THE INTERCONNECTION BETWEEN AN ORGANIZATION'S ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ECOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Dr. Nikita Agrawal*

ABSTRACT

This research will concentrate on the methods in which corporations can increase their economic worth while preserving environmental stability. By doing so, they will be able to capture a larger portion of the market. Taking into account a knowledge gap regarding environmentally sustainable development and economic growth, corporate responsibility for the environment, initiatives that a corporate could take without adding to costs, and incorporating sustainable investment for the environment's and business's sustainable growth. Long-term success in business depends heavily on finances. Companies must adapt to changing environmental demands while protecting the environment for future generations & building a company that not only considers capitalization but also captures markets in a more sustainable manner. Companies today realise how important it is to strike a balance between environmental responsibility and financial success. While sustaining economic growth is essential to a company's existence, voicing environmental concerns and taking action to address them can actually improve a company's financial performance.

Keywords: Economic Growth, Corporate Responsibility, Environmental Stability, Capitalization.

Introduction

In the past, environmental sustainability was not often a top priority in the business world. Some political and business leaders were primarily focused on economic growth and were less concerned about environmental damage. There were even environmental advocates who believed that achieving significant economic growth was impossible without causing harm to the environment. However, times have changed. Today, many political leaders and entrepreneurs recognize the importance of corporate social responsibility and the need to protect both society and the environment. The relationship between economy and environment is a complex and ongoing global debate. The environment holds multifaceted value as a heritage, offering valuable resources, essential services, life sustenance, and pollutant absorption. Within this context, economic activities have enduring and cumulative ramifications on the environment, positioning it as a vital element for a nation's prosperity (Marilena Mironiuc and Maria Carmen Huian 2017). Corporates can head towards financial development by eliminating the notion of waste, it is proposed to adopt a design approach that acknowledges the absence of waste within natural systems. This involves the creation of products using biodegradable materials that can integrate into biological cycles or technical materials that can be recycled within closed-loop technical systems. Furthermore, it is advisable to prevent the mixing of different types of materials to avoid contamination. This would affect the goodwill of the firm and it will also gain more respect in the eyes of the government which can help the company to lay off unnecessary taxes. Considering that the trends are switching more towards producing products which are more environment friendly and also supports diversity in culture, tradition, gender and origin. The emphasis on economic growth has the potential to diminish the effectiveness of sustainable resource utilization and undermine the objective of reducing overall resource consumption. The literature on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) highlights the significant trade-

Assistant Professor, Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies, New Delhi, India.

offs that exist between economic growth and sustainable resource use, representing a crucial issue. Although there are instances where the synergies among SDGs surpass the trade-offs, it is important to recognize that negative interactions can also permeate all SDGs. Simply striving for policy coherence may not suffice to address these trade-offs, as economic growth has allowed certain social objectives to be achieved while simultaneously impinging upon ecological integrity in certain cases (Nina Eisenmenger et al. 2020).

