

Effect of Security Measures on Business Performance of Tourism Entrepreneurs in National Museum Lagos, Nigeria

Samuel Taiwo OLABOSINDE¹ and Virginia KASSAH²

Abstract

This study investigates the impact of security measures on the performance of tourism businesses operating in the vicinity of the National Museum Lagos, Nigeria. The objective is to assess how four distinct security dimensions—policy and regulatory frameworks, physical security measures, operational security practices, and technological security measures—influence tourism business performance. A quantitative research design was adopted, and data were collected through structured questionnaires administered to 150 tourism entrepreneurs, selected using stratified random sampling from a known population of 250 businesses. To test the study hypotheses, multiple regression analysis, an inferential statistical method, was employed to evaluate the relationship between the independent variables and business performance outcomes. The results indicate that policy and regulatory measures had a positive and statistically significant effect on performance ($B = 0.221$, $p = 0.018$), emphasizing the critical role of clear, enforceable legal frameworks in supporting tourism entrepreneurship. However, physical security measures had a significant negative impact ($B = -0.404$, $p < 0.001$), suggesting inefficiencies or misallocations in security resource deployment. Both operational security practices ($B = 0.100$, $p = 0.484$) and technological security measures ($B = -0.328$, $p = 0.786$) showed no statistically significant influence, implying underutilization or misalignment with operational needs. The findings suggest a need for balance between regulatory enforcement and visitor-friendly security implementations. The study concludes that while legal and regulatory measures can drive business performance, overdependence on physical security without corresponding efficiency may hinder outcomes. Implications of the research are relevant for policy-makers, tourism entrepreneurs, and security professionals, guiding them toward cost-effective and performance-enhancing

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1. Department of Business Administration, Federal University Wukari, Taraba State, Nigeria
olabosinde@yahoo.com
 2. Department of Business Administration, Bingham University Karu, Nasarawa State, Nigeria
virginia.kassah@binghamuni.edu.ng

security strategies. The study contributes to existing literature by offering context-specific empirical evidence and theoretical grounding through the Theory of Planned Behavior, filling a notable gap in security-performance research within Nigeria's heritage tourism sector.

Keywords: Security measures, Business performance, Tourism entrepreneurs, National museum, Government..

Introduction

Tourism is a vital economic sector globally, contributing significantly to employment, cultural preservation, and foreign exchange earnings. In Nigeria, the tourism industry holds immense potential, especially due to its rich cultural and historical heritage. Attractions such as the National Museum Lagos serve as both cultural repositories and prominent hubs for domestic and international visitors (Olayiwola & Falade, 2022). In 2024, the museum recorded 32,369 visitors in the first half of the year, demonstrating its growing appeal and relevance (Punch, 2024).

However, persistent security challenges such as theft, vandalism, and safety risks have become major impediments to the expansion and sustainability of tourism businesses in Nigeria (Ajayi & Oyetunde, 2021). These incidents not only deter tourists but also lead to increased operational costs for entrepreneurs, who are compelled to invest heavily in security infrastructure (NBS, 2022). Lagos State's tourism economy, which contributes approximately ₦4.1 trillion to its GDP, continues to suffer from challenges related to inadequate infrastructure and property rights protection (The Guardian, 2024).

Entrepreneurs operating within and around the National Museum Lagos face numerous difficulties stemming from these security concerns. Despite the deployment of various security measures—including physical infrastructure, operational procedures, technological systems, and policy frameworks—many report diminished profitability, decreased customer confidence, and serious business sustainability challenges (Okonkwo & Ibrahim, 2023). Inadequate surveillance, a shortage of trained security personnel, and insufficient emergency preparedness have left many ventures vulnerable to recurring threats (Adeniran et al., 2023).

While tourism operators adopt security strategies to mitigate risks, the actual impact of these measures on business outcomes remains inconclusive. Existing studies on the intersection of security and tourism in Nigeria have largely focused on national or regional trends, often neglecting site-specific assessments such as those at the National Museum Lagos (Onifade & Ayodele, 2021). This gap has led to an information vacuum on how localized security initiatives influence operational efficiency, client satisfaction, and financial performance. Moreover, the perspectives of tourism business owners, the primary stakeholders directly affected by security challenges, remain underrepresented in the literature (Afolabi & Ogunleye, 2022).

