GHANA’S 24-HOUR ECONOMY POLICY: PROSPECTS, CRITICAL INDUSTRIES AND CHALLENGES

Ernest Kwame Affum[1*], Adamu Mihammed[2], Gideon Andoh Gyebi[3], Cassim Alhassan[4]

[1]Department of Management Studies,
University of Mines and Technology, Tarkwa
[2,3,4]Smart Think Business and Research Consultants Limited, Ghana
*Corresponding Author (ekaffum@umat.edu.gh)

Abstract
This paper examines Ghana's proposed 24-hour economy policy through the lens of international experiences from developed economies including Australia, the United Kingdom, Germany, and North America. Drawing on comprehensive analysis of successful implementations and policy failures across multiple jurisdictions, the study identifies manufacturing, ICT, healthcare, tourism, and transportation as sectors with high growth potential for Ghana's economy. The research reveals that whilst successful 24-hour economies can generate substantial economic benefits, with London contributing £26.3 billion annually and New South Wales employing one in five workers, implementation requires sophisticated governance structures, strategic infrastructure investment, and careful management of social challenges. Analysis of policy failures, particularly Sydney's lockout laws that caused £16 billion in economic losses, demonstrates the costly consequences of poorly designed interventions. For Ghana and similar emerging economies, the findings suggest that phased implementation starting with pilot programmes, combined with strong institutional frameworks and community engagement, offers the most viable pathway to capturing economic benefits whilst avoiding documented pitfalls. The study concludes that Ghana's 24-hour economy policy, if strategically implemented with lessons from international best practices, could significantly accelerate job creation and GDP growth whilst enhancing global competitiveness.

Keywords: 24-hour Economy, Night-Time Economy, Economic Development, Policy Implementation, International Best Practices, Ghana.

Introduction

The concept of a 24-hour economy has emerged as a viable strategy to foster continuous economic activity, generate employment, and support inclusive growth in an increasingly globalised, urbanised, and digitalised world (Presser, 2003; Florida, 2005). Economic growth in developing economies faces distinctive challenges including infrastructure deficits, regulatory constraints, limited access to capital markets, and skills mismatches (ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office, 2023; Harvard Kennedy School, 2023). However, developing countries also possess substantial advantages such as younger demographics, growing urban populations, and opportunities to leapfrog traditional development models through technological innovation and policy learning from developed economies (World Bank, 2020; UN DESA, 2023; CSIS, 2024).

Ghana finds itself confronting a crisis of high unemployment, jobless growth, high cost of doing business, low wages, rising poverty and growing inequality. The country has recorded its highest unemployment rate of almost 15% with youth unemployment of about 30% (NDC, 2024). This unemployment crisis has been occasioned through a disconnect between government policies and job outcomes, posing a major threat to Ghana's democratic development. In response, Ghana's National Democratic Congress has proposed a comprehensive 24-Hour Economy Policy as a deliberate intervention to stimulate economic growth through creating an enabling environment for businesses and public institutions to operate 24/7 in three shifts of eight hours each (NDC, 2024).

A 24-hour economy refers to an economic system that operates continuously, ensuring goods and services remain accessible throughout all hours of the day (Kelly, 2022). This concept has gained widespread acceptance internationally, with numerous developed countries including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany, France, China, and Australia successfully implementing various forms of this approach (Abdul-Salam, 2024). Major cities such as London, Tokyo, and New York have realised substantial economic benefits from continuous operations across industries. For instance, London's night-time economy contributed between £17.7 billion and £26.3 billion in Gross Value Added to the UK economy in 2014, with projections suggesting an additional £2 billion annually by 2029 (London First & EY, 2016). Similarly, many developing countries are exploring the potential of implementing 24-hour economies to enhance their economic standing.

Ghana's proposed policy represents an integrated framework designed to support businesses to operate round-the-clock. This comprehensive, multi-sectoral, import-substitution, export-led and industrialisation agenda aims to transform the Ghanaian economy and create decent, sustainable, well-paying jobs (NDC, 2024). The policy promises increased employment opportunities, productivity, and enhanced access to public services and revenue. Implementation will focus on selected public institutions with large customer bases such as Ports and Harbours, Customs, Passport Office, and the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority, whilst targeting primarily agro-processing, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, construction, financial services, extractive industries, sanitation and waste management, hospitality industry, retail centres, transportation services, health services, and security services (NDC, 2024).

Implementation of a 24-hour economy, involving continuous commercial and service operations, becomes imperative to enhance flexibility and responsiveness in contemporary economic activities (Morrison, 1985; Betancourt & Clague, 1981). This strategy possesses the potential to accelerate economic growth exponentially. For example, estimates suggest that Ghana's proposed policy could generate over 3 million jobs across manufacturing and services sectors whilst raising real GDP by 31.71% over a ten-year period (Abdul-Salam, 2024). However, transitioning to a 24-hour economy presents considerable challenges as workers adapt to non-standard hours. Issues such as potential health problems including sleep deprivation and circadian rhythm disruptions are likely to emerge (Jabeen, 2017; Brassington, 2018). Furthermore, night-time economies frequently adapt to appeal to younger populations, reflecting broader societal shifts brought about by neoliberal policies (Nicholls, 2019). Whilst a 24-hour economy agenda presents opportunities for employment development and economic expansion, it also raises concerns regarding public health and quality of life, indicating the need for balance between personal wellbeing and economic demands (Bailey et al., 2015; Presser, 2003).

Ghana's approach will be home-grown to fit its unique cultural, economic, and social situation. The policy will be both public and private sector driven, with government policies designed to stimulate round-the-clock business operations. Policy coordination will be integrated across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) to ensure efficiency. An Employment Act that will complement the existing Labour Law will be enacted in consultation with organized labour, the Association of Ghana Industries, and other stakeholders to create a regulatory framework for the 24-Hour Economy (NDC, 2024).

A Night-Time Economy development project extending operations from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. was recently approved in Vietnam with the goal of promoting economic growth through establishing a "24-hour society" (Nguyen et al., 2023). This programme is anticipated to stimulate industries including entertainment, retail, tourism, catering, and culture, creating jobs and raising GDP. Similarly, Ghana's 24-hour economy policy aims to improve economic resilience through encouraging continuous business activities, particularly in manufacturing and services. Both nations recognise that a 24-hour economy has the potential to spur economic expansion and employment creation, whilst acknowledging that issues regarding public health, infrastructure, and social dynamics must be addressed.

