



The role of green jobs in enhancing Urban sustainability in smart cities.

Quarter 1 Research paper

By Corporate Research Policy and Strategy



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ABSTRACT

The paper explores the important role of green jobs in fostering urban sustainability within the framework of smart cities. By 2030 Kenya is expected to create the second highest number of green jobs according to Financial Sector Deepening (FCB) creating 240,000 jobs linked to preservation and restoration of the environment where Konza is estimated to contribute approximately 5,000 green jobs. As urban areas continue to expand, the demand for sustainable practices becomes increasingly critical to address environmental challenges and enhance the quality of life for residents. Green jobs, defined as employment opportunities that contribute to preserving or restoring the environment, are essential for driving the transition toward more sustainable urban ecosystems. This research serves as a foundation for further research on labour demand across different sectors, regions and time frames. This study examines the multifaceted benefits of green jobs, including their impact on economic growth, community resilience, and environmental stewardship. By analyzing case studies from various smart cities, the paper highlights innovative approaches that integrate green employment with urban development strategies. The findings highlight the necessity of collaboration between government, private sector, and community stakeholders to cultivate a robust green job market. Ultimately, this research advocates for policies that prioritize green job creation as a fundamental component of urban sustainability initiatives in smart cities. We believe it is important to start with this narrow 2030 view because the 5,000 jobs will underpin broader growth in the green workforce. Konza Technopolis seeks to transform the area into Kenya's 'Silicon Savannah,' promoting a knowledge-based economy by fostering innovation, technology, and business ventures.

Keywords: *Green Jobs, Economic Transformation, Community, labor.*



1. Introduction

Green jobs encompass a wide range of roles, from renewable energy technicians and urban planners to waste management specialists and conservationists. These positions not only contribute to mitigating climate change and reducing ecological footprints but also stimulate local economies by creating sustainable employment opportunities.¹ As cities strive to meet ambitious sustainability goals, green jobs catalyze innovation and resilience, ensuring that urban development aligns with ecological principles. This paper aims to investigate the important role that green jobs play in enhancing urban sustainability within Konza Technopolis. By examining existing literature and case studies, we explored how green employment initiatives contribute to economic growth, improve environmental quality, and foster community engagement. Ultimately, this research seeks to highlight the importance of integrating green jobs into urban policy frameworks as a strategic approach to building sustainable and livable cities for future generations.²

As the global population increasingly gravitates toward urban centers, the challenge of achieving sustainability in these densely populated areas has become paramount. Smart cities—urban areas that leverage technology and data to improve the quality of life for their residents—offer a promising framework for addressing the complex interplay of social, economic, and environmental factors. Central to the success of smart cities is the integration of green jobs, which are defined as employment opportunities that promote environmental sustainability and resource conservation.

2. Purpose of Study

The primary purpose of this study is to explore and analyze the role of green jobs in enhancing urban sustainability within the context of smart cities. Specifically, this research aims to achieve the following objectives:

- i. To Assess the Impact of Green Jobs:
- ii. To Identify Best Practices:

¹ Stanef-Puică, M. R., Badea, L., Șerban-Oprescu, G. L., Șerban-Oprescu, A. T., Frâncu, L. G., & Crețu, A. (2022). Green jobs—A literature review. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(13), 7998.

² Moglia, M., Frantzeskaki, N., Newton, P., Pineda-Pinto, M., Witheridge, J., Cook, S., & Glackin, S. (2021). Accelerating a green recovery of cities: Lessons from a scoping review and a proposal for mission-oriented recovery towards post-pandemic urban resilience. *Developments in the Built Environment*, 7, 100052.



iii.To Examine Policy Implications

3. Scope

This study focuses on the role of green jobs in enhancing urban sustainability within smart cities, with a particular emphasis on Konza Technopolis. The scope encompasses the following key areas: Definition and Categorization of Green Jobs, Urban Sustainability Indicators, Integration with Smart City Framework, Case Studies of Collaboration, Policy Analysis and Recommendations.³

