



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) AND GLOBAL INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK IN NIGERIA

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### Abstract

*The paper examined the strength of SDGs as global inclusive development framework in Nigeria as a third world country. Inclusive development requires collective commitment to accessibility, participation, accountability, and resources from various nations and communities. Though, the initiative is comprehensive, integrative, and participatory with focus on equality, however, there are doubt that its implementation may not differ from the previous, including MDGs. The paper adopted descriptive analysis and relied on secondary data to evaluate the implementation, examine the challenges and identify the way forward towards achieving most of the goals' target. The finding from the review of data as contained in Sustainable Development Report 2024 on the Nigeria's Achievement Trend (AT) in each of the seventeen (17) goals are qualitatively classifies into moderately improving with 29 % of goals, stagnating with 47% goals, decreasing with 12% goals, and information unavailable 12% of goals respectively. The result shows that Nigeria performed significantly low in most of the goals. By 2024, the Nigeria's SDGs Ranking is 146/166, though, Spillover ranking is 16/166. The identified challenges threatening the implementation include; effects of global effects on less developed nations, poor funding, unreliable data and corruption with implications for national policy decisions. Moving forward, the government needs to increase funding, aligning national policies with the SDGs targets and sustaining implementation evaluation.*

**Key words:** Inclusivity, Development Goals, Sustainability, Equality, Resources.

### Introduction

Since the end of Second World War there has been various attempts to globalize development, however, observation indicates that sectional interest shapes the conceptualisations. For instance, third world nations and liberal researchers are of the view that previous initiatives represent western perspective guided by the western modernisation principles (NWO, 2024). Recent attempts depart from decades of promoting unequal societies to a relatively more equal and inclusive society. Inclusive

global development encompasses integration of social, economic and ecological components to the development plan. The UN Global Sustainable Development Report (2015) makes reference to the term inclusivity in about 52 places (Pouw & Gupta, 2017), which precurses the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to reduce global and groups inequalities. However, the question is, to what extent has SDGs as a strategy achieves the goal of global inclusive development. The strength of SDGs as strategy to drive global inclusive development depends on adherence to basic fundamentals in implementation; accessibility, participation, accountability, and resources, at all levels (CBM, 2024). The level of inclusivity attained will significantly indicate the degree of targets accomplished by 2030. There are doubts that SDGs may go the way of previous initiatives including MDGs, which fails to take into consideration the implementation limitations relating to resources, human capital, ecological context, and unequal partnership and cooperation. Therefore, the paper will adopt descriptive analysis and rely on relevant secondary data to; evaluate the implementation of SDGs in Nigeria as a third-world nation, examine the implementation challenges, and identify the way forward for inclusivity.

## **Literature Review**

### **Global Inclusive Development**

Global inclusive development as global developmental framework is a strategy towards achieving global equity, social justice, and the active involvement of the less-privileged and vulnerable nations and groups in the national and global development process (Van Niekerk, 2020). It is an approach in which diversity in terms of socioeconomic status, race, gender, or geographical background will not hinder individuals' economic and social benefits. The approach premises the fundamental of inclusivity on access to basics like water, food, energy, and education. The inability to deliver by those responsible for governance across continents necessitates the reform of politics and decision-making processes for an inclusive approach (Gupta & Vegelin, 2023). Key aspects of Global Inclusive Development include formulating policy, which can deliver equal access to economic opportunities, such as employment, education, and entrepreneurship, to reduce income inequality and support the vulnerable, the poor and marginalised populations (World Bank, 2013). The United Nations (2016) posit that success of any sustainable development and poverty alleviation initiatives depend on the extent to which it addresses social inclusion and participation of marginalised group in societal decision-making processes to ease access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and social protection. Also, social cohesion and stability depend on political inclusion policy that can create opportunities for more representation of the less represented group in governance and policymaking (Acemoglu & Robinson, 2012). More important is preservation of natural resources for the future generations by

integrating environmental sustainability into economic and social policies.

