# INFLUENCE OF GLOBALISATION AND MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION ON GREEN ECONOMY IN AFRICA

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***Abstract**: Contemporary trading activities have changed due to the internationalization of production and distribution of goods and services and increasing flows of capital and investment which strengthen trade across the world. Today, less attention has been on the influence of globalisation on the activities of Multinational Corporations on the human environment in Africa. This study seeks to examine the influence of globalisation and Multinational Corporations on green economy in Africa. Besides, data for this study were obtained from secondary sources such as textbooks, journals and internet sources while content analysis was employed to analyse the data collected. This study argues that globalisation of production in contemporary International Economic Relations is promoted by Multinational Corporations whose activities have further led to the increasing levels of environmental pollution in Africa. Also, this study argues that the unregulated trade activities in Africa by MNCs is having damaging consequences on the environment as most African countries will have to reduce their environmental laws to lure Multinational Corporations (MNCs) to invest in their country which has further affected Africa's quest for Green economy. Lastly, African Union should develop new policy frameworks that will ensure that Multinational Corporations activities are environmentally friendly and are in compliance to global best practices as existing environmental laws in most African countries are ineffective to cope with contemporary environmental realities.*
***Keywords**: Globalisation, Multinational Corporations, Green Economy, Trade, Africa*

## INTRODUCTION

The aftermath of the Second World War especially around the 1950s and 1960s set the pace modern development as developing countries were faced with the issue of decolonization and the need to adopt western societies path to development, though less emphasis was placed on environmental policies. This is because policy makers then, in most western societies would rather sacrifice short-term development for hazy goals of long-term environmental stability. On the part of the developing countries, their focus was improving the living condition of their citizens through development.

It is pertinent to note that the preceding years before 1960s, there were little or nearly absence of the international community efforts at promoting global action that are geared towards protecting the environment. However, at the individual level the 1960s saw an early effort and then more extensive and robust awareness of the interconnections between human life and nature, which was extensively discussed in the work of Rachel Carson's book titled Silent Spring which recognized the dangers of pesticides accruing and drifting in environmental systems (Steans et al 2010).

Besides, the 1970s was a period that there is increase state involvement in environmental issues when compared to individual statements on environmental matters as policy makers are hitherto examining the relationships between environment, development, resources and human population. For instance, in 1972, delegates from 114 countries met in Stockholm for the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (UNCHE). Also, the 1970s was a period that mark the emergence of a strong debate between the nexus between environment and development (Steans et al 2010). It was against this background, that the thinking that if humans save the environment from various forms of pollution, the world will experience less development and if human society pollute the environment the world will witness more development, the implication is that the environment will be negatively affected. This debate is still on-going that humanity has lost sight of its relationship with environment in recent years.

Today, there is a common consensus among scholars and researchers in environmental studies that environment and development are mutually exclusive but politically not compatible. But the thinking amongst environmental experts is that there should be limits to growth, if growth is conceived in quantitative terms

The 1980s equally mark a watershed in global efforts at promoting sustainable environment by world leaders in which the concept of 'sustainable development'. Today, the concept of sustainable development' is one of the popular concepts in environmental literature today, though its usage has been contestable among scholars and researchers. Today, environmental related issues are gaining international attention especially among scholars and researchers in international political economy and environmental studies on the growing awareness of problems of resource scarcity, acid rain, ozone depletion and global warming that is having damaging consequences on human society.

On the whole, countries across the world, especially in Africa, are not left out as they are beginning to show commitment towards transiting to a Green Economy which has formed part of their national policy by adopting “green growth” or “low carbon” economic plans. Some countries that are making progress in this regard include Namibia, South Africa, Ghana, China, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa, Nigeria and Uganda. Hence, this study seeks to examine the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

## CONCEPTUAL REVIEW: GLOBALIZATION, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATION AND GREEN ECONOMY

The concept of globalization has been variously defined in the social science literature by scholars and researchers alike. The term "globalisation" has been variously defined in the literature by scholars. Mansbach et al (2008) assert that globalization involves those processes that join people universally together, thereby producing worldwide interdependence and featuring the rapid and large-scale movement of persons, things, and ideas across sovereign borders. Again, Mansbach et al (2008) identified seven key features of globalization to include: (1) the spread of global communication, (2) the growing competence of ordinary people and their participation in global politics, (3) the emergence of a global market, (4) the worldwide diffusion of secular and consumerist culture, (5) the emergence of English as the language of globalization, (6) the widening demand for democratic institutions and norms, and (7) the networking of groups to form a nascent global civil society (Mansbach et al 2008:744).

