigeria, Nairobi, Ghana and Tanzania. IJASR are online international open access peer review scholarly journals. Click this links for published Journals: http://www.internationalpolicybrief.org/journals

Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII)

The Institute currently operates an Exchange of Idea Initiative (EII) with other International Research Organizations and Libraries to enhance wider researcher of its journals. With this initiative, Academic Journals are published in various Countries by reputable publishers and research organizations not minding where the conference is held. This dynamism has diversified and improved the quality of the Institute Journals, enhanced International acceptance by indexing research agencies, built confidence in conferees and enhanced their disciplinary relevance.

We conduct our work with strict independence, objectivity, and non-partisanship.
See website: http://www.internationalpolicybrief.org
Journal Index and Citation Counts

In order to be known as an authoritative source of scientific information, and to stand out from among many other publications that are crowding the publishing space, journals must increase their visibility, availability, and readership. One of the ways by which journals can achieve this is by getting their publication indexed by one or more leading databases.

**Why is indexing essential?**
- Indexing will help your journal achieve its main purpose of being accessible to a wide audience.
- Being accessible in turn will improve your journal's reputation as a reliable source of high-quality information in your field.
- Database research is the first activity researchers undertake as part of their study, and they naturally look to established, well-known databases. Thus, being indexed in a known database in your field will help increase your journal's readership.

Indexation of a journal is considered a reflection of its quality. Indexed journals are considered to be of higher scientific quality as compared to non-indexed journals. Indexation of medical journals has become a debatable issue. For a long-time Index Medicus has been the most comprehensive index of medical scientific journal articles. It is being publication since 1879. Over the years, many other popular indexation services have developed. These include MedLine, PubMed, EMBASE, SCOPUS, EBSCO Publishing's Electronic Databases, SCIRUS among others. There are various regional and national versions of Index Medicus such as African Index Medicus.

A related and equally controversial issue is that of impact factor (IF). IF is used as a proxy for the relative importance of a journal within its field. IF is awarded to the journals indexed in Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports. IF has been criticised for manipulation and incorrect application. There are multiple factors that could bias the calculation of the IF. These include,
- Coverage and language preference of the database,
- Procedures used to collect citations,
- Algorithm used to calculate the IF,
- Citation distribution of journals,
- Online availability of publications,
- Negative citations,
- Preference of journal publishers for articles of a certain type, publication lag, citing behaviour across subjects, and possibility of exertion of influence from journal editors.
the journal meets all criteria, it gets indexed. The process of getting indexed is similar to manuscript submission and peer review: journals submit their documents and wait for their application to be reviewed by the database. If your journal does not meet the criteria required for indexing, you may need to introduce some changes in your journal workflow to make sure that your journal is eligible.

- **Ensure your journal processes are smooth and efficient:**
  Make sure your journal meets the basic publication standards required by the industry (author friendly systems, smooth and timely peer reviews, easy accessibility, etc.). In your application it should be clear that your journal is worthy of being indexed by the database you choose.

- **Approach a company with multiple databases:**
  Companies like Elsevier and Thomson Reuters offer several indexes that cater to journals. In such cases, it might be a good idea to check the full list of products or services offered and apply to those that are relevant to your journal.

**Where should you get indexed?**

1. **SCOPUS (Elsevier)**

   SCOPUS (Elsevier), officially named SciVerse Scopus, is a bibliographic database containing abstracts and citations for academic journal articles. It covers nearly 20,500 titles from over 5,000 international publishers, of which 19,500 are peer-reviewed journals in the scientific, technical, medical, and social sciences (including arts and humanities). It is owned by Elsevier. Searches in Scopus incorporate searches of scientific web pages through Scirus, another Elsevier product, as well as patent databases.

2. **Thomson Reuters (ISI-ESCI)**

   Web of Science™ Core Collection Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) is a new citation index by Thomson Reuters, and now by Clarivate Analytics. ESCI complements the highly selective indexes covers prestigious academic Journals that publish peer-reviewed articles recognized for their significance and contribution to the regional academic and reflects community, which welcomes high-quality research publications to boost its presence as an emerging scientific voice. The ESCI, because of its vast coverage across the science, business, social sciences, arts and humanities, provides access to leading international and regional journals, offer timely publishing, global outlook and high scholarly impact. Inclusion in ESCI provides greater discoverability which leads to measurable citations and more transparency in the selection process.

3. **EBSCO**

   EBSCO host is an intuitive online research platform used by thousands of institutions and millions of users worldwide. With quality databases and search features, EBSCO host helps researchers of all kinds find the information they need fast. EBSCO has partnered with libraries for more than 70 years by providing quality research content, powerful search technologies and intuitive delivery platforms. EBSCO offers premium content through databases, e-books, journals and magazines, as well as a versatile discovery tool for searching across all library resources. Its content and feature-rich...
technology platforms serve the needs of researchers at all levels, whether they access EBSCO products at academic institutions, schools, public libraries, hospitals, medical institutions, corporations or government institutions.