### **Failure of Millennium Development Goals**

One of the global bold attempts to promote inclusivity is the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) initiative. The United Nations established the initiative in 2000 to eradicate poverty, hunger, disease and education by 2015. Despite some initial successes, it fails to significantly achieve the set targets. One of the issues relates to perceived inadequate consultations, with some stakeholders skeptical of ownership of the MDG agenda. The agreed Millennium Declaration by 191 Heads of State is the source of the MDG's 18 targets, which were perceived as tilting towards a more politically acceptable agenda like access to social services, to the neglect of politically challenging issues like inequality and human rights (Vandemoortele, 2011). Also, the initiative sets ambitious targets and unrealistic timeframes, ignoring weak local capacity and ability for governance (Oya, 2011), the view contested by Barnes and Brown (2011) for not considering the magnitude of the effects of unachieved goals relating to basic human needs such as extreme poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender equality, child mortality and improved maternal health. The 15-year timeframe and limited resources and infrastructure constrain many countries (Fehling et al, 2013). The approach does not consider socio-economic contexts of different countries by recommending Meta Goals and Strategies (McCloskey, 2015 & Langford, 2010).

While the UN Secretary-General's 2010 report indicates that the shortcomings are due to unfulfilled commitments, limited resources, and lack of accountability, others attribute the failure to the poor implementation of policies and weak institutional frameworks in various countries (The Guardian, 2009). Furthermore, inconsistent data collected by individual countries and the quality of Meta Data of International Agencies affect the reliability of monitoring and evaluation outcomes (Friends of the Chair, 2006 & Sanga, 2011). Added to this is undue influence of international forums like the WTO, G7/G8, and OECD (Larionova, 2020), and over reliance on quantitative targets above the qualitative impact, thus presenting faulty outcomes that cannot translate to sustainable development (Fukuda-Parr & Greenstein, 2008).

### **.Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a New Framework**

SDGs are a global development administration framework. As a response to various reports on the limited impacts of MDGs and the advocacy for a more sustainable global approach, the 193 member states of the UN during the 70th session of the United Nations General Assembly on September 25, 2015 adopts the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, to succeed the Millennium

Development Goals (MDGs), in 2015 (Jones et al, 2017). The SDGs cover year 2016 to 2030, encompassing 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, depending on five core pillars, commonly known as the 5Ps: People, Peace, Prosperity, Partnership, and Planet. The core objectives include eliminating global poverty, protecting the planet from environmental damage due to human activities and climate change, and promoting worldwide peace and prosperity by 2030 (Asaju, 2022). Unlike the MDGs, the SDGs offer a thoroughly vetted framework that is scientifically sound, politically acceptable, and easily understood by the public. These goals represent the best opportunity to foster necessary collaboration and alignment needed to implement global strategies for achieving a fair, healthy, and prosperous future for the present and future generations (Morton et al, 2017).

Indicators of sustainable development include the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare (ISEW), Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI), Human Development Index (HDI), Environmental Development Index (EDI), Sustainable Development Index (SDI), Wellbeing Index, and Ecological Footprint (EF). The most well-known of these is the Human Development Index, developed by the United Nations (Bartelmus, 2007). These indicators assess the state of socio-economic welfare and the quality of life of people and nations.

### **Implementing SDGs in Nigeria**

Nigeria signed on to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2016 and adjusts its national plans to align with the SDGs (Asaju, 2022). It establishes various institutional and legal frameworks to implement the strategies towards achieving the 17 goals (Akinloye, 2018), and introduces several initiatives for impactful implementations as follows: Coordination: The Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on Sustainable Development Goals (SSAP-SDGs) is the primary designated institution for the SDGs implementation. The office provides leadership and guidance, integrating SDGs into the Nigeria's national development plans, and creating an actionable implementation framework at the national, state, and local levels (SSAP-SDGs, 2017). The SSAP-SDGs reports to the Presidential Advisory Committee led by the President. Additionally, the office interacts regularly with key stakeholders, including those in the public sector, state and local governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector. It engages in cross-sector collaboration for the implementation, monitoring, and reporting and raising public awareness about SDG activities (SSAP-SDGs, 2017).