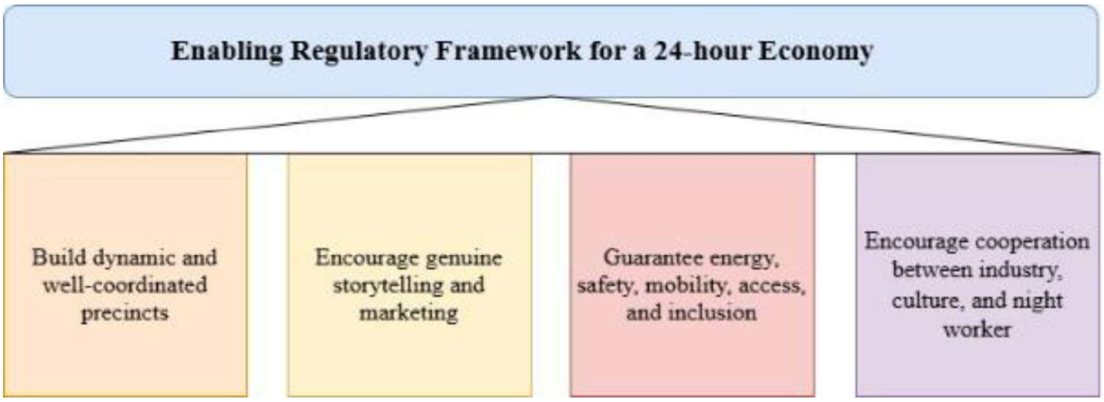

Figure 1.1 Pillars of New South Wales 24-Hour Economy Strategy
Source: NSW Government (2024). 24-Hour Economy Strategy 2024
Sydney: Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner.

Manufacturing, services, transportation, wholesale and retail commerce, and the night-time economy represent important sectors with substantial growth potential (McKinsey Global Institute, 2024; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2025). Manufacturing processes that operate continuously can boost output and create jobs. In wholesale and retail industries, extended hours serve diverse customer needs, increasing flexibility and satisfaction. Round-the-clock operations improve accessibility and service delivery for industries such as healthcare and hospitality (Hobbs et al., 2005). To support logistics and mobility whilst enabling smooth movement of people and commodities, continuous transport services prove essential (Abdul-Salam, 2024). A thriving night-time economy that includes cultural events and entertainment venues attracts diverse populations and boosts economic activity (Vignali & Gordon, 2008; Pratt & Gill, 2019). However, public health concerns emerge with a 24-hour economy, particularly regarding night shift workers' sleep deprivation. Increased risks of diabetes, heart disease, and other illnesses are linked to inadequate sleep (Brassington, 2018; Presser, 2003). Consequently, whilst the policy offers financial advantages, addressing employee health and wellbeing through appropriate policies and support networks becomes imperative.

Due to its focus on operational efficiency and continuous service delivery, the shift to a 24-hour economy is expected to significantly impact multiple industries (Shapiro, 1993; Kostiuk, 1990). Continuous operations in manufacturing can increase output and attract capital investments, resulting in substantial employment increases. The retail sector is expanding operating hours due to e-commerce growth and consumer demand for convenience (Cooley and Parkes, 2019). Given that many emergency cases occur outside regular business hours, 24-hour services prove essential in healthcare, particularly mental health services (Byrne et al., 2011; Institute for Healthcare Improvement, 2023). Similarly, transportation and logistics industries depend on continuous operations to facilitate timely delivery and maintain service reliability across multiple sectors. Ghana is not the only country pursuing this policy direction. Ondimu (2024) examined the effects of a 24-hour economy on industrialisation of Micro and Small Enterprises in Nairobi County, Kenya. The findings highlighted both potential for increased employment and innovation as well as workforce and regulatory limitations, which are likely relevant to Ghana's situation.

Theoretical Framework: Growth Theory, Demand-Side Economics, and Technological Innovation

Neoclassical Growth Theory

Neoclassical growth theory, pioneered by Robert Solow (1956) and Trevor Swan (1956), examines the fundamental determinants that contribute to a country's economic development over time. The Solow-Swan model identifies capital accumulation, labour force growth, and technological progress as the primary drivers of long-term economic growth (Solow, 1956; Mankiw et al., 1992). In Ghana's 24-hour economy situation, this theoretical framework provides insights into how extended operating hours can optimise infrastructure and resource utilisation. The model's focus on capital accumulation and labour utilisation as engines of economic progress aligns directly with continuous operational processes. According to Solow's framework, increasing the utilisation rate of existing capital stock through extended operating hours can significantly enhance output without proportional increases in investment (Mankiw et al., 1992; Morrison, 1985). For Ghana, extending business hours across key sectors could increase productive capacity, potentially raise GDP and improve living standards through more efficient use of existing infrastructure and human resources. The neoclassical model also predicts convergence, suggesting that developing countries like Ghana should experience faster growth rates as they catch up to more developed economies (Barro & Sala-i-Martin, 2004). A 24-hour economy policy could accelerate this convergence through maximising the productivity of Ghana's relatively young and growing workforce whilst attracting technology and knowledge spillovers from international markets operating across different time zones. However, the model's assumption of exogenous technological progress presents limitations for understanding how 24-hour operations might endogenously generate innovation and productivity improvements through learning-by-doing effects and increased business dynamism (Romer, 1986; Lucas, 1988).

Keynesian Demand-Side Economics

Keynesian economics, developed by John Maynard Keynes (1936), asserts that aggregate Keynesian economics, developed by John Maynard Keynes (1936), asserts that aggregate demand, the sum of spending by households, businesses, and government, constitutes the primary driver of economic expansion (IMF, 2014). This theoretical framework proves particularly relevant for understanding how a 24-hour economy can stimulate economic activity through multiple channels. The Keynesian multiplier effect demonstrates that initial increases in spending generate subsequent rounds of economic activity, with the total impact exceeding the original expenditure (Keynes, 1936; Kahn, 1931). In the situation of a 24-hour economy, extended operating hours can boost aggregate demand through providing consumers greater flexibility and round-the-clock market access, thereby increasing consumption opportunities. This increased consumption creates a multiplier effect throughout the economy, as businesses experience higher revenues, leading to increased employment and household incomes, which further stimulate demand. The multiplier mechanism works through the marginal propensity to consume (MPC), where each round of spending generates additional income that is partially spent and partially saved (Krugman, 2009). If Ghana's MPC is relatively high, as is typical in developing economies where consumption needs remain substantial, the multiplier effect of 24-hour economy policies could be particularly pronounced. Furthermore, Keynesian theory suggests that continuous operations may reduce unemployment through creating additional jobs across multiple shifts, thereby increasing household incomes and consumption capacity. This demand-side stimulus can help Ghana achieve higher capacity utilisation and economic growth, particularly during periods when traditional daytime economic activity might be constrained.

