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# The Relationship Between Exchange Rates and Sustainable Development: A Literatur Review

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**Abstract:** The relationship between exchange rates and sustainable development has increasingly gained attention in global economic studies. Exchange rate fluctuations significantly impact foreign direct investment (FDI) and international trade, key drivers of sustainable development. Exchange rate stability contributes to the adoption of renewable energy in developing countries. This article presents a literature review using bibliometric analysis based on data from 59 academic articles from Scopus. The study identifies five key clusters that depict the interaction between exchange rates, FDI, carbon emissions, energy consumption, food security, and climate change. The analysis reveals that exchange rate stability is crucial in promoting sustainable development by encouraging green investments and reducing carbon emissions. These findings emphasize the importance of economic policies that support exchange rate stability to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs). The novelty of this research is that it explains the relationship between monetary economic phenomena and environmental issues. This article offers new insights and recommendations for future research in this field.

**Keywords:** Uncertainty; Sustainability; Fluctuations; Green Economy

**JEL Classification:** B49; F2; O11; O190

## Introduction

Sustainable development has emerged as one of the most pressing global issues, addressing challenges such as climate change, social inequality, and the need for inclusive economic growth. In this context, exchange rates play a critical role as a macroeconomic variable that influences a country's economic stability and growth (Appiah et al., 2023; Sosvilla-Rivero & Ramos-Herrera, 2014). Research on monetary economic phenomena, namely currency fluctuations, is an interesting thing to research because monetary economic fluctuations indicate the existence of economic activity and how it affects environmental aspects.

Exchange rates not only affect international trade flows but also impact foreign direct investment (FDI), carbon emissions, energy consumption, and food security (Ashour & Chen Yong, 2018; Sarkodie & Owusu, 2021). A stable exchange rate fosters economic confidence, encouraging foreign investors and promoting trade, which are essential for achieving sustainability (Mentis & Moonsammy, 2022). Conversely, high exchange

rate volatility can create economic uncertainties, reducing investor trust and hindering long-term developmental goals (Genevieve et al., 2023).

The linkage between exchange rates and sustainable development is further emphasized by their impact on renewable energy adoption and carbon emissions. According to Climate Policy in the research of Gupta et al. (2020), stable exchange rates support investments in low-carbon technologies by mitigating currency risks for international investors. Additionally, exchange rate stability plays a pivotal role in food security by influencing import prices and the affordability of essential goods (Aghapour Sabbaghi & Naeimifar, 2022; Hashim et al., 2019; Sholoiko et al., 2022).

This study aims to provide a comprehensive literature review on the relationship between exchange rates and sustainable development, focusing on patterns, trends, and connections among these variables. Using bibliometric analysis of 80 academic articles from Scopus, this research highlights critical insights and offers policy recommendations. By leveraging VOSviewer tools, the study identifies thematic clusters that bridge economic stability with sustainable practices, contributing to a broader understanding of how exchange rates can drive global progress toward sustainability (Phillips & Perron, 1988).

Exchange rates affect international trade flows, foreign direct investment (FDI), carbon emissions, energy consumption, and food security (Ashour & Chen Yong, 2018; Gupta et al., 2020; Löscher & Kaltenbrunner, 2023). A stable exchange rate fosters economic confidence, encourages foreign investors, and promotes trade, which is essential for achieving sustainability. Conversely, high exchange rate volatility can create economic uncertainties, reducing investor trust and hindering long-term developmental goals.

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Exchange rates affect international trade flows, foreign direct investment (FDI), carbon emissions, energy consumption, and food security (Ashour & Chen Yong, 2018; Gupta et al., 2020). The relationship between exchange rates and sustainable development reflects how economic stability can support achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs),

particularly in fostering inclusive economic growth, clean energy, climate change mitigation, and food security.

This study aims to provide a literature review on the relationship between exchange rates and sustainable development based on 80 academic articles sourced from Scopus. The analysis employs bibliometric methods and VOSviewer tools to identify patterns, clusters, and connections among variables. This article offers insights into the dynamics of exchange rate stability and its role in sustainable development.