4. **Research Papers in Economics (RePEc)**

Research Papers in Economics (RePEc) is a collaborative effort of hundreds of volunteers in many countries to enhance the dissemination of research in economics. RePEc is a central index of economics research, including working papers, articles and software code. The heart of the project is a decentralized database of working papers, preprints, journal articles, and software components. The project started in 1997. Its precursor NetEc dates back to 1993.

5. **Index Copernicus International**

Index Copernicus International is an international, specialized platform for promoting scientific achievements, as well as supporting national and international collaboration between scientists, publishers of scientific journals and scientific entities.

6. **J-Gate**

J-Gate is an electronic gateway to global e-journal literature. Launched in 2001 by Informatics India Limited, J-Gate provides seamless access to millions of journal articles available online offered by 13,232 Publishers. It presently has a massive database of journal literature, indexed from 47,658 e-journals with links to full text at publisher sites. J-Gate also plans to support online subscription to journals, electronic document delivery, archiving and other related services.

7. **Scientific Indexing Services (SIS)**

Scientific Indexing Services (SIS) was founded by renowned scientists. A group of 70 scientist from various countries in different disciplines are started SIS with specific objective of providing quality information to the researcher. SIS offering academic database services to researcher. It's mainly: citation indexing, analysis, and maintains citation databases covering thousands of academic journals, books, proceedings and any approved documents SIS maintains academic database services to researchers, journal editors and publishers. SIS focuses on: citation indexing, citation analysis, and maintains citation databases covering thousands of academic journals.

8. **International Institute of Organized Research (I2OR)**

International Institute of Organized Research (I2OR) has been established to promote various domains related to Education and Research around the globe to make it easily accessible and more organized. A Team of Reputed Researchers/Scientists have been working continuously to make it possible. I2OR provides a much desired platform for Researchers, Editors, Publishers and Conference Organizers through its exclusive services viz. Indexing of Research Journals, Listing of National/International Conferences and Quality Research serial publications. I2OR also evaluates Publication Impact Factor (PIF) to set a bench mark for


The Directory of Research Journal Indexing (DRJI) is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. DRJI supply champion has access to global-renowned
content in all discipline areas including magazine and journal articles. We advocate, educate, and provide the central resource for indexing. DRJI encourages the participation of all persons, groups, and organizations interested in indexing and related methods of information retrieval.

10. Google Scholar
Google Scholar is a freely accessible web search engine that indexes the full text or metadata of scholarly literature across an array of publishing formats and disciplines. Released in beta in November 2004, the Google Scholar index includes most peer-reviewed online academic journals and books, conference papers, theses and dissertations, preprints, abstracts, technical reports, and other scholarly literature, including court opinions and patents.

11. The Social Science Research Network (SSRN)
The Social Science Research Network (SSRN) is devoted to the rapid worldwide dissemination of research and is composed of a number of specialized research networks.

12. Academia.edu
Academia.edu is a platform for academics to share research papers. The company's mission is to accelerate the world's research. Academics use Academia.edu to share their research, monitor deep analytics around the impact of their research, and track the research of academics they follow. Over 53 million academics have signed up to Academia.edu, adding 19 million papers. Academia.edu attracts over 36 million unique visitors a month.

13. Scientific Research Publishing
(SCIRP: https://www.scirp.org) is an academic publisher of open access journals. It also publishes academic books and conference proceedings. SCIRP currently has more than 200 open access journals in the areas of science, technology and medicine.

Description of high profile Journals:
- Specific research Area and not necessarily multidisciplinary
- Editorial structure, spread and competence
- Peer review process and feedback to authors
- Frequency of publishing
- Mode of publishing: online (e-journal) and hardprint
- Language of publication: English
- Double Blinded Review Process
- Zero Level Plagiarism Tolerance
- Indexed in Google Scholar, Docstoc, ResearchGate, Scribd and many more.

How to Identify SCIE and Scopus Indexed Journals?
When you wish to submit your research article in a journal you have to select the target journal for your research area as well as the journal must be indexed in any of the major abstract indexing databases such as ISI, Scopus, SCI, SCI-E, or ESCI. But identifying a targeted journal with good journal citation report is not that easy. In this article, iLovePhD provides answers to frequently asked questions about journal selection. Also, this article discusses the difference between an SCI, SCIE and SCImago journals.
How to check a journal indexed in an SCIE indexing database?
To check the journal, whether it indexed in SCIE Web of Science database or not, do the following steps.
1. Type the URL in your address bar: http://mjl.clarivate.com/
   It will direct into Clarivate Analytics Master Journal List search page.
2. Enter the targeted journal name in the search item field (Title word, full Journal name, or ISSN number in the search terms)
3. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all database coverage – Here you can see that the given journal is indexed in the Science Citation Index.

How to Identify Scopus Indexed Journals?
Scopus is the number one abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed journals which contains more than 70 Million items like scientific articles, conference proceedings, book chapters, lecture notes, and books.

