

Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development Goals: Assessing the Impact on Social and Environmental Outcomes

Dr. Seema Bhakuni¹, Mr. Sandeep Saxena²

¹Assistant Professor, Doon Institute of Management and Research, Rishikesh, India

²Assistant Professor, Vivekananda Global University, Jaipur, India

ABSTRACT

Social entrepreneurship or SE is one of the most indispensable factors which include the outdated approaches that reduce the complexity of the environment and social challenges. Employment of revenue stream in the companies can be operative and invaluable to increase sustainability and deliver sustainable products to the clients. Sustainable rehearsal around the world is one of the most current ways to improve supportable behavior and secure the lives of forthcoming generations. The study aims to estimate the importance of social entrepreneurship and the development of sustainability for the betterment of environment and social factors. The research has used primary quantitative method of data collection to enhance the reliability of the study by engaging people related to the environmental sector and the business. For analysing the collected data from 65 respondents, SPSS software has been applied in the research to maintain the accuracy of the outcomes. The improvement of environmental conditions can be achieved by the reduction of social challenges and the implementation of the relationship between environmental and economic profit. The development of the environmental condition leads to the better life and mental health of the people.

Keywords: Social entrepreneurial, Sustainability development, Environmental development, Environmental conditions

INTRODUCTION

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are greatly aided by social entrepreneurship, which focuses on bringing about beneficial social and environmental change. The purpose of this research is to evaluate the effects of social entrepreneurship projects on the social and environmental objectives of the SDGs. This study looks at particular social companies in order to assess how well they work toward important SDGs like gender equality, clean energy, poverty reduction, and environmental sustainability. To measure the contributions of these initiatives, metrics evaluating social impact, community empowerment, and ecological footprint will be employed. In addition, the study will look at the difficulties social entrepreneurs have in coordinating their efforts with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), taking systemic impediments, scalability, and financial sustainability into account. Policymakers, investors, and practitioners can benefit from the assessment's insights regarding how to improve social entrepreneurship's beneficial effects on sustainable development. In the end, the study seeks to give a thorough grasp of how social entrepreneurship supports and complies with the SDGs, as well as insightful information about how these businesses may act as global catalysts for positive social and environmental change.

Background of the study

Social entrepreneurial or SE activity addresses cultural, societal, or environmental problems by applying business concepts. As per the view of Méndez-Picazo et al., (2021), making a good impact in other ways than maintaining economic viability is more important than just making money. Non-profits, combinations of the two, and for-profit businesses can all achieve this. SE is one of the most essential factors which includes the traditional approaches that reduce the complexity of the environment and social challenges (Karintseva et al., 2021). Although there currently are various definitions of sustainable development, the definition that is frequently referred to is from the Brundtland Report, "Sustainability in development is an expansion that meets the requirements of this generation while safeguarding the capacity of future generations to continue to adequately satisfy their own needs."

Problem statement

Social entrepreneurs have faced some issues and problems with sustainable development such as the changes in climate and gender equality. As per the report of 2023, they are 12% in the current world which shows risks and challenges for the environmental development.

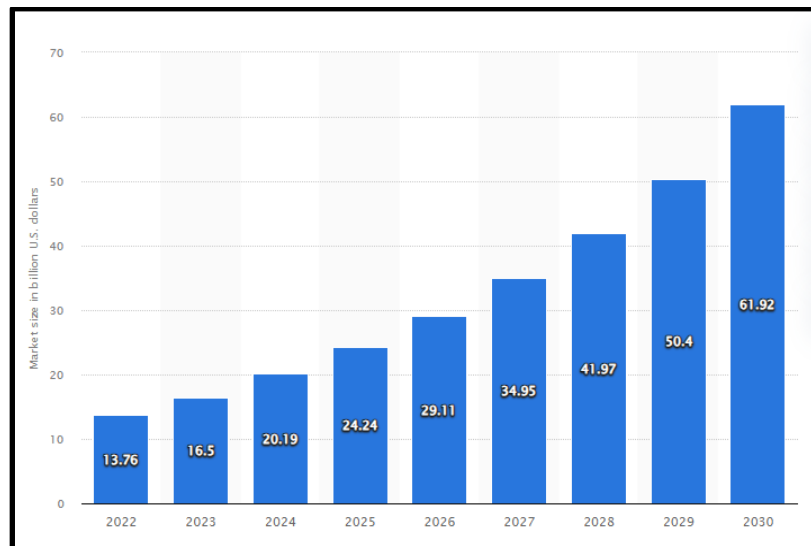


Figure 1: sustainability market size worldwide from 2022 to 2030
(Source: Statista, 2024)

From this statistical graph, it can be clearly stated that the size of the market is increasing from the year 2022 to the year 2030. The total amount of market size in the year 2022 is 13.76 billion US dollars and that in the year 2030 it is presumed to be 61.92 billion US dollars.

