

Received: December 2023 Accepted: January 2024

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.58262/ks.v12i2.061>

The Emerging Concept of Citizen Participation in Providing Sustainability to Developing Countries. A Critical Analysis of their Relationship

Alaa Zuhir AL-Rawashda^{1,2,3}, Mooza Isa Aldo⁴, Yousef Mohammed Al-Shurman³, Asma Rebhi Al-Arab^{1,2,3}

¹ Department of Sociology, College of Humanities and Science, Ajman University, P.O. Box: 346 Ajman, UAE.

² Humanities and Social Sciences Research Center (HSSRC), Ajman University, P.O. Box: 346 Ajman, UAE.

³ Department of Social Sciences, Ajloun University College, Al Balqa Applied University, P.O. Box:206 Salt, Jordan.

⁴ Department of Social Sciences, University of Bahrain, P.O. Box: 32038, Bahrain

Abstract

Objectives: The study aims to identify the relationship between community participation and sustainable development in developing countries. Methods: The study adopts a qualitative study design by reviewing study pertaining to citizen participation in achieving sustainable development. The relevant data was taken from Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholars, public records, blogs, articles, journals, thesis and dissertations published in past 15-20 years. The data was analyzed by using thematic analysis. Results: Findings of the study indicated that community participation is important to ensure sustainable development of the country under four dimensions which include economic, social, environmental and technological areas. Conclusion: The study concludes that for successful implementation of sustainable development altering the current policies and practices is of fundamental importance, which may require leadership support in various areas.

Keywords: *Community Participation, Challenges, Developing Countries, Opportunities, Sustainable Development.*

1 Introduction

Over the last few decades, humanity's overall development has resulted in increasingly unfavorable climate change and natural disasters, as well as wars and political and socioeconomic instability [1]. Humans have had a negative impact on the environment as a result of their actions, putting the Earth's survival and that of future generations in jeopardy. The concept of sustainable development, which emerged in the 1970s and especially in the 1980s, considers responsible behaviour that will ensure the long-term utilization of resources without compromising future generations.

The notion of sustainable development is built on three concepts: development (socio-economic development within ecological restrictions), needs (resource redistribution to assure everyone's quality of life), and future generations (the possibility of long-term usage of resources to ensure the necessary quality of life for future generations). According to Tomislav [1] the Triple Bottom Line concept, which implies a balance between three pillars of sustainability. The environmental sustainability focused on maintaining the quality of the

environment, which is necessary for conducting economic activities and improving people's quality of life, whereas, social sustainability focused on ensuring human rights and equality, preservation of cultural identity, and respect for cultural diversity and lastly, economic sustainability is essential to perverse natural, social and human capital required for income and living standards.

According to Anyaehie and Areji [2] various development countries encounter through several social and economic conditions which includes; scarcity of basic needs such as, water, education and medical facilities etc and economic instability which results in development of major barriers behind the sustainable development of various countries. However, according to Tuke, Karunakaran and Huka [3] there is a strong emphasis on encouraging behaviors that help countries develop through the contributions of local as well as regulatory persons.

Public participation in planning defines public involvement in the planning process to better understand the needs, perceptions, and desires of the community to incorporate local knowledge in the policy making planning process [4]. The importance of community engagement in a country's social, environmental, economic, and technical growth is widely acknowledged. Moreover, in a study it is stated that the contribution of the community in social perspective helps in the development of strong infrastructure [5].

In addition, another study stated that participation of community in local policy issues is heart of governance [6]. It is argued that community participation safeguards that community demands are satisfied; hence local authority should involve community in local government. In order to generate inclusive and responsive plans, quality community participation in planning entails listening directly to people's objectives while integrating varied community backgrounds [7]. As a result, it uses a variety of forms and phases of participation, as well as appropriate communication channels, to meet the needs of its stakeholders [8].

It is important to understand the role of community participation and sustainable development, as it helps in encouraging mutual efforts for sustainable growth. Therefore, the study aims to identify the relationship between community participation and sustainable development in developing countries. The idea is elaborated based on variables that include; dimensions of community participation and sustainable development, and the relationship between sustainable development and community participation.

The current study is significant because it stresses the importance of community participation by new players in identifying hurdles to sustainable development in diverse nations. The study can help policymakers and government regulators understand the importance and advantages of community engagement in sustainable development. Individuals seeking effective solutions to national concerns would benefit greatly from this research, since it identifies beneficial methods that can assist them in effectively serving their country.

