AI And Environmental Sustainability: Solutions for Climate Change and Circular Economy: A Review Analysis

Heba Saleh Moghaieb
Associat Professor – Institute of National Planning

Nourhan Ahmed AL Atar
Lecturer – Institute of National Planning

Abstract

Purpose: Artificial intelligence (AI) can help address climate change and environmental problems by performing human-like tasks and improving environmental protection. This study investigates the potential environmental benefits of AI adoption in the circular economy, including reduced climate change, water resources, and weather forecasting. Artificial Intelligence Summit recognized AI's potential for sustainable development and proposed refocusing on its role in poverty eradication, environmental protection, and resource conservation. The study's findings may help bank management understand how to use new technology and enhance digital skills, ensuring long-term viability of their companies. However, the study's focus on Greater Cairo and time constraints may limit its application to other industries.

Results: The study emphasizes the need for Artificial Intelligence applications to promote environmental sustainability

in a circular economy transition and act as a solution for rapid climate change resulting in competitive advantages and value addition.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Environmental Sustainability, Climate Change, Circular Economy.

Introduction

Integrating Artificial intelligence (AI) into sustainability efforts offers hope for a more resilient and harmonious connection between humans and the world, particularly in the face of tremendous environmental concerns (Akter,2024).

AI can enhance resources efficiency in a circular economy by promoting material recycling, extending product life cycles, and optimizing supply chains. AI-driven solutions aid industries in transitioning from linear models to regenerative approaches (Ganguly et al., 2021). Climate change, pollution, and resource depletion present serious Threats to ecosystems and human well-being highlight the critical need for new solutions. AI's ability to analyze data, recognize patterns, and forecast outcomes has the potential to transform how to solve complicated situations (Akter,2024). Climate change poses a significant threat to both urban and natural systems, resulting in over $500 billion in economic losses worldwide. Artificial intelligence can help address these concerns by leveraging

online resources to provide timely recommendations based on accurate climate change projections (Chen et al. 2023).

AI can contribute to environmental sustainability extends beyond its theoretical promise. Practical applications include smart grids, precision agriculture, and climate forecasting (Ganguly et al., 2021).

Thus, Artificial Intelligence (AI) can significantly contribute to the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, enhancing energy efficiency, and minimizing waste. Its data analysis, predictive modeling, and optimization capabilities can improve energy systems, transportation networks, and industrial processes, enabling real-time monitoring and sustainable decision-making.

These technologies offer real-time information and prediction capabilities that can help shape policies and corporate initiatives targeted at lowering carbon footprints and increasing environmental resilience.

The purpose of this article is to understand to what extent artificial Intelligence has an impact on achieving environmental sustainability and how it can contribute to climate change in the circular economy.

1.1 Importance of the Research

This research investigates the relationship between artificial intelligence (AI) and environmental sustainability, revealing critical insights into how AI might be used to battle

climate change and promote a circular economy. The need to address environmental issues since the growing threat of climate change has emerged as one of the most global challenges. Traditional techniques of environmental management have proven ineffective in the face of increased manufacturing activities. AI can provide innovative, data-driven solutions and opens new opportunities for environmental issues. This study focusses on AI's potential for combating climate change in the circular economy and influencing environmental different strategies. AI can optimize energy use, lower carbon emissions, and improve efficiency in industries such as energy, transportation, manufacturing, and agriculture. It can also help governments and corporations make sustainable decisions by linking AI advancements with global sustainability goals of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. The findings also have practical significance for firms that are implementing AI technologies to lower their environmental crises and problems. Its practical and theoretical contributions will add to the body of knowledge on AI's role in environmental sustainability as a solution for climate change in a circular economy.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Despite the global attempts to prevent environmental problems and climate change crises, traditional ways and techniques to sustainability have proven ineffective in the face

of increasing activities in different fields, resource depletion, and rising carbon emissions, which have raised the need for more effective solutions in these critical fields, but the traditional techniques of minimizing environmental impact frequently lack the precision and adaptability required to meet the evolving issues.

Artificial intelligence (AI) has emerged as an advanced technology with the potential to transform sustainability initiatives through data-driven solutions. However, there is still a major gap and problem in understanding how AI may be effectively used to combat climate change and help in the transition to a circular economy.

This article investigates how AI can optimize energy usage, improve waste minimization, and reduce pollution and carbon emissions to achieve environmental sustainability in a circular economy transition as a solution for climate change.

This research problem is twofold: first, there is insufficient empirical evidence on how AI can contribute effectively to climate change mitigation by reducing emissions and optimizing resource usage.
The second problem is a lack of understanding about how AI can accelerate the adoption of circular economy principles, such as waste minimization and material reuse.

This research aims to fill these gaps by investigating and clarifying AI's role in developing advanced solutions for

environmental sustainability in the turbulent climate change in the circular economy.

