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APPRAISAL OF NIGERIA'S ENERGY PLANNING: PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

This research endeavours to chronicle the impacts of effective planning on sustainable development. Having examined the contributions of energy planning (**Goal 7**) to climate change, public health, social welfare, economic growth and/or responsible consumption, the paper unveils that viable institutional planning can culminate into job creation, business growth and investments. With institutional model and content analysis, the paper revealed that poor planning has negative effect on the capacity of Nigeria energy sector. Based on proper review of data from government archives, journals, conference or seminar papers, the research work scrutinizes the need for energy planning to implement the sustainable development goals in Nigeria. However, it concluded that policy reforms and strategic collaboration can boost the capabilities of the Nigerian energy sector. This research paper initiated some policy endorsements which may be instrumental for coupling energy planning into sustainable development strategies of government.

Introduction

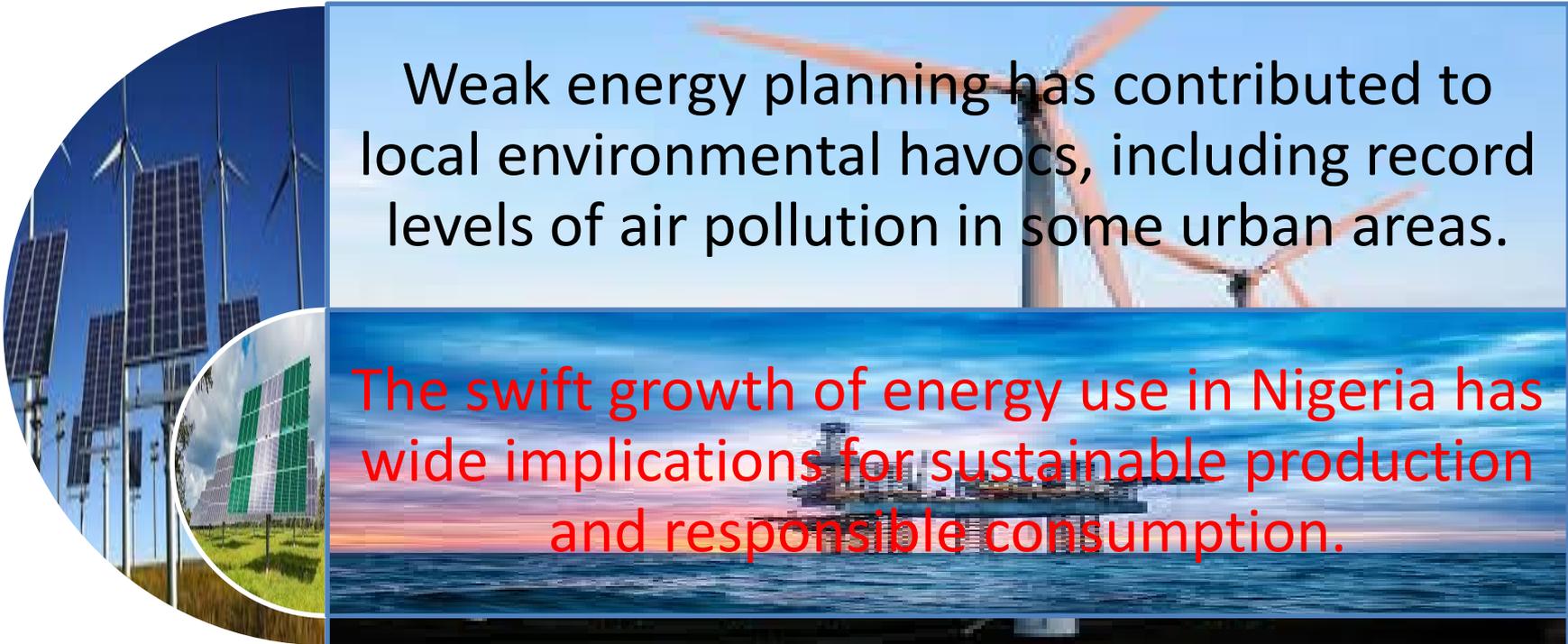


Energy production and supply plays prominent roles in all aspect of socio-economic livelihoods. The Covid-19 pandemic, the drastic fall in oil price, coupled with budget constraints by the national government had highlighted the criticality and essentiality of energy planning and policies to enhance optimal production and supply needed for sustainable development.