Research aim and objectives

Research aim

The study aims to estimate the importance of social entrepreneurship and the development of sustainability for the betterment of environment and social factors.

Research objectives

- RO1:** To estimate modern company techniques and models to attain social impact and sustainable revenue
- RO2:** To utilize the strategies to implement sustainability for environmental growth and development
- RO3:** To determine the barrier to implementing sustainability for the social and environmental development
- RO4:** To access the future scope by the execution of the SE and sustainable practices.

Research questions

- RQ1:** What are the modern company techniques and models to attain social impact and sustainable revenue?
- RQ2:** What are the strategies to implement sustainability for environmental growth and development?
- RQ3:** What is the barrier to implementing sustainability for social and environmental development?
- RQ4:** What is the future scope of the execution of the SE and sustainability?

Significance of the study

The study is significant to evaluate the proper strategy and ways by which sustainability and social and environmental factors can be increased. Completing the aim objectives of the study can be effective and essential for the improvement of environmental conditions and the condition of the life of the people.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Modern company techniques to attain social impact and sustainable revenue

Businesses are realizing more and more how important it is to match their operations with goals about society and the environment. The demands of investors for ESG like environmental or social consideration, consumer demand for ethical goods and services, and the desire to mitigate the risks associated with shortage of resources and climate change are among the primary factors behind this trend (Wang et al., 2020). Recruitment of revenue stream in the companies can be effective and invaluable to increase sustainability and deliver sustainable products to the customers.



Figure 2: Techniques for increment of the sustainable development thought
(Source: Tien et al., 2020)

The above figure defines the different techniques that are used in the industry and service sectors to improve the social and environmental conditions in the current era. Different sectors have made a great impact on the diversity of CSR which are the NGOs, private and public industries, enterprises, and the media.

Strategies to implement sustainability for environmental growth and development

Various strategies are used in the modern age to enhance the condition of society and environmental outcomes to improve the life condition of people. Reserving natural resources is one of the most effective and important strategies by which the excessive use of harmful fuel can be minimized. As per recommendation of Horne et al., (2020), ***decreasing the emission of greenhouse gases*** can be effective and valuable to conserve biodiversity. Managing and maintaining the energy that can be obtained from natural resources can also be an effective step. Sustainable practice around the world is one of the most effective ways to improve sustainable behavior and secure the lives of future generations. Therefore, the application of environmental resources of energy and the recycling process helps to improve the condition of the current environment.

Barriers to implementing sustainability for the social and environmental development

For the development of social and environmental factors, there are several barriers like economic political and technological barriers which have and negative impact on the execution of planning and strategy. The scarcity of purpose-sustainable technology that can be afforded by a country or the industries of any country, is one of the most common issues in the current era. As per Johnson, &Schaltegger(2020), cultural and social barriers which include the lack of proper awareness and knowledge among people also hurt sustainable growth and development. The engagement of political leaders and the laws and regulations sometimes became the barrier to the implementation of new models and technologies.

Literature Gap (100)

In the previous literature, the recommendations of appropriate technology and models are missing which becomes the drawback of the literature. As per Corsi, Pagani, & Kovaleski (2020), a compact study includes the current issue and challenges and also provides the proper recommendation to overcome the issue for the betterment of the environment and situation. The accurate data which includes the overall social and environmental situation is also made available in the study (Tsalis et al., 2020). Therefore, the drawbacks and gaps of previous literature are tried to field and increase the total collection of information about the impact of sustainable development for a better environment.

Methodology

The primary quantitative method of data Collection has been used to enhance the reliability of the study by engaging people related to the environmental sector and the business. As commended by Mio, Panfilo& Blundo (2020), collecting the data and reviewing directly from the respondents make a better impact on the results and outcomes of a study. For analysing the collected data, SPSS software has been applied in the research to maintain the accuracy of the outcomes. 65 respondents are been selected for the study to enhance the reliability of the results of the study (Biermann et al., 2022). Regression analysis, descriptive statistics, and the validity test are been done on the study to get the proper result.

