

# Review of: "The Nexus between Energy Policies and Supply: A Descriptive Evaluation of Nigeria and UK Energy Sectors"

Mohammed Shuaibu<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> University of Abuja

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

## General Comment

The paper generally explores the efficiency of energy policies in boosting supply in view of the persistent energy deficit and crisis that has bedevilled the Nigerian economy in the 4 or 5 decades. The study digs into a very important issue that has remained at the forefront of discussions in academic and policy circles. It is a timely paper that can provide useful policy implications especially for Nigeria. The specific comments/suggestions provided would follow the structure of the paper.

**Abstract:** The abstract in its present form lacks focus and contains too many digressions. Also, the author's should reflect the more recent National Development Plan in the context of the Energy sector(s). Also motivate the two case studies (Nigeria and UK). The policy recommendation seems vague and lacks the requisite precision and clarity for practical implementation.

**Introduction:** This section is weak. While some background information has been provided for Nigeria, very little is known about the UK's energy sector and/or its linkage to Nigeria's energy sector. Also, the problem has not been clearly articulated and this should be done in the context of observed gaps or limitations in the energy sector of both countries. The author should use a chart to show the trend of per capita energy consumption in both countries and the level of economic performance. Also, the energy supply capacity of both countries need to be shown in a Table or graph. This should clearly reflect comparator countries (structural peers). The study is generally not motivated in the context of limitations of extant studies. This needs to be clearly shown. The objective is to review past energy policies but this is not adequate as it would not reflect recent energy policy developments and thus bring out the potential lessons for Nigeria.

**Literature Review and Background.** The authors need to provide some stylized facts (in a section) to motivate the study. Explain the evolution of Energy policy and supply using appropriate evidence. Complement the presentation with tables and graphics that clearly show the trends. For example, a simple XY plot of the energy supply and consumption is essential while a table that highlights policy and institutional developments in the case studies should be provided. A brief discussion of energy policy trends of the selected countries should be part of the discussion. One of the benefits of providing a brief history of energy sector is that it would show how the countries (NOT ONLY NIGERIA) have performed over time in response to policy changes.

The papers reviewed are related to the energy sector but the review rarely identified the importance of the sector and the

empirical relevance. Provide a brief, but a well-reasoned critique of the literature. Suggestion: break the literature into two subsections (Theoretical review and empirical review). The story seems to be more on Nigeria but with limited emphasis on the UK.

**Methodology** . A statement on the theoretical basis for the analysis is not well integrated to the theme of the research. A brief description of the theory on which the analysis is erected will enhance the quality of the article. Use a Table to provide a detailed discussion of the data (measurement, sources, description, etc.) for additional clarity. The authors should develop a small schema/conceptual framework showing the key transmission channels being explored. The authors should also consider correlation and descriptive analysis comparatively between the countries considered by sub samples that reflect pre- and post- energy sector reform eras to see the evolution of the energy sector in the context of broad based economic performance.

**Results and Discussion.** Overall, it is unclear whether the results reported are favourably comparable with previous results since the main contribution of this article is not clearly articulated in the introductory section. Indeed, it is difficult to discern any significant contribution to knowledge without any comparison with extant studies. The question is: What is the new addition to knowledge in this article? Juxtapose the results of the energy sector's pre-reform and post-reform era and dig deep into the results for both countries.

**Conclusion.** The authors need to provide additional recommendations given the interesting findings. Also, ensure the policy implications highlighted are drawn from the descriptive analysis carried out.

The paper can be published if these issues are addressed. Finally, the authors need to proof read the paper thoroughly as there are too many grammatical errors and inconsistencies from the abstract down to the reference section.