

**ACHIEVING A COHERENT LEGISLATION FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY
SUB-SECTOR IN NIGERIA: A MAJOR TASK FOR THE 10TH ASSEMBLY**

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ABSTRACT

Our world is threatened by climate change and the reason for this is not farfetched—fossil fuels. It has been recommended that as against non-renewable energy that is popularly used a shift to utilising renewable energy is imperative. Nigeria has made certain strides in ensuring renewable energy is utilised. However, the 10th National Assembly needs to identify that a basic issue compromising effective results in this sector is too many laws and policies which does not spell a clear framework and pathway. Using the doctrinal research method, this work has looked at the existing legal framework for renewable energy and the policies regulating it. This work has gone further to identify the basic challenges facing the present legal framework. Hence, the work gives proposals on spheres of the renewable energy sector which, if considered, will enhance and ensure that a coherent legal framework is birthed by the 10th National Assembly.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Renewable energy is energy drawn from sources that are naturally replenishing. It comes from natural sources and examples of such sources are the sun and the wind.¹ Our society is driven by different forms of energy and there is a great need to identify this energy and the laws guiding its administration. Also, since human existence is hinged primarily on laws and regulations to control animalistic instinct, so are laws used in the regulation of the renewable energy sector

Hence, the following subject matter gives a robust perspective to the topic at hand, this work will consider, the sub-theme: existing legal framework on renewable energy in Nigeria—here, the focus lies not only on the extant and extinct legal framework but similarly, the challenges of the legal framework and policies. Furthermore, this work will give an overview of the proposed legal framework for achieving coherent legislation for renewable energy in Nigeria and compare this with the legal framework of other top-performing countries and their extant legal frameworks.

2.0 CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

In setting the pace for this work, there is the need to clarify the terms that will be used and how they have construed matters in the understanding of the overall work. Hence, the following reoccurring concepts will be defined:

¹ United Nations, “What is Renewable Energy,” available at: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/what-is-renewableenergy#:~:text=Renewable%20energy%20is%20energy%20derived,that%20are%20constantly%20being%20replenished> (accessed on 24 June 2024).

2.1 Renewable Energy

Renewable energy comes from natural sources that replace themselves more quickly than they are used up. Examples of such sources that are continuously replenished are the sun and the wind. On the other hand, non-renewable fossil fuels like coal, oil, and gas require hundreds of millions of years to create. When fossil fuels are used to create energy, they emit dangerous greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide. More emissions are produced by burning fossil fuels than by producing electricity from renewable sources. The key to solving the climate catastrophe is switching from fossil fuels, which now produce the majority of emissions, to renewable energy. In most nations, renewables are now more affordable and create three times as many jobs as fossil fuels.²

2.2 Legislation

There is no definition of the word “*Legislation*” in the Black’s Law Dictionary, however, what is defined is the word “*Legislative*” which means relating to law-making or the enactment of law.³ In context, this means an already passed law or codified law enacted by the legislative arm of the government.

2.3 Coherent

According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the word “*Coherent*” simply means or can be substituted with “*logically*” or “*aesthetically ordered or integrated*” and this in its more simplistic term means consistent.⁴ Hence, for this work, our focus will be that the current legal framework for renewable energy is haphazard and inconsistent and

² United Nations, “What is Renewable Energy,” Ibid.

³ Bryan Garner, ‘Black’s Law Dictionary.’ (St. Paul, MN: Thomson Reuters, 2014).

⁴ Merriam Webster Online Dictionary, available at: <<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/coherent>> (accessed 29 June 2024).

this creates a need for the 10th National Assembly to create a more consistent, coherent, and logical or aesthetically ordered legislation for renewable energy in Nigeria.

3.0 EXTANT LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

A functioning and coherent legal framework is essential in guiding a country towards effectively utilising its renewable energy resources. Through established legal frameworks, the government can control the use and dispensation of these resources. Hence, these are the substantive enacted laws and policies that bother on renewable energy and its regulation in Nigeria.

