The Impact of Adopting Social Responsibility for Non-Profit Organizations on Supporting Sustainable Economic Development: A Case Study of the Ensan Association in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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Abstract:

The non-profit sector plays a pivotal role in achieving the Kingdom's Vision 2030, where it represents a potential economic opportunity for development. Therefore, the current study aimed to identify ways non-profit organizations (NPOs) can support sustainable economic development through community activities, leading to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and Saudi Vision 2030.

The Ensan Association in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was chosen as a case study due to its importance and influence in this sector. The study also aimed to identify the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development in the local community, focusing on two indicators: raising the standard of living of individuals and reducing unemployment rates in Saudi Arabia. The study relied on a mixed methodology to collect data using questionnaires and interviews. Correlation analysis results showed a strong relationship between social responsibility activities and achieving the economic goals of sustainable development, namely raising the standard of living and reducing unemployment. Simple regression results also showed that a one-unit increase in social responsibility activities leads to a significant improvement in these economic goals, which positively impacts sustainable economic development. Furthermore, the results of the multiple linear regression demonstrated strong statistical significance for the model, and the study confirmed the importance of NPOs' social responsibility activities in supporting sustainable economic development.

Based on the study's findings, it recommends empowering NPOs by developing specialized training programs for the most vulnerable groups and diversifying their funding sources to ensure

sustainability. It also encourages decision-makers to adopt supportive policies and legislation that strengthen partnerships and secure investment to achieve sustainable development.

Keywords: Social Responsibility, Sustainable Economic Development, Standard of Living, Unemployment Rate, Non-Profit Organizations (NPOs), Ensan Association,

Introduction

Social responsibility is an ethical obligation of all organizations and entities—governmental, private, or individual—aimed at contributing positively to the well-being of society and its stakeholders. It promotes the public interest by supporting community development and avoiding harmful practices, beyond mere compliance with laws (Planken, 2013). This concept aligns with (Jones & Mucha, 2014) definition of sustainability, which focuses on equity and the conservation of natural resources in balance with the economy and society. As a matter of fact, non-profit organizations (NPOs) play a complementary role by bridging gaps that other sectors fail to address, particularly in the areas of poverty, health, education, and housing. Thus, they contribute to promoting social justice, empowering communities, and stimulating economic growth through job creation and skills development (Salustri & Viganò, 2017); (Thun & Manh, 2021); (Alsani, 2023).

This study gains its importance because it emphasizes how these organizations support sustainable economic development by achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Saudi Vision 2030. In Saudi Arabia, Ensan Association is a well-known NPOs committed to helping and caring for orphans and their families. Therefore, this study aims to measure the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development within the local community.

Objectives of the Study

1. Studying the impact of social responsibility practices of NPOs on promoting sustainable economic development in Saudi Arabia.

2. Exploring the level of implementation of social responsibility principles by Ensan Association.

3. Evaluating the impact of NPOs on (i) raising the standard of living of individuals, and (ii) reducing unemployment rates in Saudi Arabia.

4. Determining the key areas where Ensan Association's social responsibility initiatives have the greatest impact.

Study Hypotheses

- H.0: There is no statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility of NPOs and sustainable economic development at the 0.05 level of significance.

- H.a: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility of NPOs and sustainable economic development at the 0.05 level of significance.

- H.a$_1$: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and raising the standard of living of beneficiaries.

- H.a$_2$: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and reducing unemployment rates.

Literature Review

Howard R. Bowen defines social responsibility as an ethical obligation that directs organizations toward promoting societal well-being, supporting economic growth, and reducing environmental damage (Sama, Stefanidis, & Horak, 2020). The emergence of this concept was linked to the Industrial Revolution and the rise of Capitalism, later becoming a fundamental pillar of NPOs, which are today among its most prominent pioneers. Recent studies confirm this role by highlighting the continued growth of the nonprofit sector (Faulk, et al., 2021); (Howard, 2023).