Hypothesis development

Alternative hypothesis (H1): Cultural problem and the SE are related to each other

Alternative hypothesis (H2): There is a strong relationship between the financial and environmental profit and the implementation of strategy related to the SE

Alternative hypothesis (H3): Environmental and social challenges depend on the role of SE

Alternative hypothesis (H4): Implementing of new strategy and solution is related to the development of environmental situation

Findings

Demographic analysis

Table 1: Age of the respondents

What is your age?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	20 to 25 years	22	33.8	33.8	33.8
	26 to 30 years	22	33.8	33.8	67.7
	31 to 35 years	10	15.4	15.4	83.1
	36 and above	11	16.9	16.9	100.0
	Total	65	100.0	100.0	

(Source: SPSS)

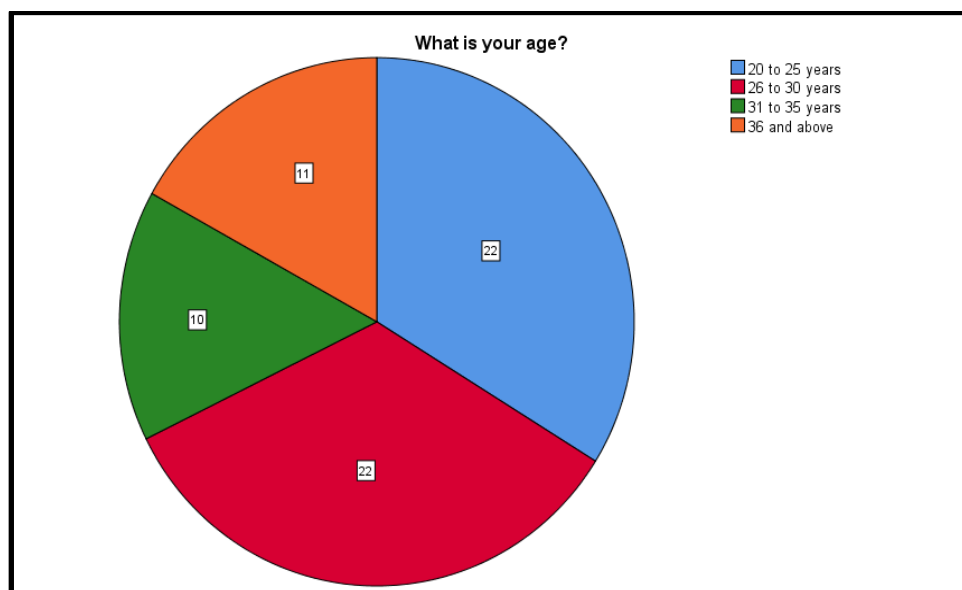


Figure 3: Age frames of the respondents

(Source: SPSS)

Table 1 and Figure 3 of the survey indicate the allocation of the age of the respondents who experienced the survey. From the above data, it can be said that the people participated most are between the age of 31 to 35 years and their percentage is 15.4%. The percentage of people between 20 to 25 years is 33.8%.

Table 2: Gender of the respondents

What is your gender?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Female	33	50.8	50.8	50.8
	Male	11	16.9	16.9	67.7
	Prefer not to say	21	32.3	32.3	100.0
	Total	65	100.0	100.0	

(Source: SPSS)