3.1 The Electricity Act 2023

The importance of a power sector in any society cannot be overemphasised.⁵ The Electricity Power Sector Reform Act was enacted by the National Assembly in 2005.⁶ Going in tandem with the trends of developed countries in the power sector, the Electricity Power Reform (ESPRA) Act 2005 was enacted. The Act revoked the National Electric Power Authority (NEPA) and the Electricity Act (not the extant Electricity Act of 2023). The framework of the Electricity Power Sector Reform Act involves initiatives that focus on fueling the flames of sustainable and safe energy. The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission has a duty to generate electricity using renewable resources

⁵ Oluwaseun Viyon Ojo, "An Overview of the Legal and Regulatory Framework for Renewable Energy Projects in Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects," *Unilag Law Review* (2017) (1)(1)30.

⁶ Prior to the establishment and enactment of the Electricity Power Sector Reform, there was in existence the National Electric Power Authority Act, Cap 256, LFN 2004; This act was saddled with the responsibility of developing and sustaining an efficient economical system of power supply in Nigeria. Electricity generation started in Nigeria in 1896. However, the first utility company was established in 1929. NEPA was then put in charge in the year 2000. The Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) now performs as the regulatory body of the Power Reform Act. Its duties include generation, transmission and distribution of electricity in Nigeria.

such as solar, biomass and wind to make available satisfactory and fitting technical and commercial methods for the sale of electricity to Nigerian consumers.⁷

In June 2023, an Electricity bill was signed into law by President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.⁸ The Electricity Act 2023 repeals the erstwhile ESPRA 2005. The substantive Electricity Act provides a better framework for the control and regulation of the power sector in Nigeria. It is concerned with areas such as the provision of a composite resource policy for transmission and utilisation of renewable energy in a bid to attract investors, distribution and supply of the rights of consumers concerning power and electricity usage. The jurisdiction of the Act cuts across the various metropolises in the region. However, unlike the ESPRA 2005, the Electricity Act allows for the generation, transmission and supply of power to be made by the other tiers of government. It does not strictly vest these powers on the Federal government alone. Currently, only Kaduna, Lagos and Edo have electricity laws and can independently operate by virtue of the provision. Other states are guided by the NERC in terms of the generation and distribution of electricity.

3.2 Energy Commission of Nigeria Act (ECA)

In 1979, the Energy Commission of Nigeria Act was promulgated. It was amended in 1988 and 1979. It is the apex government organisation empowered to carry out planning and implementation in the energy sector. The commission also introduces alternative energy resources such as nuclear energy, biomass, solar and wind. The commission is

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Oluyemi Ogunseyin, 'Electricity Act 2023: Ten important things to know,' (The Guardian, 13 June 2023) <<https://guardian.ng/news/electricity-act-2023-ten-important-things-to-know>> (accessed 29 June 2024).

vested with the power to coordinate and give general surveillance of the progress of the different energy resources in Nigeria.⁹

The Act vests on the Technical Advisory Committee the power to carry out the following functions. These functions include but are not limited to the following: gathering and disseminating information regarding the Government's policy on energy development,¹⁰ serving as a trouble-shooting centre for technical issues in energy development, advising state and Federal government on energy development issues, including funding for energy research and development, prepare master plans and policies for energy development exploitation, utilisation, project execution, project financing, incentives and recommendations to government and lastly liaise with all international organisations in energy matters such as International Atomic Energy Agency, World Energy Conference and other similar organisations.¹¹

3.3 Climate Change Act 2021

The Climate Change bill was signed into law in November 2021 by former President Muhammadu Buhari. This act was enacted to provide Nigeria with a legal framework for climate goals which is concurrently threatened by fossils from energy. Former President Muhammadu Buhari made a commitment at the COP 26 in Glasgow to achieve net zero emissions by the year 2060.¹² The Act establishes the National Council on Climate

⁹ 'Energy Commission of Nigeria' <<https://www.devex.com/organizations/energy-commission-of-nigeria-ecn-150225>> (accessed 29 June 2024).