4. Economic Impacts.

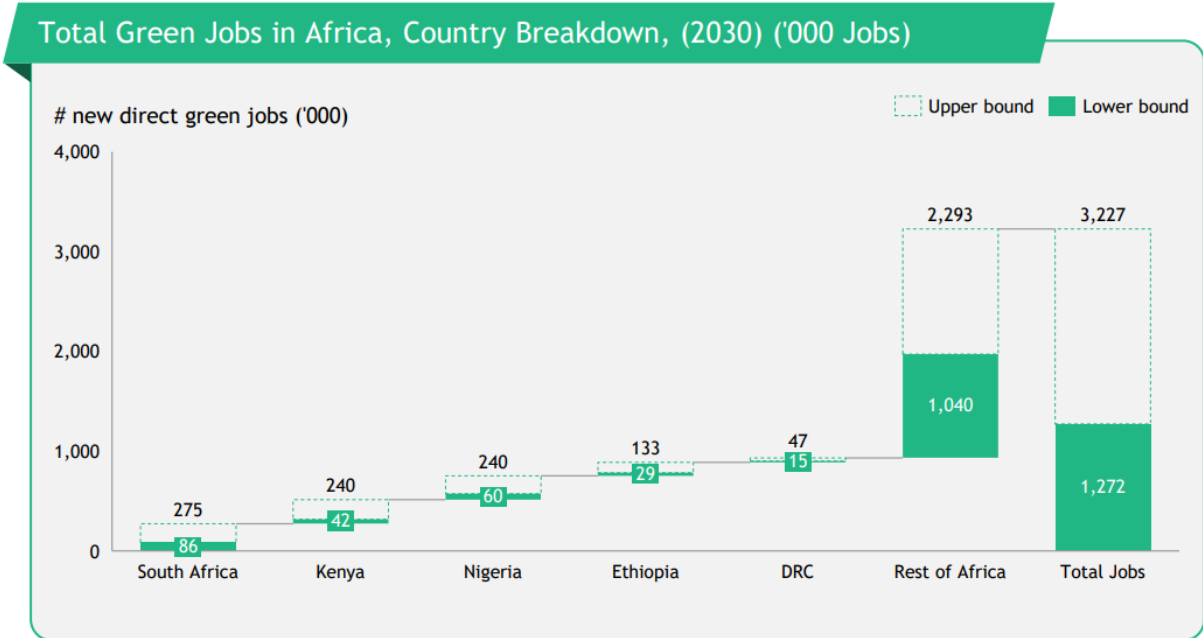
The integration of green jobs within Konza Technopolis is expected to yield significant economic impacts, contributing to both local and regional economic growth. This section outlines the key economic dimensions associated with green employment initiatives in the context of urban sustainability:

4.1 Job Creation and Economic Diversification

Employment is one of the more visible and the first effects of economic activities; therefore, the employment opportunities that will be generated by Konza Technopolis cannot be overlooked. The project is estimated to establish 5,000 plus employment chances directly throughout the stage of the construction of the project and the operational phase. Job creation and economic diversification are increasingly tied to the growth of green jobs, which focus on sustainable practices and reducing environmental impact.⁴ These roles span renewable energy, energy efficiency, waste management, and sustainable agriculture, offering substantial potential for job creation. For instance, investments in solar and wind power generate jobs in manufacturing, whereby Konza Technopolis has the plan to establish a renewable energy power source(Solar or Wind) as redundancy and Energy Storage System ESS thereby creating direct and indirect job opportunities e.g Installation and maintenance, while retrofitting buildings for energy efficiency boosts employment in construction and engineering.

³ Bibri, S. E., & Krogstie, J. (2017). Smart sustainable cities of the future: An extensive interdisciplinary literature review. *Sustainable cities and society*, 31, 183-212.

⁴ Granovetter, M. (2018). The impact of social structure on economic outcomes. In *The sociology of economic life* (pp. 46-61). Routledge.



Pan African estimates based on detailed projections for DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa; Where country level data was unavailable credible proxies were used
 Source: Various online sources; Expert insights; BCG analysis

Figure 1: Graph showing the Total Number of Green Jobs in Africa

By 2030, five focus countries are projected to account for 30% of new green jobs, equating to around 930,000 positions. South Africa, Kenya, and Nigeria show the highest potential, jointly contributing 25% (755,000 jobs) due to unique drivers in each. South Africa benefits from a relatively high GDP per capita (\$6,072 in 2022 vs. Africa’s \$2,150 average), Kenya leads in solar technology adoption (a sector with significant job potential), and Nigeria’s projected population growth to 260 million by 2030 enhances its labor market needs. The job landscape is diverse across these countries; for example, hydroelectric jobs dominate in the DRC (16,000) and Ethiopia (33,000), solar is prominent in South Africa (140,000) and Kenya (111,000), and aquaculture and poultry sectors in Nigeria contribute 69,000 jobs.⁵