Literature Review

Widely held views suggest that pollution stems from the economic expansion of developed nations and the resultant environmental strain induced by population growth. Consequently, this amplifies the exploitation of natural resources, impeding the environment's ability to assimilate emissions while inflicting uncompensated loss of biodiversity. Extensive research has demonstrated the interconnectedness of economic growth, natural resource consumption, and pollutant emissions, accentuating their collective impact on national performance and reinforcing the need for effective environmental strategies and policies (Marilena Mironiuc and Maria Carmen Huian, 2017). It highlights the significance of eco-effectiveness, the link between corporate and social sustainability, and the necessity for business-relevant ecological justice requirements. More emphasis should be placed on developing a systematic theory of corporate sustainability, including publications that examine the relationship between sustainability and business profitability (Thomas Dyllick and Kai Hockerts, 2002). The prioritization of economic growth at the expense of ecological integrity, along with an emphasis on efficiency enhancements rather than substantial reductions in resource consumption, is identified. The authors emphasize the inherent contradictions between economic growth and sustainable resource utilization within industrialization processes and propose measures to mitigate such conflicts. While acknowledging the strategic potential of the SDGs, achieving sustainability necessitates equitable distribution of prosperity while maintaining ecological integrity is very crucial, without solely relying on metrics-oriented growth (Nina Eisenmenger et al., 2020). Environmental preservation acts as a catalyst for economic expansion. Entrepreneurs who develop and market technologies for mitigating air pollution, such as those employed in power plants and automobiles, experience financial gains. Likewise, individuals involved in the construction of sewage and water treatment facilities find opportunities for economic prosperity. Inventors and manufacturers of solar cells and windmills also reap financial rewards. Similarly, the individual who devises a high- capacity battery capable of powering electric vehicles for extended distances stands to accumulate substantial wealth. It is important to note that the environmental advantages derived from such endeavors hold significant value in their own right. The issue of climate change stems not from economic growth per se, but rather from the lack of robust public policies aimed at mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. It is essential to recognize that capitalism and environmental protection are not inherently contradictory, provided that regulatory frameworks are in position to govern the environmental consequences associated with the production and utilization of goods and services. The implementation of such regulations allows for environmental sustainability to become a fundamental consideration in the decision-making processes of private enterprises, nonprofit organizations, and governmental bodies, thereby benefiting society as a whole (Steve Cohen, 2020). There is influence of politics and practice on the role of businesses in tackling SDGs. Academic intervention is needed to provide a long-term conceptual vision that can interact with practice to better orient businesses as sustainable development agents (Chiara Mio et. al., 2020). Corporate environmental sustainability has a significant impact on the overall performance of organizations, with such effects being mediated through various governance mechanisms, structures, and performance indicators. The attainment of low-carbon advancements is closely associated with improved green performance, whereas the adoption of environmentally friendly practices exhibits a positive correlation with sustainability performance. By incorporating sustainable innovation practices, companies can effectively mitigate adverse social and environmental consequences. Operational environmental sustainability indicators are influenced by the governance systems implemented within corporate entities, underscoring the crucial role of sustainability development within the manufacturing sector. The formulation of a robust strategy is vital for achieving sustainable organizational growth, necessitating clear and unequivocal commitments to environmental issues, stakeholder management, and business ethics. Organizational sustainability performance may be influenced by the social and environmental boundaries within which companies operate. The implementation of a coherent corporate governance framework has the potential to generate outstanding results in terms of sustainability and financial performance (George Lăzăroiu et. al., 2020). Overall, the integration of corporate governance practices with strategic management aimed at ecological production can facilitate a company's financial growth and elevate its market capitalization. There exists a favorable correlation between the domains of Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development, with a specific emphasis on their interplay in the context of economic expansion and the practices of social entrepreneurship. Furthermore, it is evident that innovation exerts a constructive, albeit indirect, influence on the advancement of sustainable development. This influence is substantiated by the presence of socio-cognitive attributes and entrepreneurial endeavors within this dynamic. It is proposed that the implementation of fiscal incentives, such as tax advantages, can serve as a catalyst for stimulating entrepreneurial activities. This, in turn, may facilitate improved access to diverse funding sources, ultimately contributing to the advancement of sustainable development as a conduit for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to access international markets. Moreover, the pivotal role of institutional frameworks and arrangements in nurturing the establishment of entrepreneurs and fostering the growth of innovative SMEs within the global economic landscape should be underscored (Anas Ali Al-Qudah et. al. 2021). Ecological sustainable entrepreneurship presents a comprehensive framework that mirrors the stages of identifying, developing, and exploiting opportunities. This encompassing process encompasses all functions, activities, and actions related to recognizing opportunities and establishing enterprises to pursue them. The framework places its primary emphasis on the motivating factors behind initiating ecological sustainable ventures and the rationales for adopting sustainable business practices within established ecological sustainable Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Entrepreneurs, driven by an inherent commitment to sustainability, encompass both value-oriented and market-oriented individuals who engage in ecological sustainable entrepreneurship with the objective of generating value for both the environment and society. Within this context, networks assume a pivotal role as entrepreneurs encounter limitations in influencing public policies. Establishing robust connections between small enterprises and external stakeholders serves to alleviate the challenges encountered by ecological sustainable entrepreneurs. Furthermore, it is essential to underscore the pivotal role of academic institutions such as business schools, universities, and other educational providers in this framework. These entities wield significant influence in raising awareness about entrepreneurship and sustainability, encouraging individuals to consider ecological sustainable entrepreneurship as a career path, facilitating the establishment of new enterprises, and reorienting existing small businesses (Johanna Gast et. al. 2017).