1.3 Research Questions

Based on the research problem, the researcher has asked three main questions to achieve the research purpose.

1. How can artificial intelligence be used effectively to increase environmental sustainability, combat climate change, and accelerate the transition to a circular economy?

2. How might artificial intelligence (AI) help to mitigate climate change in a circular economy?

3. What are the hurdles and barriers to incorporating AI into environmental sustainability efforts?

1.4 Research Objectives

The study's purpose is to explore and understand the impact of artificial intelligence on environmental sustainability as a solution for climate change in the circular economy.

1. The fundamental goal of this research is to investigate the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in improving environmental sustainability, with a special emphasis on its ability to mitigate climate change and aid in the transition to a circular economy.

2. Discussing the role artificial intelligence (AI) plays in reducing climate change in the circular economy.

3. Clarifying the challenges and constraints of incorporating AI into environmental sustainability? How can challenges be solved so that AI may have the greatest impact possible?

2. Literature Review

This literature review gives a comprehensive overview of AI's role in combating climate change, promoting environmental sustainability, and advancing the circular economy.

2.1 Artificial intelligence (AI): Conceptual framework

Artificial intelligence (AI) will alter corporate processes and industries, with the potential to solve important societal concerns such as sustainability (Nishant et al., 2020). AI is increasingly viewed as a critical tool in tackling global issues, including climate change, environmental sustainability, and the circular economy. As AI technologies advance, their applications in environmental management and sustainable development have the potential to alter a variety of areas, including energy and waste management. In the face of enormous environmental difficulties, integrating artificial intelligence (AI) into sustainability efforts offers hope for a

more resilient and harmonious connection between humans and the world. Climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and resource depletion are major risks to ecosystems and human well-being, highlighting the urgent need for new solutions. AI's ability to analyze data, recognize patterns, and forecast outcomes has the potential to transform how we approach complicated situations (Akter, 2024). Artificial intelligence, according to Sabharwal and Selman (2011) is a machine's ability to mimic intelligent human behavior by performing tasks, where according to (Mahadevan, 2018) artificial intelligence is a branch of computer science that develops algorithms and techniques to enable computers to perform tasks that would normally require human intelligence, such as visual perception, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation. Thus, AI is the emulation of human cognitive processes by machines, particularly computer systems, in complicated activities such as learning, reasoning, and self-correction. It incorporates many technologies, such as natural language processing, robotics, and machine learning. focusses on systems that learn from data and improve their performance over time.

2.2 Artificial Intelligence and Climate Change

There is a tremendous deal of curiosity in how the advancement of artificial intelligence and machine learning will

affect global GHG emissions. However, the impact of emissions remains unknown due to their varied pathways, making measuring and forecasting problematic. influence of machine learning (ML) on GHG emissions into three categories: computing-related, instantaneous, and system-level. This framework identifies goals for impact assessment and scenario analysis and proposes policy levers to better understand and shape the consequences of machine learning on climate change mitigation (Kaack et al., 2022). Climate modelling and weather forecasting are two areas where AI has made significant contributions. AI systems can process massive volumes of data using machine learning techniques to make more accurate climate predictions. These advances enable policymakers to build more effective climate adaptation and mitigation plans (Rolnick et al. 2022). Furthermore, AI is utilized to optimize energy use in enterprises and families, lowering greenhouse gas emissions. AI-powered systems, for example, can predict energy demands and alter production levels, accordingly, resulting in more efficient energy consumption and less waste (Change, 2023). In transportation, AI-enabled technologies like smart traffic management systems and self-driving cars help to reduce carbon footprints (Filho et al., 2022). Thus, AI plays an important role in combating climate change by optimizing processes, improving predictions, and enabling data-driven decision-making.

2.3 Artificial Intelligence and Environmental Sustainability

AI can play a crucial role in addressing important global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation. This article examines how artificial intelligence (AI) is being used to promote sustainability and reduce environmental impact. AI provides novel solutions for different industries, including optimizing energy use, resource management, conservation efforts, and environmental risk prediction. This article explores significant applications of AI for sustainability (Akter,2024).AI-powered technologies have been created to monitor the environment, detect deforestation, and track wildlife populations. Satellite photography paired with AI algorithms aids in identifying deforestation hotspots and illicit logging activities, hence improving forest protection (Ong, 2023).

AI-driven precision farming techniques optimize water use, fertilizer application, and pesticide control, thereby minimizing environmental degradation while boosting crop yields (Sharma et al., 2020)

Furthermore, AI has been used in waste management systems to select materials for recycling and trash reduction, resulting in more sustainable urban environments (Gregory ,2022).