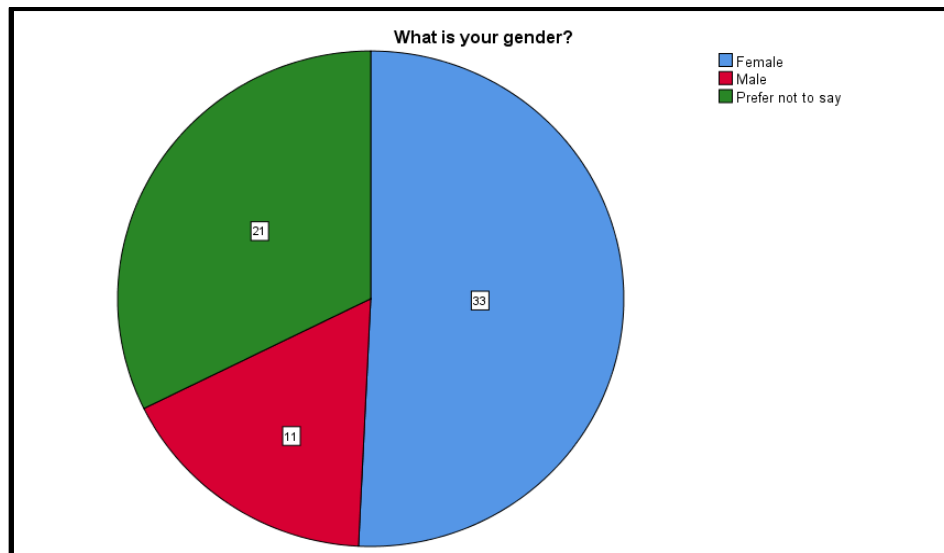


Figure 4: Gender of the respondents
(Source: SPSS)

The above figure and table display the gender of the respondents which demonstrates that the valid percentage of male participants is 16.9%. From the pie chart, it can be communicated that the percentage of female participants is the highest and the value is 33% and the number of people who don't want to enter is 21%. Hence, the female parties are the most energetic towards the survey.

Table 3: Qualification of the respondents

What is your qualification?					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Graduation	11	16.9	16.9	16.9
	H.S.	11	16.9	16.9	33.8
	Master degree	21	32.3	32.3	66.2
	Other	22	33.8	33.8	100.0
	Total	65	100.0	100.0	

(Source: SPSS)

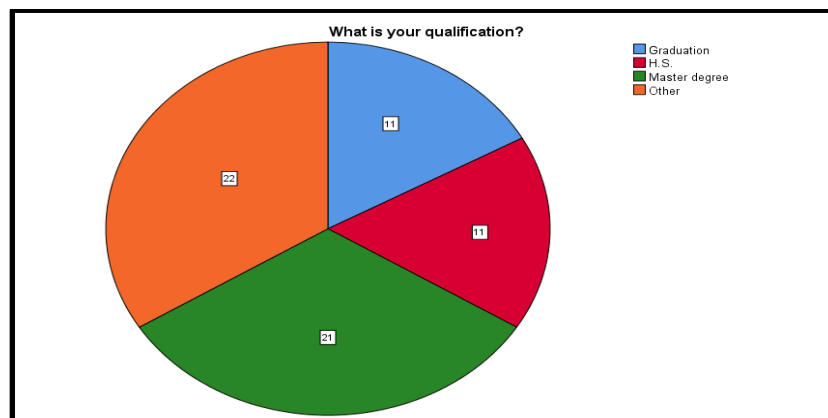


Figure 5: Qualification of the respondents
(Source: SPSS)

The pie chart of the survey indicates the qualification of the participants and from the chart, it can be concluded that the percentage of graduate people is 11%. The valid percentage of the people who have done their master's degree is 32.3%. The people with degrees other than the one discussed are 22%.

Variable-related analysis

Descriptive test

Table 4: Descriptive statistics

Descriptive Statistics									
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation	Skewness		Kurtosis	
	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Statistic	Std. Error	Statistic	Std. Error
DV	65	3	5	4.17	.698	-.243	.297	-.894	.586
IV1	65	3	5	3.98	.820	.029	.297	-1.510	.586
IV2	65	2	5	3.85	1.079	-.532	.297	-.966	.586
IV3	65	1	5	3.83	1.485	-.999	.297	-.417	.586
IV4	65	1	5	3.32	1.511	-.266	.297	-1.402	.586
Valid N (listwise)	65								

(Source: SPSS)

Table 4 of the study shows the value of skewness, standard deviation, and Kurtosis for the DV and the IVs of the study. The value of the skewness of the IV1 of the survey is 0.029 which indicates that the increasing rate of unemployment affects 'Social entrepreneurship or SE.'

Validity test

Table 5: Validity test

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.216
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	561.464
	df	10
	Sig.	.000

(Source: SPSS)

The above table of validity test of the survey defines that the value of the approximate value of chi-square is 561.464. This high value demonstrates that the incremental practices of sustainability in an organization helps to extend the effect of social entrepreneurs for the betterment of a business.

