Journal of Energy Research and Reviews

Volume 17, Issue 1, Page 1-9, 2025; Article no.JENRR.129578
ISSN: 2581-8368

Building Inclusive Growth Frameworks through Strategic Community Engagement in Energy Infrastructure Development Projects

Olusola Temidayo Oladipo [a*], Ikiomoworio Nicholas Dienagha [b] and Wags Numoipiri Digitemie [c]

[a] Lekserve Management Corporation, Houston, TX, USA.
[b] Shell Petroleum Development Company, Lagos, Nigeria.
[c] Shell Energy Nigeria PLC, Nigeria.

Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Article Information

DOI: https://doi.org/10.9734/jenrr/2025/v17i1388

Open Peer Review History:
This journal follows the Advanced Open Peer Review policy. Identity of the Reviewers, Editor(s) and additional Reviewers, peer review comments, different versions of the manuscript, comments of the editors, etc are available here: https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/129578

Review Article

Received: 09/11/2024
Accepted: 13/01/2025
Published: 15/01/2025

ABSTRACT

Energy infrastructure development is pivotal in driving economic growth and improving societal well-being. However, the benefits of such projects often fail to reach marginalized communities, exacerbating social and economic inequalities. This paper explores the concept of inclusive growth as a framework for equitable development in the energy sector, emphasizing the role of strategic

**Corresponding author: E-mail: boti_s@yahoo.com;*

Cite as: *Oladipo, Olusola Temidayo, Ikiomoworio Nicholas Dienagha, and Wags Numoipiri Digitemie. 2025. "Building Inclusive Growth Frameworks through Strategic Community Engagement in Energy Infrastructure Development Projects". Journal of Energy Research and Reviews 17 (1):1-9. https://doi.org/10.9734/jenrr/2025/v17i1388.*

community engagement in fostering participation, mitigating risks, and ensuring sustainable outcomes. The discussion outlines the principles and challenges of inclusivity, identifies key socio-economic and environmental considerations, and proposes actionable frameworks for policy alignment, stakeholder collaboration, and technological integration. By addressing potential risks and highlighting governance structures that facilitate equitable decision-making, the paper underscores the importance of inclusivity as a cornerstone of sustainable energy development. Practical recommendations for policymakers, developers, and community leaders are provided to create energy projects that prioritize shared progress and environmental stewardship.

Keywords: Inclusive growth; community engagement; energy infrastructure; stakeholder participation; equitable development; sustainable energy.

1. INTRODUCTION

Energy infrastructure development plays a pivotal role in driving economic and social progress, serving as the backbone of modern economies. The establishment of power plants, transmission lines, and renewable energy facilities fosters industrial growth and improves access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and clean water (Pandey, 2020). These advancements contribute to poverty alleviation, job creation, and enhanced living standards. However, despite their transformative potential, energy projects often pose challenges such as environmental degradation, community displacement, and inequitable distribution of benefits (Cantarero, 2020). Addressing these concerns requires deliberate efforts to ensure that such initiatives promote inclusive economic growth and social equity (Strielkowski et al., 2021).

Inclusive growth, a concept central to sustainable development, prioritizes economic progress that benefits all societal segments, particularly marginalized groups. Within the energy sector, this entails reducing disparities in resource access, creating equitable opportunities, and ensuring long-term social well-being (van Niekerk, 2020). A core component of inclusive growth is community engagement, which enables local populations to actively participate in decision-making processes. By aligning projects with community needs and aspirations, inclusivity reduces social resistance, mitigates delays, and fosters a sense of ownership among stakeholders, ultimately leading to more sustainable outcomes (Mangal et al., 2025).

Strategic community involvement is essential to achieving these objectives. Engaging stakeholders through dialogue, consultation, and collaborative planning helps developers address key issues, including land acquisition, environmental impacts, and socio-cultural disruptions. For example, skill development initiatives and fair compensation mechanisms empower local populations, mitigating the adverse effects of displacement while ensuring shared project benefits. Moreover, community input enhances project design and implementation, aligning initiatives with local priorities and increasing their overall acceptance and effectiveness (Buhmann et al., 2025). The transition to renewable energy is vital for meeting global sustainability goals. However, as highlighted by Romero-Lankao et al., (2023), Ross & Day, (2022), and Bhushan & Banerjee, (2023), the success of such projects extends beyond technological innovations and financial feasibility. Community engagement and equity are critical to securing acceptance, resilience, and long-term benefits.