Strategies: One of the strategies initiated to avoid repeating the failure of MDGs is the integration of the SDGs initiative to the national development programme and

deploying various officials to relevant government ministries, departments and agencies in line with the established structure, to facilitate effective implementation. Another strategy is hierarchical flow of communication. The Presidential Committee on SDGs (PC-SDGs) heads the structure. It collaborates with stakeholders, including the private sector (PS) and civil society organisations (CSOs), which are regulated by the National Committee on Conditional Grants Scheme (NCCGS). The OSSAP-SDGs also collaborate with the Minister for Budget and National Planning and the National Economic Council, and in turn reports directly to the PC-SDGs. Focal persons from various Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDA) coordinate with the National Economic Council (NEC) and the Minister for Budget and National Planning. At the community level, focal persons (CFPs) work with local government focal persons (LGFPs), who report to state government focal persons (SGFPs). The SGFPs then report directly to the OSSAP-SDGs (Emah, 2023).

**Roadmap:** OSSAP-SDGs designed a roadmap focusing six key areas for implementation in three phases; policies, institutions, data management, partnership, communications, and finance. Phase 1 (2016–2020), Phase 2 (2020–2026), and Phase 3 (2026–2030) (McDicksen 2016). The first phase aims to build on existing foundations, establishing effective institutions, innovative policies, political support, and integrating SDGs into national and sectorial policies. The second phase focuses on scaling up to full implementation, ensuring institutions monitor and enforce the agenda and policies. The final phase aims to achieve full coverage in the most challenging areas to facilitate inclusivity (Akinloye, 2018).

**Impactful Actions:** Government through various established structure initiates different impactful actions that are specific to some of the prioritised goals. Federal government initiated some safety net programmes through the National Social Investment Programme (NSIP) office to eradicate poverty in line with SDG 1. The NSIP office launched four initiatives— N-Power, Conditional Cash Transfer, Government Enterprise and Empowerment, and Home Grown School Feeding Programmes. Ministry of Budget and National Planning and associated MDAs implements the programmes through a fair and transparent process. More than 4 million benefited nationwide (Ojo, 2023). For instance, the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) programme targets a total of 765,760 beneficiaries, with 80 beneficiaries from each political ward across the 774 Local Government Areas. The aim is to accommodate 30% of the beneficiaries in the first year, 50% in the second year, and the remaining 20% in the third year (Ejiogu, 2024). Another impacting action is the realigning of National development plans with the SDGs. One of it is the realigning of the National Statistical System (NSS) with the SDG requirements and indicators for effective tracking and monitoring of interventions nationwide. About 70% of the SDG indicators relies on administrative data sources, while the remaining 30% on periodic surveys. In addition,

Nigeria develops a home-grown Integrated Sustainable Development Goals (ISDG) Model, as an analytical framework to assist policymakers in effectively managing the interconnectivity of the SDGs. Also, the strengthening of evaluation process, to align national and state planning with the SDGs, assist in generating the 2020 Voluntary National Review (VNR) report from about 46 evaluations (Second Voluntary National Review, 2020).