Pearson's correlation test

Table 6: Pearson's correlation test

		Correlations				
		DV	IV1	IV2	IV3	IV4
DV	Pearson Correlation	1	-.296*	-.193	.858**	.762**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.017	.123	.000	.000
	N	65	65	65	65	65
IV1	Pearson Correlation	-.296*	1	.404**	-.426**	.130
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.017		.001	.000	.301
	N	65	65	65	65	65
IV2	Pearson Correlation	-.193	.404**	1	-.660**	.251*
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.123	.001		.000	.043
	N	65	65	65	65	65
IV3	Pearson Correlation	.858**	-.426**	-.660**	1	.408**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000		.001
	N	65	65	65	65	65
IV4	Pearson Correlation	.762**	.130	.251*	.408**	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.301	.043	.001	
	N	65	65	65	65	65

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).
**. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

(Source: SPSS)

From the above table of correlation tests of the DV and the IV of the study, the approximate correlation is significant at the 0.05 level and 0.01 level. It also shows a positive correlation between social entrepreneurs, sustainable practices and the business enhancement.

Multiple regressions

Table 7: Model summary

Model Summary ^b										
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate	R Square Change	Change Statistics			Sig. F Change	Durbin-Watson
1	1.000 ^a	.999	.999	.020	.999	18990.785	4	60	.000	1.892

a. Predictors: (Constant), IV4, IV1, IV2, IV3
b. Dependent Variable: DV

(Source: SPSS)

Table 8: ANOVA

ANOVA ^a						
Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	31.114	4	7.778	18990.785	.000 ^b
	Residual	.025	60	.000		
	Total	31.138	64			

a. Dependent Variable: DV
b. Predictors: (Constant), IV4, IV1, IV2, IV3

(Source: SPSS)

Table 9: Coefficients

Coefficients ^a					
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t
1	(Constant)	1.034	.032		31.982
	IV1	-.060	.004	-.071	-16.223
	IV2	.299	.005	.463	61.544
	IV3	.488	.004	1.038	119.920
	IV4	.107	.003	.232	35.484

a. Dependent Variable: DV

(Source: SPSS)

The above three regression tables of the study define the regression analysis which includes the table of ANOVA, model summary, and the coefficients. From the second table, it can be discussed that the value of the sum of the residual factors is 0.025 and the value is less than 0.5 which determines the less effectiveness of the cultural problem on the SE. Also, the sum of the value of coefficients and the std. the error of IV2 is 0.005.

DISCUSSION

From the above study, it can be discussed that the development of social and environmental conditions in the current era depends on the implementation of new and innovative strategies taken by the government of a country (Karintseva et al., 2021). From the performed survey, it can be safely stated that most of the people agreed with the impact of 'Social entrepreneurship' on the development of the environmental condition and the reduction of environmental challenges. On the other hand, Scharlemann et al., (2020) said that the lack of properly skilled and experienced social workers in the current age becomes one of the most common challenges for experts to improve the condition of social and environmental factors. The application of the primary quantitative method of data collection gives accurate and authentic data from the persons related to different sectors. There a serious organisation like the shareholders, media, government of a country, and NGOs who have played an important role in enhancing the condition of social and environmental factors (ElAlfy et al., 2020). Hence, by implementing the proposed strategy current environmental and social conditions can be improved.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be said that the risks and challenges have to be reduced to provide people with a better and healthier life condition. Considering the previous literature gap proper strategies and models by which sustainability can be improved are also discussed in the study. The improvement of environmental conditions can be achieved by the reduction of social challenges and the implementation of the relationship between environmental and economic profit. The development of the environmental condition leads to better life and mental health of people. Therefore, the study gives proper recommendations and ways to improve social and environmental conditions.