In order to verify the targeted journal is indexed in the scops or not, we have to do the following steps.
1. Type the URL in your address bar: www.scopus.com/sources
   It will direct into Browse sources on Scopus.com – Journal List search page
2. Select the Title, Publisher, or ISSN number of the targeted journal to find Scopus indexing
3. Give the targeted journal name in the Title field.
   After given the title of the journal click find sources button.
4. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all database coverage
   Here you can see that the given journal “Nature Reviews Genetics” is indexed in the Scopus database. Also, you will get a Scopus impact factor and journal citation reports for the last five years.

How to Identify Scimago Ranked journals?
The SCImago Journal & Country Rank is a public site to identify scientific rankings of the journals and country. SCImango Rankings are used to analyse a good quality journal to publish. Also, this ranking system is powered by Scopus.

To check the journal, whether it indexed in the Scimago database or not, do the following steps.
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2. Enter the targeted journal name in the search item field then click the search button.
   You can give Title word, Full Journal name, or ISSN number in the search bar.
3. In the next step, select the name of the journal as a result from Scimago ranking result. It will direct you into the ranking page.
4. Finally, you will get the detail about the journal with all the details of the Scimago database ranking result. Here you can see that the given journal “Nature Reviews Genetics” ranked in the Scimago Journals.
It is important to know if a journal is indexed before you submit a manuscript. Here is a quick guide to know if your journal is indexed or not. Indexing usually reflects the quality of a journal. Nowadays, many institutions require a journal to be indexed especially in ISI in order to consider the publication for either applications of postgraduate programs applicants or faculty promotions.
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Manuscript submission
Manuscript should be typed in English with Times New Roman font size 12, doubled space with 1” margin on all sides of A4 paper. Manuscripts should not exceed 16 pages. Manuscript should be legibly written with clear symbols, drawings, photographs, chemical structures to ensure clarity and easy reproduction. Authors are urged to pay attention to tables, figures and references which should be done in the correct format and appropriately cited in the main text.

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The first page should contain the full title of the manuscript, a short title, the author(s) name(s) and affiliation(s), and the name, postal and email addresses of the author for correspondence, as well as a full list of declarations. The title should be concise and informative, accurately indicating the content of the article. The short title should be no more than six words long.

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The abstract tells prospective readers what you did and what the important findings in your research were. Together with the title, it’s the advertisement of your article. Make it interesting and easily understood without reading the whole article. A concise and factual abstract is required (of no more than 200 words). It abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential, the must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Keywords
Immediately after the abstract, the author should provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British or American spelling, but not a mixture of these, and avoid general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). The author should be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.
Background/Introduction
Background information should only include material that is directly relevant to your research and fits into your story; it does not need to contain an entire history of the field of interest. If it is an empirical paper, the Introduction should (i) describe the question tested by the experiments described in the paper, (ii) explain why this is an interesting or important question, (iii) describe the approach used in sufficient detail that a reader who is not familiar with the technique will understand what was done and why, and (iv) very briefly mention the conclusion of the paper.

Statement of the Problem
A statement of the problem is used in research work as a claim that outlines the problem addressed by the study. Your statement of the problem should (i) address a gap in knowledge (ii) be significant enough to contribute to the existing body of research (iii) lead to further research (iv) render itself to investigation through collection of data (v) be of interest to the researcher and suit his/her skills, time, and resources

Literature
The purpose of the literature review is to provide a critical written account of the current state of research on a selected topic: Identifies areas of prior scholarship; places each source in the context of its contribution to the understanding of the specific issue, area of research, or theory under review; describes the relationship of each source to the others that you have selected; Identifies new ways to interpret, and shed light on any gaps in, previous research and points the way forward for further research. The approach can be Conceptual, Theoretical and Empirical. It is appropriate to develop the literature within the framework of the variables captured in the objectives of the study.

Materials and Methods
The Materials and Methods section should succinctly describe what was actually done. It should include description of the techniques used so someone could figure out what experiments were actually done.

Abbreviations
The author should define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention. There must be consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Tables
Tables must be prepared using the Table feature of the word processor. Tables should not duplicate information given in the text, should be numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the text and should be given a brief title.
Figures
All figures should be numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the text. All figures must be accompanied by a figure legend. If figures are supplied in separate files, the figure legends must all be listed at the end of the main text file.

Results
This is applicable only to empirical studies. Begin each paragraph with an opening sentence that tells the reader what question is being tested in the experiments described in that paragraph. Write the opening sentence in bold font for emphasis. Any results that include multiple data points that are critical for the reader to evaluate the experiment should be shown in tables or figures. However, the results should be summarized in accompanying text. When referring to a particular table or figure, they should be capitalized (e.g., Table 1, Figure 6, etc.) The text of the Results section should be succinct but should provide the reader with a summary of the results of each table or figure.

Conclusion and Recommendation
The conclusions relate directly to the research questions or objectives. They represent the contribution to the knowledge. They also relate directly to the significance of the study, which is always, in some way, to improve the human condition.