Considering the aim of the study, following hypothesis are proposed;

H0= *Community participation in social, economic, technological and environmental dimensions contribute towards the sustainable development of developing countries.*

H1= *Community participation in social, economic, technological and environmental dimensions do not contribute towards the sustainable development of developing counties.*

2 Methodologies

Study Design

The study adopts a documentary approach for addressing the hypothesis. The rationale behind using a documentary approach that analyzes written documents is to understand different ideas related to the field of social sciences [9].

Data Collection

The relevant data was taken from Scopus, Web of Science, Google Scholars, public records, blogs, articles, journals, thesis, dissertations published in the past 15-20 years. The selection of the qualitative data sources is based on the appropriateness and quality of information published concerning the role of community participation in providing sustainable survival to developing countries. The study only includes data from the studies in Arabic and English language.

Data Analysis

The collected data were thematically analyzed. For analysis of the data, the study used no pre-existing framework. Firstly, information was extracted from the above-illustrated sources. The collected information was then reviewed and arranged to propose different themes concerning the study topic. Lastly, the data was filtered for the elimination of unrelated information.

3 Results

Results

Community Participation of New Actors and its Significance

Community Participation is a wide concept and is discussed through various perspectives. For Madajewicz et al. [10], community participation serves as an effective process of employing influential changes in a society. The intervention of local bodies contributes in decision making process that helps in attaining the long-term development goals of any country. Participation of various target groups is important and serves as vital source of institutional development.

Community participation is held through new actors that possess the direct and overall control of people at different levels. People in this regard are fully empowered to make useful decisions [11]. Participation of local bodies is important for human development, where they are provided an open ground to struggle with different challenges which indirectly serve as an opportunity for the fulfillment of their roles. Furthermore, people serve as voters, business officials, and community workers that are empowered to alter the government at multiple levels. Tuke, Karunakaran and Huka [3] emphasized on the effectiveness of community participation during the development phase of strategic planning. This type of contribution helps in improving community ownership in different developmental processes and may equally contribute in generating and utilizing different resources, depending upon their needs.

Dimensions of Community Participation

Community participation is associated to various dimensions. Kuruvilla and Sathyamurthy [12] highlighted four major dimensions of community participation that includes; influence, inclusivity, communication and capacity. The first deals in the ability of an individual to gain access and control of the important resources, while serving as an equal partner in the overall developmental process. Next includes inclusivity that functions to ensure the participation of individuals, regardless of their differences based on social and cultural backgrounds. Inclusivity

serve as an important dimension for removing the barriers of inequality from different communities. Third includes communication which refers to the exchange of information at community levels to maximize the individual contribution through active participation. Last includes, capacity which refers to the level of support community receives from both local individuals and partner agencies to assess the development of knowledge, skills and understanding of individuals regarding various issues [43].

Other important dimensions include, individual awareness regarding the prevailing issues, and their willingness for participation in the given idea. Individual awareness is essential and provides positive contribution during the planning phase of the developmental plans. Whereas, the individual willingness refers to the empowerment of an individual where he/she is free to perform actions regardless of the external pressure. Khoshdel and Bakhshan [13] discussed the idea with respect to the theory of reasoned action, where individual willingness to participate is stimulated through their belief of a successful outcome, ability to evaluate final results, the amount of information one has, and resources needed for the action etc.

Benefits of Community Participation of New Actors

The concept of community participation is initiated through flexible conditions, where every individual is welcomed for their valuable contributions; be it in the form of information, financial or volunteer support, or their participation in the decision-making process [47]. Community participation is important as it stimulates maximum interest among individuals regarding various issues that are often-ignored at large scale. It further serves as the opportunity for individuals, where they are free to participate in the development projects that in return provide benefits to the society.

Individuals working as local bodies are encouraged for the development of knowledge and interpersonal skills. It further encourages them to control, monitor, plan and evaluate. Noori [14] pinpointed that community participation helps in providing sustainability to development projects. The study further pinpointed towards the important practices which include; planning, designing, evaluating and then implementing important strategies. It further enhances a sense of ownership among participants, where every individual is involved in planning and decision-making process at local levels. Ananga et al. [15] stated that limited community participation ensures minimum probabilities of project success.

In addition, Madzivhandila and Maloka [16] pinpointed that community participation guarantees firm relationship between institutional channels and individuals that in combination serve to solve complex problems. Since community members serve as stakeholders that are familiar with the cruciality of problems, therefore they occupy high potential ability to provide logical solutions of the given problem. Warren [17] highlighted that community participation indicates a positive implementation of democracy, providing equal opportunity to individuals that are willing to participate in the development process. Community participation promotes self-reliance to ensure equality of ownership, providing a more balanced view of societal relationships. Tesha et al. [18] highlighted other major advantages where community participation is mostly influenced through political instabilities.

