

# Review of: "Nigeria's Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

## Nigeria's Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

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### Paper Review by Dr. Jim Taylor (University of KwaZulu-Natal)

Congratulations on a thorough, well-articulated paper on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and associated challenges and achievements as implemented in Nigeria. It is encouraging that the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension, and Rural Development is collaborating with Imo State University, Owerri, in this applied research.

The SDGs are a collection of 17 interlinked global goals designed to achieve a better and more sustainable life for all. Papers such as this will make a marked contribution to this endeavour. The United Nations member states have committed to work towards achieving the goals by the year 2030. Despite the commitment of Nigeria to the Sustainable Development Goals, there are many challenges, and these are carefully articulated by the authors. Key recommendations are also outlined.

It is notable that Nigeria failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, which had similar development aspirations and a similar 15-year implementation period. Of course, all this work is further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, terrorist activities, extended periods of strike in the universities, and instability in oil prices; this is critical for an economy that derives 86% of public revenue from oil and gas. Climate change objectives will further exacerbate these challenges. It is significant that Nigeria is part of the global initiative, the Open Government Partnership (OGP), and is a member of ECOWAS as well as the African Union (AU).

It might be worth noting that in countries such as Kenya and South Africa, citizen science objectives are being achieved towards some of the goals, most notably SDG 6B, which focuses on citizen participation in caring for water resources. Various technologies are shared and encouraged, and a Google Earth plane is available on which to share the findings; please see <https://minisass.org/>. The Google Earth plane also carries simple videos which explain how the citizen science activities are actioned.

The paper articulates local obstacles in the implementation of all the Sustainable Development Goals and highlights the strong and weak points with a view to refocusing efforts. The paper adopted an appropriate systematic review approach, drawing from such studies as the National Voluntary Review reports and relevant literature. The paper concludes with

relevant recommendations.

I have no hesitation in recommending this paper with no changes or edits.