¹⁰ The Act aligns with the Government's policy on developing, controlling and disseminating renewable energy. It simultaneously protects the environment from harmful effects of fossil fuel while distributing and harnessing renewable energy.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² 'Climate Change Laws of The World' *Interface* for the Climate Policy Radar Database, <<https://climate-laws.org/>> (accessed 24 June 2024).

Change which has the duty of implementing the country's climate action plan. Nigeria intends to achieve and sustain ownership of gas emissions (GHG) through green growth and sustainable economic growth and development.¹³ The Act compels any private organisation with 50 or more employees to put procedures in place in order to achieve the annual carbon emission reduction target. A climate change officer will be appointed to keep these private entities in check by subjecting them to a fine, whenever they fail to meet the target.

4.0 POLICIES AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Nigeria has a plethora of regulatory framework policies on renewable energy. These policies help to drive the implementation of projects that reduce energy use.

4.1. National Renewable Energy and Efficiency Policy 2015¹⁴

The Federal Executive Council endorsed this policy on 20 April 2015. It provides an outlook on the situation in Nigeria with goals and plans to implement renewable energy. It provides for capacity building and the utilisation of local workers and materials. The Federal Ministry of Power has the duty to regulate the activities of the Renewable Energy Efficiency Policy plan. It is the first and only tool for renewable energy development in Nigeria. The policy makes it compulsory that the Ministry of Power facilitates the development of the Integrated Resource Plan and sees to the

¹³ International Labour Law Organisation, Database of National Labour, Social Security, and related Human Rights Legislation
<https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex4.detail?p_isn=112597&p_lang=en> (accessed 25 June 2024).

¹⁴ The NREEEP is a policy document approved by the Federal Executive Council (FEC) in 2015 and forms the overarching policy on renewable energy and energy efficiency in Nigeria.

effectiveness of the actions agreed. It is focused on geothermal, biomass, solar, wind and tidal energy power generation.¹⁵

4.2 National Climate Change Policy 2021-2030¹⁶

The National Climate Change Policy (2021-2030) is aimed at implementing the established mitigation procedures to promote issues like high-growth economic development plans and low-carbon for a sustainable environment in Nigeria. It is well established that the climate is becoming a prevalent worldwide issue. The increasing climate variability calls for rapt attention, hence the establishment of the National Climate Change Policy. This policy identifies climate change as one of the major hindrances to economic growth and development. The main objectives of the Policy are to implement mitigation measures that will promote low carbon as well as sustainable and high economic growth, strengthen national capacity to adapt to climate change, raise climate-change-related science and technology that will enable the country to better participate in international scientific and technological operations on climate change, strengthen national institutions (policy, legislative and economic) to establish a suitable and functional framework for climate change governance.¹⁷

¹⁵ “African Power Platform,” available at: <https://www.africanpowerplatform.org/resources/reports/west-africa/nigeria/379-national-renewable-energy-and-energy-efficiency-policy-nreep.html?> (accessed 29 June 2024).

¹⁶ The National Climate Change Policy for Nigeria 2021-2030 assists the country in achieving its goal of meaningfully contributing of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and reduces the socio-economic impacts of adverse effects of climatic change.

¹⁷ “Climate Change Laws of the World” <https://climate-laws.org/document/national-policy-on-climate-change-and-climate-change-policy-response-and-strategy_95ff> (accessed 29 June 2024).

4.3 Renewable Energy Master Plan 2005¹⁸

The Renewable Energy Master Plan 2005 (REMP), urges the use of renewable energy and aims to offer a plan for its implementation. It conceptualises Nigeria's ambitions for renewable energy and tries to address the crucial elements in achieving them. By 2030, Nigeria's minimum power consumption is expected to exceed 315 MW, according to the REMP. The target is for renewable energy to make up more than 20% of the energy supply.¹⁹

4.4 Renewable Energy Policy Guidelines 2006²⁰

The Federal Ministry of Power published a paper in 2006 called the Renewable Energy Policy Guidelines (REPG) that outlines policy goals for the advancement and application of renewable energy. The main difference between the REPG and the REMP is that the REPG gives the distribution and production of renewable energy a higher priority. Additionally, it lays forth a plan for the efficient management of the Renewable Electricity Trust Fund. In order to promote the involvement of more stakeholders, the REPG also offers incentives for the use of renewable energy and suggests a five-year tax exemption as an incentive for investment in renewable energy.