This study employs a qualitative and conceptual approach to explore inclusive growth frameworks and strategic community engagement in energy infrastructure projects. A comprehensive literature review was conducted using databases such as Scopus and Web of Science with search terms like “inclusive energy development” and “equity in energy transitions.” Thematic analysis of the literature identified recurring patterns and critical themes, including challenges like displacement, inequitable benefit distribution, and best practices for engagement. To contextualize the findings, illustrative examples of energy projects demonstrating inclusivity were analyzed for actionable insights, supported by secondary data such as project evaluations and reports.

The findings were synthesized into a conceptual framework emphasizing stakeholder participation, equitable benefit-sharing, and sustainability. This adaptable framework addresses diverse socio-economic and environmental considerations, offering practical

strategies for bridging economic growth and social inclusion in energy projects globally. By examining foundational principles of inclusivity, stakeholder involvement, and equitable frameworks, this study underscores actionable strategies to ensure that energy infrastructure investments contribute to sustainable and equitable progress for all stakeholders.

2. FOUNDATIONS OF INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Principles of Inclusive Growth In The Energy Sector

The principles of inclusive growth in the energy sector are rooted in ensuring that the economic benefits derived from energy development are equitably shared across all societal groups. Inclusive growth prioritizes reducing inequalities by fostering access to energy, employment, and resources while minimizing environmental and social disruptions. A fundamental principle is inclusivity in decision-making, where all stakeholders—especially those directly impacted by projects—are given a platform to voice their concerns and needs (Eskerod et al., 2015). This participatory approach enhances fairness and improves the sustainability and acceptance of energy initiatives. Moreover, inclusive growth emphasizes long-term societal benefits over short-term profits, integrating social equity and environmental stewardship into every stage of development (Schoneveld, 2020).

Achieving inclusivity in large-scale energy projects is, however, fraught with challenges. One significant obstacle is the issue of displacement and resettlement. Infrastructure projects often require large tracts of land, displacing communities and disrupting their livelihoods (Jayachandran et al., 2022). For example, rural populations relying on agriculture may face the dual burden of losing their land and the associated economic stability. Addressing such challenges requires comprehensive resettlement plans that ensure fair compensation, livelihood restoration, and access to essential services (Hossain et al., 2020).

Another major challenge lies in balancing economic goals with environmental protection. Energy projects, particularly fossil fuel-based ones, can lead to deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and pollution, disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations. Additionally, the centralized nature of traditional energy systems can perpetuate energy poverty in remote and underserved areas. Overcoming these hurdles necessitates a shift toward decentralized renewable energy systems, which offer localized solutions and reduce the environmental footprint (Batra, 2023).

2.2 Identify the Socio-Economic and Environmental Factors Influencing Inclusivity

Socio-economic factors also play a crucial role in shaping inclusivity. Economic disparities, for instance, can hinder the equitable distribution of benefits from energy projects. Wealthier segments of society often have better access to resources and decision-making platforms, leaving marginalized groups at a disadvantage (Aziza et al., 2023). Similarly, social factors such as gender inequality can limit the participation of women in energy-related employment and decision-making, further exacerbating disparities. Addressing these inequalities requires targeted interventions, such as training for marginalized groups and creating policies promoting diversity and inclusion within the energy sector (Falcone, 2023).

Environmental factors are equally critical in determining the inclusivity of energy development. Projects located in ecologically sensitive regions may disrupt local ecosystems, threatening the livelihoods of communities dependent on natural resources (Copping et al., 2020). Moreover, climate change exacerbates vulnerabilities, particularly for those in low-income and rural areas. Integrating environmental impact assessments and adopting sustainable practices are essential to ensure that energy projects do not disproportionately harm specific populations (Ciplet, 2021).

Central to achieving inclusive growth is the equitable participation of stakeholders. This involves recognizing and addressing the power imbalances that often exist between project developers, governments, and local communities (Eikelenboom & Long, 2023). Meaningful participation goes beyond token consultations and requires mechanisms for stakeholders to influence decision-making processes. For example, establishing community advisory boards and grievance redressal systems can provide inclusive dialogue and accountability platforms. Furthermore, partnerships with local organizations and civil society can help bridge understanding gaps and foster stakeholder trust.