Another pressing concern is the limited cost-benefit analysis of security investments in the tourism sector. Business owners often bear significant costs to maintain secure environments, yet there is a dearth of empirical evidence demonstrating whether these expenditures translate into measurable business improvements (UNWTO, 2021).

Theoretically, the Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991) provides a robust framework for understanding how entrepreneurs' attitudes, subjective norms, and perceived behavioral control influence their security decisions. When applied to the tourism sector, TPB can help elucidate how perceptions of risk and control over safety measures impact entrepreneurial behavior and outcomes (Adekunle & Salawu, 2023).

This study aims to bridge these knowledge gaps by evaluating the effects of physical security, operational practices, technological measures, and regulatory frameworks on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs in the National Museum Lagos.

The study's findings are expected to inform more effective security strategies, bolster tourist confidence, and enhance the long-term viability of tourism ventures in this culturally significant location.

Hypotheses

- Ho:** There is no significant effect of physical security measures on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs in the National Museum Lagos.
- Ho:** There is no significant effect of operational security practices on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs in the National Museum Lagos.
- Ho:** There is no significant effect of technological security measures on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs in the National Museum Lagos.
- Ho:** There is no significant effect of policy and regulatory measures on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs in the National Museum Lagos.

Literature review

CONCEPTS

Physical Security Measures

Physical security measures encompass tangible strategies such as surveillance systems, access controls, perimeter fencing, alarm systems, and the deployment of trained personnel to safeguard individuals, assets, and infrastructures from threats like theft, vandalism, and unauthorized access. In the context of heritage sites like the National Museum Lagos, these measures are crucial for protecting invaluable artifacts and ensuring the safety of visitors and staff.

Recent studies highlight the significance of physical security in enhancing the appeal of tourist destinations. For instance, Adetola et al. (2024) emphasize that robust physical security not only protects cultural assets but also boosts tourist confidence, leading to increased visitation and revenue generation. However, the implementation of such measures often entails substantial

costs related to installation, maintenance, and staffing. Therefore, integrating physical security with other security domains is essential for comprehensive protection.

Operational Security Measures

Operational security involves the implementation of procedures, protocols, and practices aimed at protecting an organization's resources, personnel, and operations from security threats. In tourism settings, especially in high-density attractions like the National Museum Lagos, operational security includes visitor screening, emergency preparedness, crowd control, and real-time monitoring.

Mshelia et al. (2024) discuss the impact of operational security on the surrounding communities of tourist attractions in Nigeria. Their study reveals that inadequate operational security can lead to increased crime rates and community unrest, which in turn deter tourists and negatively affect the performance of tourism entrepreneurs. Therefore, effective operational security measures are vital for maintaining a safe and welcoming environment for tourists, which directly influences business performance.

Technological Security Measures

Technological security measures involve the use of digital tools and systems to protect data, infrastructure, and operations from cyber threats and unauthorized access. In the tourism industry, the adoption of technologies such as surveillance cameras, biometric access controls, and cybersecurity protocols is becoming increasingly important.

The Nigerian government's recent initiatives, including the implementation of e-visa systems and biometric tracking, aim to enhance security and streamline processes for tourists and investors (Federal Ministry of Information and National Orientation, 2025). These technological advancements not only improve security but also enhance the overall tourist experience, thereby positively impacting the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs.

Policy and Regulatory Measures

Policy and regulatory measures provide the legal framework that governs the tourism industry. The Nigerian Tourism Development Act of 2022 (NTDA 2022) establishes standards for tourism operations, including licensing, health and safety compliance, and quality assurance (Wey Practice, 2024). These regulations are designed to ensure that tourism businesses operate sustainably and ethically.

Furthermore, the Federal Government's recent efforts to review and standardize tourism policies aim to attract more tourists and investors (Vanguard News, 2024). The establishment of a dedicated Ministry of Tourism underscores the government's commitment to developing the sector (UNWTO, 2024). Effective policy and regulatory measures are essential for creating a conducive environment for tourism entrepreneurs, thereby enhancing their business performance.