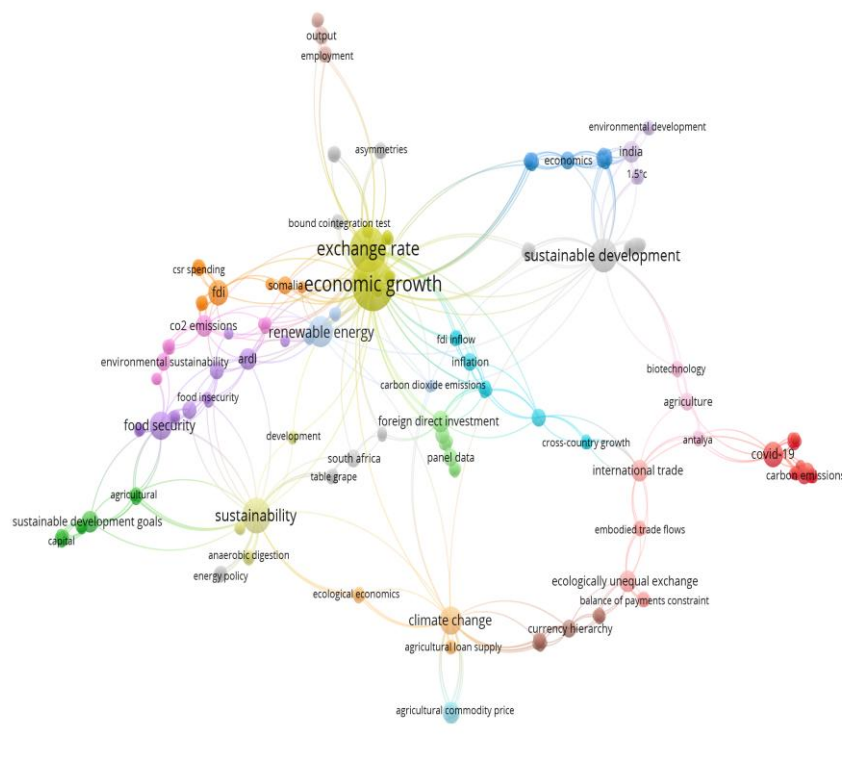
## Research Method

This article adopts a literature review methodology using bibliometric analysis, comprehensively identifying research patterns, keyword relationships, and trends within a specific field (Johansen, 1988; Pesaran et al., 2001). This method provides deeper insights into the structure and focus of studies on exchange rates and sustainable development. The research process includes the following steps:

1. **Data Collection:** Relevant academic articles were retrieved from the Scopus database using the query TITLE-ABS-KEY
2. **Data Analysis:** Data were analyzed using VOSviewer software to generate visual maps of keyword relationships and clusters (Appiah et al., 2023; Hasan & Adnan, 2023).
3. **Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria:** The articles included were publications from 1988-2025 relevant to exchange rates and sustainable development.
4. **Result Interpretation:** The visualization results were categorized into key themes identified from the clusters in the VOSviewer map (Adjei-Mantey et al., 2023; Levine & Renelt, 1992).