The participation of citizens is also important in dealing with various environmental issues that integrates maximum interaction among local bodies and government officials in making decisions regarding environmental projects [19]. When understanding the idea at broader perspectives, the practice enables individuals to choose a healthy life for their families. Participation of local bodies is of greater value in preserving environmental and other natural

resources, while avoiding the noncompliance of environmental rules and preventive measures for infringements. However, the social involvement of individuals enables the chances for the complete elimination of unethical, and discriminatory practices regarding environmental issues [20]. Also, the involvement of citizens in the decision-making process regarding environmental projects results in positive environmental effects.

Concept of Sustainable Development

Sustainable development of any country is dynamic and a long-term process which involves strategic utilization of the available resources [44]. Human efforts in improving and sustaining the natural environment reflects an individual aim to aspire and preserve the natural environment for human living [21]. In historical terms the term sustainable development was first used in 1980, as a part of global survival strategy that is responsible to fulfill the present needs of people without compromising the necessities of future generations. The phenomenon of sustainable development is common globally, since the rising issues related to environmental, social and economic conditions are often in discussion. In 1992, the concept of sustainable development was raised for the first time through the conference on Development and Environment.

In broader perspectives, sustainable development generally ensures to provide long term solutions for problems such as; lack of education, poverty, environmental problems, low economic development, political instability etc. The concept of sustainable development is important for developing countries. In economic perspective, sustainable development aims to direct the country towards long term economic development [22]. It further provides a framework with important strategies and environmental policies to manage overall economic and environmental conditions. In 2001, the World summit highlighted some key priorities of sustainable development that provided a considerable attention to the areas such as; poverty, trade, health, water energy, agriculture, technology and research management. Despite of significant contributions by the government, still there are certain gaps that are needed to be fulfilled through various strategies such as, sustainable development goals (SDGs). The idea was integrated through United Nations in the year 2015 that had planned its development agenda. SDG is a global term that is implemented in almost every other country with an aim to restore the environmental, political and social requirement for the upcoming generations [23].

González et al. [24] identified one of the major sources of motivation for sustainable development which is the prevailing debate in part of the government officials, politicians and business persons in providing support for the implementation of advanced renewable energies to reduce environmental problems.

Dimensions of Sustainable Development

The concept of sustainable development is linked to various dimensions, focusing these dimensions will help in the achievement of the planned developmental goals at larger scale. They further serve as the integral part of sustainable development. These dimensions include;

Firstly, the economic dimension; that focuses on the individual share of utilizing the natural resources without making excessive waste. It further helps in reducing the level of dependency of developing countries, while directing poor countries towards growth and sustainable development. Economic perspective is highly connected to the equal distribution of resources while reducing the differences in individual incomes. Second includes the social dimension,

where a significant focus is provided to control the demographic growth, and to obtain an accurate ratio of the distribution of population [25]. It further focuses in making most of the human resources, while providing quality services regarding education and individual health.

Third is the environmental dimension that provides resistance to the environmental destructions. The prime focus here is to ensure protection of basic natural resources such as, food and water. In other words, environmental dimension focuses on improving the quality of life for both present and future generations [26]. Another important goal of the sustainable development goal in the given dimension is to raise maximum awareness regarding the environmental problems. This enables and encourage individuals to participate in providing valuable solutions. Sustainable development in this regard is directed to develop a sense of ownership among individuals through their participation in the overall implementation and the follow up process of the development programs. It further helps in fostering the relationship between humans and their natural environment, which is only possible by providing quality solutions to improve the unhealthy environment [27,53]. This further emphasizes the value of making appropriate use of the natural resources without losing or destroying them.

Last includes the technological dimension that focuses on functioning through the technological advancement by utilizing least resources and energy [28]. The aim of using the technological system is to function in a systematic manner without liberating maximum waste. It further aims to employ the modern technology by providing necessary education about the importance of using existing technologies in multiple fields of work. The appropriate use of modern technologies improves the social life in developing countries. This is further helpful in enhancing and controlling the prevailing environmental risks through appropriate solutions. Besides, the adoption of useful methods that incorporate changes in terms of needs and social priorities helps in achieving a balanced economy. The integration of modern technology helps in fostering the economic growth of the region that indirectly controls environmental problems [29].

The above dimensions clearly represent that sustainable development serve as the inevitable source of acquiring the social and environmental measures that help in reducing the problems of the locals. The aim is to provide protection to humans' basic rights, while managing the equitable distribution of resources. Considering this, the function of social dimension is to measure the level of social development through the amount of production, also by ensuring adequate availability of resources for both generations. Also, the fulfillment of the environmental and other basic dimensions will minimize the threats imposed upon the sustainability and survival of human life.