Notably, Federal Ministry of Health initiates various health policies and strategies towards the provision of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by developing legal framework, strategic plans, and establishing organizations to incorporate the goals of SDG3 at various levels; federal, state, and the local government areas (LGA), health facilities, and community programmes. These include the Basic Health Care Provision Fund (BHC PF), the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), the Primary Health Care Under One Roof (PHCUOR) Initiative, Nigeria's Strategy for Immunization and PHC System Strengthening (NSIPSS, 2018-2028), Community Health Influencers, Promoters & Services (CHIPS), the National Health Act (2014), the Health Sector Next Level Agenda (2019-2023), the National Health Sector Strategic Plan II (2018-2022), and the National Health Policy (2016) (Ndamobissi et al, 2023). The activities of public sector entities are equally essential to the success of SDGs by 2030 because they account for nearly 45% of the country's overall economic development (Nwobu, 2015). The National Framework for Sustainability Disclosure for public sector entities provides the processes for incorporating sustainability and ESG into organizational reporting frameworks. This framework includes core principles on sustainability and specifies reporting requirements for sustainable performance of these entities (Olayinka et al, 2024). Finding of the survey by Olayinka et al (2024) on the state of SDGs and sustainability practices of public sector entities in Nigeria indicate that public sector organisations, practitioners and policymakers are increasingly interested in SDGs and sustainability. He further advocates adopting international best practices, particularly by using the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) indicators to strengthen the entities.

### **State of SDGs Implementations in Nigeria**

Emah (2023) argues that though Nigeria has improved from rank of 160 out of 166 countries in 2020 to 146 out of 166 in 2023, the overall evaluation of government interventions shows the implementation is slow, limited and insufficient with an index score of 54.3 and a spillover score of 98.5. However, by 2024, SDGs Ranking is 146/166, with index Score of 54.58/100, while the Spillover ranking that assesses a country's action that can have positive or negative effects on efforts to attain SDGs ranked Nigeria 16/166 with Spillover score of 96.55/100. This study through review of

secondary data as contained in the Sustainable Development Report 2024 qualitatively classifies the Nigeria's Achievement Trend (AT) on each of the seventeen (17) goals into moderately improving, stagnating, decreasing, and unavailable information. The result indicates AT of 29, 47, 12, and 12 % classifications respectively. The table below further clarifies:

**Table 1 SDGs Implementation in Nigeria**

SDG	SDG TITLE	HEADLINE INDICATOR	ACHIEVEMENT TREND	PROGRESS TRACKING
1	No Poverty	Poverty headcount ratio at \$2.15/day	Decreasing	Major challenges
2	Zero Hunger	Prevalence of undernourishment	Stagnating	Major challenges
3	Good Health and Well-Being	Maternal mortality ratio	Stagnating	Major challenges remain
4	Quality Education	Participation rate in pre-primary organized learning	Information unavailable	Major challenges remain
5	Gender Equality	Demand for family planning satisfied by modern methods	Stagnating	Major challenges remain
6	Clean Water and Sanitation	Population using at least basic drinking water services	Moderately improving	Major challenges remain
7	Affordable and Clean Energy	Population with access to electricity	Stagnating	Major challenges remain
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth	Adjusted GDP growth	Stagnating	Major challenges Remain
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	Rural population with access to all-season roads	Moderately improving	Major challenges remain
10	Reduced Inequalities	Gini coefficient	Information Unavailable	Challenges remain
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities	Proportion of urban population living in slums	Stagnating	Major challenges remain
12	Responsible Consumption and Production	Municipal solid waste	Moderately improving	SDG Achieved
13	Climate Action	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from fossil fuel combustion and cement production	stagnating	Challenges remain

14	Life Below Water	Mean area that is protected in marine sites important to biodiversity	Moderately improving	Major challenges remain
15	Life on Land	Mean area that is protected in terrestrial sites important to biodiversity	Stagnating	Significant Challenges remain
16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	Homicides	Decreasing	Major challenges remain
17	Partnerships for the Goals	Government spending on health and education	Moderately improving	Challenges remain

*Source: Sustainable Development Report 2024. Available at: <https://dashboards.sdindex.org/profiles.nigeria>*

### **Challenges in Third World Countries**

There are different perspectives and findings on the limitations and challenges hindering the implementation of SDGs in the third world in general and Nigeria in particular. Global effects on LDCs are a major issue limiting the strength of SDGs as global inclusive development strategy. LDCs faces interconnected global challenges; economic, technological, demographic, environmental, security, and governance related that severely hinder the prospects of achieving the SDGs. These challenges are exacerbated by income inequality, automation, unemployment growth, demographic imbalances, climate change shocks, political instability, security threats, and weak domestic governance. Despite progress in reducing vulnerability, LDCs remain highly susceptible to global economic and environmental shocks, which disproportionately affecting them and likely to worsen by 2030. The poor historical performance of LDCs, worsening economic climate, and new global challenges will limit their progress unless significant action is taken both domestically and internationally (Dahlman & Mealy, n.d).