The main goal of sustainable economic development is to achieve an integrated balance between the economic, social, and environmental aspects of the system through a comprehensive reconciliation process (Abad-Segura & González-Zamar, 2021). In this context, the nonprofit sector plays a key role in supporting the Sustainable Development Goals by reducing poverty, raising living standards, and reducing unemployment. This is achieved by allocating resources to specific projects, such as funding housing programs that improve the quality of life, and economic empowerment initiatives that support the establishment and development of small businesses, which gradually contributes to alleviating poverty and unemployment. Based on an analysis of the historical development and functions of NPOs, (Dulkadiroglu, 2019) investigated the role of these organizations in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The findings showed that NPOs contribute effectively to addressing a wide range of SDGs, through their multiple roles, including advocacy, innovation, service delivery, and preservation of core values. NPOs are also functionally relevant to the SDGs. For instance, health services support SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being); environmental activities support SDGs 6, 13, 14, and 15 (Clean Water and Sanitation, Climate Action, Life Below Water, and Life on Land, respectively); and advocacy roles support SDGs 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions). The following review illustrates how social responsibility in the non-profit sector helps reduce poverty, lower unemployment, and improve living standards.

To address unemployment, NPOs play a crucial role in reducing unemployment and improving the standard of living by providing job opportunities and skills training to needy individuals, as well as contributing to educational and health expenses. Regarding the issue of unemployment, (Handiso, 2014) studied the role of NGOs in combating unemployment in the case of some selected NGOs in Addis Ababa. The study's main objective was to evaluate the influence of NGOs on beneficiaries' socioeconomic improvements, specifically through programs that promote empowerment, job creation, and vocational training. The study focused on four selected NGOs and used the questionnaire method

in order to gather data from 60 beneficiaries. The study employed both quantitative and descriptive analyses, evaluating variable correlations using chi-square tests. The study was based on three main assumptions: (i) NGOs have a significant impact on reducing unemployment; (ii) their effects differ based on socio-demographic factors such as age, education, and gender; (iii) and fulfillment, employment, and economic empowerment of their beneficiaries can be used to measure the success of NGO programs. The most important result was that 79% of beneficiaries were satisfied with the NGO's services. The programs offer a wide range of occupational training in areas like computer science, bricklaying, fashion design, and management techniques. According to 73% of beneficiaries under 35, NGOs improved their socioeconomic status and support them to live better lives. The study concluded that although there were some gaps between the demands of the job market and entrepreneurial support, overall, efforts to find and create jobs were rated as fair to good.

(Tetteh, 2018) conducted a study on the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in poverty alleviation and education promotion in the Republic of Ghana. The study sought to identify the initiatives and programs implemented by these organizations, as well as analyze their actual impact on education and poverty reduction in the local community.The study applied a mixed-methods approach, where quantitative data was collected through questionnaires and qualitative data through interviews. The number of participants was 199, including members and representatives of NGOs. The study hypothesized that NGOs have a significant impact on education and poverty reduction through their operations. The results highlighted the pivotal role of providing educational resources and scholarships in supporting students' educational journeys, along with providing financial support and advisory services that contribute to community development, enhance employment opportunities, and ensure the availability of basic infrastructure, including clean water. The findings also showed that household poverty had significantly decreased and educational attainment had increased. These findings are consistent with (Habibi, 2024) study, which showed that illiteracy rates in California have risen to alarming levels, threatening the chances of future generations in underfunded public schools to obtain fulfilling jobs. As a result, non-profits in the area have started to address this predictable unemployment issue by giving books and motivating students to increase their vocabulary and language proficiency.

