Oando Clean Energy

TASUED Sustainability Workshop

ESD Competencies for Societal Transformation: The Green Transition

TAI SOLARIN UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION

OGSEP

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Our Future World in a Sustainability Driven Environment

A sustainable future is one where human development meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It requires balancing environmental health, economic viability, and social equity **(Plant, People, Prosperity).**

A sustainable future means the realization of various aspects of the SDGs

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Climate Action

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Affordable and Clean Energy

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Decent Work and Economic Growth

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Quality Education

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Responsible Consumption and Production

Components of a Sustainable Work Environment

Data, AI, and Digital Technology

These technologies will transform how work is done; from optimizing energy use and predicting climate risks to enabling smart cities and automating sustainable supply chains.

New jobs will emerge and workers will need data literacy, AI ethics, and digital systems design to stay relevant in a tech-enabled green economy.

Responsible Production and Consumption

Future workplaces will embrace sustainability not only in what they produce but also how they operate and consume resources internally. A new circular economy mindset will shape organizational values and business models.

Clean Energy

Behind all these exciting technology and innovation is a massive need and demand for energy.

Clean energy will be the very infrastructure of future work. Offices, factories, and digital workspaces will increasingly run on solar, wind, bioenergy, and battery storage enabling lower operating costs and reduced emissions.

Components of a Sustainable Work Environment

Ethical Leadership and Governance

As sustainability becomes embedded into business models, leaders will need to make complex decisions that balance profit, people, and the planet with transparency, accountability, and long-term thinking.

A values-driven culture will emerge emphasizing sustainability reporting, equity in decision-making, and stakeholder engagement, not just shareholder value.

Continuous Upskilling and Reskilling

As green technologies evolve, workers must continuously adapt. Lifelong learning becomes the norm, not an option.

Success in the future workplace depends on adaptability, interdisciplinary knowledge, and sustainability fluency.

The Future of Work in a Sustainability Driven Environment

Smart
(tech and data-enabled)

Sustainable
(low-impact, circular, renewable-powered)

Skilled
(constantly learning and adapting)

Purpose-Driven
(led by values and long-term impact)

Inclusive
(benefiting people, planet, and prosperity)

Current Challenges

The Nigerian society is set on a path of continued reliance on fossil fuels and unreliable energy systems locking the economy into an unsustainable path despite abundant renewable potential.

KNOWLEDGE GAP

As of 2020, more than six Nigerians out of 10 never heard about climate change. Only 30% of respondents declared to have heard about this topic. Awareness of the topic is higher in urban Nigeria than in rural areas.

Technical skills for green technologies are lacking and individual shifts to a sustainable lifestyle is low.

LINEAR MINDSET AND CULTURE

There is a normalized preference for new goods over repaired/reused items. Second hand products are seen as a sign of poor economic circumstances.

The linear model is a take-make-dispose system which has led to overflowing landfills and excess waste not properly managed.

Source: Statista.com

Current Challenges

BEHAVIOURAL RESISTANCE

This is the resistance or reluctance to accept new habits. We see this widely around us with people reluctant to separate waste and some rural communities hesitant to adopt clean cookstoves.

DATA AND TECHNOLOGY

The absence of a reliable and comprehensive data bank has hindered policy and decision making.

There is no real time monitoring of energy access and climate effects to provide tailored solutions. This has also stalled technology development.

POLICY INCOHERENCE

Tied to every other factor is the absence of effective policies driving sustainable development.

Energy subsidies and CNG push contradict climate goals. Waste management policies ignore circularity and indirectly encourage more production.

Need for Change

Our current trajectory is not sustainable. Change is pertinent to ensure sustenance of the ecosystem. To live in a world habitable for the current and future generations, change is necessary.

CLIMATE VULNERABILITY

People who contribute the least to climate change are the most vulnerable to its effects. Small scale farmers suffer significant crop losses from droughts/floods.

REDUCED ECONOMIC MOBILITY

Growing trends have seen majority of people reduce in economic standing over time. This has caused a survival first mindset at the expense of sustainable development and the environment.

A SUSTAINABILITY-DRIVEN WORKFORCE IS EMERGING

The future world of work is changing. Green jobs, digital skills, and ethical leadership are in demand.

Nigerian youth need future-relevant education and employment pathways that respond to sustainability and technological change.

Role of Academia

To support the green transition the people, government, private sector and academia all have roles to play. The role of Academia is crucial because it is the cradle of innovation.

CURRICULUM REFORM

Existing curriculum should be adapted to integrate sustainable development goals. Starting from early childhood education to tertiary education, curricula should be made with sustainable development in mind.

MULTI STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Academia has a role to play in convening dialogues amongst stakeholders (government, lawmakers, think-tanks) educating them on the problems and proffering well thought out solutions to these challenges.

Role of Academia

TECHNOLOGY

Leading research and development efforts aimed at solving and preventing problems by leveraging on existing resources is another role academia can play.

Innovative and affordable clean technology tailored to our challenges should be developed.

Students should be encouraged and inspired to tackle challenging problems while in school and integrated into core research teams.

Universities can also lead being early adopters of green technologies.

POLICY

Alleviating the data gap that hinders policy making is a key role in fostering sustainable development.

Providing evidence/data for policy making supported by pilot projects launched on campus is a way academia can support the green transition.

Youth Action

Today, more than 60% of Africa's population is under the age of 25. The discussion on sustainable development is even more critical to youths as they stand to bear most of the brunt of the current inefficient linear economy model. Youths have a call to innovate and pursue active roles in policy development.

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Climate tech startups in Africa raised $413.9 million dollars accounting for a third of all startup funding.

Youths should trailblaze and create a product that solves existing problems. This not only creates value but also creates employment and drives economic growth.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

In addition to creating businesses, youths need to hold active parts in important conversations being held.

Social activities like cleanup activities, volunteering in non-profits, etc. Holding active membership and leadership roles in political parties and government roles helping shape development of sustainable policies is key.

Source: africasustainabilitymatters.com

Examples

Wecyclers

A youth led waste collection through apps, 20,000 households engaged, and 200,000 beneficiaries reached various jobs created.

Green Campus Initiative

Students across 40+ Nigerian universities run plastic recycling projects.

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Together, Let's
Bridge Africa's
Energy Gap