The Influence of Community Participation on Sustainable Development

For various researchers [30,31, 47] community participation serve as the most influential and essential component of the sustainable development of any country. The effectiveness of the community participation can only be understood by useful solutions provided by the local members of the society. Honkalaskar et al. [32] addressed that in most of the technological developmental projects, locals are often involved, where each individual contributes depending upon their skills and knowledge. The study further added that the bottom up approach is useful and prerequisite in terms of developing skills of the locals, and is equally important in forming a sustainable socio-economic structure. The direct interaction of the locals with decisions and efforts in relation to the technological development stimulated their learning and developmental projects. This type of contribution serves as an informal supporting structure

of the social development which is initiated through the contribution of local networks in developing regions such as Tshulu [33].

The act of community participation is further important for funding purposes, as Bailur [34] supported that community participation acts as a means to contextual and relevant rural information system. However, the development of ICT field involves certain complexities in initiating the high-level community participation from the rural areas of the developing regions. Findings of the study indicated that most of the individuals were more comfortable in providing information through audio rather than the written format. Another important challenge was the insider's and outsider's approach, where insiders learn only what outsiders expect to hear. Whereas, in cases where individuals felt participation as interesting, they were unable to contribute due to the lack of time.

Hanzl [35] added that community participation can also be initiated through the technological measures. In most of the urban planning projects, technology serve as the key source of communication for decision making and eliminates the barrier of non-professionalism. The infusion of community participation also helps in the data base completion of any city. Newport et al. [30] in their study demonstrated the effectiveness of community participation in developing value addition measures for agricultural and fishing related activities. The methods were developed by the contribution of local citizens to develop the disaster management activities in relation to the disaster-prone areas. The study findings indicated that the development of useful strategies is often effective when initiated by the involvement of locals, resulting in the change of regular practices. The measures undertaken for the betterment of locals and environmental safety will eventually lead towards the economic development of any country.

Ghai and Vivian [36] provided a similar stance in this regard, where community participation may contribute towards sustainable development in the form of different projects such as; soil bunding, tree planting schemes, along with improved management strategies for irrigation. It is further beneficial for the development of resources that may be used at sustainable levels for certain areas. The study further added that the approach is generally successful and serve as a matter of discussion for sustainable development of countries. In addition, many of the resource management projects rely on the combined actions. Bishoge et al. [37], on the other hand highlighted the influence of community participation in the natural gas sector of the developing countries such as; Tanzania. The study indicated that community participation is of greater significance in developing economic sustainability by the establishment of natural gas sector. The study further outlined that despite the effectiveness of community participation in developing countries, Tanzania has inadequate support from the locals and stakeholders. Since the major part of a success for any development project is generally dependent upon the information and skills acquired by the locals, therefore involvement of the more skilled and qualified personnel may contribute towards any country's economic development projects [37].

Bishoge et al., [31] endorsed the idea and added that, for the sustainable development of political, and socioeconomic sectors, it is important to fulfill basic resources of the locals. The idea is crucial, since the absence of legitimate energy services may restrict the sustainable development of the entire economy. Magnani and Vaona, [38] supported the idea and indicated that individual access to reliable, efficient and affordable supply of energy is necessary for the increased productivity leading towards improved living standards and job opportunities [39]. Chirenje et al. [40] added some of the important contributions of community participation in sustainable development. The study added that development aspects such as; planning, policy

making and implementation serve as key elements for sustainable development of developing countries.

Marzuki et al. [41] provided an important stance in relation to the community participation that is limited through unhealthy political structures. Rasoolimanesh et al. [42] added that since most of the politicians and decision makers do not like the idea of sharing their power with locals, the development of a strong and spontaneous community participation is not probable and is only incorporated coercively [43]. This would further lead towards a weak sustainable development. However, regions that promote community participation ensures maximum sustainable development, while improving the political system of any country. Meadowcroft [44] explained different ways that initiate public involvement in the political decision-making process. The first type of involvement is consequentialist which helps in the provision of financial gains to the political community that ensures effective implementation, better processing of decision making and more improvised legitimacy. Second type of involvement is known as entitlement which is in the form of public fairness. Whereas, third refers to the expressivist which includes the development of increased opportunities for individual as well as collective fulfillment.

Marzuki, Hay and James [41] in their study provided the usefulness of the community participation in tourism development. Findings of the study indicated that community participation helps in attracting tourism through long term environmental sustainability of the country, while equally benefitting the country's economy. The above discussion clearly illustrates how community participation stimulates sustainable development in a developing country. It further indicates the effectiveness of community participation and how it is incorporated in multiple aspects.