To improve living standards, contributing to education and health expenses is one of the key strategies used by NPOs. In this aspect, (Algamadi, 2019) investigated the role of NPOs in achieving sustainable social development in the light of the Saudi Arabia Vision 2030. The st udy identified the challenges that organizations face, and it also examined how they affect sustainable development in different social sectors. The study relied on the social survey method, which included 269 employees, 1,842 beneficiaries of non-profit services, and 288 local community leaders. The study found that 62.8% of NPOs rely on various sources of income, including donations and government grants, to support their work. The majority of NPOs focus on social activities such as family support, health services, and community education. Regarding the beneficiaries' satisfaction with the impact of organizations in raising the standard of living, they called for—89.11% of whom are female—more diversified programs to meet broader needs and align with the sustainable development goals.

The Nonprofit Sector in Saudi Arabia: A Historical Review and Its Contributions to Achieving the Goals of Vision 2030:

The non-profit sector in Saudi Arabia stems from Islamic charitable traditions and was institutionally organized since King Abdulaziz in 1928. It developed with the establishment of the Ministry of Hajj and Endowments in 1961. After the oil boom of the 1970s, the sector has continued with the establishment of the General Authority for Awqaf (Endowments) in 2011, the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Center in 2015, the National Center for the Non-Profit Sector in 2019, and Mohammed Bin Salman Nonprofit City "Misk City" in 2021 (Dahim, Alshumrani, & Aleidi, 2023); (Sector, 2024).

According to King Khalid Foundation reports issued in 2021 and 2023, the Saudi non-profit sector has experienced impressive growth and development. This expansion is essential to reaching Vision 2030's objectives, especially when it comes to increasing the sector's influence on the economy and society. These reports indicated that the sector's size has grown dramatically, as evidenced by the 166% increase in NPOs from 2,598 in 2017 to 6,902 in 2019. Moreover, the majority of these organizations focus on social services (37%), Da'wah and guidance (22.8%), and development and housing (18.3%), with less emphasis placed on areas like education, research, and the environment. In terms of geography, Riyadh and Makkah cities are home to the majority of NPOs, making up more than 44% of all organizations in the country. Additionally, with 72,151 employees, the sector's workforce has grown and surpassed the national transformation program in its efforts to meet the Saudi Vision 2030 target of 50,000 jobs by 2019. Saudi nationals make up a sizable portion of the workforce (78%) and are overwhelmingly male (60%) (Foundation., 2021), (King Khalid Foundation., 2023).

Furthermore, volunteerism has exploded, with over 834,300 volunteers in 2023, which is remarkably close to the one million volunteer target set by the Saudi Vision 2030. For economic impact, the non-profit sector's contribution to the economy was 0.87% of the GDP in 2023, and it is expected to grow significantly, reaching 5% of the GDP by 2030 (The National Centre for Non-Profit Sector, 2023). These important transformations show how Saudi Arabia's non-profit sector has grown and become more institutionalized, leading to its alignment with the country's Vision 2030 objectives.

Overview of Ensan Association and its Activities:

The Charity Committee for Orphans Care (Ensan) is considered a NPOs, and it provides comprehensive services for orphans and their families. It has five branches inside Riyadh, the capital city, and eighteen branches around Riyadh. According to the association's 2023 report, the number of working specialists is 94, the total number of beneficiaries is 39,438, and the total number of households is 11,234. Ensan Association's services aim to provide a decent life for orphans and their families and to achieve sustainable development in various social, educational, and health aspects.

The following are the most important services provided by the association (Care, 2023a), (The Charity Committee for Orphans Care., 2023b):

1. Social Care: providing monthly financial support to orphans and their families, providing basic necessities and food baskets, and supporting urgent aid and emergency cases.

2. Educational Care: providing school supplies and uniforms, covering tuition fees in schools and universities, and organizing private educational tuition programs and educational courses.

3. Healthcare: covering the costs of treatment and surgeries, providing health insurance for orphans and their families, and conducting periodic checkups and health awareness programs.

4. Development Programs: training programs to develop skills and prepare youth for the labor market, provide vocational and craft workshops and courses, and finance small projects to achieve self-sufficiency for families.