So, Environmental sustainability is the responsible use of natural resources to maintain long-term ecological equilibrium. AI has the potential to significantly improve sustainability by increasing resource efficiency, lowering pollution, and regulating ecosystems.

2.4 Artificial Intelligence and the Circular Economy

The circular economy model seeks to eliminate waste while encouraging the continuous use of resources through recycling, reusing, and refurbishing things. AI helps the circular economy by increasing resource efficiency and optimizing supply networks. Machine learning algorithms can use supply chain data to forecast product lifecycles and discover opportunities for recycling and reusing materials (Antikainen et al. 2018).

AI is also important in industrial symbiosis, which occurs when waste or byproducts from one operation are used to fuel another. By analyzing industrial processes and material flows, AI can detect synergies between businesses that might otherwise go undetected. This enhances resource efficiency and lowers waste formation, in line with the circular economy principles (Hazen et al., 2020)

Furthermore, AI-powered platforms enable the sharing economy, in which digital tools optimize asset utilization, resulting in lower consumption and material waste (Korhonen et al., 2018). These breakthroughs in AI-driven circular processes

have the potential to transform industries by decreasing environmental impact and supporting sustainable growth.

3. Research Methodology

This research investigates the role of artificial intelligence (AI) in sustainability and its potential for addressing global environmental concerns. Its applications include environmental conservation, climate change mitigation, renewable energy, biodiversity preservation, and other related sectors. The review takes a thorough approach, with selection criteria, data extraction, analysis, and synthesis. Key themes, trends, and case studies are selected to demonstrate the various applications of AI in tackling environmental challenges. The review admits its shortcomings and offers further study areas. The goal is to educate decision-makers, researchers, and practitioners on AI-based approaches to sustainability.

4. Harnessing AI for Sustainable Innovation: Addressing Climate Change and Promoting the Circular Economy

4.1 Opportunities and Benefits

AI systems require massive volumes of data, which can be difficult to collect in certain areas or industries. Furthermore, the computational resources needed to train AI models increase energy consumption, possibly undercutting their environmental benefits (Strubell et al., 2019).

Concerns have also been raised about AI's ethical consequences, such as data privacy, algorithm prejudice, and power concentration in technology corporations. Addressing these challenges is critical for ensuring that AI technologies are developed and applied in ways that benefit both society and the environment.

However, the prospects for AI to advance sustainability are significant. Collaboration among governments, companies, and research institutions will be critical to realizing AI's potential for environmental benefit. The combination of AI and other new technologies, such as the Internet of Things (IoT) and blockchain, can improve the efficiency and transparency of environmental management methods (Fujii & Managi, 2020).

AI can assess huge volumes of environmental data (such as weather patterns and pollution levels) to guide real-time decision-making and optimize sustainability projects.AI can assist identify environmental threats like climate change, resource depletion, and natural disasters, allowing for proactive mitigation techniques. AI improves energy efficiency in companies, smart cities, and agriculture by maximizing resource utilization and reducing waste, which is critical for the circular economy.AI-powered systems can automate pollution monitoring, greenhouse gas emissions, and biodiversity loss, providing continuous oversight and enforcement of environmental standards.AI can optimize the recycling process

by upgrading material sorting systems and building closed-loop industrial systems that adhere to circular economy concepts.

4.2 Challenges and obstacles

While AI has enormous potential for environmental sustainability, climate change mitigation, and the circular economy, there are several obstacles to consider.

AI is energy-intensive, especially in data centers and high-performance computers, and contributes to carbon emissions unless fueled by renewable energy sources.AI models rely largely on high-quality, precise information. Some places, particularly poor ones, have limited or inconsistent access to environmental data (Wynsberghe,2021) .AI-driven sustainability solutions demand significant initial investments. Small and medium-sized firms (SMEs) may struggle to afford such technologies (Chen et al,2023). thusAI solutions require advanced digital infrastructure, which may be missing in underdeveloped locations. The application of artificial intelligence in environmental monitoring raises issues about privacy, surveillance, and job displacement, particularly in manual industries such as trash management.

5. Conclusion

Artificial intelligence (AI) is an important tool for addressing environmental sustainability issues such as transportation, and waste management. AI has the potential to foster long-term innovation in green technology, facilitate global collaboration, and help businesses shift to circular economy models. However, it confronts risks such as its environmental impact, technological gaps, where a lack of global standards, and regulatory and legal obstacles. AI's energy demand can outweigh its environmental benefits, and the uneven distribution of AI technologies between rich and developing countries may widen the digital gap. Furthermore, the lack of consistent global standards for AI applications in environmental sustainability may limit the efficacy of AI-driven solutions across areas. Global collaboration, regulatory alignment, and long-term innovation are critical to solving these challenges. AI can contribute to a more sustainable and resilient planet by Enhancing climate modelling, energy efficiency, resource management, and waste reduction.

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