Ramsey-Cass-Koopmans Model of Optimal Growth

The Ramsey-Cass-Koopmans (RCK) model, developed independently by Frank Ramsey (1928), David Cass (1965), and Tjalling Koopmans (1965), provides a sophisticated framework for understanding optimal capital accumulation and consumption decisions over time. This model proves particularly relevant for analysing 24-hour economy policies because it addresses both technological innovation and intertemporal optimisation of resources. Unlike the Solow model, the RCK framework endogenises saving decisions through utility maximisation, making consumption and investment choices dependent on forward-looking optimisation rather than fixed savings rates (Cass, 1965; Koopmans, 1965). In the situation of a 24-hour economy, this suggests that businesses and households will adjust their consumption and investment patterns based on the new opportunities and constraints created through extended operating hours. The model's treatment of technological progress becomes particularly relevant for Ghana's 24-hour economy policy. Continuous operations may require significant investments in new infrastructure, automated systems, and digital technologies to maintain productivity and efficiency during extended hours. According to the RCK framework, such technological investments prove essential for long-term economic growth, as they can result in sustained productivity improvements (Ramsey, 1928; Arrow & Kurz, 1970).

The Keynes-Ramsey rule, fundamental to this model, indicates that optimal growth occurs when the marginal rate of substitution between present and future consumption equals the marginal rate of transformation in production (Arrow & Kurz, 1970). For Ghana, this implies that 24-hour economy investments should be pursued when the discounted future benefits, including increased productivity, job creation, and economic competitiveness, exceed the present costs of implementation. Moreover, the RCK model's focus on balanced growth paths suggests that Ghana's 24-hour economy policy should be designed to achieve sustainable, long-term development rather than short-term gains that might compromise future economic prospects. This theoretical insight supports a gradual, well-planned implementation approach that allows for adequate infrastructure development and workforce adaptation. The model also highlights the importance of technological spillovers and human capital accumulation in sustaining growth. As Ghana implements 24-hour operations, the resulting technological adoption and skills development could generate positive externalities that enhance the country's long-term economic trajectory, potentially positioning it to leapfrog certain stages of development and compete more effectively in global markets.

Lessons from Established 24-Hour Economy Policies

The global experience with 24-hour economy policies reveals diverse approaches, terminologies, and outcomes across developed nations. Understanding these international models provides valuable insights for Ghana's policy development and implementation strategy.

Terminology and Definitional Variations

International terminology reflects distinct policy priorities and cultural backgrounds. The United Kingdom defines "night-time economy" as all activities between 6pm-6am, contributing £93.7 billion (4.1% of GDP) and employing 8.7 million workers (ONS, 2022; UK Night Time Industries Association, 2024). Australia's "24-hour economy" focuses on continuous productivity optimisation, whilst European cities favour "evening economy" focusing on cultural and entertainment activities. China's "night-time economy" (夜 间 经 济) has experienced explosive growth with 197 policies implemented in 2020 alone, supported through comprehensive measurement frameworks (China Tourism Academy, 2024; Lin et al., 2022). These definitional differences matter profoundly for policy design. The 6pm-6am timeframe captures evening dining and entertainment, whilst 24/7 concepts encompass manufacturing, healthcare, and essential services. Ghana's proposed definition encompasses infrastructure adjustments supporting round-the-clock operations across multiple sectors, representing a comprehensive approach aligned with economic development goals similar to Australia's model but tailored to Ghana's developmental needs (NDC, 2024).

New South Wales: Global Leadership in 24-Hour Economy Governance

New South Wales Australia has established the world's most comprehensive 24-hour economy framework through its refreshed 2024 strategy. Michael Rodrigues serves as the world's first state-level 24-Hour Economy Commissioner, supported through dedicated legislation including the 2023-2024 Vibrancy Reforms Acts. The strategy has generated measurable results: NSW's night-time economy is valued at $102 billion annually, employing one in five workers statewide, with Sydney specifically contributing $4.7 billion through 5,900 businesses (NSW Government, 2024). The NSW model's sophistication includes the Data After Dark platform for evidence-based decision making, Purple Flag Accreditation for night-time area assessment, and 38 funded Districts through the Uptown District Acceleration Program. This comprehensive approach demonstrates how dedicated governance structures can coordinate complex stakeholder interests whilst driving measurable economic outcomes. Ghana can draw lessons from NSW's institutional framework, particularly the establishment of dedicated leadership positions and evidence-based monitoring systems that could be adapted to Ghana's governmental structure through the proposed Accelerated Export Development Authority chaired through the President (NDC, 2024).

European Innovations in Night Economy Governance

European cities have pioneered governance innovations that have spread globally. Amsterdam's night mayor model, established informally in 2003 and institutionalised in 2014, has been adopted through over 45 cities worldwide (Seijas & Gelders, 2021). Under the first night mayor Mirik Milan (2014-2016), Amsterdam achieved a 25% decrease in alcohol-related incidents and 28% reduction in noise complaints. Berlin's approach highlights cultural recognition, with techno culture achieving UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage status in 2024. This provides enhanced protection for venues and access to government funding, recognising clubs as cultural institutions rather than mere entertainment venues. Berlin's creative industries contribute approximately 20% of the city's GDP with over 160,000 creative workers (Lange & Bürkner, 2008). London's comprehensive framework includes the Night Czar position, £6 million Nightlife Prosperity Fund, and integration across all 33 boroughs. However, challenges persist with over 3,000 pubs and clubs closed since March 2020 and ongoing vulnerability among night-time cultural workers, 38.5% of whom are low-paid (Greater London Authority, 2023). Ghana's Creative Arts Fund revival and "Black Star Experience" cultural programming could benefit from Berlin's cultural recognition model, potentially positioning Ghana's cultural assets as economic drivers within the 24-hour economy framework (NDC, 2024).

North American Formal Governance Models

New York City leads North American innovation through its Mayor's Office of Nightlife, generating $35.1 billion annually with 299,000 jobs across 25,000+ establishments (NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, 2024). The office provides free mediation, regulatory navigation, and mental health resources whilst implementing the innovative CURE Program, replacing disruptive enforcement with engagement-first approaches. Toronto adopted a comprehensive Night Economy Framework in December 2023, implementing bylaw changes effective January 2025. With an estimated $4.2 billion economic output supporting over 300,000 jobs, Toronto's approach prioritises non-alcohol-centred activities and community safety (City of Toronto, 2023). These North American models demonstrate the importance of dedicated institutional structures, which aligns with Ghana's proposal to restructure the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations to provide policy and technical support to Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies in incorporating job creation into their medium-term plans and budgets (NDC, 2024).