These legal frameworks and policies amongst many others are the substantive laws and plans that the government has put in place to tackle some of the prevailing issues

¹⁸ The Nigeria Renewable Energy Master Plan (REMP) is a policy being implemented by Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Environment that aims to increase the contribution of renewable energy to account for 10% of Nigerian total energy consumption by 2025.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ The Renewable Energy Policy Guidelines 2006 (REPG) is a document by the Federal Ministry of Power that details policy objectives for the development and utilisation of renewable energy.

concerning tidal energy, hydro energy, geothermal energy, solar, wind, and biomass energies. Nigeria has not turned a blind eye to the growing need for the utilisation of renewable energy. However, we cannot say that the country has considered all possible means of saving energy by making use of renewable energies. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) released a report on 13 January 2023 stating that Nigeria can save about 40% of natural gas and 65% of oil with the introduction of the utilisation of renewable energy. Nigeria must invest in these energy sources to meet rising demands. Through this, Nigeria gets access to modern energy services that will in turn enhance the development of the country in relation to renewable energy.

5.0 CHALLENGES FACING RENEWABLE ENERGY LEGISLATION

Even though various existing frameworks regulate the energy sector in Nigeria, this sector has been faced with numerous challenges and obstacles. These challenges may, however, be the stepping stone to better renewable energy and providing clean power in Nigeria. The existing challenges that the energy sector has faced are discussed below.

5.1 Policy and Regulatory obstacles

Although there exists a framework for regulation of the renewable energy sector, it has been argued that these frameworks do not give a clear institutional framework for renewable energy in Nigeria.²¹ This is primarily premised on the fact that the existence of multiple frameworks does not guarantee efficiency. There has been a duplication of agencies and institutions. For instance, the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN), the Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission and the Ministry of Power all share similar

²¹ S.O Oyedepo, "Towards Achieving Energy for Sustainable Development in Nigeria" (2014) 34 *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Review*, 255, 269.

roles in the regulation of the energy sector. The duplication of these bodies and roles makes it difficult to have a clear institutional framework for renewable energy projects in Nigeria and this has affected its growth.²²

5.2 Finance Obstacles and High Cost

One of the setbacks that energy has faced in Nigeria is the high cost of technology that is needed.²³ As a result of how expensive renewable energy is, it becomes difficult for investors to invest. This is because they may not be able to generate profit because of the high start-up capital.

Electricity from renewable energy sources is more expensive than conventional energy and so fiscal or incentive mechanisms are needed to enable them to play a meaningful role in the total energy balance.²⁴ By implication, the absence of consistent financing options for this type of investment puts a clog on the advancement of projects on renewable energy.

5.3 Access to Grid

Most Nigerians do not have access to electricity and by default cannot access the national grid to obtain power supply. It is shown in numbers that more than 15.3 million Nigerian households lack access to grid electricity and those who are connected lack

²² E.I Efurumibe, "Barriers to the Development of Renewable Energy in Nigeria" (2013) 2(1) *Scholarly Journal of Biotechnology*, 11, 12.

²³ S. Amadi, "Ethics and Values in Sustainable Development," available at <www.nercng.org/index.php/nerc-documents/funct-startdown/267/> (accessed 6 June 2024).