According to the United Nations (2021), the COVID-19 pandemic greatly eroded most of the gains towards reducing poverty across the globe after the effects of 1990s Asian financial crisis, and significantly compounds the efforts towards ending poverty by 2030. Nigeria is not exempted from this experience. The pandemic set back the progress made in implementing the SDGs. President Buhari in the 2020 VNR report acknowledges the health and socioeconomic consequences on Nigeria's progress towards achieving the SDGs. Thus, though there are some gains across various goals and indicators, significant obstacles constrain reaching many of the targets (Second Voluntary National Review, 2020). Despite efforts by federal and state governments

to contain the spread of the pandemic, its negative effects on socio-economic development and other areas persists beyond 2020, which derail the implementation of the 'Decade of Action' for the SDGs initiated in January 2020 (Second Voluntary National Review, 2020).

Using Nigeria as a case study, Lawrence et al (2020) analyses the inhibitors to SDG 4 (inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all) implementation and how they interact in developing countries. The primary issue identified is poor funding. The causes include reallocating education funds to new priority issues like conflict management and disease outbreaks, losses due to corruption and fund misappropriation, incorrect prioritisation and defunding of education by political actors for personal gain, frequent changes in educational policies leading to wasteful investments, and misguided developmental priorities, such as focusing most of the budget on infrastructure instead of balancing it, to also prioritise human capital development and education. Therefore, the consequences of poor funding include inadequate learning environments, dilapidated buildings, broken school furniture, lack of computer and internet facilities for eLearning, insufficient potable water for hygiene, demotivated and inefficient teachers, low academic standards, poor external exam results, and preference for expensive well-managed private schools that are not affordable to most people (Lawrence et al, 2020). Krishna et al. (2022) argued that raising awareness is crucial for achieving the goals in various countries. The level of awareness about SDGs is pivotal to actualising the goals, yet most African countries lag behind in this aspect. In Nigeria, Akinlolu et al. (2017) found in their study that public awareness of the SDGs has not significantly improved. The low level of awareness about the SDGs remains a major concern in the country, potentially jeopardizing the achievement of these goals. Essentially, there is growing concern about the low level of awareness because it is widely acknowledged that without greater awareness, the general public will be unable to hold relevant stakeholders accountable. In Ghana, despite the efforts to achieve SDG 17, concerns remain about the level of public awareness of these goals. It is widely believed that Ghanaians have limited awareness of the SDGs, which hinders support and participation in policies and programmes aimed at realizing these goals (Odom et al, 2024).

SDG 17 highlights the essential role of partnerships in sustainable development, with the hope that such collaborations will engage a diverse array of stakeholders in exchanging knowledge, expertise, technology, and resources to accomplish the global goals. Nevertheless, research has demonstrated that these partnerships frequently fall short of their objectives (Beirmann et al. 2012). Hence, they face challenges relating to limited participation and inclusivity, leading to unequal representation, especially in the Global South (Enechi & Pattberg, 2024). Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) is no exception to these issues. Enechi & Pattberg (2024) in their research found out that there are over

150 stakeholders actively involving in about 134 partnerships in Nigeria, primarily consisting of NGOs and federal government agencies. While NGOs, national actors, and businesses constitute 88% of participants, the local government and community actors are mostly absent. Globally focused partnerships are mainly dominated by national actors, with limited involvement of subnational actors, academics, and local governments. This trend undermines the bottom-up sustainability governance approach intended for the SDGs, which emphasizes participation and inclusiveness in implementing the Global Agenda 2030. This poses significant governance risks to multi-stakeholder partnerships, especially in the design of their initiatives.

