Quest Journals Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Science Volume 12 ~ Issue 12 (2024) pp: 131-137 ISSN(Online):2321-9467 www.questjournals.org



**Research Paper** 

# Exploring the dimensions of sustainable development.

# DR. NILUFAR YASMIN

(Researcher in geography)

**Abstract:** Since many organizations from a variety of industries adopt the SDGs as their sustainability framework, they have significantly contributed to the sustainability movement. The majority of SDGs have not improved substantially, and the majority of sustainability indicators continue to perform poorly in developing nations, according to data gathered for each SDG and statistically evaluated using non-parametric tests. Despite being exploratory and not evaluating the SDGs have not had a major impact on sustainability trends since their introduction in 2015. As the SDGs expire in 2030, this essay should act as a wake-up call for those who use them to create more suitable sustainability indicators continue to perform poorly in developing nations, according to data gathered for each SDG and statistically evaluated using non-parametric tests. Despite being exploratory and not evaluating the SDGs have not had a major impact on sustainability trends since their introduction in 2015. As the SDGs expire in 2030, this essay should act as a wake-up call for those who use them to create more suitable sustainabile frameworks. The majority of SDGs have not improved substantially, and the majority of sustainability indicators continue to perform poorly in developing nations, according to data gathered for each SDG and statistically evaluated using non-parametric tests. Despite being exploratory and not evaluating the SDGs' direct influence on sustainability, this study makes the concerning conclusion that, generally speaking, the SDGs have not had a major impact on sustainability trends since their introduction in 2015. As the SDGs expire in 2030, this piece should act as a wake-up call to create more suitable sustainability frameworks and to be more critical of their scope rather than content with a framework that is helpful. The original won't accomplish the objective.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goals, interaction, evaluation, Responsibility, Environment.

*Received 12 Dec., 2024; Revised 23 Dec., 2024; Accepted 25 Dec., 2024* © *The author(s) 2024. Published with open access at www.questjournas.org* 

#### I. Introduction

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), launched by the United Nations in 2015 with 195 countries in agreement, are classified as the largest ever agreement and are being followed by many academics, universities, corporations, governments and NGOs. It is a method of considering how to satisfy both the environment and people's current demands at the same time without sacrificing or damaging the capacity of future generations to satisfy their own needs. Here are two things to keep in mind: Priority should be given to meeting the basic needs of the world's impoverished. addressing current and future demands while keeping in mind social and technological contexts. The famous Brundtland Commission Report, "Our Common Future," was drafted about three decades ago. AGENDA 21 is an international blueprint of suggestions made at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. In order to prepare the world for the difficulties of the coming century, this plan sought to address the issues of the present. An action plan for governments, active non-governmental organizations, international, regional, sub-regional organizations, companies, institutions, and the community to contribute to environmental sustainability is outlined in AGENDA 21, which reflects the global consensus. so acknowledging how human actions and output affect the environment. The goal of Agenda 21 was to reduce poverty, hunger, illness, and illiteracy globally while preventing the degradation of ecosystems that support life.

Why is sustainable development important?

It is crucial to take care of the global environment in which we all live. Gender inequality, youth unemployment, severe natural catastrophes, escalating conflict, terrorism, violent extremism, associated humanitarian crises, and forced relocation are just a few of the numerous issues that our countries have been dealing with. All of them have put our ecosystem in danger and undone a lot of the recent advancements in development. Humanity will consequently have to deal with the depletion of natural resources, the negative effects of environmental deterioration, such as desertification, land degradation, starvation, drought, freshwater scarcity, and biodiversity loss. Global warming, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and the effects of climate change are the biggest problems of our day, and their negative effects make it more difficult for all nations to achieve sustainable development. In order to balance our economic, environmental, and social needs and ensure prosperity for both the present and future generations, sustainable development is therefore necessary. Thus, the necessity for sustainable development lies in reconciling our economic, environmental, and social requirements, facilitating prosperity for both present and future generations.

As a result, the goal of sustainable development is to balance our economic, environmental, and social needs in order to ensure prosperity for current and future generations. It is an integrated long-term approach to developing and achieving healthy communities by addressing economic, environmental, and social challenges collaboratively while avoiding overconsumption of essential natural resources. Sustainable development is the unfolding of human potentials for meaningful engagement in economic, social, and cultural processes and institutions, with the goal of improving people's lifestyles and well-being. It combines concern for natural systems' carrying capacity with the societal concerns that humanity faces. To accomplish sustainable development while keeping the above concerns in mind .