Objectives

- To research about the interdependence between sustainable development and economic growth of a corporate.
- To study how a business can increase its financial growth while maintaining sustainable environmental development.
- Deriving a conclusion that whether a corporate can maintain its working in the same way as before while performing their operations in a more sustainable way to utilize the natural resources effectively or not.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This research is a theoretical examination of literature on psychology and sustainability, defining their relationship and making recommendations about psychology as a critical and creative aspect that may significantly benefit the cause of sustainable development.

In this study, a descriptive research design, which is focused with documenting the features of a certain individual, subject, or group, was used.

Secondary Research

- **Secondary Data:** This is data that is gathered from previously obtained information. It is information obtained through journals, newspapers, the internet, and other sources. This covers everything that has previously been printed and from which we are extracting information.
- Data Sources: Google Scholar research papers, internet publications, journals, published interviews, and so forth.

Secondary research has been demonstrated in every chapter through the use of secondary sources such as the internet and research papers. The data gathered from the aforementioned sources was properly formatted and utilized at appropriate points in the study effort. The information obtained includes quotations, citations, images, and so forth.

Discussion and Conclusion

The evaluation of corporate sustainability is critical for supporting organisations in dealing with sustainability in their operational operations. Stakeholders want companies to implement sustainability and guarantee that their supply chains are socially responsible. Environmental management systems improve organisational sustainability and profitability. The environmental component of business sustainability is critical to the success and profitability of the organisation. Sustainable suggestions are strategic decisions that must be included into firms' action-oriented planning. Production and consumption paradigms cause social and environmental changes while imposing expectations on and impediments to organisations.

Organisations should seek regional economic benefits while adhering to environmental rules of practise and conserving the local ecology. Adequate environmental practises have the potential to improve company sustainability performance. Innovative technologies influence economic sustainability, as there are numerous of ways in which a corporate can deal with their day-to-day operations in a more sustainable way where there could be more effective utilisation of resources through advance technology which are made to cut-off extra use of raw materials. Entrepreneurs can also start working on improving these technologies where they can develop an idea to how to use their production material smartly and improve their logistics channel to cut short their time and money for more advance use of high technology available in the market. Organisational corporate sustainability performance necessitates the use of measurement and assessment methods, metrics, and techniques that are integrated into a cohesive sustainability performance evaluation system. Low-carbon innovations are associated with business environmental performance.

Environmentally friendly behaviour is related with improved business sustainability performance. Companies may reduce the negative social and environmental repercussions of their operations by implementing sustainable innovation practises. Organisations must include sustainability into their administrative units as well as their managerial levels. The capacity to manage projects improves the repercussions of sustainability efforts. Companies should be clear about their commitment to sustainability in terms of natural environment challenges, stakeholder management, and business ethics. Organisational sustainability performance may be influenced by social and environmental constraints. Coherent corporate governance contributes to great sustainability and better financial performance.