For empirical studies, this section gives you the opportunity to discuss the meaning of your results beyond what they mean statistically; that is, you interpret the findings and indicate what can be concluded from them. In your discussion, indicate whether the results confirm, totally or in part, your original expectations or predictions. For each hypothesis, indicate whether it was supported and why. Discuss any limitations inherent in your research procedures. Other than empirical studies, you discuss the conclusion from the objectives and/or research questions earlier stated. Indicate if the objectives or research questions were achieved or answered.

The recommendation section gives a list of recommendations that reflect the conclusions. It proposes actions that should be taken.

References
The reference style should be APA format.

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International Institute for Policy Review & Development Strategies

The Chairman African Research Council for Sustainable Development will Cap and say:

The President/Director, International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies will say,
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The Chairman, African Research Council for Sustainable Development will read out the names of the inductees. As each inductee is called, he/she will move to the platform to receive a Certificate and Plague from the President/ Director of IIPRDS.
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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Name</th>
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<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Department of Political Science and International Relations, University of Abuja</td>
<td>Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Shittu Adamu Ngalburgi</td>
<td>Building Technology Department, the Federal Polytechnic Mubi, Adamawa State</td>
<td>Associate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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UNITED NATIONS-AFRICAN
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The United Nations-African International Partnership for Sustainable Development Goals (UNAfrican IPRDS) is a strategic research and policy framework of the International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IPRDS) with support from UNDP, International Research Institutions and Universities. The strategic framework is designed to help countries achieve the objectives of sustainable development goals through research interection, policy determination and implementation framework.

Membeship offers opportunities for research training, provision of technical support for International Research Projects in Africa, field study reporting, and publication of economic reviews in the African Development Charter Series.

Given this day 22nd February, 2019 at the University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

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Led by International Institute for Policy Review and Development Strategies (IPRDS), International Universities and Industrial Partnership, the Panel examines policy framework and investment initiatives design to achieve goals of sustainable Development in Developing Economies of Asia and Africa. Policy outcome aims at strengthening institutions of development administration.

Dated this day 5th November, 2019
University of Ghana, Accra

Professor Ravindra Kumar
Indian Institute of Management, Delhi, India.

Dr. Bassey Anam
Director, UPPADS
University of Calabar, Nigeria

Dr. Ismaila Comess
School of Arts & Sciences
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Director
Office of Clinical Innovation Strategy & Policy
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The timeline for manuscript assessment and publication is as outlined below:

1. The Plenary/Technical session is compulsory for all conferees. You are advised to note the comments pointed out by the Chairman of the Technical Session and other members of the plenary group. This will help you effect corrections as expected.

2. Corrections of manuscript(s) (full papers) must be effected and submitted within 2 weeks after the conference. All submission must be made to:
   developmentstrategies3@gmail.com

3. The Conference Professional Peer Review Editorial Panel (CPPREP) will meet 2 weeks after the league conference to review papers. This usually takes one week, after which the papers are forwarded to Google scholar International Standard Peer Review Research Council for professional and disciplinary blind peer review and plagiarism check. Usually this takes about 3 weeks.

4. Letter of Papers Acceptance and Journal Publication will be issued to author(s) on the 6th week after the conference. Acceptance will be in three forms:
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Sodium Dodecyl Sulphate (SDS) Surface Modification of Iron Filings for the Removal of Naphthol-As Dye from Aqueous Solutions

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Abstract

This study investigates the removal of Naphthol-AS dye from aqueous solutions by SDS-modified adsorbents under various experimental conditions. The effect of contact time, temperature, pH, dye concentration, and adsorbent dose on the removal of dye was studied. The kinetic experimental data were studied using pseudo-first order, pseudo-second order and intra-particle diffusion. Results imply that the adsorption process was highly pH-dependent and optimum pH for adsorption of Naphthol-AS onto SDS-modified iron filings occurred at 6.0, having maximum removal efficiency of 91%. Adsorption of Naphthol-AS on the adsorbent fitted better into the second order kinetic model and maximum adsorption capacity was found to be 4.803 mg g⁻¹. Equilibrium isotherms were described by Langmuir, Freundlich, Dubinin and Radushkevich isotherm models. Langmuir isotherm described the isotherm data with high-correlation coefficient value. The results of the present study infer that SDS-modified iron filing is a promising adsorbent for the removal of dyes from wastewater.

Keywords: Dyes; Adsorption; Iron filings; SDS; Kinetics; Isotherms
Migration and Development of the Source Community: A Study of Akwa Ibom State Migrants at Port Harcourt, Rivers State

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Abstract

For many decades, migration theorists created the impression that the incidence of migration on source region only constitutes itself into imperatives that undermine progress and development in the regions. This position presents a single sided view of the phenomenon where only the ugly picture of dearth of labour at source regions and the attendant abandonment of agriculture and agro-allied activities have aggravated the conditions of poverty and under-development in these regions. The study examines the factors responsible for an unrestrained movement of Akwa Ibom State indigenes to Port Harcourt, in Rivers State and their contributions to the development of the source region. An integrated theoretical approach combining the micro-level and macro-level models was adopted. Using the chi-square statistics, findings show that migrants make substantial remittances and other contributions for the development of the source region.

