# Article information:

Energy justice for all? Rethinking Sustainable Development Goal 7 through struggles over traditional energy practices in Sierra Leone - ScienceDirect  
<https://www-sciencedirect-com.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/science/article/pii/S0301421517300472>

# Article summary:

1. The article examines the justice issues within Sustainable Development Goal 7, which aims to ensure access to modern energy for all by 2030.

2. The article argues that the current approach of SDG7 is problematic as it obscures the political-economic influences on energy poverty and marginalizes producers and users of traditional energy sources.

3. The article calls for a shift in energy solutions away from simple technological fixes and emphasizes the need for a range of energy knowledges and experiences in energy policy.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Energy justice for all? Rethinking Sustainable Development Goal 7 through struggles over traditional energy practices in Sierra Leone" discusses the justice issues within Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) and examines how fuelwood is connected to energy justice issues in Sierra Leone. While the article raises important points about the limitations of SDG7 and the need for a more holistic approach to energy policy, there are several biases and shortcomings in its analysis.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on traditional energy practices and its criticism of modern forms of energy. The authors argue that SDG7's emphasis on modern energy solutions marginalizes producers and users of traditional energy sources. However, they fail to acknowledge the significant health and environmental risks associated with traditional fuels like firewood and charcoal. These fuels contribute to indoor air pollution, deforestation, and climate change. While it is important to consider the livelihoods of those who rely on traditional fuels, it is equally important to address the negative impacts of these practices.

Another bias in the article is its portrayal of SDG7 as solely focused on technological fixes and ignoring procedural justice. The authors argue that SDG7's emphasis on universal adoption of modern energy overlooks the political-economic dynamics that shape energy poverty. While it is true that addressing procedural justice is crucial for achieving equitable development, SDG7 does include provisions for affordable and sustainable access to modern energy for all. It is not solely focused on technological solutions but also recognizes the need for broader systemic changes.

The article also makes unsupported claims about the negative consequences of SDG7's approach. It argues that privileging modern forms of energy poses hazards to those it seeks to benefit without providing concrete evidence or examples to support this claim. Additionally, while the article highlights the importance of questioning conventional views of fuelwood energy issues, it fails to provide alternative perspectives or propose specific policy recommendations.

Furthermore, there are missing points of consideration in the article. It does not discuss the potential economic benefits of transitioning to modern energy sources or the role of renewable energy in achieving SDG7. It also does not address the challenges and limitations of relying on traditional energy practices, such as their inefficiency and limited capacity to meet growing energy demands.

The article also lacks a balanced presentation of both sides of the argument. While it criticizes SDG7 for its focus on modern energy solutions, it does not adequately acknowledge the positive aspects of this approach, such as improved access to electricity and cleaner cooking technologies. A more balanced analysis would have considered both the benefits and drawbacks of different energy sources and policy approaches.

In conclusion, while the article raises important questions about the justice issues within SDG7 and the need for a more comprehensive approach to energy policy, it is biased in its portrayal of traditional energy practices and its criticism of modern forms of energy. It makes unsupported claims, overlooks important considerations, and lacks a balanced presentation of both sides of the argument. A more nuanced analysis would have provided a more comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with achieving sustainable energy access for all.

# Topics for further research:

* Economic benefits of transitioning to modern energy sources
* Role of renewable energy in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 7
* Challenges and limitations of traditional energy practices
* Efficiency and capacity limitations of traditional energy sources
* Positive impacts of modern energy solutions on access to electricity and cooking technologies
* Comprehensive analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of different energy sources and policy approaches

# Report location:

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