It is a comprehensive, long-term strategy to create and attain a healthy community by tackling social, environmental, and economic concerns together while preventing the overuse of important natural resources. The process of maximizing human potential for meaningful engagement in economic, social, and cultural processes and institutions in order to improve living standards and well-being is known as sustainable development. It connects the social issues that humanity faces with the concern for the carrying capacity of natural systems. Keeping the aforementioned issues in mind, we must address the following elements in order to achieve sustainable development.

Sustainable development has three components: social, economic, and environmental. Environmental management entails preserving and maintaining ecosystems and natural resources to guarantee their availability for future generations. entails encouraging equitable and sustainable economic growth in order to guarantee prosperity without sacrificing the other two aspects. Social seeks to build more resilient and just societies by enhancing social cohesiveness and quality of life. These aspects are interdependent and intimately related. For instance, a global corporation can enhance the local economy, social conditions, and environmental efficiency in a developing nation by generating jobs there. A roadmap for attaining sustainable development is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations. It has 17 ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that must be accomplished by 2030.

i. Psychological Factors: The well-being of the human race is critically dependent on the lower order and needs to be recognized significantly. Not only does poverty alleviation ensure the satisfaction of basic physiological needs, but it also constitutes a prerequisite for the attainment of the higher-order needs necessary for a balanced and healthy human existence.

ii. Ecological and Biophysical Factors: Systematic uses of biodiversity's natural wealth both domestically and internationally, where economic vitality depends on fundamental ecological services including waste absorption, stable climate conditions, and renewable and non-renewable resources.

iii. Economic Aspects: Natural Resources In order for human-made capital to remain intact after it has accumulated to a "sufficient" amount, maintenance is necessary to maintain ecological sustainability.Equitably distributing the human-made capital stock is also necessary to maximize and effectively generate the advantages it provides and lower the throughput needed to maintain it.

iv. Social and Cultural Factors: A society's institutions contain important social and cultural elements. Only through a culturally determined institutional framework society's moral capital can buyers and sellers of a qualitative kind engage in mutually beneficial transactions. All people must have equitable access to social services like gender equity, health care, and education in order for a system to be considered socially viable.

#### II. Objective of the study :

1.To identification of dimensions,

2.To emergence of sustainability models,

#### III. Literature review :

Lehtonen (2004) goes on to say that because the three conventional aspects of sustainability are interconnected, examining the environmental interface necessitates taking the economic aspect into account. He points out that creating assessment frameworks that improve meaningful communication and accountability features that connect the local and national levels is a difficulty. When it comes to the systems that support local action, national institutions play a significant role. In order to deal with local-global interrelationships, capacity issues must be addressed. The idea that the three pillars model is insufficient from a theoretical standpoint was reaffirmed by Grisler and Littig (2005). They propose that it might be broadened to encompass, for instance, political-institutional, religious-spiritual, or cultural-aesthetic pillars. Hawkes (2001) and Burford et al. (2013) both support the notion that culture ought to be a pillar. Burford et al.(2013),discuss political-institutional features. Institutions are the result of interpersonal processes like cooperation and communication, as well as information systems and regulations that control how people interact within a society.

#### IV. Methodology of the study :

The technique established suggests a comprehensive literature review, which forms the basis of the study. The available scientific literature examining the social and societal aspects of EVs is systematically and thoroughly reviewed in this work. Only reviews and scientific articles were taken into consideration for this study, which was based on the Web of Science (WoS). Book chapters and conference papers were not included because they had nothing to do with research papers, which are essential to By SDG. This article's goal is to determine whether the sustainability problems' pre-SDGs (2015) tendencies have undergone any notable changes in recent years. Some claim that the SDGs have altered the conversation around.