Policy Failures and Lessons

International experiences also reveal costly consequences of poor implementation. Sydney's lockout laws (2014-2021) provide the starkest example of policy failure, causing over $16 billion in economic losses and 418 venue closures in targeted areas (Rowe & Stevenson, 2017). The laws were ultimately reversed after demonstrating that restrictive approaches displace rather than eliminate problems, with 17% increases in assaults in adjacent areas. Melbourne's abandoned lockout trial (2008) failed within three months after actually increasing violence during its first weekend, leading to 10,000-person protests and complete policy reversal (Miller et al., 2015). These failures demonstrate that over-restrictive policies can undermine rather than support 24-hour economy development. Ghana's approach of creating enabling environments rather than restrictive frameworks, including tax incentives, financing support, security services, and cheaper reliable power through Time-of-Use tariffs, appears better aligned with successful international models (NDC, 2024).

Key Industries: Sectors with High Growth Potential

The 24-hour economy offers abundant opportunities for several sectors with significant growth potential. International experience demonstrates that success depends on identifying and supporting industries best positioned to benefit from extended operating hours.

Ghana's 24-Hour Economy Policy specifically targets agro-processing, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, construction, financial services, extractive industries, sanitation and waste management, hospitality industry, retail centres, transportation services, health services, and security services (NDC, 2024). This comprehensive sectoral approach aligns with international best practices whilst addressing Ghana's specific economic structure and development needs.

The travel and hospitality sector represents one of the most promising opportunities. Round-the-clock operations through hotels, resorts, and travel agencies can significantly improve service delivery and accommodate visitors from different time zones (World Tourism Organization, 2023). Extended business hours in major cities and popular tourist locations contribute to increased foreign exchange earnings, job creation, and improved overall visitor experiences. Ghana's

"Black Star Experience" initiative, designed as a flagship Culture, Arts, and Tourism brand, could particularly benefit from 24-hour operations through year-round celebrations of entertainment, artistic, and educational disciplines (NDC, 2024). Research indicates that night markets, street food vendors, entertainment events, and cultural festivals exemplify the thriving cultural and economic activity that frequently characterises night-time urban areas (Yatmo, 2009; Roberts & Turner, 2005).

Manufacturing represents a sector with substantial potential for Ghana's 24-hour economy. Ghana's proposed policy includes specific support for agro-processing factories and manufacturing companies through financing support from the Ghana Exim Bank to boost production for import substitution and exports (NDC, 2024). The policy also includes plans to establish agro-industrial zones in all regions based on their comparative advantage, mini-processing plants for cassava, tomatoes, fruits, and other commodities, and cocoa processing factories in cocoa-growing regions. This manufacturing focus aligns with successful international models where continuous operations increase output and attract capital investments, resulting in substantial employment increases.

Digital services and information and communication technology (ICT) represent another sector with substantial growth potential. Round-the-clock operations allow tech hubs, digital service companies, and support centres to serve clients across time zones as a result of the global movement towards remote work and digital engagement (Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, 2023). Ghana's Digital Jobs Initiative, planning to create 300,000 employment opportunities for youth in partnership with local tech start-ups and businesses, specifically supports this sector through establishing ICT parks across the country to make Ghana the hub for innovation, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity in Africa (NDC, 2024). The One Million Coders Programme aims to train one million young Ghanaians in digital skills, empowering them to thrive in Business Process Outsourcing and Knowledge Process Outsourcing sectors. Continuous work cycles, which boost responsiveness and productivity, particularly benefit data centres, cybersecurity operations, and software development companies.

The healthcare industry proves equally important, particularly emergency and specialist medical services that require continuous operation. Patient wait times can be reduced, a broader range of medical and support jobs can be created, and health infrastructure can be improved through a 24-hour economy (Institute for Healthcare Improvement, 2023; Byrne et al., 2011). Ghana's health sector reforms include establishing market and transport station clinics to provide basic healthcare services for traders, passengers, drivers, and the general public, alongside upgrading school sickbays into satellite clinics managed through health professionals in all boarding schools for quality 24-hour healthcare (NDC, 2024). These improvements contribute substantially to national resilience and general wellbeing, especially during crises such as pandemics or natural disasters.

Transportation and logistics industries serve as vital enablers. Industries that depend on time-sensitive delivery systems are directly supported through reliable 24-hour public transportation, freight handling, and cargo logistics, which guarantee smooth supply chains. Ghana's transport strategy includes deploying a centralised transit control system for all modes to operate on fixed routes and schedules, including buses, light rail transit, metro, regional rail, and related systems (NDC, 2024). The policy also includes plans to make Ghana the aviation hub of ECOWAS for passengers and freight through developing aviation refuelling depots for the region and establishing certified Maintenance Repairs and Overhaul Stations.

Recent studies indicate that 24-hour economy policies offer significant potential for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), particularly in urban settings. In a survey of MSEs in Nairobi County, Ondimu (2024) discovered that more than 63% of businesses implementing longer workdays experienced productivity increases, with many expanding their workforces. The majority mentioned security, labour scheduling, and limited demand as obstacles, indicating that this transition depends on infrastructure improvements and enabling policy support. Ghana's approach addresses these challenges through comprehensive support packages including tax incentives, financing support, security services, and cheaper reliable power through Time-of-Use tariffs for participating businesses (NDC, 2024). MSEs in Ghana's retail, hospitality, and transportation sectors are similarly positioned to drive urban economic growth if provided appropriate backing.

Industries with High Demand Potential

Certain industries demonstrate high potential for consumer demand in a 24-hour economy, complementing sectors with growth potential. This transformation is led through retail and consumer goods industries, particularly in cities where people desire unrestricted access to everyday items. Convenience stores, supermarkets, and online retailers that meet these demands could anticipate increased business, especially if they continue providing flexible and extended hours.

Ghana's retail sector development includes plans to establish modern markets in the six newly created regions and support the redevelopment of the Abossey Okai, Suame and Cape Coast Artisanal enclaves (NDC, 2024). The "Made in Ghana Agenda" will leverage government spending power to prioritise procurement of made-in-Ghana goods and services through deliberate policy, whilst public education campaigns will re-orientate citizens to patronise made-in-Ghana products. According to Rönkä et al. (2018), services in retail, hospitality, and early childhood education sectors adapt through managing fluctuations in customer demand and staff scheduling. Furthermore, as Coleman (1995) noted, businesses operating around the clock, such as banking, insurance, and transportation, increase productivity and reduce operating costs.