⁵ <https://fsdafrica.org/press-release/new-research-suggests-africas-green-economy-could-create-more-than-3-million-direct-jobs-by-2030/>



Green jobs can be tailored to local resources, fostering regional development, and driving innovation in clean technologies, which opens up new business opportunities.⁶ Public policy, including tax incentives and green infrastructure investments, is vital for promoting these sectors, alongside education and training programs to ensure a skilled workforce. Furthermore, transitioning to a green economy can enhance social equity by creating opportunities in underserved communities.⁷ Overall, investing in green jobs not only stimulates immediate employment but also contributes to long-term economic sustainability by addressing climate change and promoting environmental health.⁸

4.2 Productivity and Efficiency

Green job initiatives often promote practices that improve resource efficiency and reduce operational costs for businesses. By adopting sustainable practices, companies can enhance their productivity, leading to higher profit margins and economic growth. Enhanced productivity and efficiency in green jobs are essential for driving sustainable economic growth and meeting environmental goals.⁹ Workers in these roles often utilize innovative technologies that improve energy efficiency and optimize resource use, leading to lower production costs and higher output quality. Sustainable practices, such as energy management and waste reduction, not only benefit the environment but also enhance operational efficiency, resulting in significant cost savings. ¹⁰Konza Technopolis has established a solid waste recycling plant that is useful for Separating, recovering, and reusing components of solid waste that may still have economic value. By focusing on maximizing the use of renewable resources, green jobs help businesses operate more effectively while reducing their ecological footprint.

6 Sunny, S. A., & Shu, C. (2019). Investments, incentives, and innovation: geographical clustering dynamics as drivers of sustainable entrepreneurship. *Small Business Economics*, 52, 905-927.

7 Altenburg, T., & Rodrik, D. (2017). Green industrial policy: Accelerating structural change towards wealthy green economies. *Green Industrial Policy*.

8 Dell'Anna, F. (2021). Green jobs and energy efficiency as strategies for economic growth and the reduction of environmental impacts. *Energy Policy*, 149, 112031.

9 Zhang, Z., Madni, G. R., & Naeem, J. (2023). Unleashing the horizons of labor quality, digitalization on upgradation of industrial structure in Asian economies. *PLoS One*, 18(7), e0288866.

¹⁰ Epstein, M. J. (2018). *Making sustainability work: Best practices in managing and measuring corporate social, environmental and economic impacts*. Routledge.



The emphasis on education and training in green sectors cultivates a highly skilled workforce capable of implementing efficient practices and adapting to new technologies.¹¹ Although initial investments in green technologies may be substantial, the long-term savings from reduced energy consumption and improved waste management significantly enhance overall efficiency. Additionally, healthier working conditions associated with green jobs contribute to employee well-being, leading to increased productivity. Together, these factors position green sectors as critical drivers of economic growth, ensuring a more sustainable and resilient future.

4.3 Support for Local Economies

Green jobs can bolster local economies by promoting the use of local resources and services. For instance, initiatives in sustainable agriculture can increase demand for local food products, while energy efficiency programs can create opportunities for local contractors and suppliers. The role played by that hub has greatly boosted the local businesses, especially the SMEs.¹² This element will contribute to the expansion of the population of workers and residents, who in turn will create demand for one or another type of necessary goods and services – this creates a solid base for various businesses. Specifically, information and communication technology supplier SMEs in the retailing, hotels and restaurants, transportation, and, providing of professional, scientific, and technical services industries have performed exceptionally.

It will also promote profitable business activity and open up business opportunities. Due to the growth of such firms, a favorable business environment and the influence of pertinent technologies will increase the promotion of new business start-ups within the region by local players in the tech and service industries. Also, the synergy arising from collaboration between domestic and overseas firms will promote knowledge spillovers and market openings, thus increasing the competitiveness of domestic business ventures. This growth will serve as a booster by the various schemes and policies launched by the government for the development of SMEs. The Technopolis will prompt local businesses to seek and secure grants, loans and training through various programs which in return have capped some of the opportunities created by the Technopolis. Therefore, the communities around the industrial areas have benefited by

11 Javaid, M., Haleem, A., Singh, R. P., Suman, R., & Gonzalez, E. S. (2022). Understanding the adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies in improving environmental sustainability. *Sustainable Operations and Computers*, 3, 203-217.