Energy planning—coupled with effective decision making—is very vital to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 due to its contributions to economic and social development of any nation. In other words, the development of Nigeria is seriously hampered by weak planning in either energy production or supply.

Planning in the energy sector in Nigeria is extremely essential due to energy use in this nation which has drastically risen in more than fourfold over the past decades. This is expected to continue or increase speedily in the near future.

The background of the slide features a collage of energy-related images. On the left, there is a circular inset showing a field of solar panels. The main background is split horizontally: the top half shows several wind turbines against a clear blue sky, and the bottom half shows an offshore oil rig on the ocean under a sunset sky.

Weak energy planning has contributed to local environmental havocs, including record levels of air pollution in some urban areas.

The swift growth of energy use in Nigeria has wide implications for sustainable production and responsible consumption.

The rapid increases in fossil fuel use in Nigeria also represent a growing contribution to increase in local and regional pollution as well as atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases.

The Energy Targets in the Power Sector

- The targets in Nigeria's energy sector was purposed to be achieved in both power sector and sub-sector and oil and gas sector and sub-sector.
- Nigeria is set to achieve some aims and objectives for the energy sector particularly the power and oil and gas sub-sectors.



Energy Targets in Nigerian Oil and Gas Sector

- For oil and gas sector, the priorities are to provide gas distribution infrastructure to increase gas utilization.
- Increased capacity in oil/gas production and supply.
- Increased refining capacity to fully meet national demands.
- Intensify exploration activities;
- Increase bulk storage capacity for oil and gas.
- Increase in the capacity of the pipeline network; and
- Increase in the use of sustainable fuels.



Energy Planning and Sustainable Development in Nigeria

Planning in Nigerian energy sector is never done in isolation of the international ecosystem.

This paper endeavours to trace the recent reforms in Nigerian energy planning to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030, especially Goal 7.

Planning and policy strategies in energy sector have been strategically outlined with the fundamental premises that energy is crucial to national development.

Government has a prime role in meeting the growing energy demands prevailing in the nation.



Energy planning is construed accelerate the process of acquisition and diffusion of technology and managerial expertise in the energy sector and indigenous participation in energy sector industries, for stability and self-reliance

Planning in the energy sector will guarantee increased and sustained contribution of energy production activities to improving the national income, spearhead decent work and economic growth and improve public welfare.



Energy planning in Nigeria looked into creating a means of guaranteeing adequate, reliable and sustainable supply of energy at the least costs and in a manner that is friendly to the ecosystem, to the various sectors of the economy.



Strategic planning cum prioritization contributes to actualizing sustainable development goals through a cost-effective production and distribution system of energy resources.

The Challenges in Nigeria's Energy Planning



The limitations and failures in the Nigerian energy infrastructure is usually attached to poor planning or projection of where the country should be, poor implementation of the few good plans, low funding and poor management system, security anxieties, together with environmental considerations.

The Nigerian energy challenge has been chronic; achievement of socio-economic development has been severely affected due to inadequate and unreliable energy availability.

Inadequate supply which has severely restricted socio-economic activities to basic human needs, limits economic growth as well as adversely affects quality of life.

Effects of Poor Energy Planning in Nigeria

Poor planning has fostered inadequate production and epileptic supply of energy services to the majority of businesses and public users.



Poor planning has affected maintenance of energy infrastructures, transmission lines, improve electric generators, pipelines as well as refineries.



Poor energy planning has triggered increase in poverty, agricultural depletion, urban pollution and weak economic growth.