Ghana's financial services modernisation supports 24-hour operations through promoting fintech innovation and establishing regulatory frameworks that enable financial technology companies to operate continuously (NDC, 2024). The establishment of a Women's Development Bank to support women-owned and women-led businesses with low-interest loans and tailored financial services on flexible terms demonstrates how sector-specific institutions can support 24-hour economy development. The "24-Hour Knowledge Factory" concept proposed through Gupta (2009) highlights potential efficiency benefits in knowledge-intensive fields such as accounting, law, and design through dispersed international teams, which aligns with Ghana's digital economy acceleration plans.

The food and beverage sector will also benefit significantly. Night markets, cafes, restaurants, and mobile food vendors may all thrive with appropriate regulatory support, policy backing, and safety measures. These businesses provide job opportunities to diverse populations whilst promoting local cuisine and cultural diversity. Ghana's agriculture-to-market development includes plans to modernise markets in key towns and establish modern fish harbours, landing sites and market complexes with smoking, processing, and storage facilities in major fishing communities (NDC, 2024). High demand exists for 24-hour content consumption in media and entertainment industries, driven primarily through younger generations (Nielsen, 2024). Digital streaming services, movie theatres, music venues, and content production companies are well-positioned to benefit from this trend and support a thriving creative economy.

Ghana's creative industry development includes plans to revive the Creative Arts Fund, introduce "Cultural Villages" to showcase Ghana's diverse culture, and partner with stakeholders to position Ghana's film industry among Africa's top three producers (NDC, 2024). The establishment of film villages with equipment for hire at low rates, rehabilitation of the National Theatre in Accra, and plans to build a second National Theatre in Kumasi demonstrate comprehensive support for creative industries. Additionally, research indicates that visitors are frequently more attracted to nightly emotional and cognitive experiences than purely utilitarian or practical benefits. Affective and cognitive experiences become more enticing due to the distinct atmosphere of nocturnal settings, which elicit deeper emotional reactions and imagination (Shaw, 2014; Veronica et al., 2020).

Finally, public services and utilities including energy, water, internet, and sanitation must also adapt to maintain continuous operations. A healthy 24-hour economy depends on these services, which must adjust to meet new demand peaks and usage cycles. Ghana's infrastructure development plans include comprehensive energy sector management, modernised water supply systems, and digital infrastructure expansion to support 24-hour operations (NDC, 2024). The LIGHT UP GHANA Project specifically supports the 24-hour Economy through resuming universal street lighting programmes and using indigenous engineering firms to develop street lighting infrastructure.

Key Challenges

Whilst a 24-hour economy offers numerous opportunities, successful implementation depends on resolving several important issues. International experience reveals common challenges that developing economies like Ghana must anticipate and address proactively.

Since criminal activity typically increases at night, security concerns remain paramount. Businesses and consumers alike require reassurance through enhanced policing, effective lighting, and robust surveillance systems to guarantee safety after dark (Newton & Hirschfield, 2009). Ghana's security strategy addresses these concerns through developing a comprehensive security and safety programme to support the implementation of the 24-Hour Economy Policy, including enhanced police presence and patrols in neighbourhoods and public spaces (NDC, 2024). The policy includes plans to create an atmosphere of safety and security through a public-private security architecture, disbanding all militias and vigilante groups, and expanding community-based crime prevention programmes focusing on high-crime areas.

Infrastructure limitations represent another significant barrier. Poor road systems, erratic electrical supply, and inadequate public transportation can seriously hinder continuous urban economic activity. Addressing these deficiencies requires long-term, strategic investments in infrastructure development (World Bank, 2024). Ghana's infrastructure development plans include a US$10 billion accelerated infrastructural plan to drive job creation, completing uncompleted and abandoned government infrastructure projects, and comprehensive reforms for equitable, efficient, and transparent land management (NDC, 2024). The energy sector strategy includes implementing an energy transition strategy that augments thermal and hydro power production with nuclear and other renewable energy sources, upgrading and modernising the National Inter-Connected Transmission System, and ensuring massive investments in the distribution sector to enhance capacity and improve technical and operational efficiency.

Furthermore, labour laws and employee welfare become fundamental concerns in a 24-hour economy. Working late shifts may compromise employee productivity, safety, and health (Presser, 2003; Brachet et al., 2012). Therefore, amending labour regulations becomes necessary to allow flexible work schedules whilst maintaining sufficient rest periods, fair compensation, and secure working conditions. Ghana's labour reform strategy includes passing an Employment Act outlining the roles and responsibilities of public and private actors in creating employment, ratifying the

ILO Transition of Employment Convention to protect workers against exploitation and arbitrary dismissals, and reviewing the Factories, Offices, and Shops Act for effective regulation of occupational health and safety in modern workplaces (NDC, 2024).

Cultural and religious perspectives can also create resistance, particularly in societies where night-time business is considered inappropriate or immoral. To foster awareness and support, inclusive stakeholder engagement and persistent public education initiatives prove essential (Saetren, 2005). Ghana's approach includes comprehensive community engagement strategies and addresses cultural concerns through establishing Islamic morgues at major hospitals for early retrieval and burial of corpses according to Islamic customs, and ensuring that the policy is implemented to fit Ghana's unique cultural, economic, and social situation (NDC, 2024).

Additionally, economic inequality may increase. Urban centres are more likely to benefit from the strategy, potentially leaving rural and peri-urban areas behind. Preventing escalating regional imbalances requires a balanced and inclusive implementation approach that considers diverse capacities and needs of different geographic zones. Ghana addresses this through plans to establish Agro-Industrial Zones in all regions based on their comparative advantage, create Farm Banks within agriculture zones to ease access to land and irrigation facilities, and implement rural youth empowerment programmes (NDC, 2024). The policy also includes upgrading selected municipalities into metropolises and assessing eligible districts for municipality status to ensure balanced development.

Labour laws must also be reexamined. Longer workdays can increase stress and fatigue, reducing productivity. To minimise burnout and optimise employee wellbeing in a 24/7 work culture, firms need to implement flexible and supportive workplace arrangements, as noted through Faiz et al. (2019). Ghana's labour productivity strategy includes implementing workplace excellence programmes in the public sector as part of a nationwide campaign aimed at transforming work ethics and attitudes towards productivity, alongside providing free basic digital literacy courses in all districts (NDC, 2024).