Challenges of Sustainable Development in Developing Countries

The realization of sustainable development in developing countries is crucial due to the advancement in modern industries. In most of the underprivileged countries, sustainable development is highly significant due to expansion of various socio-economic issues. The implementation of sustainable development is a challenging task that involves various barriers in most of the developing countries due to several issues.

Poverty

Poverty resides as first and the foremost issue of the developing nations, and thus contributes as a barrier in country's economic development. The capacity of human development is often minimized in countries that experience high level poverty. Statistical data indicated that approximately half of the global population falls at low economic conditions [45].

Lack of Resources

Insufficient availability of the most basic resources such as; food, drink and clothing are another challenge. Other common resources include, lack of education and job opportunities that helps in balancing the financial needs of the local bodies [46]. These financial constraints result in the form of debts that restricts the implementation of successful plans. The overall factors are crucial and thus creates a negative impact on poor communities and society.

Similarly, the depletion of natural resources creates limitations in the form of consumption patterns without providing firm consideration to the overall expenditures [47]. The problem

can only be catered through effective measures of increasing the production of resources to raise the standards of quality of life. In contrast to this, lack of human expertise and economic potential contributes in global environmental issues. Community participation in this regard may help in catering the issues through effective partnership, support and solidarity.

Population Growth

Due to lack of education and awareness, most of the developing countries face obstacles in the form of increased population growth. This in return increases the pressure of fulfilling the basic needs under conditions where there lies a significant gap in resource availability. Not only this, but the bio-balance system, waste management, overcrowding, air pollution along with the provision of basic need of settlement are highly affected. Moreover, lack of financial resources results in the low-quality infrastructure providing only limited space for human wellbeing.

Economic Instability and Lack of Financial Resources

Lack of funding sources is another greatest challenge for sustainable development in developing countries, since the only source of funding is the support of industrialized countries. The problem can only be catered through increased financial resources from the international countries [48]. Similarly, financial funding through international platforms acts as an effective source of improving economic conditions of the developing nations, which later is spent on the technological development.

Other challenges are related to the health and education programs in the least developed nations that blocks the way of growth and development of individuals belonging to the given regions. This pinpoints the joint responsibility of the developing nations to provide an attention towards the improvement of healthcare facilities for both children and mothers while strengthening the infrastructure and other development programs. Sustainability in such nations can only be achieved through participation of government and local bodies in the decision-making process at both national and international levels.

The above discussion pinpoints towards different challenges that are commonly encountered in the developing nations. In such circumstances, community participation may help in achieving the goals of sustainable development. The idea is to strategically attract the local community towards plans, policies, and developmental measures [49]. This will not only develop a sense of ownership among each individual but will also provide qualitative results.

4 Discussions

The concept of sustainable development when integrated through community participation provides a new vision for economic and social activities, production and consumption patterns of resources in developing nations as there lies a widespread of unmet human needs, deprivation and social exclusion [50]. This helps in forming harmonious relationship between individual growth and sustainable development in social, economic, and environmental dimensions. The above discussion provides explicit findings regarding the influence of community participation towards sustainable development, leading towards the validity of H0.

Sustainable development and community participation help in empowering citizens for analyzing, developing and implementing effective plans that provide visible differences in the form of improved economic, education, social and environmental conditions. Kalra [51] supported the idea and indicated that community participation develops psychological changes

among individuals, where they are aware of the consequences of different issues. Community participation of new actors enables citizens to control and harmonize the ongoing activities, while creating the new ones that pave the ways for successful planning that are economically compatible, environmentally feasible and culturally acceptable.

Similarly, sustainable development when employed at both political levels, forms the structure of useful policies that are realistic and appropriate according to societal conditions. It further acts as a source of hope to meet the basic demands of social, health and public services [52]. In terms of increasing the natural resources, community participation and sustainable developments ensures the provision of skills and knowledge to foster a sense of awareness among citizens regarding the prevailing problems and their solutions [32]. In environmental perspectives, sustainable development ensures the control of adverse environmental conditions by controlling the waste and excessive usability of fuels that creates harmful effect on environmental conditions [51].

The study thus concludes that the achievement of sustainable development goals is only possible when community participation is focused under four main dimensions, including; social, environmental, economic and technological conditions, as these are the strongest roots of successful development. Since the dimensions are interrelated therefore attention towards the given areas is crucial, and are further important in enhancing the goals related to investments in human capital, and economic sources that are valuable in reducing poverty. The present study involves certain limitations. Firstly, the study involves qualitative design where theoretical knowledge is incorporated to propose useful findings. Secondly, this study is only centered to the influence of community participation on sustainable development of the developing countries only, providing an opportunity for future researchers to explore similar idea in developed countries. Finally, variables that resist individuals in their participation towards sustainable development are also not explored.