Equitable participation also demands that benefits are shared fairly. This includes ensuring that local populations have access to employment opportunities, infrastructure improvements, and social programs associated with energy projects. For instance, offering training programs to equip community members with the skills needed for project-related jobs can enhance economic inclusion. Similarly, profit-sharing mechanisms and community development funds can provide long-term benefits to impacted populations (Bennett, 2021).

In conclusion, the foundations of inclusive growth in energy development are built on equity, sustainability, and participation principles. Overcoming the challenges of displacement, inequality, and environmental degradation requires a holistic approach that integrates socio-economic and environmental considerations. By prioritizing equitable stakeholder participation and benefit-sharing, energy projects can serve as catalysts for sustainable and inclusive development, ensuring that progress is shared across all segments of society.

3. STRATEGIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES

3.1 Core Principles of Effective Community Engagement

Effective community engagement is indispensable for fostering trust, ensuring inclusivity, and maximizing the success of energy infrastructure projects. It is a process that emphasizes collaboration, shared decision-making, and mutual benefit between project developers and affected communities. At its core, strategic engagement is guided by transparency, respect, and collaboration. These principles form the foundation for meaningful interactions and ensure that community voices are integral to the development process (Ahmed et al., 2024).

Transparency is a cornerstone of effective engagement. It requires project developers to provide clear, accurate, and timely information about the project's objectives, potential impacts, and expected outcomes. Transparent communication helps mitigate misinformation, reduces skepticism, and establishes stakeholder trust. For example, sharing detailed land-use plans, environmental impact assessments, and timelines enables communities to make informed decisions and provides a basis for constructive dialogue.

Respect is another critical principle, underscoring the importance of valuing diverse perspectives and acknowledging the rights of affected populations. Respectful engagement involves treating communities as equal partners rather than passive beneficiaries. This entails recognizing their expertise regarding local conditions and traditions and their legitimate concerns about potential disruptions to their livelihoods, culture, and environment. Demonstrating respect fosters a sense of dignity and encourages active participation (A. O. Ishola et al., 2024b; Ogunyemi & Ishola, 2024).

Collaboration emphasizes the importance of joint problem-solving and shared ownership of decisions. By working together with communities, project developers can co-create solutions that address challenges while aligning with local priorities. Collaborative approaches also enhance the legitimacy of decisions, as stakeholders are more likely to support outcomes they helped shape. For instance, involving community representatives in project design ensures that their unique needs are reflected in infrastructure plans (Akinlua et al., 2023; Uzoka et al., 2024).

3.2 Engagement Practices

To operationalize these principles, various engagement practices have proven effective in energy infrastructure projects. One such practice is participatory planning, which involves communities at every stage of project development, from conceptualization to implementation and monitoring. This practice allows stakeholders to contribute ideas, voice concerns, and propose solutions. For example, participatory planning sessions can identify alternative project sites that minimize displacement or ecological harm while still meeting technical requirements. This inclusive approach enhances project design and reduces resistance and delays (Akerele et al., 2024).

Capacity-building workshops represent another vital practice. These workshops aim to equip community members with the knowledge and skills needed to engage meaningfully in discussions and negotiations. For instance, training sessions on legal rights, environmental regulations, or technical aspects of energy projects empower stakeholders to advocate for their interests effectively. Capacity-building also enables communities to participate in long-term

project management, fostering a sense of ownership and accountability (A. Ishola, 2024b).

Equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms ensure that communities derive tangible benefits from energy projects. These mechanisms can take various forms, such as revenue-sharing agreements, job creation initiatives, or community development funds. For example, a wind energy project might allocate a percentage of its profits to support local schools, healthcare facilities, or infrastructure improvements. Equitable benefit-sharing addresses immediate needs and contributes to long-term socio-economic development, making projects more sustainable and acceptable to communities (Vetrivel et al., 2025).