Keywords: Migration, Development, Source region, Destination region
An Assessment of the Privatization of the Power Sector in Nigeria: A Study of Karu Local Government of Nassarawa State

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Abstract

This paper discusses the impact of privatization of power sector on Nigeria, with Karu local government of Nassarawa state as a case study, it uses the Marxist political economy approach to give a theoretical explanation of the Privatization of the power sector in Nigeria which is based on capitalist ideology, orientation and assumption. The study seeks to assess the impact of the privatization of the power sector on communities, specifically, Karu local government of Nassarawa state. The work used both quantitative and qualitative method in its analysis and primary data was sourced through questionnaires and oral structured interviews. the study found out that the power sector privatization in Nigeria has only succeed in entrusting the collective wealth of the people in the hands of the few elites, retrenchment of workers, high electricity bills without commensurate service and above all epileptic power supply in Karu local government among other negative impact. The paper concluded that the privatization of the power sector has not led to significant improvement in power supply in Nigeria with its devastating impact on the economy and households. It therefore recommended that there is need for a level playing field for more competent investors to come into the industries, also the regulatory body need to check the excesses of the new distribution companies by regulatory tariffs and quality services this will go a long way in improving the situation as well improving and updating distribution facilities and providing Meters to consumers to check the problem of estimated billing.

Keywords: Assessment, Privatization, Power Sector
Sustained Adoption of Improved Cassava Varieties and Food Security in Nigeria: Implication for Rural Development

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Abstract

Cassava is a dominant component in crop mixtures across sub-Saharan Africa and particularly in Southern Nigeria. Its capacity to tolerate drought and low soil fertility; and ability to thrive with minimum external inputs among other factors has made it a preferred food security crop among smallholder farmers. As a staple food in most families across sub-Saharan Africa, several researches have been conducted in order to attain the improved varieties’ status. Accordingly, farmers have been encouraged to adopt the improved cassava varieties in order to increase productivity. However, various constraints have been shown to affect the sustained adoption of improved cassava varieties among farmers. This study examines factors affecting the sustained adoption of improved cassava varieties by smallholder farmers in Oboro clan, Ikwuano L.G.A., Abia State, Nigeria. Data was mostly obtained from primary sources. A random sampling procedure was used to select 150 smallholder cassava farmers from 10 communities of Oboro clan, Abia State. Using descriptive statistics, findings support a low intensity and un-sustained adoption of improved cassava varieties in the study area.

Keywords: Sustained Adoption, Food Security, Rural Development
An Overview on the Causes and Effects of Professional Conflicts in the Construction Industry in Nigeria

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Abstract

Conflict as a situation of unrest is synonymous with construction projects and giving the impression of problems includes: increasing project cost, project delays, reduction in productivity, lost of profit or damage in business relationships. The main goal of this paper is to overview the nature and causes of conflict in construction industry. The nature of the construction industry in Nigeria is such that there is an inherent conflict between the major stakeholders. This review is aimed at determining the nature and causes of professional conflicts in the construction industry, their possible effects on the industry and developing ways of reducing or eradicating them. The review begins with a look into previous works on the topic by various authors. The survey came out that conflicts exist at project sites and that among the causes included failure of clients to honour payments in due time, unclear and incomplete description of items in the Bills of quantities and delays in time for project completion among others. In order to reduce conflicts at project sites, the review makes some recommendations which include the employment of qualified personnel and adequate funding for projects. The study concludes that conflicts do really exist and their resolution is associated with high financial costs. Special attention should therefore be paid to every detail of the construction process.

Keywords: Causes, Conflicts, Construction, Disputes, Factors
Assessment of Causes, Development Challenges and Solutions to Toilet Self Siphonage Using Sato Products in Nigeria

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Abstract

The recent concern for the causes, development challenges and solutions to toilet self-siphonage using SATO (Safe Toilet by Lixil) products cannot be underestimated in the built environment. Toilet self-siphonage is being experienced with foul gases and water or aerosol returning back to toilet plumbing system as a sign of sick building syndrome. This is in line with the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 6.2 and Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) in order to sustain healthy living in the neighbourhood. The methodology employed is the step-by-step approach of construction materials, methods and technology with improvised hand washing facilities. The findings indicated that the use of SATO products prevents foul gases and water or aerosol returning back to toilet appliances in preventing diseases. The work concludes and recommended that government and stakeholders should partner and collaborate in the 'Clean Nigeria: Use the Toilet' campaign and other positive actions of behavioural changes.