International examples illustrate these challenges clearly. London faces ongoing venue closures despite economic contributions, whilst infrastructure challenges appear consistently across cities. Night transport systems struggle to balance 24-hour service with essential maintenance requirements. Community opposition emerges when policies prioritise economic development over resident welfare, leading to noise complaints, property value concerns, and social tensions. Ghana's comprehensive approach attempts to address these issues proactively through balanced implementation strategies that consider both economic development and community welfare.

Policy Recommendations

Implementation of a strategic policy framework becomes necessary to fully realise a 24-hour economy's potential. International best practices provide guidance for developing comprehensive approaches that balance economic opportunities with social sustainability.

Governments must prioritise investing in urban infrastructure to enable safe and effective round-the-clock operations, including intelligent transportation systems, improved road networks, reliable power supplies, and modern street lighting (World Bank, 2024; OECD, 2024). Ghana's infrastructure investment strategy aligns with these recommendations through its comprehensive National Infrastructure Development Programme, which includes systematic construction of drainage systems, expansion of water distribution networks, and development of modern waste recycling facilities for both solid and liquid waste in all regions (NDC, 2024).

Stable and affordable energy supply forms the backbone of any successful 24-hour economy. Ghana should invest in diversified energy generation including renewable sources such as solar and wind power to ensure consistent electricity availability. Smart grid technologies can optimise energy distribution during peak and off-peak hours, reducing costs for businesses operating extended hours. Additionally, improved urban lighting systems with LED technology and smart controls can enhance safety while reducing energy consumption, making night-time operations more viable and secure. Ghana's energy strategy specifically addresses these needs through implementing an energy transition strategy that incorporates renewable energy sources, optimising economic and environmental sustainability of the thermal sector, and eliminating power wastage through public education and revised building codes (NDC, 2024).

The financial sector requires significant modernisation to support 24-hour economic activities. Ghana should promote fintech innovation through regulatory sandboxes that allow financial technology companies to test new products and services. Mobile money platforms, digital banking services, and contactless payment systems become essential for businesses operating outside traditional banking hours. Government should establish partnerships with fintech companies to develop 24/7 payment processing capabilities, automated lending platforms for small businesses, and digital financial inclusion programmes. These innovations will enable seamless financial transactions during extended business hours and support the growth of micro and small enterprises in the night-time economy. Ghana's financial modernisation plans include establishing a $50 million FinTech Growth Fund to promote digital entrepreneurs and support indigenous FinTech companies, alongside establishing regulatory frameworks for digital banks and non-interest banking (NDC, 2024).

Security measures must be enhanced through improved night-time policing and monitoring technologies in high-risk locations. Legal changes that protect night workers and provide fair compensation, safety standards, and burnout prevention must be implemented alongside these initiatives (International Labour Organization, 2023). Ghana's security enhancement strategy includes establishing two additional modern forensic laboratories, creating a nationwide community police programme, and investing in ICT infrastructure, training, modern equipment, mobility, and other logistics to support intelligence gathering and enhance national safety (NDC, 2024).

Additionally, particularly in culturally sensitive areas, public awareness campaigns should highlight 24-hour economy benefits to encourage broader social support and reduce opposition. Supporting small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) and startups proves equally essential. Business incubation programmes, tax incentives, and financial assistance can encourage businesses to adopt 24/7 business models. Ghana's SME support strategy includes establishing the "Adwumawura Programme" to facilitate the creation, tracking, and mentoring of a minimum of 10,000 businesses annually, alongside creating a National Employment Trust to manage investment funds that operate professionally on market principles (NDC, 2024).

Targeted assistance for micro and small businesses remains vital. Based on research conducted in Nairobi, Ondimu (2024) suggests customised policies including tax breaks, streamlined licensing for extended hours, subsidised night-time utilities, and public-private partnerships to jointly fund security and infrastructure requirements. A similar strategy would enable MSEs in Ghana to fully benefit from the 24-hour economy model, especially in high-density commercial zones. Ghana's approach includes scrapping various taxes within the first 100 days in office to alleviate hardships and ease the high cost of doing business, including E-levy, COVID levy, 10% levy on bet winnings, emissions levy and import duty on vehicles and equipment imported for industrial and agricultural purposes (NDC, 2024).

Government should promote investment in digital technologies that improve digital service delivery and remote operations. Collaborating with technology companies to foster innovation will accelerate the development of intelligent solutions suited to 24-hour economy requirements. Ghana's digital advancement strategy includes launching the One Million Coders Programme to train one million young Ghanaians in digital skills, establishing ICT centres in underserved areas, and facilitating the expansion of broadband infrastructure to make high-speed broadband internet services affordable and widely available (NDC, 2024).

International experience suggests several additional recommendations. Phased implementation approaches prove more successful than immediate full liberalisation (Pressman & Wildavsky, 1984). Data-driven decision making through monitoring platforms enables continuous improvement and evidence-based policy adjustment. Multi-stakeholder governance through advisory councils and industry representation ensures policies address real needs whilst maintaining community support (Bryson et al., 2006). Ghana's implementation approach incorporates these lessons through its phased strategy, establishment of an Accelerated Export Development Authority chaired through the President, and comprehensive stakeholder engagement including organized labour, the Association of Ghana Industries, and other stakeholders (NDC, 2024).

Conclusion

Emerging markets stand to gain significantly from adopting 24-hour economy policies in terms of job creation, productivity gains, and long-term economic growth. Policymakers can unlock unrealised potential of both urban and rural economies through concentrating on high-growth and high-demand industries such as retail, ICT, tourism, and healthcare. To make this vision reality, significant obstacles relating to infrastructure, security, worker welfare, and social acceptance must be addressed. International experience demonstrates both tremendous potential and significant risks associated with 24-hour economy policies. Success requires comprehensive approaches combining strong governance, strategic infrastructure investment, flexible regulation, and meaningful community engagement. Policy failures teach expensive lessons about costs of over-restriction or inadequate preparation. For Ghana and similar emerging economies, the path forward involves careful adaptation of international best practices to local situations, resource constraints, and development priorities.

Ghana's National Democratic Congress has articulated a comprehensive framework that addresses many of the challenges identified in international experiences. The policy's integration across Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, combined with specific sector targeting and substantial infrastructure investment plans, provides a solid foundation for implementation. The establishment of dedicated institutions such as the Accelerated Export Development Authority and comprehensive support packages for businesses demonstrate sophisticated policy design that learns from global best practices.