5 Conclusions

The relationship between sustainable development and community participation strengthens the possibilities of narrowing the economic disparities and stimulates the development of essential resources through effective use of technology. For successful implementation of sustainable development altering the current policies and practices is of fundamental importance, which may require leadership support in various areas. High level participation and quality efforts from all the available sources including; citizens, government and third-party contribution is of greater importance. As per the researchers' knowledge, this is the first study that covered the effectiveness of community participation and sustainability development in four different dimensions i.e. economic, social, environmental and technological area, which makes its contribution valuable in the field of sociology.

Considering the above theoretical discussions following recommendations are made to ensure the practical implementation of the idea. The first includes the participation of local bodies that must be promoted by reducing the barriers that limits the social participation of individuals. Second includes the developmental plans that must be ensured through a decision-making process that involve contributions of both local and government bodies. Individual participation must be effective and implemented during the phases of planning, assessment, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The promotion of the given efforts will develop a sense of ownership among individuals, which is important to control the

prevailing issues. Hence, there is a need to develop effective plans that provides sustainable development to growing nations in all dimensions. The concept of self-reliance must be established among community groups and individual members to mobilize the developmental activities at greater levels. Future researchers are suggested to discuss the influence of education in accelerating high level community participation for sustainable development of any country. achieving the objectives of the training process. Second recommendation is related to the effectiveness of students' training as it is the professional responsibility of the faculty and specialists who supervise the field training students to provide relevant knowledge. Next include the need to intensify and enhance the role of the academic advisor in guiding trainee and conducting dialogues to help

Acknowledgements

The authors are highly grateful to all the associated personnel that help in the completion of this study. The authors further declares that the study holds no conflicts of interest neither it is funded through any source.

Funding

The author declares that the study is not funded through any source.

Declaration of Conflicting Interests

The author declares no conflicts of interest.

References

- [1] K. Tomislav. The concept of sustainable development: From its beginning to the contemporary issues. *Zagreb International Review of Economics & Business*, 21, 67-94 (2018).
- [2] A. C. Areji and M. C. Anyaehie. Economic diversification for sustainable development in Nigeria. *Open Journal of Political Science*, 5, 87 (2015).
- [3] R. Karunakaran, R. Huka and T. Tuke. Role of Local Government for Community Development. A Study in Aleta Wondo Town Administration, Sidama Zone, SNNPR State, Ethiopia. *Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 22, 64-71 (2017).
- [4] Tal. Berman. *Public Participation as a Tool for Integrating Local Knowledge into Spatial Planning: Planning, Participation, and Knowledge*. Springer International Publishing (2017).
- [5] A.A. Fakere and H. A. Ayoola. Socioeconomic characteristics and community participation in infrastructure provision in Akure, Nigeria. *Cogent Social Sciences*, 4, 1437013 (2018).
- [6] H. A. Nikkhah S. H. Mohammadi and S. Norazizan. Conflicting perceptions on participation between citizens and members of local government. *Quality & quantity*, 52, 1761-1778 (2018).
- [7] J. Lee, J. Lee and S. Kim. Citizen participation and public trust in local government: The Republic of Korea case. *OECD Journal on Budgeting*, 18, 73-92 (2018).
- [8] L. Rahmawati, M. R. K., Muluk and O. R. Danar. Community Participation and Development Planning in Local Government Level: A Study on the Formulation of Batu City Medium-Term Development Plan. *BISNIS & BIROKRASI: Jurnal Ilmu Administrasi dan Organisasi*, 26, 1 (2019).
- [9] J. U. Ahmed. Documentary research method: New dimensions. *Indus Journal of Management and Social Sciences*, 4, 1-14 (2010).
- [10] A. Habib, A. Tompsett and M. Madajewicz. *Community Participation in Decision-Making—Evidence from an Experiment in Safe Drinking Water Provision in Bangladesh*. Working Paper