Implementing the SDG agenda necessitates systematic data management and a robust institutional framework and methodology, in generating and processing data to ensure effective communication (Okpachu & Isa, 2019). Poor-quality, outdated, and incomplete data hinder effective decision-making, creating a significant challenge in tracking progress across developing countries over time. The lack of reliable data poses a major obstacle in evaluating the performance of SDGs in less developed countries. Incomplete data compromises accuracy in measuring SDG performance, impairing organisational decision-making, and potentially leading to flawed predictions. These issues raise concerns about the impact of data scarcity in assessing countries' progress. Without high-quality data, sustainable development efforts are likely to achieve little (Nilashi et al, 2023).

### **Challenges Limiting SDGs in Nigeria**

The implementation of the SDGs has been in progress for over a decade and a half, with only six years remaining for the conclusion of the plan, however, Nigeria's socio-economic indicators show little improvement. The country continues to struggle with high rates of hunger, poverty, unemployment, inequality, illiteracy, diseases, deteriorating infrastructure, environmental pollution, degradation, and a substantial debt burden, among other issues. Nigeria faces numerous environmental sustainability challenges, including severe flooding due to rising sea levels in Lagos and other southern and north-central cities, and also the desertification in northern region, and shrinking of Lake Chad in the northeast. These issues lead to human insecurity, such as loss of livelihoods, reduced agricultural output, and sometimes dangerous tensions and armed conflicts from climate change-induced migration. Similar to other sub-Saharan African nations, Nigeria contends with resource limitations, weak institutional capacities, infrastructural deficits, and a fragile socio-political environment, all of which hinder efforts to address these problems (Enechi & Pattberg, 2024). The major issues include:

**Corruption:** Despite the various Safety Net programs that have been implemented by the federal government, the poverty level in African's most populous state today is very high at 63% (UNDP, 2022). Balogun (2023) attributes the inability of the Nigerian government to meet the SDG 1 to corruption. Although programmes and measures have been taken to curb it, the efforts by previous and current government to reduce poverty largely failed due to pervasive corruption, affecting all aspects of society. Accountability and transparency are lacking in government institutions, and corruption has become so entrenched that those who are not corrupt are viewed as 'abnormal'. Human rights violations without a strong redress mechanism impacts adversely on democratic governance and inclusive decision process (Aderogba, 2022). In such environment, sustainable development is impossible because the institutions responsible for it have been compromised (Balogun, 2023).

**Quality of implementation:** Despite nearly 20 years of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) programme and 15 years since the implementation of the UBE Act (2004), Nigeria's education system still faces numerous challenges. These include 13.2 million out-of-school children and persistent gender disparities in basic education. Additionally, the quality of education remains problematic, with unsatisfactory pupil learning outcomes. Average scores in literacy, numeracy, and life skills range from just 30 percent to 52 percent (Ejiogu, 2024). According to the World Bank (2018), Nigeria has approximately 9 million children out of school, one of the highest numbers, globally for primary-age children, with over 90 percent of these children residing in the Northern Nigeria. The report also emphasizes that merely being in school is insufficient; increasing access to education without ensuring its quality will not enhance learning outcomes. Only 20 percent of Nigerian adults aged 18-37 who completed primary school can read compared to 80 percent in Tanzania. High-quality school inputs, such as adequate infrastructure and teaching materials, are crucial but remain scarce across the country.

**Data:** Furthermore, lack of accurate data hinders effective decisions that can inform development objectives. From the baseline report to the two Voluntary National Reports (VNRs), data were missing for several indicators under some of the SDGs. Additionally; some goals are not reported in either of the VNRs. Specifically, there is no narrative for SDG 7 in the VNRs, the first VNR lacked entries for Goal 8, and the second VNR has no information on Goals 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 15. Effective tracking of SDG implementation is fundamentally data-driven. However, Nigeria still struggles with weak data production and management system across all three tiers of government (Ejiogu, 2024).