Keywords: Causes, Conflicts, Construction, Disputes, Factors
Overcoming the Challenges in Science Education

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Abstract

The impact of science education in the daily activities of man and of course the world can never be over emphasized because science education forms the basis for the acquisition of the scientific common senses that are applied in the solution of certain problems. The world is changing every day, therefore, science education which is the vehicle for advancement; innovations and national development have to change too. The paper looks into the concept of science education, goals of science education, emerging challenges in science education and way forward. Suggestions were also made on how best to overcome the challenges in science.

Keywords: Overcoming, Challenges, Science education
Impact of Corporate Governance on Financial Reporting Quality of Construction Companies in Nigeria

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Abstract

Corporate governance is an important issue to be considered in running the affairs of businesses for effective management, and ensuring sound financial performance, most especially in construction companies in Nigeria. The objective of this study is to investigate the influence of corporate governance on financial reporting quality of quoted construction companies in Nigeria. Exploratory research design will be employed in this study. The total number of quoted construction companies on the Nigeria Stock Exchange as at March 2020 is taken as population, while sample of four (4) companies were selected for a period of five (5) years (i.e. 2015-2019). Purposive sampling technique was employed in the data collection. Data were extracted from the annual accounts of the firms. Regression analysis was used to analyze the data. The study discovered a strong significant and positive impact in the relationship between board composition and audit committee composition on financial reporting quality. But discovered a negative and non-statistical significant relationship between board size and financial reporting quality. The study concludes that having smaller board size will enhance performance, and that the composition of the board members should be made up of more of non-executive members or board. More so, the audit committee members should be reviewed and change from time to time in the construction industry to ensure that none of the audit committee member stays for a longer time, that is more than necessarily.

Keywords: Audit committee, Board composition, Board size, Corporate governance, Financial reporting quality.
Phytochemical Profiling of Bioactive Compounds, Anti-Cholesterol Potentials of *Psidium Guajava* Leaves: Molecular Docking Based Synergistic Effect of Naphthalene Based Compound Identified in the Crude Methanol

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Abstract

*Psidium guajava* (Guava) belongs to the Family Myrtaceae, has its origin in the tropical South America and grows widely in Bangladesh, India, Thailand, Brazil, Florida, West Indies, California and also in several other countries. The guava leaf extract is used for the treatment of various types of gastrointestinal disturbances such as vomiting, diarrhoea, inhibition of the peristaltic reflex, gastroenteritis, spasmolytic activity, dysentery, abdominal distention, flatulence, gastric pain and weight loss. It is widely used as antispasmodic, anti diarrheal, antidepressant and anti-inflammatory. Hypercholesterolemia is an excessive high plasma cholesterol level and a strong risk factor for negative cardiovascular events such as obesity, diabetes and hypertension. Aim of the study: Medicinal plants are the chemical goldmines, generally known for its acceptability by human and animal system. Natural products from plants, animals are the basis for curing, managing and preventing human diseases. In view of these, we have evaluated *Psidium guajava* leaf for the management of high cholesterol level in the blood. Materials and methods: the *P. guajava* crude extract and subfraction, i.e n-hexane, chloroform and ethyl acetate were used for the anti-cholesterol activity. The TLC profile studies of crude and sub-fractions were carried out using aluminium coated foil. GC-MS analysis was carried out on the extract with the highest activity in order to identify the phytochemicals present. The hypolipidemic studies were done using in vivo using 24 albino rats. Molecular docking studies of Naphthalene, 1,2,3,5,6,8a-hexahydro-4,7-dimethyl-1-(1-methylethyl)-, (1S-cis) identified from the methanol crude extract was carried out by using Autodock tools. Results: The hypolipidemic studies showed that the methanol crude extract gave a better activity compared to the subfractions. The GC-MS analysis confirmed 18 compounds in the methanol crude. Docking studies of Naphthalene, 1,2,3,5,6,8a-hexahydro-4,7-dimethyl-1-(1-methylethyl)-, (1S-cis) which is the most abundant compound supported our results and confirm the synergistic effect of the phytochemical. Conclusion: our experimental results concluded that *Psidium guajava* leaf is potent for the management of cholesterol. The crude methanol gave a better activity followed by hexane which is a sub-fraction of the crude; among the sub-fractions ethyl acetate gave the least activity.

Keywords: Molecular docking, Phytochemical profiling, Bioactive compounds
Effect of Essential Oil Extracted from *Azadirachta Indica* (Neem) Leaves in Formulated Natural Antibacterial Soap