12 Berti, G., & Mulligan, C. (2016). Competitiveness of small farms and innovative food supply chains: The role of food hubs in creating sustainable regional and local food systems. *Sustainability*, 8(7), 616.



getting a better economic base and foundation to survive.¹³Through the attraction of new businesses and the necessity of producing products and services needed by the people, tech hubs could catalyze local economic development. However, these might not be evenly spread and so might serve to increase socio-economic differentiation which is mooted to be one of the negative effects.

4.4 Skilled Workforce Development

The focus on green jobs necessitates training and education programs to equip the workforce with relevant skills.¹⁴ By investing in workforce development, Konza Technopolis can enhance human capital, resulting in a more skilled labor force that meets the demands of emerging green industries. Skilled workforce development is crucial for the success of the green economy in Konza Technopolis, as it directly supports the city's goals of sustainability and innovation. As Konza transitions to greener practices, there is an increasing demand for professionals with expertise in renewable energy, smart infrastructure, sustainable transportation, and waste management. Developing targeted training programs in partnership with local educational institutions, businesses, and government agencies can ensure that residents acquire the skills necessary to thrive in these emerging sectors.

In Konza, initiatives could focus on hands-on training in areas like solar panel installation, energy-efficient building design, and smart technology integration. By fostering a skilled workforce, the city can create job opportunities for its residents, promote local economic growth, and attract businesses seeking qualified talent. Furthermore, an inclusive approach to workforce development can empower marginalized communities, ensuring equitable access to new green job opportunities. Ultimately, investing in skilled workforce development will not only enhance Konza Technopolis's sustainability efforts but also contribute to a resilient and

13 Gatto, A. (2020). A pluralistic approach to economic and business sustainability: A critical meta-synthesis of foundations, metrics, and evidence of human and local development. *Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management*, 27(4), 1525-1539.

14 Bowen, A., Kuralbayeva, K., & Tipoe, E. L. (2018). Characterising green employment: The impacts of 'greening' on workforce composition. *Energy Economics*, 72, 263-275.



4.5 Long-term Economic Sustainability

The transition to a green economy promotes long-term economic sustainability by mitigating the risks associated with climate change and environmental degradation.¹⁵ This proactive approach helps secure a stable economic future for Konza Technopolis, attracting businesses and residents seeking a sustainable lifestyle. Long-term economic sustainability in Konza Technopolis is intricately linked to the development of green jobs, which play an important role in fostering a resilient and environmentally friendly economy. As Konza Technopolis positions itself as a hub for innovation and technology, prioritizing green jobs can stimulate local economic growth while addressing pressing environmental challenges. By investing in sectors such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and eco-friendly infrastructure, the Technopolis will create a diverse range of employment opportunities that not only contribute to job creation but also align with global sustainability goals.

Moreover, green jobs in Konza Technopolis can lead to significant long-term savings for businesses and local governments by reducing energy consumption and waste. As companies adopt sustainable practices and technologies, they can enhance their operational efficiency, resulting in lower costs and increased competitiveness. This approach not only benefits the environment but also fosters a circular economy where resources are reused and recycled.¹⁶ By integrating education and training programs that prepare the workforce for these green roles, Konza Technopolis can ensure that its residents are equipped with the skills needed for sustainable employment. Ultimately, the emphasis on green jobs will support Konza Technopolis in achieving lasting economic sustainability, enhancing the quality of life for its citizens while contributing to a healthier planet.

4.6 Public and Private Sector Collaboration

Public and private sector collaboration is essential for the success of green jobs in Konza Technopolis, fostering a comprehensive approach to sustainability and economic growth.¹⁷ By partnering, both sectors can leverage their strengths: the public sector can provide regulatory support, funding, and infrastructure, while the private sector can bring innovation, investment,

15 Söderholm, P. (2020). The green economy transition: the challenges of technological change for sustainability. *Sustainable Earth*, 3(1), 6.

