

The Role Of Youth And Science In Achieving Economic Sustainability

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Abstract

This article discusses the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and public perceptions regarding their implementation, as well as the methods for measuring sustainable development. It focuses primarily on the concepts of sustainable development and sustainable well-being, the indicators and systems necessary for their realization, and the differences between countries in this process. The article also emphasizes the importance of transparency and data openness, based on clearly defined objectives, in achieving efficiency in the implementation of the SDGs.

Keywords: Sustainability, social and economic development, global, international cooperation, environmental protection.

Introduction

As is widely known, improving citizens' well-being in today's modern economy must be comprehensive and sustainable. In this regard, the goals of sustainable well-being should be based on three main pillars: economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection. These pillars consist of both qualitative and non-monetary, as well as measurable financial and quantitative indicators. Although sustainable development is now a priority on the agenda of many governments, measuring its progress remains a complex task due to the multifaceted nature of some of its goals. In the modern world, youth—as the most dynamic segment of society—play a crucial role in the advancement of science and innovation. The Republic of Uzbekistan's Sustainable Development Strategy for 2030 places a special emphasis on the involvement of young people in education and science. As noted by the President of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev:

“The intellectual potential and innovative ideas of young people are a key factor in achieving sustainable development.”¹ The active participation of youth in scientific projects, the implementation of new technologies, and their efforts in environmental protection are of particular importance in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Analysis of the Literature Used

It is evident that scientific literature on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) examines the factors of sustainable development of individuals, societies, and nations from various perspectives. The literature reviewed in this study highlights the main theoretical and practical approaches related to the topic:

Adibi, S. discusses the development of mobile health technologies and their role in stabilizing healthcare systems. The work focuses on innovative approaches and the importance of international cooperation in promoting sustainability through technology. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Report

¹ https://uz.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sogʻliqni_saqlash

outlines the challenges faced in achieving the MDGs and emphasizes the significance of global cooperation in the successful implementation of these goals.

The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a comprehensive description of the 17 SDGs and discusses the issues related to global collaboration, policy coordination, and resource allocation necessary for their achievement. The work of Islam Karimov, the first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, presents long-term strategic planning related to Uzbekistan's development. In connection with the SDGs, this source examines national-level progress and the challenges encountered. National Reports on Sustainable Development by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan provide an in-depth analysis of how the SDGs are being implemented within the country. These reports present comprehensive data and evaluations on the progress of sustainability initiatives in Uzbekistan.

Methodology

In this study, we employed the **SWOT analysis** (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) as an effective tool for deeply analyzing the opportunities and challenges in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Moreover *"SWOT analysis is an excellent strategic tool for identifying the strengths and weaknesses of a business or project activity, exploring opportunities, and managing threats."*²

Analysis and Results

The following SWOT analysis outlines the key factors influencing the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), emphasizing the role of international organizations, climate change, natural disasters, and related dynamics:

Table 1.

SWOT Analysis on the Theme: "YOUTH AND SCIENCE – A KEY FACTOR FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT"³

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global cooperation and policies – Strong collaboration among countries, organizations, and the private sector in the implementation of SDGs. Distribution of resources and knowledge – The global distribution of resources and knowledge creates opportunities for development across nations. Social inclusion and equality – The principle of "leaving no one behind" defines the core approach to ensuring social equity. The role of the UN and international organizations – Institutions such as the UN play an active role in enhancing intergovernmental cooperation and promoting global planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Political and economic disparities – Instability and economic inequality between countries may slow down the development process. Human resources and education levels – Inadequate education systems and underdeveloped human capital in some countries hinder sustainable progress. Poverty and inequality – Complex challenges in eliminating socio-economic disparities can decelerate development. Resource scarcity – Limited access to natural resources can be a significant obstacle to achieving SDGs.
Opportunities	Threats

² <https://www.imd.org>

³ Prepared by the author

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological advancements – Utilization of green energy, data analytics, and artificial intelligence offers great potential for accelerating sustainable development. • International financial aid and investment – There is potential to support economic growth in developing countries through global financial assistance and foreign investment. • Access to education and knowledge – Improving education systems can enable broader societal participation in the development process. • Emerging economic models – The application of models such as Doughnut Economics may contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable global economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and natural disasters – Environmental risks can seriously undermine development progress. • Economic crises and instability – Global market disruptions and political unrest may negatively affect economic sustainability. • Resource shortages – Limited natural resources can obstruct sustainable development efforts. • Global pandemics – Health crises like pandemics pose a significant threat to economic and social stability.
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As a result of the presented SWOT analysis, it is evident that achieving sustainable development requires strengthening global cooperation, ensuring

the equitable distribution of resources and knowledge, and introducing innovative technologies. Although there are existing threats, sustainable development can be achieved through effective strategies and approaches focused on social inclusion.

Conclusion and Recommendations

In this article, we attempted to analyze the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), public perceptions of their implementation, as well as the methods, indicators, and cross-country differences in measuring sustainable development. In this regard, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, has rightly emphasized: “To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, it is essential to strengthen international cooperation and to carry out consistent reforms in the areas of education, healthcare, and environmental protection.”⁴

Indeed, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is not possible through the efforts of a single country alone, but rather through global cooperation and a coordinated approach. This process involves several key factors. First, the exchange of knowledge and technology between countries; second, the efficient allocation of financial resources; and third, the sharing of experience and best practices, all of which are of vital importance.

In particular, to ensure sustainable development in the field of education, it is crucial to develop modern teaching methods, utilize digital technologies, and implement programs aimed at fostering universal human values. The development of the healthcare system should not only focus on treating diseases but also on strengthening preventive measures,

⁴ Shavkat Mirziyoyev (2024) — Statement on Sustainable Development and International Cooperation
<https://president.uz/oz/lists/view/7815>

promoting a healthy lifestyle, and making medical services accessible to all segments of the population. Regarding environmental protection, consistent efforts should be made to introduce environmentally friendly technologies, use renewable energy sources, and manage natural resources wisely.

In this regard, the following recommendations could prove effective:

1. Developing strategic partnerships with regional and global organizations – this will expand opportunities for experience and resource sharing on sustainable development.
2. Creating and implementing specialized educational programs on sustainable development – this will help foster environmental awareness and social responsibility among youth through the education system.
3. Expanding telemedicine services – essential for increasing healthcare coverage and improving medical service delivery to populations in remote areas.
4. Accelerating the transition to renewable energy sources – a key factor in ensuring environmental security and reducing carbon footprints.
5. Establishing a special fund for sustainable development projects – this initiative will ensure financial stability and simplify the financing of large-scale environmental projects.

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