Phased implementation starting with pilot programmes in major urban centres can build experience whilst limiting risks. Strong governance structures with dedicated leadership and cross-departmental authority provide essential coordination, whilst community engagement and benefit-sharing build social licence necessary for sustained policy success. Ghana's approach of creating enabling environments rather than restrictive frameworks, supported through substantial infrastructure investment and comprehensive stakeholder engagement, appears well-positioned to avoid the pitfalls that have undermined night economy development elsewhere. Long-term national growth, social inclusion, and global competitiveness might all be accelerated through a 24-hour economy via well-planned implementation strategy and inclusive governance. Countries that approach implementation strategically, learning from both successes and failures documented globally, position themselves to capture substantial economic benefits whilst avoiding costly mistakes that have undermined night economy development elsewhere. Ghana's comprehensive policy framework, if implemented with the dedication and resources outlined in the National Democratic Congress manifesto, could serve as a model for other emerging economies seeking to harness the potential of 24-hour economic development.

References

Abdul-Salam, Y. (2024). Evaluating the impact of a 24-hour economy on Ghana's economic landscape: A computable general equilibrium approach. *Socio-Economic Planning Sciences*, *95*, 102017. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.seps.2024.102017

Arrow, K. J., & Kurz, M. (1970). *Public Investment, the Rate of Return, and Optimal Fiscal Policy*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Press.

ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office. (2023). *Financial Constraints Facing Developing Economies: ASEAN+3's Experiences and Prospects*. Singapore: AMRO.

Bailey, T. S., Dollard, M. F., & Richards, P. A. (2015). A national standard for psychosocial safety climate (PSC): PSC 41 as the benchmark for low risk of job strain and depressive symptoms. *Journal of occupational health psychology*, *20*(1), 15. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2009.08.001

Barro, R. J., & Sala-i-Martin, X. (2004). *Economic Growth* (2nd ed.). Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Betancourt, R. R., & Clague, C. K. (1981). *Capital Utilization: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis*. Cambridge University Press.

Brachet, T., David, G., & Drechsler, A. (2012). The effect of shift structure on performance. *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics*, *4*(2), 219-246. http://dx.doi.org/10.1257/app.4.2.219

Brassington, I. (2018). Perchance to Dream: Pathology, Pharmacology, and Politics in a 24-Hour Economy. *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, *27*(2), 295-305. https://doi.org/10.1017/S0963180117000627

Bryson, J. M., Crosby, B. C., & Stone, M. M. (2006). The design and implementation of Cross-Sector collaborations: Propositions from the literature. *Public administration review*, *66*, 44-55.

Byrne, P., Power, L., Boylan, C., Iqbal, M., Anglim, M., & Fitzpatrick, C. (2011). Providing 24-hour child and adolescent mental health services: demand and outcomes. *The Psychiatrist*, *35*(10), 374-379. https://doi.org/10.1192/pb.bp.110.033316

Cass, D. (1965). Optimum growth in an aggregative model of capital accumulation. *Review of Economic Studies*, *32*(3), 233-240. https://doi.org/10.2307/2295827

Center for Strategic and International Studies. (2024). *The Need for a Leapfrog Strategy*. Washington, DC: CSIS.
China Tourism Academy. (2024). *China Night-time Economy Development Report 2023*. Beijing: CTA Publications.
City of Toronto. (2023). *Night Economy Framework*. Toronto: City Planning Division.
Coleman, R. A., & Korté, H. (1995). A new semantics for the epistemology of geometry I: Modeling spacetime structure. In *Reflections on Spacetime: Foundations, Philosophy, History* (pp. 21-40). Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands.
Cooley, D., & Parks-Yancy, R. (2019). The effect of social media on perceived information credibility and decision making. *Journal of Internet Commerce*, *18*(3), 249-269. https://doi.org/10.1080/15332861.2019.1595362
Faiz, M. A., Sharma, S. K., Ribeiro, I., Rijal, S., Chappuis, F., & Kuch, U. (2019). The timing is right to end snakebite deaths in South Asia. *BMJ*, *364*.
Florida, R. (2005). *Cities and the Creative Class*. New York: Routledge.
Gill, R., Pratt, A. C., & Virani, T. E. (Eds.). (2019). *Creative hubs in question: Place, space and work in the creative economy*. Springer.
Greater London Authority. (2023). *London's Night-time Economy: Economic Impact Assessment*. London: GLA Economics.
Gupta, A., Mattarelli, E., Seshasai, S., & Broschak, J. (2009). Use of collaborative technologies and knowledge sharing in co-located and distributed teams: Towards the 24-h knowledge factory. *The Journal of Strategic Information Systems*, *18*(3), 147-161. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsis.2009.07.001
Harvard Kennedy School. (2023). *Rich Country or Poor Country, Invest in Infrastructure*. Cambridge, MA: HKS Student Policy Review.
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada. (2023). *Canadian ICT Sector Profile 2023*. Ottawa: Government of Canada.
Institute for Healthcare Improvement. (2023). *24-Hour Care Delivery: Quality and Safety Outcomes*. Boston: IHI Research Publications.
International Labour Organization. (2023). *Working Time Arrangements: Flexibility and Decent Work*. Geneva: ILO Publications.
International Monetary Fund. (2014). What is Keynesian Economics? *Finance & Development*, *51*(3), 53-54.
Jabeen, T., Jaffri, N., & Butt, S. F. (2024). The Relationship of Sleep Quality and Cognitive Failure among University Students: A Quantitative Study. *Journal of Education and Educational Development*, *11*(2), 310-322. https://doi.org/10.22555/joeed.v11i2.1072
Kahn, R. F. (1931). The relation of home investment to unemployment. *Economic Journal*, *41*(162), 173-198. https://doi.org/10.2307/2223697
Kelly, H. F. (2022). *24-Hour Cities: Real Investment Performance, Not Just Promises*. New York: Routledge.
Keynes, J. M. (1936). *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*. London: Macmillan.

Koopmans, T. C. (1965). On the concept of optimal economic growth. In *The Econometric Approach to Development Planning* (pp. 225-287). Amsterdam: North-Holland.

Kostiuk, P. F. (1990). Compensating differentials for shift work. *Journal of Political Economy*, *98*(5), 1054-1075.

Krugman, P. (2009). *The Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008*. New York: W.W. Norton.

Lange, B., Kalandides, A., Stöber, B., & Mieg, H. A. (2008). Berlin's creative industries: governing creativity?. *Industry and Innovation*, *15*(5), 531-548. https://doi.org/10.1080/13662710802373981

Lin, V. S., Qin, Y., Ying, T., Shen, S., & Lyu, G. (2022). Night-time economy vitality index: Framework and evidence. *Tourism Management*, *88*, 104427.