16 Guerreschi, A., Piras, L., & Heck, F. (2023). Barriers to efficient knowledge transfer for a holistic circular economy: insights towards green job developments and training for young professionals. *Youth*, 3(2), 553-578.

17 Kaunda, J. K. (2023). Implications of Smart Cities on the Adjacent Land Uses: a Case of Konza City in Kenya (Doctoral dissertation, University of Nairobi).



and expertise in green technologies. Collaborative initiatives can focus on developing renewable energy projects, sustainable transportation systems, and green building practices, creating a robust framework for job creation.¹⁸

In Konza Technopolis, this collaboration can take various forms, such as public-private partnerships (PPPs) that fund training programs aimed at equipping the workforce with the necessary skills for green jobs. By aligning educational institutions with industry needs, these partnerships can ensure that graduates are prepared for emerging roles in sustainability. Additionally, joint efforts in research and development can drive innovation, leading to the creation of new technologies and services that further enhance green job opportunities. Ultimately, a synergistic relationship between the public and private sectors will not only expand the green job market in Konza Technopolis but also contribute to long-term economic resilience and environmental sustainability.

5. Social Integration

Social integration in the context of green jobs in a place like Konza Technopolis involves creating inclusive opportunities that benefit diverse communities while promoting sustainable practices. Here are some key points to consider:

- i. **Access to Green Jobs:** Ensuring that individuals from various socio-economic backgrounds have access to training and employment in green industries, such as renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and eco-friendly technology.
- ii. **Skill Development:** Implementing programs that provide education and vocational training in green technologies, targeting underrepresented groups to enhance their employability and skills in the growing green job market.
- iii. **Community Involvement:** Engaging local communities in the development of green projects, fostering a sense of ownership and encouraging participation from diverse groups, including marginalized populations.

¹⁸ Pavlova, M. (2018). Fostering inclusive, sustainable economic growth and “green” skills development in learning cities through partnerships. *International Review of Education*, 64, 339-354.



6. Challenges and Mitigation Strategies

Theoretically, the establishment of the Konza Technopolis green jobs initiative will be significant and will have numerous economic and social gains; however, it will have certain drawbacks and challenges that need to be considered to guarantee sustainable development and not harm other sectors and groups of the population. This section examines the proposed fundamental difficulties and ways to address them,

6.1 Skills Gap

As the Authority shifts toward more sustainable practices, there's often a mismatch between the skills that workers possess and those needed in green jobs. Many existing workers come from traditional sectors and may lack the technical expertise required for roles in renewable energy, energy efficiency, or sustainable agriculture. ¹⁹This gap can lead to high unemployment rates among those seeking employment in the green economy. The lack of adequately trained workers can slow down the transition to a green economy. It also means that businesses may struggle to find qualified candidates, leading to lost productivity and missed opportunities for innovation.

To address skill gaps, partnerships between educational institutions, training providers, and industry stakeholders can be established. Developing comprehensive vocational training programs that focus on green skills and providing hands-on learning opportunities can help workers transition into these roles. ²⁰Additionally, funding scholarships or grants for underprivileged groups to pursue relevant education can further bridge the skills gap.

6.2 Market Demand

The green job market can be highly volatile, influenced by factors such as government policies, public perception, and technological advancements. Economic downturns may lead to cuts in funding for green initiatives, affecting job creation in this sector.²¹ Conversely, surges in investment can lead to rapid job growth, making planning for workforce needs challenging.

19 Pascaris, A. S., Schelly, C., Burnham, L., & Pearce, J. M. (2021). Integrating solar energy with agriculture: Industry perspectives on the market, community, and socio-political dimensions of agrivoltaics. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 75, 102023.

20 Napathorn, C. (2022). The development of green skills across firms in the institutional context of Thailand. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Business Administration*, 14(4), 539-572.

21 Dell'Anna, F. (2021). Green jobs and energy efficiency as strategies for economic growth and the reduction of environmental impacts. *Energy Policy*, 149, 112031.



Inconsistent market demand can create uncertainty for both job seekers and employers. Workers may hesitate to invest in training for green jobs if they perceive a lack of job stability, while companies may be reluctant to hire without assurance of sustained demand.