According to Field, and Field (2009:7) the term globalization is to refer to the “perceived changes that are taking place in the world economy, including the rapid growth of trade among nations, privatization of economic institutions, massive international flows of financial capital, and growth in the number and size of Multinational Corporations”.

However, the term “Multinational Corporations" has been a contestable concept in the International Political Economy, when it first gained prominence among scholars in the 1970s. The term “Multinational Corporation (MNCs)” (Spero & Hart 2007) is often used interchangeably with Transnational corporations (TNCs), Transnational Enterprises (TNEs) (O'Brien & Williams, 2007), Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) (Dunning 1998), International Firms and Global Corporations (Barnett & Muller, 1975)**.** O'Brien & Williams (2007) in their submission assert that most scholars have not made a clear distinction between these terms and have settled for one terminology without any reflecting on the implications of these terms. Multinational Corporation (MNCs) is also used interchangeably with Global Corporations which is refers to large scale firms. Richard Barnett was the first scholar to have popularized the concept of "Global Corporations" in the 1970s (Barnett & Muller, 1975)**.** Barnett and Muller (1975) emphasis were on the global outlook of large firms in terms of the impact of their activities.

O'Brien & Williams (2007:178) have argued that the term Transnational corporations (TNCs) reflected the United Nations usage and that scholars who supported the usage of this term "Multinational" give an erroneous impression that they consist of the merger of capital from more than one country, with a few exceptional cases. They further argued that the term Transnational corporations (TNCs) or Transnational Enterprises (TNEs) reflect more precisely that these firms are usually owned and controlled by citizens of more than one country in a bid to engage in direct production activities oversea. Heywood (2007:149) sees TNC as a company that controls economic activity in two or more countries, the parent company usually being incorporated in one state (the 'home'), with subsidiaries in others ('host'). Although, subsidiaries may be separately incorporated affiliates.

Mansbach and Rafferty (2008:744) see Transnational corporations (TNCs) as economic enterprises with operations in two or more countries. To O'Brien & Williams (2007) TNCs are firms that own and control production (value-added) facilities in two or more countries. This definition implies that TNCs must not be necessarily large in size, resources, organizational structure and influence. Similarly, Dunning (1992:3) sees MNCs as "an enterprise that engages in foreign direct investment (FDI) and that owns or controls value-added activities in more than one country". Again, in the submission of Dunning (1998) MNEs activity has widened and deepened (market-seeking and natural-seeking FDI to efficiency and strategic-asset-seeking FDI) firms that have to reappraise their locational strategies. Similarly, Goldstein and Pevehouse (2008:16) sees MNCs "as companies that span multiple countries with greater resources, and operate internationally with greater efficiency, than many small states". Notwithstanding, the term, Multinational Corporation (MNCs) is the commonly used terms in many International Political Economy literature today. For instance, Heywood (2007) buttressed this assertion that TNC is generally preferred as MNC because it reflects the extent to which corporate strategies and processes transcend national frontiers rather than merely crossing them.

On the whole, the concepts ‘Green Economy’ and ‘Green Growth’ is still vague in the African milieu as a significant population of Africans are living without access to modern energy which is fundamental in lifting millions of African living in poverty in relative terms. Today the concepts of ‘Green Economy’ and ‘Green Growth’ are deliberated and defined in by different institutions. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) sees Green Economy as one which is "low carbon, resource-efficient and socially inclusive" (UNEP, 2011:16). Bapna and Talberth (2011) define a green economy as "an alternative vision for growth and development; one that can generate growth and improvements in people's lives in ways consistent with sustainable development." They added that “a Green Economy promotes a triple bottom line: sustaining and advancing economic, environmental and social well-being”.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

There is growing research on Globalization Multinational Corporation and Green Economy in the International Political Economy in recent years. Death (2014) in his study of the green economy in South Africa identified four alternatives to the green economy such as Green revolution, Green growth, Green transformation and Green resilience in politics of the green economy in South Africa. Death study is significant to this study, because of its significant contributions to the existing literature on South African green economy. However, there is a gap in the literature that examines the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