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**Abstract**

Natural remedy is sustainable in nature and was used in this present study, effects of essential oils from *Azadirachta indica* (neem) leaves in antibacterial soap was investigated. The essential oil was extracted via steam distillation and characterization of oil results are %yield (28%), acid value (16.5±0.5mgKOH/g); iodine value (42.40±2.5mgI/g) and saponification value (139±3.2mgKOH/g). The extract proportions 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 (mg/ml) respectively were used to formulate the soaps. The results of the soap characterization were: pH (9.3); foamability (3.5cm), colour (light yellow). The antibacterial investigation used Ciprofloxacin and ketoconazole as positive controls whereas *Pseudomonas aureginosa*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Escherichia coli* and *Candida albicans* were clinical isolates of microbes used. Sensitivity test was conducted and an in vitro evaluation of the anti-microbial activity was conducted using ditch-plate techniques. Strains of reference microbes namely *Candida albicans*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Pseudomonas aureginosa* and *Escherichia coli* were tested at four different soaps' concentrations (0.0, 2.0, 5.0 and 8.0 mg/ml). ANOVA mean results of zones of inhibition also revealed variability of antimicrobial activity among the natural formulated soaps with strong positive correlation (r= 0.9912 ; P > 0.01) between zones of inhibition and soaps' concentrations was evidenced. Blend 8:2 of the formulation exhibited the largest zone of inhibition (40 mm) on S. aureus, followed by Candida albicans with (35 mm) zone of inhibition whereas the least zone of inhibition (1.8 mm ) was observed in 2mg/ml extract formulation. The high pH shows it conforms to NAFDEC set range of 9 to 11 pH. Therefore with local oil, National Economic Transformation is achieved hence, this highly sustainable product is recommended to homes, pharmaceutical companies, health organizations and government in handling topical issues related to skin infections caused by microorganisms.

**Keywords:** Herbal soap, *Azadirachta indica* ; Microorganism. Zone of inhibition.
Pathogenicity and Control of Root Knot Nematode (*Meloidogyne Incognita*) on Cowpea in Bama Local Government Area of Borno State, Nigeria

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Abstract

Pot experiment was conducted in a greenhouse to evaluate the efficacy of the leaf powder of Cassod tree (*Cassia siamea*), eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus gigantea*) and locust bean tree (*Parkia biglobosa*) in the control of *Meloidogyne incognita* on cowpea and their potency in growth and grain yield improvement. Seventy-five grams of each of the leaf powder was separately mixed with 4kg of soil in a 25cm diameter plastic pot. Non-amended pots served as control. Three cowpea seeds cv. “Kanannado” were sown in each pot but the seedlings were thinned to one plant per pot six days after emergence. Each seedling was inoculated with about 3000 freshly hatched juveniles of *Meloidogyne incognita* two weeks after sowing. The experiment was laid out in a completely randomized design with five replications. The results of the study showed that all the treatments significantly (p<0.001) reduced root galling, nematode multiplication and improved plant growth and grain yield. Although all treatments were effective in reducing root galling and nematode population, application of *Cassia siamea* leaf powder gave the highest reduction in nematode population (65.45%) reduction over the control, followed by *Eucalyptus gigantea* 63.64% and *Parkia biglobosa* 60.00% reduction. These botanicals have strong nematicidal properties and amending soil with them can help reduce *M. incognita* and improve yield in cowpea.

Keywords: Cowpea, *Meloidogyne incognita*, *Cassia siamea*, *Eucalyptus gigantea* and *Parkia biglobosa*
Efficacy of Natural Product for National Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development: A Case Study of (Unripe Plantain Flour *Musa Paradisiacal L.*)

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Abstract

Everyday ailment offers home remedies using natural products. In this present study, unripe plantain flour (*Musa paradisiacal L.*) flour was produced and its proximate, mineral and vitamin composition determined. These were achieved using standard methods of AOAC, (2014). The result of the proximate composition showed that the plantain flour contained Moisture (57.7%), Crude protein (8.4%) Crude fiber, (2.4%) Crude fats/lipids (5.4%) Crude Ash (2.5%) and Carbohydrate(23.6%). The result of the minerals estimated gave: Calcium (0.670 mg), Magnesium (0.812 mg/100ml), Potassium (64.5mg/l and Iron (0.201 mg/l) while the result of the vitamin content shows varying number of antioxidants: vitamin A (60.7µg/ml, vitamin B₆ (0.27ppm) and vitamin C (20.5mg/100ml) contents respectively. The high protein and mineral contents qualify the efficacy of this packaged plantain flour as food for diabetes even when out of season. These results are in line with the precious work on unripe plantain flour. Therefore with local plant *Musa paradidiaca L.*, so many health challenges like mycrocystic anemia, electroeaphalographic abnormalities can be prevented, also immunity is guaranteed due to presence of these essential elements like magnesium that prevents abnormal heart rhythms and coronary spasms. Nevertheless, muscle cramp, intermittent muscle spasms, muscle weaknesses and muscle quiver are prevented with calcium in the food; night blindness is prevented with supply of vitamin A. Therefore, we recommend this environmentally friendly remedy to general public for national economic transformation and sustainable development.