Advocacy for stable government policies that support renewable energy and sustainability initiatives is crucial. Creating a clear regulatory framework that encourages investment in green technologies can help ensure sustained demand for green jobs.²² Additionally, diversifying the job market within the green sector can mitigate reliance on any single industry.

6.3 Funding and Investment

Green initiatives often require significant upfront investment, which can be a barrier to their implementation. Insufficient funding can limit the scope and sustainability of projects designed to create green jobs.²³ Traditional funding sources may not always align with the needs of innovative green ventures, leading to gaps in financial support. Many green initiatives struggle with insufficient funding, which can impede project development and limit job creation. Without financial backing, sustainable projects may not be able to scale or sustain operations.

Establishing public-private partnerships can leverage resources from both sectors to fund green initiatives. Governments can offer incentives, grants, and subsidies to attract investment in green projects. Additionally, promoting green bonds and other financial instruments specifically designed to fund sustainable initiatives can also provide necessary capital.²⁴

6.4 Technology Adoption

The rapid pace of technological change in the green sector can create challenges for workers who may not be familiar with new tools and practices. ²⁵This can lead to job displacement for those unable to adapt. If workers cannot keep pace with technological changes, it can lead to skill obsolescence and increased unemployment rates in the sector. This creates a need for ongoing training and professional development to ensure that workers remain competitive.

22 Söderholm, P. (2020). The green economy transition: the challenges of technological change for sustainability. *Sustainable Earth*, 3(1), 6.

23 Debrah, C., Chan, A. P. C., & Darko, A. (2022). Green finance gap in green buildings: A scoping review and future research needs. *Building and Environment*, 207, 108443.

24 Hafner, S., Jones, A., Anger-Kraavi, A., & Pohl, J. (2020). Closing the green finance gap—A systems perspective. *Environmental Innovation and Societal Transitions*, 34, 26-60.

25 Khan, M., Haleem, A., & Javaid, M. (2023). Changes and improvements in Industry 5.0: A strategic approach to overcome the challenges of Industry 4.0. *Green Technologies and Sustainability*, 1(2), 100020.



Continuous professional development programs should be implemented to keep workers informed about technological advancements. Employers can offer regular training sessions and workshops to help their employees acquire the necessary skills for new technologies.

6.5 Geographical Disparities

Green job opportunities are often concentrated in urban areas, while rural regions may lack access to such jobs, leading to economic disparities and outmigration from rural communities.²⁶ Geographic disparities can lead to population decline in rural areas as workers move to cities in search of better job prospects. This can result in a cycle of economic decline in rural regions, exacerbating poverty and reducing local resilience.

Investing in rural development initiatives focused on green industries, such as sustainable agriculture and renewable energy, can help create local job opportunities. Infrastructure improvements and incentives for businesses to establish operations in rural areas can also promote regional equity.²⁷

7. Stakeholder Analysis

Conducting a stakeholder analysis is essential for understanding the various parties involved in promoting green jobs within Konza Technopolis. This analysis identifies key stakeholders, their interests, influence, and how they can contribute to or be affected by green job initiatives.

- i. **Government Bodies** are important stakeholders with a high level of influence. Their primary interests lie in promoting economic growth, sustainability, and job creation. By setting policies, providing funding, and creating incentives for green initiatives, government bodies can play an important role in shaping the landscape for green jobs. Their support through regulations and partnerships can significantly enhance the viability of renewable energy projects within Konza Technopolis.
- ii. **Local Businesses** also have a strong interest in economic viability, access to skilled labor, and sustainable practices. They exert medium to high influence, as their demand for green jobs can drive the local economy and shape workforce development. Collaboration in

26 Jończy, R., Śleszyński, P., Dolińska, A., Ptak, M., Rokitowska-Malcher, J., & Rokita-Poskart, D. (2021). Environmental and economic factors of migration from urban to rural areas: Evidence from Poland. *Energies*, 14(24), 8467.

27 Majid, M. (2020). Renewable energy for sustainable development in India: current status, future prospects, challenges, employment, and investment opportunities. *Energy, Sustainability and Society*, 10(1), 1-36.