#### V. Discussion :

This article's goal is to determine whether the sustainability problems' pre-SDGs (2015) tendencies have undergone any notable changes in recent years. Some claim that the SDGs have altered the conversation around sustainability, but has this improved the development trend? In fact, since the SDGs were introduced, governments, businesses, academic institutions, and civil society organizations of all kinds have used them as a framework to outline their sustainable policies and practices. It is unclear, nonetheless, if the SDGs have had a major impact on the patterns that sustainable challenges are pursuing or if they are only a means of organizing what organizations do. Some claim that the SDGs have altered the conversation around sustainability, but has this improved the development trend? In fact, since the SDGs were introduced, governments, businesses, academic institutions, and civil society organizations of all kinds have used them as a framework to outline their sustainable policies and practices. It is unclear, nevertheless, if the SDGs have had a major impact on the patterns that sustainable challenges are pursuing or if they are merely a means of organizing organizational activities, providing a clearer presentation, or in some other manner highlighting the urgency of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.In fact, since the SDGs were introduced, governments, businesses, academic institutions, and civil society organizations of all kinds have used them as a framework to outline their sustainable policies and practices. It is unclear, nevertheless, if the SDGs have had a major impact on the patterns that sustainable challenges are pursuing or if they are merely a means of organizing organizational activities, providing a clearer presentation, or in some other manner highlighting the urgency of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.

## • Identification of dimensions :

In an attempt to identify an analytical framework for examining social sustainability, researchers look at three distinct approaches utilized in social development. These consist of capacity theory, social capital theory, and neo-institutional theory. He concludes that only neo-institutionalists can effectively address localglobal interactions, which need addressing power issues rather than social capital theory, even though all of them may be somewhat relevant to social sustainability, especially at the local level, able to manage it well. Neo-institutional economics expands the subject of economics by focusing on the social and legal norms and rules that support economic activity, with a particular emphasis on institutions and power. As a result, it might facilitate a departure from the individual's utilitarian, logical viewpoint, which remains the basis.Lehtonen adds that these include neo-institutional theory, capacity theory, and social capital theory. While all of these may be somewhat relevant to social sustainability, particularly at the local level, he concludes that only neoinstitutionalists are able to effectively address local-global interactions, which need to address issues of power rather than social capital theory, capable of handling it properly. By emphasizing institutions and power, neoinstitutional economics broadens the field of economics by concentrating on the legal and social norms and regulations that underpin economic activity. Thus, it can aid in a shift away from the utilitarian, rational perspective of the individual that continues to serve as the foundation for social capital theory. Lehtonen also notes that people have a variety of reasons for acting, thus no study of social requirements is necessary to comprehend this. The intimate ties between capability theory and systemic individualism, which ultimately explains all social processes in terms of the person, present another issue. Adopting neo-institutional economics implies that social systems can also benefit from the use of neo-institutionalism. This sociological theory examines how and why institutions arise in a particular setting and is concerned in how they interact and impact society. Thus, the perception of the institution's nature, including its organization, orientation, and processes and procedures, as well as its administrative, social, and neo-institutional interactions with society, determines the development and enhancement of institutional sustainability indicators. After applying the soft descriptive complex adaptive systems approach known as agency theory (CAT) to each system, a collective agency model that depicts the interacting.

# • The pursuit of sustainable development :

The history of the development of sustainability concepts is covered in this section. The pillars of the dimension are better understood as autonomous systems with the potential for interactive behavior, even though Brundtland initially proposed that they should stand alone to support sustainable efforts to develop human activity. a subsystem capable of advancing sustainable growth.

#### Sustainable development Goals:

SDG 1: No Poverty: This goal aims to end poverty as a whole, which includes reducing the number of people living in ensuring that social protections are available for the poor and vulnerable. SDG 2: Zero Hunger: Appropriate measures must be taken in order to effectively combat hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. SDG 3: Well-being and Good Health: Both communicable and non-communicable diseases must be addressed, and access to necessary healthcare services must be guaranteed, in order to improve the health of people of all ages and lower rates of maternal and infant mortality. SDG 4 :Quality Education :aims to ensure that all people have access to inclusive and equitable education and to opportunities for lifelong learning, including early childhood development and primary, secondary, and postsecondary education. SDG 5: Gender Equality: In order to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls, it is critical to eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence against them. SDG 6: Sanitation and Clean Water: Improving water quality and efficiency and promoting hygiene behaviors are essential to ensuring universal access to sustainable water and sanitation management. SDG 7: Accessible and Sustainable Energy It is essential to increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix in order to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, reliable, environmentally friendly, and modern energy sources.SDG 8: Economic Growth and Decent Work: In order to promote sustainable, all-encompassing, and ecologically responsible economic growth, full and efficient employment and good working conditions for all workers must be guaranteed. This involves reducing inequalities and informal labor practices in the workplace.

SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure aims to promote comprehensive and sustainable industrialization, foster innovation and entrepreneurship, and develop long-lasting infrastructure.SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities : For the purpose of reducing inequality within and across countries, discriminatory laws, customs, and practices must be eliminated, and social, economic, and political integration must be promoted. SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities : Reducing the adverse environmental impacts of cities per capita is essential to creating inclusive, secure, resilient, and sustainable urban ecosystems. SDG 12: Conscientious Production and Consumption : Implementing policies that decrease waste, improve resource efficiency, and support sustainable practices throughout the supply chain is essential to advancing sustainable patterns of consumption and production. SDG 13: Climate Action: Improving resilience and adaptability to climate-induced risks is one of the urgent actions that must be taken to address the problem of climate change and its effects. SDG 14: Life Below Water : It is to protect and responsibly use the oceans, seas, and marine resources in order to advance sustainability. SDG 15: Life On Land: The goal is to prevent and reverse the degradation of land quality, stop the loss of biodiversity, implement sustainable forest management practices, prevent the expansion of desert regions, and protect, restore, and promote the responsible use of land-based ecosystems. SDG 16: Justice, Peace, and Institutions : Ensuring widespread access to justice and establishing institutions that are inclusive, responsible, and effective at all levels of government are essential for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies. SDG 17: Collaborations for the Objectives: It is essential to strengthen international cooperation and make it easier for all countries to achieve the SDGs.

#### • Emergence of sustainability models :

Social sustainability is a dynamic, contentious, and open term that is neither absolute nor constant as it relates to the sustainable growth of human activities. Development is the process by which an organization improves the social, political, and economic well-being of its people. But unlike the term development, the term sustainability presumes a permanence. As a result, the best method to conceptualize sustainability is through viability. This is so that when resilience is threatened, sustainability can be maintained or restored. The ability of intended system functions and processes to endure is known as resilience. Sirgy and Mangleburg, for example, argue that it is related to the development of social systems. Consequently, social structures became more complex and less developed.

The process through which an entity enhances the social, political, and economic well-being of its citizens is commonly referred to as development. However, the phrase sustainability assumes a permanence that the term development does not. Therefore, viability, as explained, is the ideal way to think about sustainability. This is so that sustainability can be preserved or restored when resilience is endangered. Resilience is the capacity of intended system functions and processes to persist. For instance, Sirgy and Mangleburg contend that it has to do with the evolution of social structures. Therefore, less evolved social systems with less complexity tend to be more preoccupied with lower-order demands, such biological and safety-related needs, while more advanced social systems have greater complexity. The definition of future viability is expanded if sustainability takes into account the interdependent impacts of other systems that are a part of the human activity supersystem. In this sense, it is not unique but rather shared by all system members of the supersystem. It encourages people to use public goods and services in fields like culture, health, and education. By offering vibrant spaces for community and social interaction, it ought to promote social integration.

Sustainability of the Environment : The fundamental environmental functions that determine the ability to endure throughout time include prudent resource usage, legal compliance, and minimizing the impact of facilities through responsible and efficient operations, which lessens the negative effects of the items in use. The Rio Declaration's first principle, "Human beings are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature," is being recalled here. By increasing the capacity and adding value to the environment and its unique features, this theory states that environmental sustainability in a given area guarantees both environmental conservation and the replenishment of natural resources.

Economic Sustainability : The living environment, or local and global natural and non-renewable resources that are essential to our well-being without sacrificing our quality of life, is the primary focus of this

idea of sustainability. lowering the financial load even more and reversing the annoyances brought about by economic activity, possibly getting rid of them with improved management and resulting in the ability of economic indicators to rise continuously. Therefore, economic sustainability in a territory refers to the capacity to sustain the maximum added value through the effective use of resources and the expansion of the range of products and services that can create jobs and incomes for the people to live on.

Social Sustainability : The capacity to ensure the general welfare (security, health, and education) and to distribute it fairly among the sexes and socioeconomic groups. Therefore, social sustainability in a region refers to the ability of many social stakeholders to work together effectively, working toward common objectives and supported by the close collaboration of institutions at all levels. In order to spur action in the following crucial areas of humanity and our planet Earth, the goals and targets for the next fifteen years are mentioned.