## **Policy Implications**

The implications of the findings for policy decisions are:

1. The revelation indicate that government yearly budgeting is not aligned to the SDGs goals
2. The implementation plan does not take into consideration scalability of required projects to achieve various goals.
3. Implementation evaluation is weak. Thorough evaluations for appropriate feedback to decide interventions to mitigate the identified gaps are not given consideration by the appropriate authorities.

## **Requirements to Achieve SDGs in Nigeria**

In order to address the issues that undermined the effectiveness of SDGs as global framework for development administration in Nigeria, government need to guarantee the following key requirements:

### **1. Political Commitment and Governance**

Strong political will and effective governance are crucial for the successful implementation of the SDGs. Government must prioritise sustainable development in their national agendas and commit to transparent, accountable, and inclusive governance. Effective governance structures ensure the policies are implemented efficiently and the progress is monitored and evaluated. According to Sachs (2015), political leadership is essential for mobilising resources, fostering international cooperation, and driving the implementation of the SDGs.

### **2. Financial Resources and Investment**

Adequate financial resources are necessary to achieve the SDGs. This includes domestic funding from national budget as well as international aid and private sector investments. Innovative financing mechanisms, such as blended finance and public-private partnerships, can also play a significant role. According to the United Nations (2015) achieving SDGs will require trillions of dollars in investments annually. Mobilising these funds entails comprehensive financial strategies and collaboration between governments, international organisations, and the private sector.

### **3. Effective Policies and Institutions**

Implementing effective policies that can promote sustainable development is a

cornerstone to achieving the SDGs. These policies should address economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental sustainability. Strong institutions are needed to design, implement, and monitor these policies. Rodrik (2014) emphasises the importance of tailoring policies to local contexts and ensuring they are evidence-based and inclusive.

#### **4. Capacity Building and Technology Transfer**

Building the capacity of individuals, institutions, and countries is essential for achieving the SDGs. This includes education and training programmes, institutional strengthening, and the transfer of knowledge and technology. Access to advanced technologies can significantly enhance efforts in areas such as renewable energy, healthcare, and sustainable agriculture. The World Bank (2016) recommends technology acquisition and investments in research and innovation in driving sustainable development. Inability to prioritize capacity building and technological transfer will undermine the strength of initiative like SDGs as international development administration framework (Aderogba & Aderogba, 2022)

#### **5. Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships**

Achieving the SDGs requires collaboration between governments, civil society, the private sector, and international organisations. Multi-stakeholder partnerships leverage the strengths and resources of different actors, fostering innovative solutions and ensuring broad-based support for sustainable development initiatives. The United Nations (2015) underscores the importance of partnerships in mobilising resources, sharing knowledge, and coordinating actions to achieve the SDGs.

#### **6. Monitoring and Accountability**

Regular monitoring and accountability mechanisms are vital for tracking the progress and the SDGs outcomes and ensuring the commitments are met. Reliable data collection and analysis enable policymakers to assess the effectiveness of their strategies and make informed adjustments. Transparent reporting and accountability frameworks also build public trust and encourage continuous improvement. The United Nations Development Programme (2016) advocates for robust monitoring systems and the use of indicators to measure progress on the SDGs.

#### **Conclusion**

There is gradual effort to reform global development towards achieving inclusivity; this is a shift from previous development framework that disregards unequal resources and ecological components among nations. SDG is proposed as framework towards achieving global inclusive developments. However, there are doubts especially among

third war nations, on the possibility of the less developed countries achieving the target by 2030. The paper examines these possibilities in Nigeria. The findings reveal that Nigeria has achieved little in most of these target goals; however, it provides recommendations to address the challenges of implementation.

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