An often-overlooked aspect of community engagement is the need to align strategies with local cultural, economic, and social dynamics. This alignment is crucial because communities are not homogenous entities; they have unique histories, values, and structures that influence their perspectives and priorities. For instance, in regions where elders or traditional leaders hold significant authority, engagement efforts must involve these figures to gain community trust and approval. Similarly, understanding local economic activities, such as farming or fishing, can inform project timelines to minimize disruptions during critical seasons (A. Ishola, 2024a; Okedele et al., 2024).

Adapting strategies to social dynamics also involves addressing power imbalances within communities. Marginalized groups, such as women, youth, or ethnic minorities, may face barriers to participation due to cultural norms or systemic inequities (Andress et al., 2020). Ensuring their inclusion requires proactive measures, such as targeted outreach, creating safe spaces for dialogue, and addressing structural barriers. For example, providing childcare services during community meetings can enable more women to participate in discussions.

Strategic community engagement is not a one-time activity but an ongoing process that evolves with the project's lifecycle. Continuous feedback loops, where community input informs decisions and results are communicated back, are essential for maintaining trust and transparency. Establishing grievance redressal mechanisms further ensures that concerns are addressed promptly and fairly, reinforcing the credibility of the engagement process (Wanjue, 2023).

4. FRAMEWORKS FOR BUILDING INCLUSIVITY

4.1 Proposed Framework

A robust framework begins with policy alignment to ensure that national, regional, and local policies are harmonized to support inclusive growth. Governments play a crucial role in setting the regulatory environment for energy development, and inclusive policies should mandate equitable benefit-sharing, community participation, and environmental sustainability. For instance, policies requiring developers to conduct comprehensive social impact assessments and establish benefit-sharing agreements create a foundation for inclusivity. Aligning these policies with international standards, such as those outlined by the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, ensures consistency and accountability (Okedele et al., 2024a).

Stakeholder mapping is another vital component of the framework. This process involves identifying all relevant parties, including project developers, affected communities, government agencies, and civil society organizations, and understanding their roles, interests, and concerns. Effective stakeholder mapping helps recognize marginalized groups that may otherwise be overlooked, such as indigenous populations or economically disadvantaged households. By acknowledging the diversity of stakeholders, the framework ensures that no group is excluded from decision-making processes. Furthermore, prioritizing early and continuous engagement with these stakeholders builds trust and minimizes potential conflicts.

Feedback mechanisms are central to fostering inclusivity within the framework. Establishing formal channels for communities to provide input, express concerns, and suggest improvements ensures that their voices are heard throughout the project lifecycle. For example, regular town hall meetings, surveys, and suggestion boxes can facilitate two-way communication between developers and stakeholders. Digital platforms, such as mobile applications or web portals, can also be used to collect feedback efficiently, especially in remote or dispersed communities. Ensuring that feedback is acted upon and outcomes are communicated back to stakeholders reinforces trust and demonstrates the commitment to inclusivity (Ogunyemi & Ishola, 2024a; Okedele et al., 2024b).

4.2 Governance Structures that Facilitate Inclusivity

Inclusive governance structures are essential for implementing and sustaining the framework. These structures should provide equitable decision-making, accountability, and dispute-resolution mechanisms. For example, establishing a multi-stakeholder advisory board comprising community representatives, government officials, and project developers ensures that diverse perspectives are considered in project planning and implementation. Such boards can also oversee benefit-sharing initiatives, ensuring transparency and fairness. Furthermore, independent oversight bodies can monitor compliance with inclusivity goals and hold stakeholders accountable for their commitments.

The integration of technological tools enhances inclusivity by improving decision-making and monitoring processes. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) can be used for stakeholder mapping and land use planning, ensuring that projects are sited in ways that minimize displacement and environmental harm. Data analytics tools can identify socio-economic disparities and inform targeted interventions to support marginalized groups. Additionally, digital platforms enable real-time monitoring of project impacts and provide communities with up-to-date information, fostering transparency and engagement. For instance, blockchain technology can be employed to ensure the transparent distribution of benefits, such as revenue-sharing funds or compensation payments, reducing the risk of corruption or mismanagement (A. O. Ishola, Odunaiya, & Soyombo, 2024a; Ogunyemi & Ishola 2024b).