REFERENCES

- [1]. Biermann, F., Hickmann, T., Sénit, C. A., Beisheim, M., Bernstein, S., Chasek, P., ...& Wicke, B. (2022). Scientific evidence on the political impact of the Sustainable Development Goals. *Nature Sustainability*, 5(9), 795-800. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652620321740>
- [2]. Corsi, A., Pagani, R. N., & Kovaleski, J. L. (2020). Technology transfer for sustainable development: Social impacts depicted and some other answers to a few questions. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 245, 118522. https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nguyen-Tien-32/publication/342752415_GREEN_ENTREPRENEURSHIP_UNDERSTANDING_IN_VIETNAM_2/links/5f04f08ea6fdcc4ca455bce9/GREEN-ENTREPRENEURSHIP-UNDERSTANDING-IN-VIETNAM-2.pdf
- [3]. ElAlfy, A., Palaschuk, N., El-Bassiouny, D., Wilson, J., & Weber, O. (2020). Scoping the evolution of corporate social responsibility (CSR) research in the sustainable development goals (SDGs) era. *Sustainability*, 12(14), 5544. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/csr.1910>
- [4]. Horne, J., Recker, M., Michelfelder, I., Jay, J., & Kratzer, J. (2020). Exploring entrepreneurship related to the sustainable development goals-mapping new venture activities with semi-automated content analysis. *Journal of Cleaner Production*, 242, 118052. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From:
- [5]. Johnson, M. P., & Schaltegger, S. (2020). Entrepreneurship for sustainable development: A review and multilevel causal mechanism framework. *Entrepreneurship Theory and Practice*, 44(6), 1141-1173. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/bse.2835>
- [6]. Karintseva, O., Kharchenko, M., Boon, E. K., Derykolenko, O., Melnyk, V., & Kobzar, O. (2021). Environmental determinants of energy-efficient transformation of national economies for sustainable development. *International Journal of Global Energy Issues*, 43(2-3), 262-274. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/csr.1910>
- [7]. Méndez-Picazo, M. T., Galindo-Martín, M. A., & Castaño-Martínez, M. S. (2021). Effects of sociocultural and economic factors on social entrepreneurship and sustainable development. *Journal of Innovation & Knowledge*, 6(2), 69-77. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11625-020-00799-6>
- [8]. Mio, C., Panfilo, S., & Blundo, B. (2020). Sustainable development goals and the strategic role of business: A systematic literature review. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 29(8), 3220-3245. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nguyen-Tien-32/publication/342752415_GREEN_ENTREPRENEURSHIP_UNDERSTANDING_IN_VIETNAM_2/links/5f04f08ea6fdcc4ca455bce9/GREEN-ENTREPRENEURSHIP-UNDERSTANDING-IN-VIETNAM-2.pdf
- [9]. Scharlemann, J. P., Brock, R. C., Balfour, N., Brown, C., Burgess, N. D., Guth, M. K., ... & Kapos, V. (2020). Towards understanding interactions between Sustainable Development Goals: The role of environment-human linkages. *Sustainability Science*, 15, 1573-1584. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Nguyen-Tien-32/publication/342752415_GREEN_ENTREPRENEURSHIP_UNDERSTANDING_IN_VIETNAM_2/links/5f04f08ea6fdcc4ca455bce9/GREEN-ENTREPRENEURSHIP-UNDERSTANDING-IN-VIETNAM-2.pdf

- [10]. Statista, 2024. *Green technology and sustainability market size worldwide from 2022 to 2030(in billion U.S. dollars)*[Online]. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1319996/green-technology-and-sustainability-market-size-worldwide/>
- [11]. Tien, N. H., Minh, H. T. T., Mai, N. P., & Thuc, T. D. (2020). Social entrepreneurship and corporate sustainable development. Evidence from Vietnam. *Cogent Business & Management*, 7(1), 1-17. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1364032121009849>
- [12]. Tsalis, T. A., Malamateniou, K. E., Koulouriotis, D., & Nikolaou, I. E. (2020). New challenges for corporate sustainability reporting: United Nations' 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and the sustainable development goals. *Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management*, 27(4), 1617-1629. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959652620340786>
- [13]. Wang, X., Yuen, K. F., Wong, Y. D., & Li, K. X. (2020). How can the maritime industry meet Sustainable Development Goals? An analysis of sustainability reports from the social entrepreneurship perspective. *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, 78, 102173. Retrieved on: 15th February, 2024. From: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/12/14/5544>

Appendix

Survey link: <https://forms.gle/qfh3564WVBvN3Sab9>

What is your age?

What is your gender?

What is your qualification?

Social entrepreneurship is a way to promote sustainable development by creating new solutions

Social entrepreneurship can help address issues like poverty, unemployment

Social entrepreneurship can play a significant role in building sustainable cities and communities by addressing social and environmental challenges

Social entrepreneurs produce good impact and long-term value by integrating sustainable practices

Social entrepreneurship applies the principles and guidance used by start-up founders and entrepreneurs to a business

Social entrepreneur is primarily motivated by a desire to alleviate some kind of systemic social or cultural problem

Social entrepreneurs bring a unique perspective to business, prioritizing social and environmental impact alongside financial profit

Social entrepreneurs can address some of the world's most pressing challenges

Entrepreneurship environment refers to the various facets within which enterprises- big, medium, small and other have to operate