- training programs, provision of internships, and investments in green technologies are ways in which local businesses can contribute to the success of green job initiatives in Technopolis.
- iii. **Educational Institutions** are key players in developing a skilled workforce. Their interest lies in curriculum development, student placement, and research opportunities. With medium influence, they can shape the skills pipeline and provide essential training. By aligning educational offerings with industry needs, these institutions can help ensure that graduates are prepared for the demands of the green job market.
- iv. **Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)** play a vital role in environmental advocacy, social equity, and community engagement. They have medium influence and can raise awareness while mobilizing community support for green initiatives. NGOs can promote green jobs and advocate for policies that facilitate workforce development, ensuring that sustainability efforts resonate with local communities.
- v. **Community Members** are directly impacted by green job initiatives, as they seek job opportunities, economic development, and improved environmental health. While their influence may be low to medium, community support can significantly impact local policy and investment decisions. Active participation in training programs and advocacy for local sustainability initiatives can empower community members and enhance their role in the green economy.
- vi. **Investors and Funding Agencies** have high interests in return on investment, sustainable development, and economic growth. With significant influence, they can provide the financial support necessary for green projects and workforce development initiatives. Their investments can help catalyze growth in renewable energy sectors within Konza Technopolis.

7.1 Stakeholder Analysis Mapping

Stakeholder	Interest Level	Influence Level	Contribution
Government Bodies	High	High	Policies, funding, partnerships
Local Businesses	High	Medium to High	Training, internships, investment
Educational Institutions	High	High	Curriculum development, training
Training Providers	Medium	High	Specialized courses
NGOs	High	High	Awareness, advocacy



Stakeholder	Interest Level	Influence Level	Contribution
Community Members	High	Low to Medium	Participation, Advocacy
Investors	High	High	Financial support

Table 1: Stakeholder Analysis Mapping

8. Conclusion

The future of green jobs in Konza Technopolis appears promising, driven by a combination of local initiatives, technological advancements, and global sustainability trends. As the world increasingly prioritizes environmental sustainability, Konza Technopolis stands to benefit from these shifts, positioning itself as a leader in the green economy. Konza Technopolis is poised for substantial economic growth through renewable energy and sustainable practices, creating numerous green jobs and fostering economic stability. By engaging local businesses and educational institutions, Konza can prepare its workforce to meet the demands of these emerging roles. Technological innovation, supported by R&D collaborations, will further enhance Konza's reputation as a green technology hub, attracting both talent and investment. Government policies promoting sustainability and community awareness will also play crucial roles, aligning local efforts with broader environmental goals and encouraging resident participation in the green economy. While challenges like skill gaps and market shifts may arise, fostering lifelong learning will help Konza build a resilient workforce capable of adapting to the evolving green job market.

9. Recommendations

To effectively develop and sustain a thriving green job market in Konza Technopolis, several strategic recommendations can be implemented:

- i. **Establish a Comprehensive Workforce Development Strategy:** Develop a long-term workforce development plan to identify current and future skill needs in the green economy, ensuring training programs align with Authority demands and prepare a skilled workforce for emerging job opportunities.
- ii. **Enhance Partnerships Between Stakeholders:** Foster collaboration among local businesses, educational institutions, government agencies, and NGOs to create a unified approach to



workforce training and development, leading to effective training programs, resource sharing, and innovative solutions for workforce challenges.

- iii. **Invest in Training and Apprenticeship Programs:** Create targeted training and apprenticeship programs focused on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable practices to provide hands-on experience and practical skills that enhance employability and career advancement.
- iv. **Promote Public Awareness and Community Engagement:** Launch campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of green jobs and sustainability, driving community support for green initiatives and encouraging individuals to pursue careers in the green economy.
- v. **Leverage Technology and Innovation:** Support research and development initiatives to advance renewable energy technologies and sustainable practices, fostering innovation to attract talent and investment, and strengthening the green economy.
- vi. **Implement Supportive Policies and Incentives:** Advocate for policies that support renewable energy projects, workforce development, and sustainability, creating a favorable business environment that encourages investment in green technologies and job creation.
- vii. **Encourage Lifelong Learning and Professional Development:** Promote continuous learning opportunities for workers in the green sector, such as workshops, online courses, and certifications, helping them adapt to technological advancements and changing job requirements to ensure workforce resilience.
- viii. **Monitor and Evaluate Progress:** Establish metrics to assess the effectiveness of green job initiatives and workforce development programs, enabling regular evaluation to identify areas for improvement and ensure alignment with evolving industry needs and community goals.



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