- (2017).
- [11] M. S. Ahmad and N. B. A. Talib. Empowering local communities: decentralization, empowerment and community driven development. *Quality and Quantity*, 49, 827-838 (2015).
- [12] C. Kuruville and K. Sathyamurthy. Community Participation Towards Effective Social Work Practice. *Indian Journal of Applied Research*, 5, 16-18 (2015).
- [13] M. K. Khoshdel and Y. Bakhshan. Measuring Willingness to Participate and the Factors Affecting Citizen Participation (Case Study on Citizens in the 20th Municipal District of Tehran). *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 6, 155 (2015).
- [14] H. Noori. Community participation in sustainability of development projects: a case study of national solidarity program Afghanistan. *Journal of Culture, Society and Development*, 30, (2017).
- [15] A. J. Njoh, E. O. Ananga, F. A. Akiwumi and J.Y. Anchang. Participation-related factors influencing performance in four urban-based community-operated water schemes in Kisumu, Kenya. *Community Development Journal*, 52, 319-336 (2016).
- [16] C. M. Maloka and T. S. Madzivhandila. Community participation in local government planning processes: A paramount step towards a successful service delivery. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 5, 652 (2014).
- [17] M. E. Warren. *Citizen participation and democratic deficits: Considerations from the perspective of democratic theory*. In *Activating the citizen* Palgrave Macmillan, London, 17-40 (2009).
- [18] H. Tesha, S. O. Mokaya and S. Bakari. A Survey of Factors Influencing Community Participation in Public Development Projects in Tanzania: A Case Study of Siha District Council. *International Journal of Science and Research (IJSR)*, 5, 1145-1150 (2016).
- [19] G. A. Rodríguez and I. Vargas-Chaves Participation in Environmental Decision Making as an Imperative for Democracy and Environmental Justice in Colombia. *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 9, 145-155 (2018).
- [20] E. Loeffler and T. Bovaird. *From participation to co-production: widening and deepening the contributions of citizens to public services and outcomes*. In *The Palgrave handbook of public administration and management in Europe*, Palgrave Macmillan, London, 403-42 (2018).
- [21] G. Brulin and L. Svensson *Managing sustainable development programmes: A learning approach to change*. Routledge (2016).
- [22] R. Emas. *The concept of sustainable development: definition and defining principles*. Brief for GSDR (2015).
- [23] G. Assembly Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), *Transforming our world: the, 2030* (2015).
- [24] A. Huovila, J. S. Gonçalves, M. O. A. González and R. M. Vasconcelos. Sustainable development: Case study in the implementation of renewable energy in Brazil. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 142, 461-475 (2017).
- [25] A. Huovila, I. Pinto-Seppä, H. Ahvenniemi and M. Airaksinen What are the differences between sustainable and smart cities? *Cities*, 60, 234-245 (2017).
- [26] A. Evans, T. J. Evans and V. Strezov. Assessment of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the indicators for sustainable development. *Sustainable Development*, 25, 242-253 (2017).
- [27] Lead. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2015-2030. (2016). Available at: http://www.lead.org.pk/lead/attachments/SDGFlyer_english.pdf
- [28] J. Krogstie and S. E. Bibri. On the social shaping dimensions of smart sustainable cities: A study in science, technology, and society. *Sustainable Cities and Society*, 29, 219-246 (2017).
- [29] A. Santana. *UNDCO_Report to ECOSOC* (Rep.) Economic and Social Council (2019).
- [30] G. Aroshaliny G. G. P. Jawahar, J. K. Newport, J. J. Moller and K. J. Newport. Community