Business Performance of Tourism Entrepreneurs

The performance of tourism entrepreneurs is influenced by various factors, including security measures, operational efficiency, and regulatory compliance. Adetola et al. (2024) highlight that the implementation of comprehensive security measures enhances the attractiveness of tourist sites, leading to increased patronage and revenue. Moreover, adherence to regulatory standards ensures the sustainability of tourism businesses.

However, challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, stringent visa policies, and negative perceptions about Nigeria continue to hinder the growth of the tourism sector (PunchNG, 2024). Addressing these issues through improved security measures and supportive policies is crucial for enhancing the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs.

THEORETICAL

The Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) emerged in 1991 as a theoretical model explained by Icek Ajzen to show the connection between travel agents' perceived security levels and financial success. According to the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB), three main aspects fundamentally influence individual behaviour: perceptions of it, subjective standards, and imagined behavioural management. Several components influence an individual's behavioural objectives, which at last define human attitude.

The study aligns with the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) by demonstrating how attitudes, societal desires, and an individual's perception of their ability to apply safety mechanisms shape the adoption process, thereby impacting the outcomes of an organization. The theory of planned behavior (TPB) holds that accepting protection routines can generate a secure atmosphere through optimistic views of security's benefits, adherence to social and professional standards, and the provision of required materials. The implementation of these protection procedures not only attracts more visitors but also leads to an increase in revenue.

The study concludes that TPB is relevant since it helps to expose the psychological and social elements influencing business judgements on protection strategies. Connecting these components to financial achievement and visitor pleasure enables one to understand the way robust protection standards increase the profitability and reputation of travel agencies.

For relevant participants, TPB provides practical knowledge. Enhancing the behaviors of business owners at the National Museum in Lagos through educational campaigns, establishing supportive norms through regulatory frameworks, and enhancing their abilities to undertake protection through training and financial resources contributes to creating a more secure and viable tourism environment.

EMPIRICAL REVIEW

Numerous studies have investigated the correlation between security policies and business viability in the tourism industry, focusing on wealthy countries, emerging economies, and Nigeria. Numerous investigations have illuminated the impact of protection and stability on the operations and profitability of tourism companies.

For their study, “Impact of Security Infrastructure on Tourism Business Profitability: Evidence from European Museums,” researchers chose 1,200 tourism entrepreneurs from five European countries—France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and the UK—using stratified random selection. Researchers applied regression analysis to investigate the data. The results showed that strong security policies, including CCTV monitoring, sophisticated alarm systems, and crowd management procedures, greatly raised visitor confidence, thereby driving higher attendance and income. Those who made security-related investments noted a 15 to 25 percent rise in customer retention and satisfaction (Smith, Taylor, & Clarke, 2018). In a paper titled “The Role of Security in Tourism Growth in East African Cultural Sites,” researchers from Kenya and Tanzania used a purposive selection technique to select 800 participants, including both tourists and tourism-related business owners. The study used logistic development and chi-square testing. The results of the study showed that although inadequate resources and inconsistent application hampered the full realisation of basic security measures, such as trained security officers and visitor screening, they helped to add to visitor happiness profits. The main reason tourists choose their locations was security issues, which immediately impacted the financial situation of travel agencies (Ochieng, Kamau, & Hassan, 2017).

Security Challenges and Their Impact on Tourism Businesses in Cultural Heritage Sites: A Case of National Museum Lagos” investigates Nigeria. The paper looked at how safety procedures affected company performance. Selected by a methodical sampling technique, the survey comprised 250 tourism business owners and employees. The researcher evaluated the results using ANOVA and correlation analysis. The results underlined how insufficient budget and lack of current infrastructure hindered the efficacy of security measures such as access control, on-site security officers, and emergency response plans even if they raised customer confidence and lowered crime rates. Compared to firms that neglected protection issues, entrepreneurs who prioritized them experienced a significant increase in both visitor traffic and revenue (Adekunle & Oladipo, 2020).