Conclusion and Recommendations

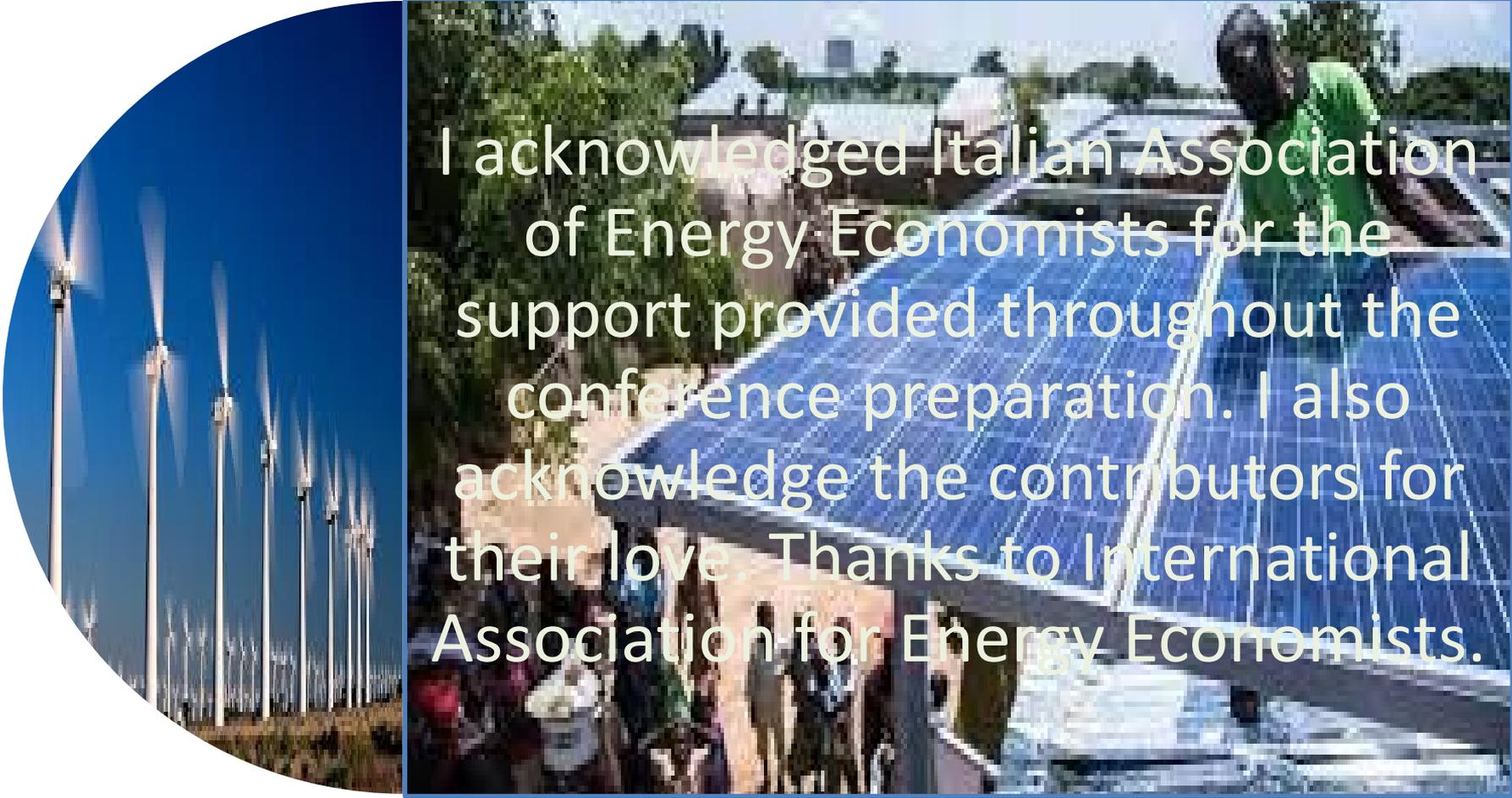
This paper therefore concludes that energy planning play a pivotal role in stimulating the groundwork for sustainable development in Nigeria.

It also concludes that a strong nexus actually exists between energy planning and sustainable development in Nigeria.

This paper recommends that government must promote an integrated flow of funding to finance national energy programmes and projects.

It recommends that Nigerian government need to foster appropriate regulatory policies and legal frameworks that can facilitate unrestrained access to energy development facilities.

Acknowledgement



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