Narayan et al (2010) examined the existence of the environmental Kuznets curve (EKC) in 43 developing countries between 1980-2004 in which they adopted the short-run and long-run income elasticity. The study revealed that long-run income elasticity is smaller when compared to the short-run income elasticity and there is the presence of EKC or inverted U relationship between carbon emission and economic growth. However, Perman et al (2003) used the panel cointegration to examine the existence of in 74 countries. The study did not support the presence of the (EKC). Nevertheless, these studies do not examine the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

Dijkgraaf et al (2001) examined the relationship between carbon emissions and per capita GDP for OECD counties from 1960-1990. The study did not discover the presence of EKC. Azomahou, et al (2006) used a nonparametric approach to examine the existence of the EKC hypothesis in 100 countries between 1960-1996. The study revealed that there are EKC in some of the countries studied. However, these studies do not examine the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

Charfeddine et al (2017) used Pedroni panel cointegration test and Granger causality in panel VECM framework to estimate the EKC hypothesis for 15 Middle East and North African countries between 1975–2007. The study revealed that real GDP per capita shows an inverted U-shaped relationship with EF in oil-exporting countries. Charfeddine et al (2017) study valid the EKC hypothesis. For the non-oil-exporting countries, the relationship between EF and economic growth is U-shaped, hence EKC is not supported. However, Charfeddine et al (2017) study does not examine the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

Olubusoye et al (2018) in their study investigated the presence of an inverted U relationship often referred to as the environmental Kuznets curve (EKC) in 20 Countries in Africa. The study revealed that in the short run Benin, Burkina-Faso, Burundi, Ethiopia and Mali, GDP has a positive effect on carbon emission but only Benin, Burkina Faso are statistically significant while Liberia Malawi, Zimbabwe, and Senegal have negative consequences on carbon emissions in the short run.

Today, countries in the world are beginning to recognise that improving the human environment is central to human welfare. Besides, the scaling up of the negative impact on globalisation on Green Economy in recent years has become a source of concern to policymakers. Some studies have demonstrated the relationship between international trade and environmental degradation (O'Brien et al 2007:357). but there nearly absence of research on the relationship between globalisation, MNCs and Green Economy in Africa. This has further necessitated our interest in this research on ways of improving the human environment. Hence, this study seeks to examine the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

There are various theories and models developed by Scholars from International Political Economy, Environmental Economics and Environmental Sciences to the study of globalisation, Multinational Corporation and Green Economy. For instance, Momoh (2015) used the Business Conflict theory to study globalisation and Corruption in Africa. Again, Momoh (2016) identified liberal theories such as Product cycle theory developed by Raymond Vernon (1966) in his work "International Investment and International Trade in the Product Cycle", OLI model developed by John Dunning, Oligopoly theory of Foreign Investment and a radical/Marxist theory developed by Stephen Hymer (1979) in his work titled: “The Multinational Corporation: A Radical Approach” used by scholars and researchers to study the activities of Multinational Corporations and Foreign Direct Investment.

Thomas and Callan (2007:13-15) used the circular flow model that shows the monetary flows of economic activity through the factor market and the output market. They also used the Materials Balance Model that positions the circular flow within a larger schematic to show the relationships between economic decision making and the environment in their study of the role of economics in environmental management.

This study uses the Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA). Field et al (2002) define "Impact" as the effects of any proposed policy (Field et al 2002:113). Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) entails the study of the totality of the environmental repercussion emanating from a course of action or policy on the environment. Economic Impact Analysis focuses on how environmental actions (a new law, technological advancement/ innovation, e.t.c.) affect an economic system in whole or parts. Besides, cost-effectiveness analysis involves the estimation of various alternatives option to compare the costs of the available options.

Field et al (2002:115) assert that cost-effectiveness analysis entails taking a given objective and costs out various alternative ways of attaining the objective. Moreover, damage assessment entails the act of public ownership of natural resources in which the citizens can be sued when they are responsible for releasing harmful substances that injurious to the environment. The goal of embarking on damage assessment is to estimate the value or extent of damages done to the environment by the citizens to know the amount can be recovered from the citizens who are liable for this act by the courts. Lastly, benefit-cost Analysis focuses on estimating the revenue using market analysis. It compares expected revenue from the environment with anticipated costs (Field et al 2002:114-118).

## GLOBALISATION, MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND GREEN ECONOMY IN AFRICA

Trading activities in recent years has changed by the internationalization of production and distribution of goods and services and increasing flows of capital and investment which strengthen trade across the world. Between 1945 and 1985 bulk of the trading activities occurred among developed countries of the world. By the 1980s trading arrangement around the world have changed significantly as some developing countries in a debt crisis. Thus, these developing countries, especially from Africa, Asia and Latin America, began to liberalise their economies by removing all forms of trade restrictions and promote import substitution to increase the volume of their trade (Tussie et al nd).