4.3 Potential Risks and Mitigation Strategies

While the framework aims to maximize inclusivity, potential risks must be addressed to ensure long-term sustainability. One such risk is the marginalization of specific groups during stakeholder engagement processes. Without proactive measures, women, youth, and minority groups may face barriers to participation due to cultural norms or systemic inequities. To mitigate this risk, the framework should include targeted outreach initiatives, such as women-focused workshops or youth capacity-building programs, to ensure their active involvement (Iormom et al., 2024).

Another potential risk is the emergence of conflicts among stakeholders, particularly over resource allocation or benefit-sharing. These conflicts can delay project implementation and undermine trust in the engagement process. Establishing transparent mechanisms for dispute resolution, such as mediation panels or legal arbitration, can help address disagreements constructively and maintain stakeholder confidence (Ogunyemi & Ishola, 2024).

Environmental degradation poses a further risk to inclusivity, as marginalized communities often bear the brunt of ecological harm. To mitigate this, the framework should mandate rigorous environmental impact assessments and prioritize adopting sustainable technologies, such as renewable energy systems and energy-efficient practices. Integrating adaptive management strategies, where project plans are adjusted based on ongoing environmental monitoring, minimizes adverse impacts (Ojukwu et al., 2024).

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusion

Inclusive growth and strategic community engagement are critical to sustainable energy infrastructure development. These approaches ensure that the benefits of energy projects are equitably distributed, marginalized groups are empowered, and adverse impacts on local communities and the environment are minimized. Integrating inclusivity and engagement into energy projects fosters long-term sustainability, mitigates resistance, and enhances social cohesion, making it a fundamental aspect of modern development practices.

The importance of inclusive growth lies in its ability to address inequalities while promoting economic and social advancement. Energy projects often bring transformative benefits, including job creation, improved infrastructure, and enhanced access to electricity. However, these benefits may bypass vulnerable populations without deliberate measures to ensure inclusivity, exacerbating disparities. Inclusive growth ensures that all stakeholders, regardless of socio-economic status, gender, or geographic location, can share in the development advantages. This principle aligns with global poverty reduction goals, social justice, and environmental sustainability.

Strategic community engagement is a vital mechanism for achieving inclusivity. It recognizes that local communities are not merely passive recipients of development but active participants whose input is essential for project success. Transparent communication, respect for cultural and social dynamics, and collaboration in decision-making processes empower communities to influence outcomes meaningfully. Engagement fosters trust, reduces conflict, and increases the likelihood of project acceptance, ultimately enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of energy initiatives.

Despite these benefits, achieving inclusive growth and effective community engagement requires overcoming significant challenges. Displacement, unequal benefit distribution, and environmental degradation can undermine efforts to foster inclusivity. Addressing these challenges demands a proactive and structured approach involving multiple stakeholders, including policymakers, project developers, and community leaders.

5.2 Recommendations

Policymakers play a crucial role in fostering inclusive energy development by creating strong legal and regulatory frameworks that mandate equitable practices. Policies requiring comprehensive social and environmental assessments ensure that risks are identified and mitigated. Encouraging decentralization and promoting community-driven energy solutions like off-grid renewable systems can address energy poverty while empowering local populations. Financial incentives, such as tax breaks or subsidies, further motivate developers to adopt inclusive and sustainable practices. Governments can mobilize resources and expertise to implement effective energy projects by fostering public-private partnerships.

Project developers are key actors in operationalizing inclusivity through early and sustained community engagement. Establishing transparent communication channels ensures stakeholders are informed about project objectives and impacts. Participatory planning allows community members to shape project outcomes, reflecting local priorities. Developers must also implement benefit-sharing mechanisms to support local development through education, healthcare, and employment investments. Capacity-building initiatives, such as technical training, empower communities to participate in and benefit from project activities, especially in renewable energy systems.

Community leaders serve as vital intermediaries between local populations and external stakeholders. They advocate for their community's interests while promoting inclusive participation, ensuring that marginalized groups such as women and youth have a voice. Establishing representative committees enables collective decision-making and strengthens community involvement. Additionally, leaders should focus on raising awareness about rights and opportunities, fostering a sense of ownership among community members. Active participation in planning and monitoring ensures that projects align with community needs and build trust among all parties involved.