Good corporate ESG management leads to improved operational measures such as ROE, ROA, and stock price. Some ESG solutions provide downside protection during economic or social crises by generating market rate or excess returns. Few research, however, have revealed clear negative links between ESG and financial success. There are very few thematic studies on mediating variables, risk-reward outcomes, and the performance implications of ESG leaders and improvers. ESG performance is positively correlated with higher equity returns and reduction in downside risk. Moving beyond ESG reporting and into risk management and performance improvement can drive superior returns for companies. ESG risk management and improvement in performance includes reducing greenhouse gas emissions, evaluation of climatic risk, analysing the environment trends, using and producing green products, establishing operational risk management and governance programmes.

A high emphasis on economic growth not only leads in a relative weakening of sustainable resource use, but it also works against the goal of reducing overall resource usage. The basic tensions between economic development and sustainable resource use are a major topic in the research on "SDG interactions," which describes the trade-offs and synergies between and within SDG objectives and indicators. Environmental advancement and proper usage of resources would have to be implemented in conjunction with corporate governance so that each and every employee have a motive to use the resources in a proper manner and the main aim of the corporate should shift towards developing a communist society but not a capitalist one, in todays trends everyone wants to be a part of the society and big corporates but the capitalistic nature of the corporates frightens the society and that makes the society lean towards a communal based environment. If a company follows the trend and adapts to this dynamic environment in which they use and produce green products, save electricity and water for production, use green modes of advertising like promotion of saving the environment and also helps in upliftment of a community can increase the c=goodwill of the organisation, increase its market capitalisation and hence, financial growth would be improved as the price of equity increases.

Due to public discredit, a lack of technical understanding, competent human resources, and top management commitment, ecological sustainable companies confront market entrance and success obstacles. Ethical reasoning is a big impediment since it hinders management and non-profit

administration. Customers frequently do not completely comprehend the advantages of green products, making it harder to educate them. Inefficiency, the nature of public goods, resource utilisation, monopolistic power, externalities, and imprecise information are all examples of market obstacles. These impediments impede the growth and success of environmentally friendly companies. More than just technological upgrades at the end of the pipeline or changes to cost/benefit analysis will be required for sustainable development. It will necessitate a transformation in how humans see the world. Humans are part of a web of relationships known as the environment and society. We cannot attempt to compartmentalise the consequences of our actions. There is a need to break down barriers between disciplines in order to achieve an interdisciplinary or even trans-disciplinary vision of the world. To have long-term relevance, sustainable development must be an integrated and principle-based perspective on human existence and the planet we live in.

Finally, we must consider societal demands on corporations in terms of their activities and practises in concerns of sustainability. Changes in values in society are raising the normative standards for CSR. This means that new method of understanding company goals must be developed, and the goals they seek must be reformed. Only by incorporating CSR practises into company strategic choices can beneficial outcomes be realised. This type of shift in corporate philosophy will have profound qualitative consequences, such as reduced environmental impact, increased employee happiness, improved business reputation, and a good role in the local community. However, social and corporate developments may not necessarily have a measurable impact on economic and financial statistics. But to improve economic growth of a company there is no need for exploitation of valuable resources available in our environment, while preserving the environmental resources company can flourish their governance capabilities and perform their tasks in a more sustainable manner which not only will help the corporate to save the amount of money and time in performing business tasks but also boost their economic growth.

Implications of the Study

Future study on triple-bottom-line integration in corporate sustainability must engage sceptics, since it risks increasing uncertainty and compromising political goals. Separating economic, environmental, and social obligations at the operational level may be more successful, however strategic choices must evaluate all three aspects at the same time.

Future meta-analyses should distinguish between corporate and investor studies and explore causal factors for improved financial performance by corporates with robust sustainability strategies.

There is further scope of investigating the situation in different types of corporates, analysing whether the business follows sustainable development and if it has increased their financial growth, this is theoretical research in which no data have been presented but there could be a data driven research showing a worldwide data to support or neglect the theory that corporates can still grow economically while working in improving the environment.