Besides, there is a growing concern among state actors that there is no conflicting interest between international trade and environmental regulation. Today, some states are in the dilemma of whether to assess environmental degradation from the perspective of the production process or finished point. According to the environmentalists, the production process is fundamental in deciding the impact on the environment due to increasing trading activities. Thus, environmentalists have been advocating for the inclusion of Production Process Managements (PPMs) into trade agreements. On the contrary, scholars who have argued that discrimination based on the production process would lead to discriminatory tendencies in the international market (Williams, 2001:5).

All over the world policymakers are faced with two interrelated challenges that focus on how to achieve structural change in a bid to promote higher productivity that is socially all-encompassing and that will link their economic development strategies with the environment. Thus, identifying the need to incorporate both the national objectives and to make industrial policy that is environmentally friendly is considered for engagement. This effort by states set the pace for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN 2015; Altenburg et al 2017:8).

What is known as Green Economy emerged in the middle of the global financial crisis when the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) called for a global Green New Deal, that will encourage countries to support the economic transformation to a greener economy. After the Rio+20 conference in 2012 Green Economy has become a concept of discussion in various conferences, seminars and workshops across the world. Today, the idea of a green economy promoted by donors and governments.

Moreover, studies have shown that Africa contribution to global emission stood at 2-3 per cent of the world's carbon dioxide emissions from energy and industrial sources when compared to the countries from the global north. But the African continent remains the most vulnerable continent in the world to the impacts of climate change such as the decrease in food production, flooding, drought, loss of biodiversity and changes in natural ecosystems. Today, Africa is experiencing increasing temperature of about 0.7°C with the tendency of the future rise in temperatures (United Nations Climate Change Conference 2006).

The foremost factors that trigger Green Economy in Africa are the availability of high diversity of natural resources such as agriculture, tourism and bio trade, the immense need for new energy sources and an abundance of natural capital especially from donor financing for Green Economy. Today, a green economy is regarded by states across the globe as a desideratum in addressing the increasing challenges of climate change, poverty, pollution, health and any number of goals towards improving the human standard of living and the environment.

Furthermore, questions such as should African countries achieve economic growth and development by first polluting or degrading the environment and later on clean up? Or should African countries leap the Pollution and environmental degradation stage in their economic growth and development? Or is it likely for Africa countries to change the direction of economic growth and development as well as degradation relationship in the continent? (Olusanya et al 2018).

Today, there is a debate between Liberal Political economists and environmentalists on the benefits from and the cost of international trade. On one hand, the Liberal Political economists, have argued that any attempt by the state or non-state actors at ensuring that trade is used to promote environmental standards will distort the existing market system. On the other hand, the environmentalists have argued that the use of trade to promote environmental standards will assist in correcting all the problems associated with market failures due to the inability of the market system to compensate for the damages its has caused the environment due to excessive mineral exploration and exploitation especially by MNCs in the chemical industries (Kegley et al 2011:584-585).

Many African countries such as Nigeria, South Africa, Ethiopia, Namibia and Rwanda have considered Green economy investment in recent years as one of the channels through which they can achieve economic growth and development that is sustainable, inclusive, and transformative (Klein, et al 2013). Over the years, African countries namely Burkina Faso, Ghana, Kenya, Benin, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda have developed their national Sustainable Consumption and Production programmes and national green economy strategies with key priority areas of engagement. For instance, Ghana has developed policies on Sustainable Development and Green Economy for Ghana to transition to a green economy through the advancement of sustainable consumption and production practices known as "Ghana Goes Green" and Ethiopia has developed a Climate Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) strategy, based on its Growth and Transformation Plan (2011 – 2015) (AfDB, 2012; (https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/news/six-african-countries-switch-green-business-development-sustainable-growth).

Studies have shown that globalisation of production led by Multinational Corporations have led to the increasing levels of environmental pollution globally as global assessment report shows that nearly 60 per cent of the world's ecosystem services were degraded or used unsustainably. Level of income inequality between citizens in the global north and global south have increased between 1990 and 2005 in more than two-thirds of countries across the world. While it is a truism that Africa continent contributes 2-3 per cent of global emission suffer more than the global north countries that produce more Carbon dioxide (Co2) emission to the global environment (Bapna et al 2011).