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a quantitative research design to investigate the impact of security measures on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs operating in and around the National Museum Lagos. The approach allowed for a structured collection and statistical analysis of numerical data to examine the relationships between key security variables and entrepreneurial performance outcomes.

The target population consisted of 250 registered tourism-related businesses operating within the precincts of the National Museum Lagos, as obtained from the Lagos State Ministry of Tourism and Culture (2023). From this population, a sample of 150 businesses was selected using a stratified random sampling technique. Stratification was based on factors such as business scale (micro, small, medium), years of operation, and type of services rendered (e.g., tour guiding, souvenir retailing, event hosting). This ensured proportionate representation

of different business categories within the museum's tourism ecosystem and helped to reduce sampling bias.

Data collection was conducted using a structured, self-administered questionnaire distributed to selected respondents. The instrument was designed to assess four independent variables: physical security measures, operational security measures, technological security measures, and policy and regulatory measures. The dependent variable was business performance, measured through indicators such as profitability, customer satisfaction, business continuity, and market reach.

To ensure the validity of the research instrument, both content and construct validity checks were conducted. Experts in tourism security and business administration reviewed the questionnaire to verify that the items were aligned with the study's objectives and variables. Additionally, comparisons were made with established literature and theoretical frameworks, including the Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991), to confirm construct alignment.

Reliability testing was performed using Cronbach's Alpha to assess the internal consistency of the questionnaire items. The scale yielded an acceptable reliability coefficient of 0.78, indicating that the items reliably measured the intended constructs (Hair et al., 2022).

For data analysis, regression analysis was employed as the primary inferential statistical method. This technique facilitated the evaluation of the individual and collective impacts of the identified security measures on business performance. The regression model also helped in identifying the most significant predictors and the strength of relationships between the variables, thereby supporting data-driven recommendations for improving security and enhancing entrepreneurial success in the tourism sector.

Table I
Model Summary on the Effect of Security Measures on Business Performance of Tourism Entrepreneurs in National Museum, Lagos. Nigeria.

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	Change Statistics					Durbin-Watson
					R Square Change	F Change	df1	df2	Sig. F Change	
1	.617 ^a	.381	.364	1.19681	.381	22.289	4	145	.000	.669

- Predictors: (Constant), Policy and Regulatory Measures, Physical Security Measures, Technological Security Measures, Operational Security Practices
- Dependent Variable: Business Performance on Tourism Entrepreneurs

Together, policy and regulatory measures, physical security measures, technological security measures, and operational security practices explain 38.1% of how well tourism business owners do in their jobs ($R^2 = 0.381$). The value of adjusted R^2 (0.364) shows that model

prediction quality remains durable while considering its multiple prediction variables. The standard error of the estimate (1.19681) shows how far observed values typically deviate from predicted values on average. The model is statistically valid because the F-statistic is 22.289, and the p-value is less than 0.001. This shows that all of the independent variables can predict business performance. Analysis using the Durbin-Watson statistic resulted in 0.669, indicating the possibility of autocorrelation in the remaining part. **Table II ANOVA on the**

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Model	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Regression	127.702	4	31.926	22.289	.000 ^b
1 Residual	207.691	145	1.432		
Total	335.393	149			

- a. Dependent Variable: Business Performance on Tourism Entrepreneurs
- b. Predictors: (Constant), Policy and Regulatory Measures, Physical Security Measures, Technological Security Measures, Operational Security Practices

Analysis of variance indicates the regression model demonstrates statistical significance with $F = 22.289$ ($p < 0.001$). Analysis reveals that policy, along with regulatory measures, physical security measures, and technological security measures with operational security practices, significantly contribute to explaining business success. When compared to the observed residuals (207.691), the calculated regression sum of squares (127.702) does a better job of predicting how variables affect the dependent measure. The analysis shows security measures coupled with regulatory policies have a vital influence on tourism entrepreneurs' business outcomes.

Table III
Coefficients on the Effect of Security Measures on Business Performance of Tourism Entrepreneurs in National Museum, Lagos. Nigeria.