- Participation in Contingency Plan Preparation towards Disaster Mitigation. *J Earth Environ Sci: JEES-122. 10* (2017).
- [31] O. K. Bishoge, L. Zhang, and W. G. Mushi. The potential renewable energy for sustainable development in Tanzania: A review. *Clean Technologies*, 1, 70-88 (2019).
- [32] M. Sohoni, U. V. Bhandarkar and V. H. Honkalaskar. Development of a fuel efficient cookstove through a participatory bottom-up approach. *Energy, Sustainability and Society*, 3, 16 (2013).
- [33] C. Bradnum and T. Makonese. Public participation in technological innovation: The case of the Tshulu stove development programme. *Journal of Energy in Southern Africa*, 28, 13-24 (2017).
- [34] S. Bailur. The complexities of community participation in ICT for development projects: The case of "Our Voices." In *Proceedings of 9th international conference on social implications of computers in developing countries*, 1-17, (2007).
- [35] M. Hanzl. Information technology as a tool for public participation in urban planning: a review of experiments and potentials. *Design Studies*, 28, 289-307 (2007).
- [36] D. Ghai and J. M. Vivian. *Grassroots environmental action: people's participation in sustainable development*. Routledge (2014).
- [37] L. Zhang, N. Matomela, O. K. Bishoge and W. G. Mushi. A literature survey of community participation in the natural gas sector in developing countries. *International Journal of Energy Sector Management* (2019).
- [38] N. Magnani and A. Vaona. Access to electricity and socio-economic characteristics: Panel data evidence at the country level. *Energy*, 103, 447-455 (2016).
- [39] A. Chapman, B. Lukwesa, B. Tembo, C. Heaps, G. Himunzowa, G. Mahumane, F. Yamba, I. Nyambe, M. Senatla and R. Spalding-Fecher. Electricity supply and demand scenarios for the Southern African power pool. *Energy Policy*, 101,403-414 (2017).
- [40] E. B. Musamba, L. I. Chirenje and R. A. Giliba. Local communities' participation in decision-making processes through planning and budgeting in African countries. *Chinese Journal of Population Resources and Environment*, 11(1): 10-16 (2013).
- [41] A. Marzuki, I. Hay and J. James. Public participation shortcomings in tourism planning: the case of the Langkawi Islands, Malaysia. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20, 585-602 (2012).
- [42] C. M. Ringle, M. Jaafar, S. M. Rasoolimanesh and T. Ramayah. Urban vs. rural destinations: Residents' perceptions, community participation and support for tourism development. *Tourism management*, 60, 147-158 (2017).
- [43] Alarab, A., AlRawashdeh, Ahmed, O.S.E.F. Youth Awareness Level of the Indicators of Achieving Gender Equality as One of Sustainable Development oals..Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences, 2022, 49(3), pp. 211-27..DOI ;10.35516/hum.v49i3.1345. <https://dsr.ju.edu.jo/djournals/index.php/Hum/article/view/1345>
- [44] AL-Arab, A.R., Al-Rawashdeh, A.Z., Mohammad, E.Y., Abdullah, R.A..The degree of awareness among the uae youth concerning the role of business incubators in achieving sustainable development. Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences, 2020, 46(4), pp. 332-351..DOI;10.35516/0103-046-004-025. <https://www.scopus.com/record/display.uri?eid=2-s2.0-85097314708&origin=resultslist&sort=plf-f>
- [45] A. Ladkin, C. Aas and J. Fletcher. Stakeholder collaboration and heritage management. *Annals of tourism research*, 32, 28-48 (2005).
- [46] Al Rawashdeh A. Z., Al-Arab, Asma Rebh, Ahmed, Osman Sirajeldeem, & L. Akroush. (2023). The Level of Awareness Among University Youth Regarding the Role of

- Entrepreneurship in Achieving Economic and Social Balance. *Migration Letters*, 20(S5), 732–748. <https://doi.org/10.59670/ml.v20iS5.4048>
- [47] Rawashdeh, A.Z., Alqahtani, N.N., Al Arab, A.R. The degree of awareness of voluntary social work culture as an indicator of social responsibility: A case study. *Al Journal of Statistics Applications and Probability*, 2020, 9(2), pp. 405–434. DOI:10.18576/JSAP/090217. <https://www.naturalspublishing.com/Article.asp?ArtcID=21769>
- [48] J. Meadowcroft. Participation and sustainable development: modes of citizen, community and organizational involvement. *Governance for sustainable development: The challenge of adapting form to function*, 162-190 (2004).
- [49] H. Waisman, J. Roy, P. Antwi-Agyei, P. Dasgupta, P. F. Pinho, P. Tschakert and S. A. Halim. Sustainable development, poverty eradication and reducing inequalities. *In Global warming of 1.5 C. IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (2018).
- [46] B. Agarwal. Gender equality, food security and the sustainable development goals. *Current opinion in environmental sustainability*, 34, 26-32 (2018).
- [47] D. Lin, M. Wackernagel and L. Hanscom. Making the sustainable development goals consistent with sustainability. *Frontiers in Energy Research*, 5, 18 (2017).
- [48] K. H. Lee. Drivers and barriers to energy efficiency management for sustainable development. *Sustainable Development*, 23, 16-25 (2015).
- [49] B. Ndhlovu, C. Dickens and S. Nhlengethwa. Mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals in developing countries (2019).
- [50] E. Alfredsson, M. Bengtsson, M. Cohen, P. Schroeder and S. Lorek. Transforming systems of consumption and production for achieving the sustainable development goals: moving beyond efficiency. *Sustainability science*, 13, 1533-1547 (2018).
- [51] N. Kalra Community Participation and Waste Management. *In Sustainable Waste Management: Policies and Case Studies* Springer, Singapore, 115-123 (2020).
- [52] B. Barakat, G.J. Abel, K. C. Samir and W. Lutz. Meeting the Sustainable Development Goals leads to lower world population growth. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 113, 14294-14299 (2016).
- [53] A. Alarab, A., Alrawashdeh, A., Ahmed, O.S.E.F. Youth Awareness Level of the Indicators of Achieving Gender Equality as One of Sustainable Development Goals. (2022) *Dirasat: Human and Social Sciences*, 49 (3), pp. 211-227. DOI: 10.35516/hum.v49i3.1345 <https://www.scopus.com/inward/record.uri?eid=2-s2.0-85132340162&doi=10.35516%2fhum.v49i3.1345&partnerID=40&md5=b50924eee32d338f96102ea1b98882ed>