London First & EY. (2016). *The Economic Value of London's 24 Hour Economy*. London: London First.

Lucas, R. E. (1988). On the mechanics of economic development. *Journal of Monetary Economics*, *22*(1), 3-42. https://doi.org/10.1016/0304-3932(88)90168-7

Hobbs, D., Hadfield, P., Lister, S., & Winlow, S. (2005). Violence and control in the night-time economy. *Eur. J. Crime Crim. L. & Crim. Just.*, *13*, 89. DOI:10.1163/1571817053558310

Mankiw, N. G., Romer, D., & Weil, D. N. (1992). A contribution to the empirics of economic growth. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *107*(2), 407-437. https://doi.org/10.2307/2118477

McKinsey Global Institute. (2024). *Manufacturing Analytics: Productivity and Performance*. New York: McKinsey & Company.

Miller, P., Curtis, A., Chikritzhs, T., & Toumbourou, J. W. (2015). Interventions for reducing alcohol supply, alcohol demand and alcohol-related harm: An evidence review. *Health Promotion Journal of Australia*, *27*(2), 130-138.

Morrison, C. J. (1985). On the economic interpretation and measurement of optimal capacity utilization with anticipatory expectations. *Review of Economic Studies*, *52*(2), 295-310. https://doi.org/10.2307/2297623

National Democratic Congress. (2024). *Resetting Ghana Manifesto, 2024*. Accra: NDC.

Newton, A., & Hirschfield, A. (2009). Violence and the night-time economy: A multi-professional perspective. *Crime Prevention and Community Safety*, *11*, 147-152.

Nguyen, T. H., Pham, V. C., & Le, M. D. (2023). Determinants of the sustained development of the night-time economy: The case of Hanoi, Capital of Vietnam. *Journal of Risk and Financial Management*, *16*(8), 351.

Nicholls, E. (2019). Negotiating femininities in the neoliberal night-time economy: Too much of a girl. *Gender, Work & Organization*, *26*(6), 732-747.

Nielsen. (2024). *The Future of Media: Entertainment and Information Consumption Trends*. New York: Nielsen Media Research.

NSW Government. (2024). *24-Hour Economy Strategy 2024*. Sydney: Office of the 24-Hour Economy Commissioner.
NYC Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment. (2024). *NYC Night-time Economy Report*. New York: NYC Government Publications.
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). (2024). *Infrastructure Toolkit: Regulatory Framework Guidelines*. Paris: OECD Publishing.
Office for National Statistics. (2022). *The night-time economy, UK*. London: ONS.
Ondimu, G. O. (2024). The role of a 24-hour economy on industrialisation: a case study of Selected Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE's) In Nairobi County. *International Academic Journal of Economics and Finance*, *4*(3), 292-312.
Pratt, A. C., & Gill, R. (2019). Governing creativity in the neoliberal city. In *Creative hubs in question: Place, space and work in the creative economy* (pp. 15-31). Springer.
Presser, H. B. (2003). *Working in a 24/7 Economy: Challenges for American Families*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation.
Pressman, J. L., & Wildavsky, A. (1984). *Implementation: How Great Expectations in Washington Are Dashed in Oakland*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
Ramsey, F. P. (1928). A mathematical theory of saving. *Economic Journal*, *38*(152), 543-559. https://doi.org/10.2307/2224098
Roberts, M., & Turner, C. (2005). Conflicts of Liveability in the 24-hour City: Learning from 48 Hours in the Life of London's Soho. *Journal of Urban Design*, *10*(2), 171-193. https://doi.org/10.1080/13574800500086931
Romer, P. M. (1986). Increasing returns and long-run growth. *Journal of Political Economy*, *94*(5), 1002-1037.
Rönkä, A., Ekonen, M., Tammelin, M., & Turja, L. (2018). Management in the 24/7-society raises concerns of fairness and social responsibility. *Social responsibility journal*, *14*(3), 670-684. https://doi.org/10.1108/SRJ-06-2017-0100
Rowe, D., & Stevenson, D. (2017). Women, leisure and the night-time economy. *Leisure Studies*, *36*(3), 295-307.
Saetren, H. (2005). Facts and myths about research on public policy implementation: Out-of-fashion, allegedly dead, but still very much alive and relevant. *Policy Studies Journal*, *33*(4), 559-582.
Seijas, A., & Gelders, M. M. (2021). Governing the night-time city: The rise of night mayors as a new form of urban governance after dark. *Urban Studies*, *58*(2), 316-334.
Shapiro, M. D. (1993). Cyclical productivity and the workweek of capital. *American Economic Review*, *83*(2), 229-233.
Shaw, R. (2014). Beyond night-time economy: Affective atmospheres of the urban night. *Geoforum*, *51*, 87-95. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2013.10.005

Solow, R. M. (1956). A contribution to the theory of economic growth. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *70*(1), 65-94. https://doi.org/10.2307/1884513

Swan, T. W. (1956). Economic growth and capital accumulation. *Economic Record*, *32*(2), 334-361. https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1475-4932.1956.tb00434.x

UK Night Time Industries Association. (2024). *Night-time Economy Report 2024: Third Annual Review*. London: NTIA Publications.

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. (2023). *Frontier Technology Issues: Harnessing the Economic Dividends from Demographic Change*. New York: United Nations.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2025). *Productivity and Costs by Major Sector: Quarterly Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor.

Veronica, S., Shlomo, T., Antonio, M. P., & Victor, C. (2020). International social SMEs in emerging countries: Do governments support their international growth? *Journal of World Business*, *55*(5), 100995. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jwb.2019.05.002

Vignali, G., & Gordon, D. (2008). The Sunrise Economy: 24-hour Drinking Legislation in Leeds. *Journal of Food Products Marketing*, *14*(2), 39-55. https://doi.org/10.1080/10454440801918226

World Bank. (2020). *Youth Bulge: A Demographic Dividend or a Demographic Bomb in Developing Countries?* Washington, DC: World Bank Blogs.

World Bank. (2024). *Infrastructure Development and Regulatory Frameworks*. Washington, DC: World Bank Group.

World Tourism Organization. (2023). *Global Tourism Trends and 24-Hour Economy Impacts*. Madrid: UNWTO Publications.

Yatmo, Y. A. (2009). Perception of street vendors as 'out of place' urban elements at day time and night time. *Journal of environmental psychology*, *29*(4), 467-476. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jenvp.2009.08.001