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	95.0% Confidence Interval for B		Correlations		
	B	Std. Error	Beta			Lower Bound	Upper Bound	Zero-order	Partial	Part
(Constant)	2.643	.385		6.860	.000	1.882	3.405			
Physical Security Measure	-.404	.063	-.460	-6.427	.000	-.529	-.280	-.558	-.471	-.420
Operational Security Practices	.100	.115	.105	.872	.384	-.127	.327	.406	.072	.057
Technological Security Measures	-.028	.103	-.027	-.272	.786	-.231	.175	.320	-.023	-.018
Policy Regulatory Measures	.221	.093	.215	2.384	.018	.038	.405	.419	.194	.156

a. Dependent Variable: Business Performance on Tourism Entrepreneurs

The coefficient table demonstrates how each predictor affects business performance by itself. It can be seen that following physical security rules has a negative effect on business performance ($B = -0.404$, $p < 0.001$). This shows that poorly managed security practices make it harder to reach goals. The results demonstrate that policy and regulatory measures show a strong connection to business performance because they establish effective policies that drive positive results ($B = 0.221$, $p = 0.018$). The study shows that operational security practices ($B = 0.100$, $p = 0.384$) and technological security measures ($B = -0.028$, $p = 0.786$) don't help business performance much in these situations. All predictors absent result in a baseline performance level, which is measured through a constant ($B = 2.643$, $p < 0.001$). Business performance among tourist entrepreneurs depends heavily on security measure control and optimal policy adoption, which established the need to review minimal factors with limited impact.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The findings of this study both align with and diverge from existing literature on the impact of security measures on tourism business performance, offering nuanced insights into the dynamics at play within the National Museum Lagos context.

The study reveals a significant positive relationship between policy and regulatory measures and business performance ($B = 0.221$, $p = 0.018$). This finding corroborates previous research emphasizing the importance of structured security policies in fostering a secure environment that enhances tourist confidence and business viability. For instance, Adekunle and Oladipo (2020) highlighted that well-implemented security policies, including regulated access systems and the deployment of skilled security personnel, are instrumental in reducing criminal activities and bolstering trust among tourists, thereby driving financial growth in the tourism sector.

Conversely, the study identifies a negative relationship between physical security measures and business performance ($B = -0.404$, $p < 0.001$). This suggests that while physical security is essential, its implementation may inadvertently hinder business performance, possibly due to factors such as excessive security presence creating a perception of danger or the financial burden of maintaining such measures. This aligns with findings from Badiora et al. (2022), who observed that overemphasis on physical security in tourist destinations can lead to a deterrent effect on visitors, ultimately impacting business outcomes negatively.

The analysis indicates that operational security methods ($B = 0.100$, $p = 0.484$) and technological security approaches ($B = -0.028$, $p = 0.786$) do not have a statistically significant impact on business performance within the study context. This finding contrasts with studies such as Ochieng, Kamau, and Hassan (2017), which emphasized the role of operational protocols and technological advancements in enhancing security and, by extension, business performance in the tourism industry. The discrepancy may be attributed to differences in the scale of technological adoption and operational practices between the study areas.

The investigation underscores the necessity of striking a balance between adequate security measures and their implementation to optimize business performance in the tourism sector. A study by Afolabi et al. (2022) emphasizes that while security is paramount, its execution should not impede the visitor experience. They advocate for security strategies that are both effective and unobtrusive, ensuring that tourists feel safe without feeling surveilled or restricted.

In summary, the study affirms the critical role of policy and regulatory frameworks in enhancing tourism business performance, while also highlighting the potential drawbacks of overemphasizing physical security measures. The findings suggest that operational and technological security measures, as currently implemented, may not significantly influence business outcomes, indicating a need for reevaluation and potential enhancement of these strategies. Future research should explore the optimal integration of various security measures to support sustainable growth in the tourism sector.