²⁴ J.C. Bongaerts and G Dogbe, "Optimal Institutional Arrangements and Instruments for the Promotion of Energy and Renewable Sources." [Chapters](#), in: Michael Faure & Joyeeta Gupta & Andries Nentjes (ed.), *Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol*, chapter 9, pages 195-229, Edward Elgar Publishing.

consistent supply.²⁵ This poses a major challenge that the renewable energy sector faces. The hope that the cost of electricity from renewable energy sources will be lower than that of fossil fuel will be determined by factors such as the support mechanism provided as well as the grid connection procedure and the price of transmission.²⁶ The absence of provision for priority to the grid continues to remain a major barrier in Nigeria.²⁷

5.4 Poor Enforcement

There exists a host of laws that regulate the energy sector in Nigeria. However, this sector has been plagued with challenges and this suggests that the implementation of these policies is not adequate. The failure to implement these laws and policies has significantly affected the development of the energy sector in Nigeria.

5.5 Inadequate information

In Nigeria, there is inadequate data on renewable energy as the statistics are either not up to date or they are inaccurate.²⁸ It is recommended that data and statistics should be sufficient for both renewable energy and conventional energy, which should be reviewed from time to time as there is a need for energy agencies to work with the

²⁵ '15.3m Nigeria Households Lack Access to Grid Electricity-Group' (Premium Times, 15 December 2012) <<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/111301-15-3m-nigerian-households-lack-access-to-grid-electricity-group.html>> (accessed 29 July 2024).

²⁶ G. Bellantuono, "Comparing Regulatory Decision-Making in the Energy Sector," *Comparative Law Review* (2010) 1(2).

²⁷ K.M Usman, A.H Iza and J.O Ojosu, "Renewable Energy Financing: Towards a Financing Mechanism for Overcoming Pre-Commercialisation Barriers of Renewable Energy Financing System in Nigeria" (2012) 3 (4) *International Journal of Scientific and Engineering Research*, 1, 3.

²⁸ S.U Yamusa and A.H Ansari, "Renewable Energy Development in Two Selected African Countries: An Overview and Assessment" (2013) *Renewable Energy Law and Policy Review* 151, 153.

National Bureau of Statistics to ensure accurate statistics.²⁹ The implementation of this would ensure that accurate statistics are obtained that would boost viability of the energy sector.

Additionally, sufficient information can increase public support for the deployment of renewable energy and the lack of sufficient information may affect the level of public support. This is where statistics become crucial in the formation of policies and enactment of legislation on renewable energy. Creating a level of public awareness on the importance of renewable energy in Nigeria would enhance its promotion and a lack of it would be a setback.³⁰

6.0 PROPOSED LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CLIMATE IN NIGERIA

The crux of this work deals with a proposal for a legal framework. Albeit, the necessary preliminaries have been stated—the challenges facing the present framework and the present framework. This work will thus, not be completed without the necessary proposed legal framework.

6.1 Proposal and Recommendations

To achieve coherent legislation on renewable energy in Nigeria, there is a need for a pragmatic effort by the 10th National Assembly. This author proposes the following:

²⁹ P.K Oniemola, “Powering Nigeria through Renewable Electricity Investments: Legal Framework for Progressive Realisation” *International Association of Energy Economics*, 35 <<https://www.iaee.org/en/publications/newsletterdl.aspx?id=88>> (accessed 29 July 2024).

³⁰ Y.S Mohammed et al, “Renewable Energy Resources for Distributed Power Generation in Nigeria: A Review of the Potential” (2013) 22, *Reviews* 257, 266.

6.1.1 Harmonisation of Laws

There are blizzards of legislation and policies on renewable energy in Nigeria; this is a problem. Little or no focus seems to be achieved by virtue of the legislation. The problem with many laws is the problem of institutional duplication and inconsistent role clarification. For instance, the Energy Commission of Nigeria (ECN), Nigeria Electricity Regulatory Commission and the Ministry of Power, all share similar roles in the regulation of the energy sector for coherent legislation to be achieved, there is a need to reduce the laws and policies on the renewable energy sector and also the need for clear clarification of the roles of different agencies and parastatals vested with roles linked with the renewable energy sector. This way, uniform legislation is achieved that captures every segment and issue bordering on renewable energy in Nigeria.