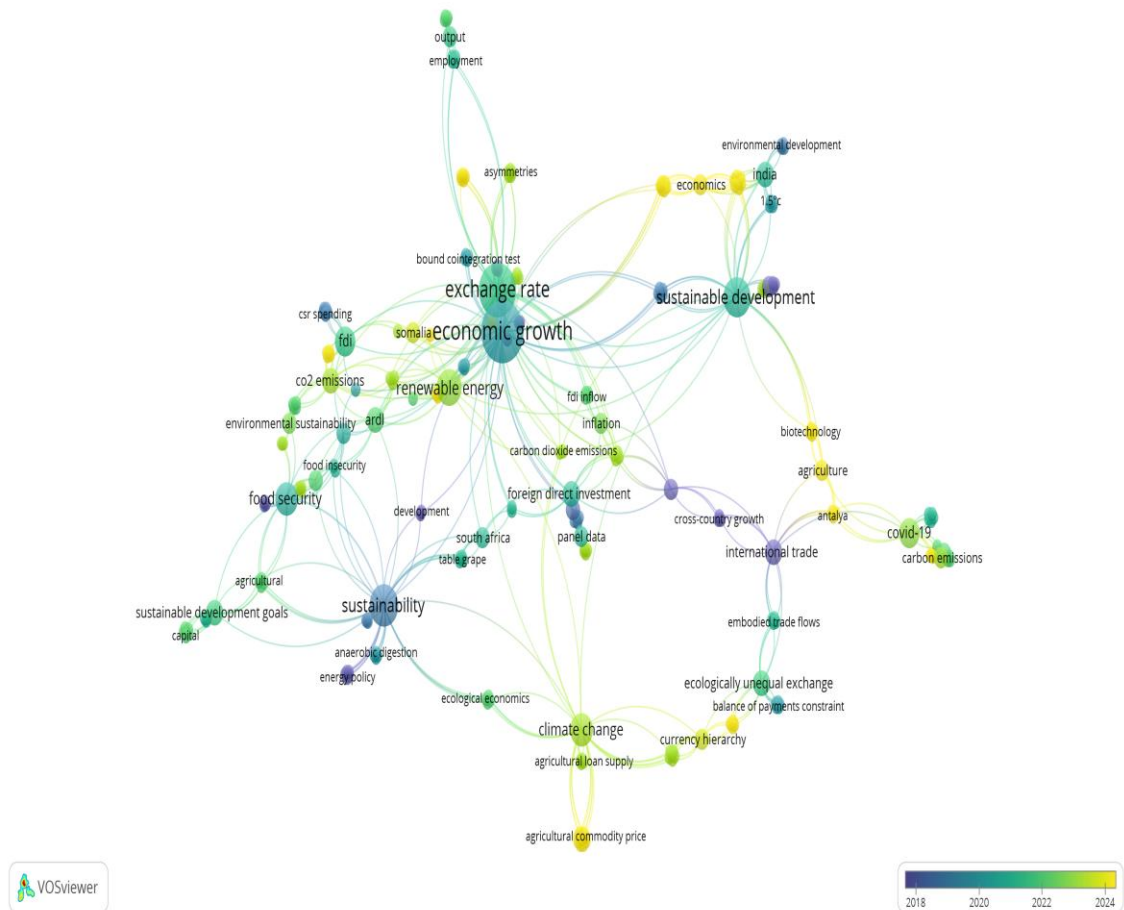
## Result and Discussion

The latest visualization results from the updated VOSviewer analysis reveal key insights into the interconnectedness of exchange rates, economic growth, and sustainable development. The clusters, color-coded for clarity, represent thematic groupings of research keywords and their relationships.



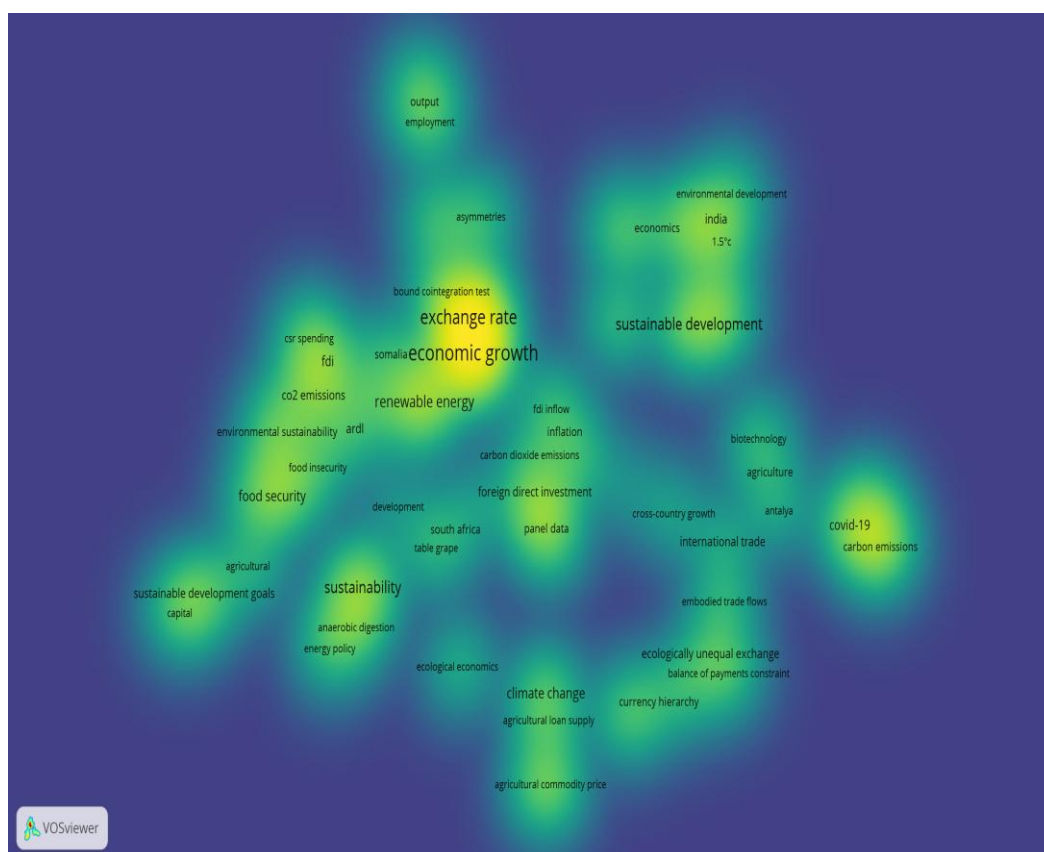
The **Green Cluster (Sustainability & Climate Change)** highlights themes such as sustainability, climate change, and food security. This cluster underscores the importance of linking sustainability with environmental impacts, particularly in addressing global challenges like climate change (Pham & Nguyen, 2010; Sarkodie & Owusu, 2021; Shebanin et al., 2024; Xue et al., 2023; Yadav et al., 2024).