Also, global statistics have shown that global material extraction has doubled in the last 30 years, from around 36 billion tonnes in 1980 to almost 85 billion tonnes in 2013, with an overall growth of 132 per cent (Vienna University of Economics and Business 2016). Subsequently, environmental degradation has equally increased. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report 2014 has further shown that global annual CO2 emissions will need to be reduced 42 to 57 per cent by 2050, relative to 2010, and 73 to 107 per cent by 2100 (IPCC 2014; Altenburg et al 2017:5-6).

It is pertinent to note that the increasing level of poverty and environmental degradation in recent years has been traced to the failure of succession market and institutional that has made the economic model unable to promote sustainable development goals. Though, there far less framework that would ensure that polluters (in this context Multinational Corporations) to pay the full cost of their pollution in Africa. Bapna et al (2011) in their study shows that there are "missing markets" which implies that *"markets do not systematically account for the inherent value of services provided by nature, like water filtration or coastal protection*".

Besides, "market economy" based on a prevailing international economy that is characterized by various degrees of uncertainty is considered ineffective in providing essential public goods and services that will enhance the human standard of living (Bapna et al 2011). This is because in many economies today economic policies are usually designed by political actors, who are driven by certain interests and in most cases will not represent the interest of the citizens living in poverty. It is against this background that the concept of the green economy is designed to provide therapy to the challenges created by market and institutional failures through various of institutional reforms and protocols, tax reforms, and expenditure-based economic strategies.

Moreover, the pursuit of trade liberalization by state actors has rather enhanced than lead to environmental degradation while others have argued that the quest for trade liberalization by state actors have promoted unsustainable pattern of production and consumption (O'Brien et al 2007:357) which is detrimental to the environment. Today, there is a rising concern, especially among radical scholars that the use of trade to promote green economy has arguably been seen as a mechanism or strategy by the global north to hinder Africa's growth and development by obstructing African countries from gaining access to the global north market and keep the African continent perpetually underdeveloped. Besides, Ecologists have also argued that trading activities especially by MNCs in Africa over the years have further worsened the state of environmental degradation in the continent. Besides, it can be said that the continues unregulated and blatant disregard for environmental standards and regulations in many African countries such as Nigeria, Algeria, Gabon, Libya, Algeria and Egypt just to mention few by MNCs is having damaging consequences on the ecosystem of Africa. This is because, as MNCs expand their production beyond national frontiers. The home countries to these MNCs (usually the global north countries) whose resources base have depleted or have passed strict environmental laws to protect their environment will have to relocate to places like Africa for their production process, in ways shift the environmental burden from their home countries to their host countries in Africa.

The implication of this is that when these MNCs violate environmental rules and regulations, at the end African natural environment will deplete to the point that it will lead to various health hazards, land, water and air pollution. As it stands today, the activities of MNCs in the chemical industry in Africa is having damaging effects on the environment while home countries of these MNCs natural environment will be conserved while Africa's environment will be suffering from environmental degradation.

Also, unregulated production processes in Africa by MNCs have had affected African natural environment in recent years. This is encouraged by the massive relocation of MNCs from the global north with high environmental standard to the global south especially Africa with low environmental standards. Over the years, many global south countries especially in Africa such as Nigeria, Angola, Gabon, Algeria and Libya just to mention a few have lowered their environmental standards to lure Multinational Corporations (MNCs) to invest in their country. For instance, in Nigeria oil-rich Niger Delta region where there is the high level of oil exploitation and exploration, environmental regulations are often not respected by Multinational Corporations (MNCs) leading to environmental degradation in the region. These violations of environmental rules and regulations by Multinational Corporations (MNCs) which engages in oil exploration and exploitation across African countries which have further added to global environmental challenges.

Another implication of this is that African countries such Nigeria, Angola, Libya and Ghana becomes the major recipient of pollution while the home country of these Oil Multinational Corporations (MNCs) and other countries enjoy the production benefits at the detriment of the immediate environment of African countries and the global environment at large without suffering any loss emanating from environmental degradation especially on the immediate environment. This study argues that there is a need to develop and amend contemporary policy frameworks by state actors to regulate international trade.

Field et al (2009:7) in their submission assert that "*the global issues that are thrusting itself into the world`s consciousness is the greenhouse effect, the build-up of heat-trapping gases in the earth`s atmosphere that is producing long-run changes in global climate.”* From the above submission, it can be deduced that there is the urgent need of the international community to address the growing environmental problem facing the world which is a pointer that there are the environmental implications of globalization.