In relation to the first proposal made, the 10th National Assembly should also consider the extant Energy Independence and Security Act of the United States which amongst everything, tried to harmonize the roles and responsibilities of government in the energy sector. This way, there is a clear landmark and template for the renewable energy sector which can be adopted in Nigeria.

6.1.2 Coherent Financial Model

The need for the law to create a coherent financing model showcasing a Public Private Partnership (PPA) for the renewable energy sector is necessary. The role of the government is predominantly hinged on the security and welfare of the people.³¹ However, renewable energy projects can be expensive and burdensome to the

³¹ S. 14 of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (as amended).

Government, hence, the need to involve the private sector. Therefore, it becomes necessary that a project financing model³² or any model that can ensure active participation of investors in this sector is achieved. For instance, the Project Financing Model was used in projects like the Azurra Independent Power Project, Egina Oil Project and Lekki Toll Gate Project which are good examples of where Project financing deals were used in Nigeria and how they played out. This should be codified and made extant in the uniform law on renewable energy in Nigeria. Even the Paris Agreement had stipulated financing for renewable energy.

6.1.3 Commitment to 2050 Zero Net Carbon Emission Goal

In accordance with the Paris Agreement on Climate,³³ there is a need for the 10th National Assembly to also consider our 2050 Zero Net Carbon Emission goal which Nigeria is committed to. The Climate Change Act was signed in 2021 which was in tandem with the Climate Pact in Paris. However, it must be remembered that in 2005 Nigeria had a Renewable Energy Master Plan. If climate change and renewable energy are global issues, there is a need to harmonize our laws with international expectations and requirements. For Instance, just like the United Kingdom became the first country to codify laws set to achieve net zero carbon emission, so should Nigeria be pragmatic

³² Project finance is the funding (financing) of long-term infrastructure, industrial projects, and public services using a non-recourse or limited recourse financial structure. The debt and equity used to finance the project are paid back from the cash flow generated by the project. Project financing is a loan structure that relies primarily on the project's cash flow for repayment, with the project's assets, rights, and interests held as secondary collateral. Project finance is especially attractive to the private sector because companies can fund major projects off-balance sheet (OBS).

³³ Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, FCCC/CP/2015/L.9/Rev/1 (Dec. 12, 2015); The Paris Agreement, often referred to as the Paris Accords or the Paris Climate Accords, is an international treaty on climate change. Adopted in 2015, the agreement covers climate change mitigation, adaptation, and finance.

in her laws in achieving the same? This cannot be done without coherent legislation for this. So, coherence here means that our laws should not only be restrictive and exhaustive at the same time but should also be in tandem with the expectations of the global community.

However, dissenting thoughts and perspectives might want to prevail. One such argument that persists is: *with every new pact or treaty signed, will Nigeria always enact a new law or policy while reneging on a previous legislative enactment?* The relevancy of such a treaty or pact will determine Nigeria's active participation. Climate Change is an issue that affects everyone and Nigeria is not exempted.

6.2 Comparison with Other Jurisdictions

To test the effectiveness of the proposed legislation, there is a need to compare it with economies that have strong renewable energy policies—two will be considered here.

6.2.1 United States of America

Certain renewable energy technologies and investments have long found a favourable market in the United States. There are several legal frameworks generally recognised in the United States and they will be discussed below. It has never been more crucial to have energy resiliency. Global priorities in the face of rising geopolitical tensions, shifting commodity prices, supply chain problems, and an increase in extreme weather events include stepping up renewable energy production, accelerating energy diversification, and enhancing energy storage³⁴. In addition, several external pressures

³⁴ Greg Matlock and Stephanie Chesnick, "Key Attributes of the US Renewables Landscape" (EY Americas, 15 November 2022) <https://www.ey.com/en_us/insights/energy-resources/3-key-attributes-of-the-us-renewables-landscape?WT.mc_id=10821189&AA.tsrc=paidsearch&s_kwcid=AL!10073!3!648300728075!p!!g!!>

are pressuring manufacturers of conventional energy sources to consider adopting cleaner, more effective operating practices.