DISCLAIMER (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

Author(s) hereby declare that NO generative AI technologies such as Large Language Models (ChatGPT, COPILOT, etc) and text-to-image generators have been used during writing or editing of this manuscript.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that they have no known competing financial interests or non-financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

REFERENCES

Ahmed, S., Ali, A., & D'Angola, A. (2024). A Review of Renewable Energy Communities: Concepts, Scope, Progress, Challenges, and Recommendations. *Sustainability, 16*(5), 1749.

Akerele, J. I., Uzoka, A., Ojukwu, P. U., & Olamijuwon, O. J. (2024). Improving healthcare application scalability through microservices architecture in the cloud. *International Journal of Scientific Research Updates, 8*(02), 100-109.

Akinlua, A., Dada, O. R., Usman, F. O., & Adekola, S. A. (2023). Source rock geochemistry of central and northwestern Niger Delta: Inference from aromatic hydrocarbons content. *Energy Geoscience, 4*(3), 100141.

Andress, L., Hall, T., Davis, S., Levine, J., Cripps, K., & Guinn, D. (2020). Addressing power dynamics in community-engaged

research partnerships. *Journal of Patient-Reported Outcomes, 4*, 1-8.

Aziza, O. R., Uzougbo, N. S., & Ugwu, M. C. (2023). Legal frameworks and the development of host communities in oil and gas regions: Balancing economic benefits and social equity. *World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews, 19*(3), 1582-1594.

Batra, G. (2023). Renewable energy economics: achieving harmony between environmental protection and economic goals. *Social Science Chronicle, 2*(2), 1-32.

Bennett, E. (2021). Rethinking the "necessary" trade-offs of distributing value to suppliers: an analysis of the profit-sharing model. *Bennett, Elizabeth A*.

Bhushan, C., & Banerjee, S. (2023, June). Principles and Guidelines for a Just and Inclusive Energy Transition. In *International Forum for Environment, Sustainability and Technology (iFOREST).*

Buhmann, K., Fonseca, A., Andrews, N., & Amatulli, G. (2025). The Routledge Handbook on Meaningful Stakeholder Engagement. In: Taylor & Francis.

Cantarero, M. M. V. (2020). Of renewable energy, energy democracy, and sustainable development: A roadmap to accelerate the energy transition in developing countries. *Energy Research & Social Science, 70*, 101716.

Ciplet, D. (2021). From energy privilege to energy justice: A framework for embedded sustainable development. *Energy Research & Social Science, 75*, 101996.

Copping, A. E., Gorton, A. M., May, R., Bennet, F., DeGeorge, E., Repas Goncalves, M., & Rumes, B. (2020). Enabling renewable energy while protecting wildlife: An ecological risk-based approach to wind energy development using ecosystem-based management values. *Sustainability, 12*(22), 9352.

Eikelenboom, M., & Long, T. B. (2023). Breaking the cycle of marginalization: how to involve local communities in multi-stakeholder initiatives? *Journal of Business Ethics, 186*(1), 31-62.

Eskerod, P., Huemann, M., & Ringhofer, C. (2015). Stakeholder inclusiveness: Enriching project management with general stakeholder theory. *Project management journal, 46*(6), 42-53.

Falcone, P. M. (2023). Sustainable energy policies in developing countries: a review of challenges and opportunities. *Energies, 16*(18), 6682.

Hossain, A., Krupnik, T. J., Timsina, J., Mahboob, M. G., Chaki, A. K., Farooq, M., Hasanuzzaman, M. (2020). Agricultural land degradation: processes and problems undermining future food security. In *Environment, climate, plant and vegetation growth* (pp. 17-61): Springer.

Iormom, B. I., Jato, T. P., Ishola, A., & Diyoke, K. (2024). Economic Policy Uncertainty, Institutional Quality and Renewable Energy Transitioning in Nigeria.

Ishola, A. (2024a). IoT applications in sustainability and sustainable community development. *World Journal of Advanced Research and Reviews _ Awaiting DOI*.

Ishola, A. (2024b). Renewable portfolio standards, energy efficiency and air quality in an energy transitioning economy: The case of Iowa. *Green Technologies and Sustainability*, 100159.

Ishola, A. O., Odunaiya, O. G., & Soyombo, O. T. (2024a). Framework for tailoring consumer-centric communication to boost solar energy adoption in US households.