Today, many citizens around the world have pointed out the potential downside of globalization, one part of which may be the degradation of natural environments in developing countries. Globalization has become a dynamic concept, such that sometimes it is hard to cut through the rhetoric and identify the substantive issues that are involved. One aspect of globalization is the substantive increase that has occurred in the volume of trade among nations. Today, there is a consensus among scholars on the implications of the increases volume of trade on environmental from developed and developing countries. International trade in goods and services has been regarded as an engine of growth for the countries involved. Some people take the view that the long-run environmental implication of this is positive. Many others feed that unrestricted trade will have severe environmental consequences.

Another aspect of globalization is the growth of MNCs forms and the relocation of industrial firms from developed to developing countries. Environmental regulations are often less stringent in the letter than in the former. The fear is that some developing countries could become pollution havens, places to which forms move to have to spend less on pollution control measures. For instance, South Africa is the home to the highest number of Multinational Corporations in the African continent (Momoh, 2015).

Consequently, in 2010 South Africa recorded the highest amount of emissions put at 9.2 tons of Co2 emissions (tCo2e) per capita when compared to countries such as India with 1.7 tons of Co2 emissions (tCo2e), Brazil with 2.2 tons of Co2 emissions (tCo2e), China with tons of Co2 emissions (tCo2e) and the UK with 7.9 tons of Co2 emissions (tCo2e). Similarly, South Africa National Development Planning admitted that South Africa has since the 19$^{th}$ century engaged in mineral exploration and exploitation without taking cognisance of the environment (Death 2014:2). The implication of this is that South Africa contributed in a no small measure to the total amount of global Co2 emissions (tCo2e). Therefore, this call for policy redirection that is geared towards promoting a green economy.

Today, South Africa is rated as one of the leading green economies in the African continent (Dual Citizen, 2012:5). Also, South Africa is regarded as one of the prominent countries in the world that are committed to achieving sustainable development and adopt environmental diplomacy (Death, 2011). Similarly, Namibia a country in the Southern African sub-region has developed a policy framework that will transit its economy into green by managing its natural resources to produce economic, social, and environmental reimbursements. The Namibian government one it part has granted Namibians the rights to use wildlife and other natural resources in a way that will not be detrimental to the entire ecosystem. To sustain this effort the Namibian government is showing commitment by ensuring that Namibians in rural areas especially vulnerable groups such as women are provided with food, and are employed as well as provided with other necessities of life in a bid to reduce the pressure of Namibians on wildlife and other natural resources. One of the benefits of these efforts at promoting a green economy is that it promoting the conservation of the environment as there is an increase in the population of wildlife (Altenburg et al 2017).

## CONCLUSION

This study examined the relationship between globalisation, Multinational Corporations and the green economy in Africa. This study argued that many African countries are looking forward to Green economy investment as one of the ways through which they can implement a number programs that are geared towards transiting to the green economy but this effort has been impeded by the unregulated production process in Africa by MNCs which is affecting African ecosystem. Besides, Africa's quest for the green economy is further impeded by African states by lowing their environmental standards in a bid to encourage FDI by MNCs in their respective countries which have further affected Africa's quest for Green economy. On the whole, this has further resulted in absence of no general rule to achieve a transition to a Green Economy and the weakening of green economy policies that are in most cases not included within the national developmental framework in many African countries.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Firstly, the African Union should develop new policy frameworks that will ensure that Multinational Corporations operating in Africa production processes as well as finished products are environmentally friendly and are in compliance with global best practices.

Secondly, the African Union should pass a resolution that will be adopted and ratified by its members' states that will provide for similar environmental standard and regulations among African states.

Thirdly, African countries should individually make a strong commitment towards reducing their GHG emission by getting an increase in fuel conservation and efficiency, switching to low-carbon fuel, and reducing the use and emission of chemicals with high greenhouse impact.

Also, the government at all levels of governance in African states need political commitment for sustainable development, climate change mitigation and adaption as it remains key to achieving a green economy.

Furthermore, for African countries to promote the transition within the framework of sustainable economic development to Green Economy. They should bring the various government ministries concerned with economic growth and development as well as private sector actors on board.

Lastly, there is a need for African countries to change in both technological by switching to move fuel-efficient equipment and low-carbon fuels and change in driving habits and the adoption of less energy-intensive lifestyles.

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