

Ayika – Journal of Environment and Politics in Africa Vol. 7, No.1, 2025

Editorial note

Editorial Note

In the evolving discourse on environmental governance and political interactions in Africa, AYIKA: Journal of Environment and Politics in Africa stands out as a critical scientific platform that promotes in-depth engagement and dialogue among a diverse array of stakeholders, including researchers, policy analysts, and civil society. The complex interconnection between environmental challenges and political frameworks necessitates a nuanced exploration of these relationships, as evidenced by the growing consensus among scientific and political communities regarding the fundamental causes of environmental degradation. Creating a conducive environment for comprehensive exploration, AYIKA seeks to elucidate the nuances of environmental governance and its far-reaching implications for sustainable development across the African continent.

Among the significant research themes featured in this journal is the insightful study on the impact assessment of Nigeria- Benin Republic border management policies. This inquiry emphasizes the critical need for effective policy frameworks that address transnational environmental challenges while also considering the socio-economic and political landscapes of the involved nations. Merging empirical findings with theoretical insights, this research strives to enhance our understanding of border management and its consequences for both countries' environmental sustainability and political stability, thereby emphasising the imperative for collaborative governance strategies.

Similarly, the investigation of harnessing emerging technologies to transform education and human capital development in Zimbabwe advocates for a progressive approach to human capital investment in relation to environmental sustainability. This examination highlights the intersection of technological advancements, educational reform, and developmental strategies, illustrating the potential of innovative solutions to boost socio-economic resilience amid the complexities of the Anthropocene.

In addition, the analysis of the OJUDE- OBA Cultural Festival as an instrument for sustainable community development in Nigeria emphasises the profound connections between cultural practices and sustainable development. This comprehensive perspective reveals that cultural festivals can serve not only as celebratory events but also as strategic catalysts for nurturing community engagement, fostering environmental stewardship, and advancing socio-economic development. Through these diverse research topics, AYIKA champions a holistic understanding of the critical nexus between environment and politics in Africa, thereby laying the groundwork for future scholarly contributions in this vital area of study.

As editors, we extend our heartfelt appreciation for the invaluable and insightful contributions that enrich the discourse presented in AYIKA. These contributions are vital in navigating the complexities of the relationship between environment and politics in Africa and beyond. In the same spirit, we invite a global audience to actively engage with this discourse, as collaborative dialogue and diverse perspectives are essential for fostering innovative solutions and advancing sustainable development efforts. Together, let us continue to deepen our understanding and take meaningful action toward addressing the pressing environmental and political challenges that affect not only Africa but the world at large.

Guest Editor

Dr Ishmael Iwara

Institute for Rural Development

University of Venda, Thohoyandou, South Africa

Rated Researcher by the South African National Research Foundation (NRF).