Keywords: *Musa paradidiaca L*; Sustainable Development; Natural Remedy; Health Challenges
Leadership Influence in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Nigeria

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Abstract

Leadership plays significant role in influencing behaviors towards the achievement of goals. This study succinctly X-Ray the leadership factors that have enhanced or impacted the speedy achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nigeria. The study investigated the leadership traits and styles expected of those in strategic position if SDGs must be achieved. The study used secondary time series data and it also adopted econometric tools (limit root test, causality test, co-integration analysis) to estimate the data. Findings showed that leadership styles have a strong and positive impact for SDGs attainment. The results also indicates that there exist some leadership challenges as shown in half-hearted implantation of policies and funding issues. The paper recommend that government and its agencies should design proper and consistent programmes and plans at all levels aimed of achieving SGDs. Monitoring mechanisms should be instituted as a control tool to ensure compliance in the implementation of plans.

Keywords: Leadership control, Organization, Modification, Goals
Abstract

Access to agricultural information and its diffusion among large scale farmers is pivotal to ensuring food security and adequacy, especially in Nigeria being the most populous African country and the poverty headquarters of the world according to a United Nations ranking. The outbreak of the novel coronavirus in 2019 has undoubtedly exacerbated the implications of inadequate food availability and circulation in Nigeria resulting in food shortage and reduction in the production of agricultural products. To this end, the Nigerian government through the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) inaugurated the COVID-19 relief fund loan aimed at ameliorating the financial difficulties faced by large scale and prospective farmers in carrying out their farming business. This study, therefore, evaluated farmers' access to and diffusion of the CBN COVID-19 relief fund agricultural loan information using farmers in Otuoke, Bayelsa state as respondents. The major objectives are to ascertain farmers' level of awareness of the CBN COVID-19 relief fund agricultural loan and their major channel of receiving the information as well as determining how their level of access to the loan information was significant in obtaining or not obtaining the loan. Anchored of diffusion of innovations theory, the study adopted the survey research design in conducting the research with a sample size of 400 drawn using Taro Yamane's formula. Findings revealed that farmers in Otuoke, Bayelsa state are highly aware of the CBN COVID-19 relief fund agricultural loan and their major channels of receiving information were the radio and interpersonal communication. However, it was found that the majority of the farmers could not obtain the loan because of their inability to understand the messages on how to apply for it online thereby hampering the objectives of the government initiative to address food security in the area. The study recommends that, in addressing food security through loans and other intervention funds, the government should domesticate the process to allow local farmers to benefit from it to address poverty arising there from.

Keywords: Farmers, Access, Diffusion, COVID-19, Agricultural Loan, Information
Application of Z-Test of Hypothesis on Modelling Gender Difference in Crime Involvement by Building and Construction Workers in Adamawa State Nigeria

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Abstract

The main objective of the study is to examine gender difference in crime involvement by workers in the building and construction industry. Specifically, to show the application of Z-test statistical tool in research. Adamawa state is the area of study and 392 building and construction workers that were convicted for offences of various categories in the area of the study is the population of the study, what is the gender difference in crime involvement by workers in the building and construction industry in Adamawa state? Is the research question. The null hypothesis tested was “there is no significant difference in gender in crime involvement by workers in the building and construction industry in Adamawa State.” The study was based on secondary data extracted from Adamawa State Statistical Year Book 2012 for period of 4 years (20012-2016). Ten crime types that included theft, cheat, trespass, enticement, deformation of character, mischief, force and assault, conspiracy, intimidation, possession of weapons, were considered for the study. The data obtained was analysed and the hypothesis tested using Z-test at 0.05 level of significance. The result of the analysis showed that female workers commit less crime than male workers in the building and construction industry in Adamawa state. The study recommended that, there should be Prompt and consistent punishment for male workers offenders so as to help reduce the incidence of male workers crime commitment high rate. Positive motivation of the workers in the building and construction industry in the state was recommended. The significance of the study if published include: 1) Adamawa state building and construction industry managers will benefit from the findings of the study because it had remained them on crime involvement rate by workers in the industry and that may motivate them to include remedies or control measures in the management of their workers. 2) Authors and researchers too, because it will remain them on how and when to apply the Z-test of hypothesis when writing: research reports, journals for publication, and other similar issues. 3) Similar benefit goes to the building and construction industry stakeholders; in that it can be a source of information to them at home and workplaces on the behaviours of their workers in relation to crime commitment in the industry. 4) Not only the above stated, Building and construction industries workers themselves will learn some lesson when they witness high gravity of punishments being awarded for such offences in the industry as listed above.

Keywords: Musa paradisiaca L; Sustainable Development; Natural Remedy; Health Challenges
Science Education as a Tool for Combating Insecurity in the Country

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Abstract

This paper examines combating insecurity in the country. It conceptualizes insecurity as the worthlessness of life and property because of its unsafe and unprotected nature which creates panic in the lives of the people. Insecurity is a state of being subject to danger or injury. It is also a condition of anxiety one expresses when one feels vulnerable to harm and danger. The nation is faced with a host of complex insecurities ranging from drug trafficking, crimes, poor management of the national economy to unemployment which is the other of the day. Kidnapping and other corruptible practices are not left out. Several strategies to combat the insecurity has been put in place yet nothing has changed for good. This paper discusses science education as a tool for combating insecurity in Nigeria with some recommendations.

Keywords: Science Education, Insecurity