CONTRIBUTION TO KNOWLEDGE

This research study provides better comprehension of how regulatory standards shape tour business operational effectiveness. Using verifiable evidence, the study establishes that regulatory measures lead to better business results, thereby demonstrating the central role of organisational legal frameworks in business tourism. Surprisingly, the research shows that

actual safety measures for productivity fall short, while too many or poorly implemented safety systems hurt the efficiency of operations and the experience of visitors. The current findings underscore the significance of developing standardised safety protocols that adapt to the local environment and strike an optimal balance between moderation and requirements. Operational and technical security practices and measures significantly influence organisations' successes in developing nations. The findings suggest that tour agencies need to optimise their operational mechanical integration for future academic investigations and practical commercial improvements. The research establishes essential knowledge by demonstrating the relevance of security performance models—specifically, those within tourism organisations operating in developing countries. The findings provide essential directions to lawmakers, safety researchers, and industry leaders regarding how to optimize security strategies to achieve superior travel outcomes. By examining multiple safety characteristics together with their essential linked effects on business success, this research fills an established void within the existing research body.

CONCLUSION

This study investigated the impact of various security measures—namely policy and regulatory frameworks, physical security strategies, operational practices, and technological systems—on the business performance of tourism entrepreneurs operating within the National Museum Lagos. The findings provide evidence that not all security strategies contribute equally to enhancing tourism business outcomes.

Notably, the study established that policy and regulatory measures significantly and positively influence tourism business performance. This confirms the theoretical premise of the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB), which posits that behavioral intentions (such as investing in or adhering to security policies) are guided by perceived control and structured norms—factors strongly shaped by policy environments. Entrepreneurs, when supported by clear and enforced regulatory frameworks, are better positioned to operate securely and confidently, attracting more visitors and enhancing profitability.

However, the study also uncovered a negative impact of physical security measures on business performance, suggesting possible overinvestment, inefficiencies, or an intimidating perception among tourists. This highlights the need to reassess how physical security is deployed—ensuring that it serves as an enabler of safety rather than a barrier to visitor experience.

In contrast, operational and technological security measures were found to have no statistically significant influence on business outcomes. This suggests a gap in either the scope of application or the strategic implementation of these tools. For instance, outdated technologies, insufficient staff training, or fragmented emergency protocols could diminish the effectiveness of such measures. These findings reveal an urgent need for stakeholders to not only invest in modern security technologies and operational strategies but to do so with a focus on integration, relevance, and user-centric outcomes.

Overall, the study concludes that balanced, policy-driven, and evidence-informed security strategies are critical for enhancing tourism entrepreneurship. Policymakers and museum authorities should prioritize regulations that promote both safety and visitor satisfaction, while entrepreneurs must reconsider the cost-benefit dimensions of physical and technological security investments.

Future studies should consider longitudinal data to evaluate the evolving effects of security strategies and expand research to other cultural heritage sites for broader policy implications. By refining security systems in both design and practice, Nigeria's tourism businesses can achieve sustainable growth, improved reputation, and increased competitiveness on the global tourism stage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Strengthen Policy and Regulatory Frameworks

Government agencies and tourism regulatory bodies should enforce and continuously update tourism-specific security policies that clearly define safety standards, business responsibilities, and visitor protection measures. Policies should also be inclusive of incentives such as tax relief or security grants for tourism entrepreneurs who comply with regulations. Regular audits and stakeholder consultations should be institutionalized to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of these frameworks.

2. Re-evaluate and Optimize Physical Security Measures

Tourism businesses, especially those around the National Museum Lagos, should shift from heavy-handed, intrusive physical security (e.g., excessive barricades or armed presence) to more visitor-friendly approaches such as discreet surveillance, trained personnel with customer service orientation, and non-obstructive fencing. A cost-benefit analysis should be conducted regularly to ensure that physical security investments improve both perceived safety and business outcomes.

3. Enhance Operational Security Practices

Entrepreneurs should adopt standardized and proactive operational practices including routine risk assessments, emergency drills, and visitor behavior monitoring. Staff should be trained regularly on safety protocols, crisis management, and conflict resolution to build a responsive and secure environment. These practices should be documented and evaluated periodically to ensure operational preparedness.

4. Modernize Technological Security Measures

Investment in advanced but user-centric security technologies—such as smart surveillance systems, biometric access control, and mobile alert systems—should be prioritized. Entrepreneurs should seek partnerships with security tech providers to access scalable and affordable solutions. Additionally, personnel should be trained to operate and maintain these systems to avoid underutilization and ensure efficiency in enhancing tourist trust and business sustainability.

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