Future study should look at the role of social entrepreneurship, innovation, and institutional factors in long-term development. Sustainable development is a multifaceted process with numerous logics and goals. Future study should focus on sustainable development initiatives, including social entrepreneurship. However, evidence to support assertions of social entrepreneurship as a significant instrument for poverty reduction and institutional transformation is weak. Studies often focus on a single level of analysis, which might make it difficult to comprehend the outcomes of social entrepreneurship.

Future research could concentrate on identifying similarities and differences between various streams of thought and definitions, developing concepts such as sustainable entrepreneurship and green entrepreneurship, and using qualitative studies to improve understanding of the factors that distinguish sustainable entrepreneurship and ecopreneurship. Larger samples and multidisciplinary methods to study might increase the validity and generalizability of previous findings. contrasting value-based vs. compliance-driven vs. market-driven organisations, and researching the qualitative and quantitative characteristics of networks in alleviating market and financial issues. human, economic, political, and socio-cultural aspects impact the decision to engage in ecological sustainable entrepreneurship, but the roles of culture and country variances in human attitudes towards these enterprises and business practises have not been explored enough.

The study has certain limitations due to the research time range and the absence of additional literature on the certain topic. As a result, I feel my findings should not be generalised. As a result, the examined issue remains open for further investigation. The systematic literature review's inclusion and

exclusion criteria might be criticised. Despite the thoroughness of the study, we cannot ensure that all significant work on ecological sustainable business has been included and synthesised. The framework might not be up to the mark for not being thorough enough. Although we incorporated ideas from our literature analysis and highlighted various interrelationships between the distinct components, this discussion may not be exhaustive, and academics may discover other correlations via subsequent study.

References

- 1. Marilena Mironiuc and Maria Carmen Huian, 2017, "Empirical Study on The Interdependence Between Environmental Wellbeing, Financial Development and Economic Growth"
- 2. Nina Eisenmenger, Melanie Pichler, Nora Krenmayr1, Dominik Noll, Barbara Plank, Ekaterina Schalmann, Marie-Theres Wandl and Simone Gingrich, 2020, "The Sustainable Development Goals prioritize economic growth over sustainable resource use: a critical reflection on the SDGs from a socio-ecological perspective".
- 3. Thomas Dyllick and Kai Hockerts, 2002, "Beyond the business case for corporate sustainability".
- 4. Steve Cohen, 2020, "Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability".
- 5. Chiara Mio, Silvia Panfilo and Benedetta Blundo, 2020, "Sustainable development goals and the strategic role of business: A systematic literature review".
- 6. George Lăzăroiu, Luminit, a Ionescu, Mihai Andronie and Irina Dijmărescu, 2020, "Sustainability Management and Performance in the Urban Corporate Economy: A Systematic Literature Review".
- 7. Anas Ali Al-Qudah, Manaf Al-Okaily and Hamza Alqudah, 2021, "The relationship between social entrepreneurship and sustainable development from economic growth perspective: 15 'RCEP' countries".
- 8. Johanna Gast, Katherine Gundolf and Beate Cesinger, 2017, "Doing business in a green way: A systematic review of the ecological sustainability entrepreneurship literature and future research directions".
- 9. Bob Giddings, Bill Hopwood and Geoff O'Brien, 2002, "Environment, Economy and Society: Fitting Them Together into Sustainable Development".
- 10. M. Victoria Lo´pez, Arminda Garcia and Lazaro Rodriguez, 2007, "Sustainable Development and Corporate Performance: A Study Based on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index".
- 11. Tensie Whelan, Ulrich Atz, Tracy Van Holt and Casey Clark, CFA, 2021, "Uncovering the Relationship by Aggregating Evidence from 1,000 Plus Studies Published between 2015 2020".
- 12. Evan Papageorgiou, \$name, Felix Suntheim, 2019, "Connecting the Dots Between Sustainable Finance and Financial Stability".
- 13. Maria Montenegro, 2023, "ESG Performance drives Corporate Performance".