The Energy Independence and Security Act³⁵ is an Act to advance the nation's energy security and independence, increase the production of green fuels, safeguard consumers, improve the efficiency of goods and infrastructure, advance the study and use of options for capturing and storing greenhouse gases, boost the federal government's energy efficiency, among other things.

The Energy Policy Act³⁶ is an Act to guarantee future employment through safe, economical, and dependable energy. The Federal Government must obtain at least 7.5 per cent of its electricity from renewable sources, according to the U.S. Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy.

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)³⁷ makes the single largest investment in climate and energy in American history, allowing the country to combat the global warming crisis, advance environmental justice, maintain its position as a global leader in domestic clean energy production, and put the country on track to meet the climate goals set forth by the Biden administration, including a net-zero economy by 2050. This act seeks to create loan opportunities for businesses and companies seeking to reduce fossil energy usage and create policies towards achieving sustainable renewable energy.

[energy%20regulations&gad=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwtO-kBhDIARIsAL6Lore5iv_agAeGuEBXEo8dft4dqTsn0JEgoFqxqeBsDYacCZELJwLUKCwMaAj7eEALw_wcB](https://www.eia.gov/energy%20regulations&gad=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjwtO-kBhDIARIsAL6Lore5iv_agAeGuEBXEo8dft4dqTsn0JEgoFqxqeBsDYacCZELJwLUKCwMaAj7eEALw_wcB)
> (accessed 30 July 2024).

³⁵ The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007.

³⁶ Energy Policy Act of 2005.

³⁷ The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) 2022.

6.2.2 The United Kingdom

The Energy Act 2013, which was passed in accordance with the Electricity Market Reform Programme (EMR), is largely responsible for implementing the regulatory framework that supports the United Kingdom's (UK) transition to clean energy. The EMR aims to transform the UK electricity system to ensure that the energy supply is reliable, affordable, and low carbon. Contracts for Difference (CfD) programs were among the key EMR delivery methods that provided long-term revenue stabilization for low-carbon power projects. In the UK, the CfD program is the main source of funding for new renewable energy projects.

The UK market for renewable energy continues to draw both local and foreign investment, with its offshore wind manufacturing sector reporting a record-breaking investment of £1 billion in 2021, the biggest yearly amount since the industry's inception in 2000. The rate of the shift to renewable energy is accelerating significantly in the United Kingdom in light of government aspirations to provide energy security and minimize the effects of climate change, as well as declining costs and increasing innovation. The government stated that it will bring clean, affordable and secure power to the people for generations to come in the Energy Security Strategy.

Also, to fulfil its obligations under the 2016 Paris Agreement to keep global warming well below 2°C, the United Kingdom became the first major economy in the world to codify in law an act to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050. As of 2021, the Department for Business, electricity and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) estimated that 19% of UK greenhouse gas emissions were related to the delivery of electricity. The amount of renewable energy connected to the grid has increased dramatically over

the last ten years, from 8 GW in 2009 to approximately 50 GW as of December 2021 or a 525% increase.³⁸

7.0 CONCLUSION

As rightly noted, the world's focus is on renewable energy because of the adverse effects of non-renewable energy and its impact on the environment. However, our laws seem not to be consistent and coherent as there are blizzards of laws permeating the space on energy in Nigeria. Hence, in retrospect, the nexus between the extant legal framework and the challenges facing renewable energy has been discussed in this work.

In furtherance to the aim of this research work, a proposal has been made on how coherent legislation on renewable energy can be met in Nigeria. This no doubt, will be one of the biggest tasks of the 10th National Assembly and so, our proposals have been subjected to the legislations applicable in other countries—which should be in tandem.

³⁸ Louise Dalton and Sabrina Polito, 'United Kingdom' *The Renewable Energy Law Review*, Fourth Edition, 203.