5. Educational and Entertainment Services: planning leisure activities and trips for orphans, organizing cultural and educational activities to enhance skills and abilities, and participating in national and social events and celebrations.

6. Housing and Furnishing: providing housing and furniture for needy families.

7. Consulting Services: Offering social and psychological advice to orphans and their families, and following up on families' cases to provide the necessary support.
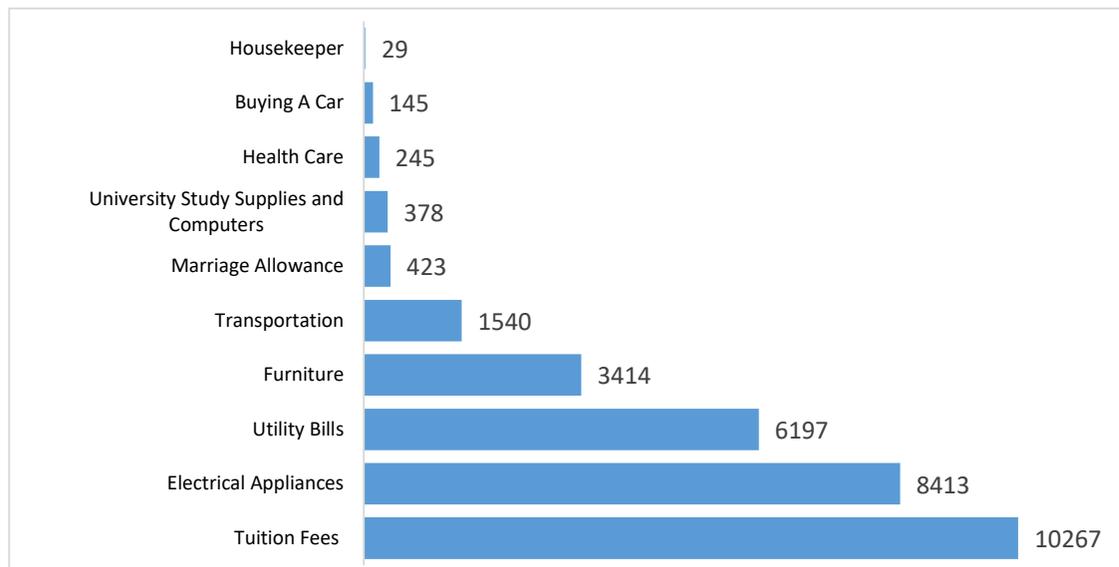

Figure (1): Number of Beneficiaries 2023

Source: Ensan's Annual Report 2023

Regarding the beneficiary categories, the association divides the beneficiaries into four different categories, which are based on their income. Category A is the neediest families whose net monthly income per person does not exceed 250 Saudi riyals (SAR). Category B is the families whose net monthly income per person is between 251 and 450 SAR. Category C is the families whose net monthly income per person falls between 451-650 SAR. Category D is the families whose net monthly income ranges from 651 to 850 SAR per person. There are two more categories, E and F, but they are limited. Category E is the families whose net monthly income per person is between 851 and 1000 SAR, where they can only benefit from the monthly sponsorship such as food, cash, and clothing. While category F is the families whose net monthly income per person is between 1001 and 2500 SAR, where they can