## VI. Conclusion :

As society faces significant social, economic, and environmental concerns, sustainability has gained significant relevance, and the SDGs provide a helpful framework for promoting and positioning it. Organizations across all industries are leveraging the SDGs to elevate sustainability to the top of national and international agendas. However, determining whether the SDGs' existence has led to advancements in sustainability. An important and open question remains to be addressed. This is the article's primary objective. Results indicate that since the SDGs were adopted, only the social and environmental targets have seen considerable improvement, indicating that their presence It's crucial to keep in mind that sustainability does not equate to advancement or success as we continue on our sustainability path. Furthermore, as many have noted, the lack of progress they have achieved is partly due to the inconsistencies that seem to be a component of their design. Although this is an inherent limitation of what the SDGs truly are and this article does not directly address that difficulty, it is important for all of us who utilize the SDGs to achieve sustainability to be conscious of the influence they have had, even if it has been indirect. Frameworks are aware of their benefits and drawbacks. Monitoring the framework is crucial, even though the SDGs' communication components have been tremendously successful for the sustainability movement and for everyone implementing the SDG framework for their operations. All of us who use the SDGs as a means of achieving sustainability need to be aware of the influence they have had, even if it is indirect, even though this is an inherent limitation of what the SDGs actually are and this piece does not directly address that challenge. Frameworks are cognizant of their advantages and disadvantages. Furthermore, even while the SDGs' communication components have been incredibly effective for the sustainability movement as well as for everyone putting their operations under the SDG framework, their use or any other beneficial It is important to monitor the framework since it can be used to greenwash our behaviors, whether intentionally or inadvertently, without making a significant contribution to the overall objective. Given that several of the Sustainable Development Goals are inconsistent, it is imperative to evaluate the potential of SDG washing. Lastly, in order to objectively evaluate our performance, we must set up measurement and monitoring systems as a local and worldwide objective. This will not only demonstrate the course that Amira is on, but it will also prevent us from engaging in greenwashing. Practitioners and policymakers working on the creation of sustainability frameworks and strategies should find these findings especially pertinent. As humanity faces significant social, economic, and environmental concerns, the SDGs provide a helpful framework for advancing and positioning sustainability, which has gained significant relevance. Organizations across all industries are leveraging the SDGs to elevate sustainability to the top of national and international agendas. A pertinent and open subject that still needs to be addressed is whether or not the SDGs have improved sustainability.

Additionally, as many have pointed out, the inconsistencies that appear to be a part of their design contribute to the lack of advancement they have made. It is important to remember that only social and environmental goals have made significant progress since the SDGs were introduced, meaning that their existence does not imply sustainable progress or success. This is especially important as we continue on the sustainability journey and start thinking about a new framework as the SDGs expire in a few years. Furthermore, as many have noted, the lack of progress they have achieved is partly due to the inconsistencies that seem to be a component of their design. Given that several of the Sustainable Development Goals are inconsistent, it is

imperative to evaluate the potential of SDG washing. Finally, in order to evaluate our performance objectively, both locally and globally, we must set up measurement and monitoring systems. This will not only demonstrate our course of action, but it will also prevent us from engaging in greenwashing. For practitioners and policymakers involved in creating sustainability frameworks and policies, all of these need to be very pertinent. This paper contains some theoretical ramifications for researchers in addition to the previously mentioned practical ones. First, the majority of SDG research has been on the actions of organizations and whether they are helping to achieve some or all of the goals. This article offers a comprehensive assessment of the SDGs' advancement, along with a critical evaluation of their influence on sustainable development. Although considerable success has been made in certain sectors, this does not negate the fact that, overall, there has not been much improvement intentional or not compared to the sustainable development trend that existed before the SDGs were introduced in 2015. Many of us believe that the SDGs have been given authority.

#### **References :**

- Yolles. M. (2018) 'Sustainable development : part 2 exploring the dimensions of sustainability development' Int. J. Market and business systems. Vol. 3. Issue. 3.
- [2]. Mansour. N. (2024) Fostering sustainable Development Goals, New Dimensions and Dynamics. Springer. 978-981-9772-5.
- [3]. Ordonez pounce.E.(2023) 'Exploring the impact of the sustainable development goals on sustainability trends'. sustainability. Vol. 15. Issue. 16647.
- [4]. Seguin, A.M. and Germain, A. (2000) 'The social sustainability of montreal: a local or a state matter?', in Polese, M. and Stren, R. (Eds): The Social Sustainability of Cities: Diversity and the Management of Change, pp.39–87, University of Toronto Press, Toronto, Buffalo and London.
- [5]. Allen, C., Metternicht, G., Wiedmann, T. (2018) 'Initial Progress in Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): A Review of Evidence from Countries. Sustain. Sci. 13, 1453–1467.
- [6]. Grover. S. (2024) 'sustainable development: concert & dimensions'. EPGP BOOKS.