The **Yellow Cluster (Economic Growth & Exchange Rates)** is central to this study, focusing on the interplay between exchange rates, economic growth, foreign direct investment (FDI), and carbon emissions. The visualization underscores how stable exchange rates can enhance economic stability, facilitate trade, and attract FDI into renewable energy sectors (Aman et al., 2017; Sosvilla-Rivero & Ramos-Herrera, 2014). It further demonstrates the critical role of exchange rate stability in achieving SDGs by enabling green investments and reducing carbon dependency (Appiah et al., 2023; Asiama & Nell, 2024; Levine & Renelt, 1992; Meylani & Prasetyo, 2023; Reivan-Ortiz et al., 2023).



The **Orange Cluster (Renewable Energy & FDI)** delves into the role of foreign investment in promoting renewable energy adoption, with a direct impact on reducing carbon emissions and fostering sustainability (Althouse et al., 2020; Bijarchiyan et al., 2020; Gbadeyan et al., 2024; Hossain, 2024; Kgathi et al., 2017; Mohamud et al., 2024; Rastogi et al., 2023).

The **Blue Cluster (Sustainable Development & Environmental Policy)** captures the connection between sustainable development policies and natural resource management, emphasizing strategies for mitigating climate change (Adom, 2014; Aghapour Sabbaghi & Naeimifar, 2022; Batmunkh et al., 2022; Gbejewoh et al., 2021; Tsiptsia et al., 2022; Zhang et al., 2023).



The **Red Cluster (COVID-19 & Trade)** explores the effects of the pandemic on international trade dynamics, food security, and emissions, offering insights into how global disruptions impact sustainability goals (Otubanjo, 2022; Sarkodie & Owusu, 2021; Yaşar Dinçer et al., 2024, Sunaryati, S., & Munandar, A. 2023).

The **Purple Cluster (Food Security & Environmental Sustainability)** bridges the link between agricultural practices, energy policies, and environmental sustainability, emphasizing the need for integrated approaches to address food security challenges in the context of sustainable development (Dorninger et al., 2021; Haque et al., 2022; Hole et al., 2019; Laing & Moonsammy, 2021; Li et al., 2015; Maharani, 2019; Momeni et al., 2019; Olk, 2024; Purba, 2019; Shikur, 2023; Tandogan Aktepe & Kayral, 2024).

### Thematic Discussion

**Yellow Cluster: Economic Growth & Exchange Rates** The Yellow Cluster reveals a strong connection between exchange rates and economic growth, focusing on the role of FDI in facilitating economic development. Exchange rate stability enhances export competitiveness and strengthens investor confidence. Sosvilla-Rivero & Ramos-Herrera (2014) highlighted that stable exchange rates create a more conducive environment for international trade. Additionally, (Appiah et al., 2023) emphasize that FDI inflows are often directed toward strategic sectors such as renewable energy and infrastructure,

supporting sustainable development. In this context, economic policies that maintain exchange rate stability are crucial to ensure that foreign investments support energy transitions and reduce dependence on fossil fuels (Asaleye et al., 2021; Chowdhury, 2017; Mentis & Moonsammy, 2022; Wheeler et al., 2013).

**Exchange Rates and Economic Growth** Exchange rate fluctuations affect export competitiveness, and foreign investment flows. Stable exchange rates can promote more inclusive economic growth by creating a favorable environment for international trade. Moreover, stability in exchange rates builds greater confidence among foreign investors to invest in developing countries (Appiah et al., 2023; Levine & Renelt, 1992; Niklitschek, 2007).

**Exchange Rates and Sustainable Investments** Stable exchange rates attract more FDI into renewable energy sectors and green infrastructure. However, exchange rate volatility can create uncertainty for investors, potentially hindering SDG implementation ((Aman et al., 2017; Kgathi et al., 2017).

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**Exchange Rates and Sustainable Investments** Stable exchange rates attract more FDI into renewable energy sectors and green infrastructure. However, exchange rate volatility can create uncertainty for investors, potentially hindering SDG implementation (Ashour & Chen Yong, 2018).

## Conclusion

The literature review reveals that the relationship between exchange rates and sustainable development is multidimensional. Exchange rates influence FDI flows,

international trade, and carbon emissions. Exchange rate stability is necessary to promote inclusive economic growth and achieve sustainability goals.

This article provides insights into the importance of economic policies that support exchange rate stability and green investments to achieve SDGs. Recommended guidelines include giving fiscal incentives for green investments, implementing regulations that promote renewable energy transitions, and strengthening international cooperation to sustain exchange rate stability. Additionally, governments are encouraged to focus on reducing reliance on fossil fuels and increasing the adoption of low-carbon technologies to holistically achieve sustainable development goals. Future research could focus on empirical analyses of the relationship between exchange rate fluctuations and sustainability indicators across different countries. Future literature research must include secondary data as the primary analysis material to obtain more comprehensive research results.

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