Ishola, A. O., Odunaiya, O. G., & Soyombo, O. T. (2024b). Stakeholder communication framework for successful implementation of community-based renewable energy projects.

Jayachandran, M., Gatla, R. K., Rao, K. P., Rao, G. S., Mohammed, S., Milyani, A. H., . . . Geetha, S. (2022). Challenges in achieving sustainable development goal 7: Affordable and clean energy in light of nascent technologies. *Sustainable Energy Technologies and Assessments, 53*, 102692.

Mangal, P., Lakshmi, D., & Nagpal, N. (2025). Cross-Sectoral Collaborations for Advancing Renewable Energy and Conservation Goals. In *Digital Innovations for Renewable Energy and Conservation* (pp. 47-74): IGI Global.

Ogunyemi, F. M., & Ishola, A. O. (2024). Global competitiveness and environmental sustainability: financing and business development strategies for US SMEs.

Ogunyemi, F. M., & Ishola, A. O. (2024). Supporting the Green Energy Transition in US SMEs: A Sustainable Finance and Consulting Approach.

Ogunyemi, F. M., & Ishola, A. O. (2024a). Data-driven financial models for sustainable SME growth: Integrating green finance into small and medium enterprise strategies.

Ogunyemi, F. M., & Ishola, A. O. (2024b). Encouraging investment in renewable energy through data-driven analytics and financial solutions for SMEs.

Ojukwu, P. U., Cadet, E., Osundare, O. S., Fakeyede, O. G., Ige, A. B., & Uzoka, A. (2024). Exploring theoretical constructs of blockchain technology in banking: Applications in African and US financial institutions. *International Journal of Frontier Research in Science, 4*(1), 035-042.

Okedele, P. O., Aziza, O. R., Oduro, P., & Ishola, A. O. (2024a). Carbon pricing mechanisms and their global efficacy in reducing emissions: Lessons from leading economies.

Okedele, P. O., Aziza, O. R., Oduro, P., & Ishola, A. O. (2024b). Climate change litigation as a tool for global environmental policy reform: A comparative study of international case law.

Okedele, P. O., Aziza, O. R., Oduro, P., Ishola, A. O., Center, E. L., & Center, P. M. H. L. (2024). Global legal frameworks for an equitable energy transition: Balancing growth and justice in developing economies.

Pandey, V. (2020). Energy infrastructure for sustainable development. *Affordable and clean energy*, 1-13.

Romero-Lankao, P., Rosner, N., Efroymson, R. A., Parisch, E. S., Blanco, L., Smolinski, S., & Kline, K. (2023). Community Engagement and Equity in Renewable Energy Projects: A Literature Review.

Ross, L., & Day, M. (2022). *Community Energy Planning: Best Practices and Lessons Learned in NREL's Work with Communities* (No. NREL/TP-6A50-82937). National Renewable Energy Lab.(NREL), Golden, CO (United States).

Schoneveld, G. C. (2020). Sustainable business models for inclusive growth: Towards a conceptual foundation of inclusive business. *Journal of cleaner production, 277*, 124062.

Strielkowski, W., Civín, L., Tarkhanova, E., Tvaronavičienė, M., & Petrenko, Y. (2021). Renewable energy in the sustainable development of electrical power sector: A review. *Energies, 14*(24), 8240.

Uzoka, A., Cadet, E., & Ojukwu, P. U. (2024). The role of telecommunications in enabling Internet of Things (IoT) connectivity and applications. *Comprehensive Research and Reviews in Science and Technology, 2*(02), 055-073.

van Niekerk, A. J. (2020). Inclusive economic sustainability: SDGs and global inequality. *Sustainability, 12*(13), 5427.

Vetrivel, S., Arun, V., Saravanan, T., Maheswari, R., & Mohanasundari, M. (2025). Socio-Economic Impacts of Digital Innovations in Renewable Energy Adoption. *Digital Innovations for Renewable Energy and Conservation*, 277-312.

Wanjue, C. (2023). Local Stakeholders' Involvement in Community Development Projects in Kenya. Walden University.

Peer-review history:
The peer review history for this paper can be accessed here:
https://www.sdiarticle5.com/review-history/129578