only benefit from the intercessions, as well as unpaid programs and clubs (Care, 2023a), (The Charity Committee for Orphans Care., 2023b).
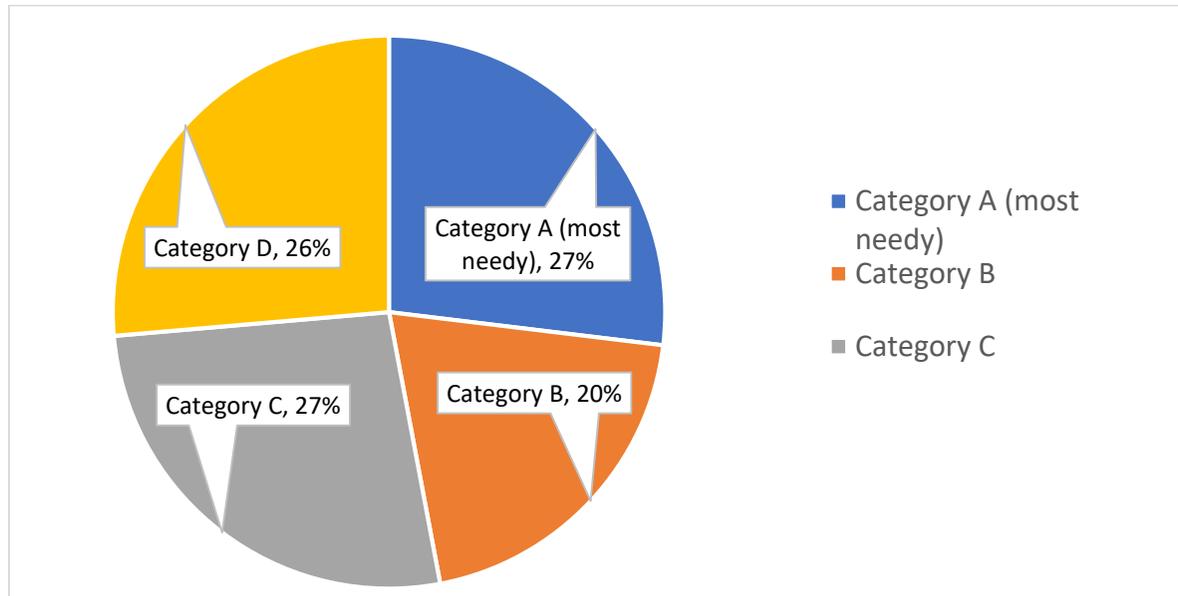

Figure (2): Number and Percentage of Beneficiaries of Ensan

Source: Ensan's Annual Report 2023

2- Methodology

This research applied a mixed-methods approach, including both qualitative and quantitative data collection through primary data: surveys and interviews. The methodology part consists of several elements: the study design, setting, subjects, and the study community and sample used in this research.

2.1. Study Design:

Due to the collection of data in two ways, the questionnaire distributed to the beneficiaries and the personal interview method for the administrators of the Ensan Association, the data will be analyzed as follows:

- Quantitative data to analyze the beneficiaries' questionnaire forms, where the SPSS program is used to analyze variance, regression, and t-test.

- Qualitative data to analyze the personal interviews.

2.2. Setting:

To verify the hypotheses of this study, a descriptive approach was used to describe the study variables. Statistical analysis using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) was used to examine the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility practices on sustainable development in its economic dimension. The study was conducted on Ensan Association in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, as it is a leading NPOs in this sector.

2.3. Subjects:

The study aims to apply to beneficiaries and employees of the Ensan Association over the past five years. Participants will be randomly divided into two groups: beneficiaries and employees. Saudi participants of both genders will be selected during the study period.

• Inclusion criteria: Participants must be beneficiaries of the association's programs, of both genders, and residing in Saudi Arabia.

• Exclusion criteria: Participants outside the study period and outside the Ensan Association, and non-residents of Saudi Arabia.

2.4. Study community and sample:

2.4.1 Study Community

The study community comprises all individuals within the phenomenon being studied by the researchers, including the individuals of interest in the study. The current study community consists of beneficiaries of the Ensan Association in the Riyadh region, as well as a number of the association's employees.

2.4.2 Study Sample

The researchers selected a sample for the study from the category of beneficiaries of Ensan Association. The sample size was determined by using Stephen K. (Thompson, 2012)

equation as follows:

$$n = \frac{N \cdot p\,(1-p)}{[(N-1) \cdot (d^2/z^2)] + p\,(1-p)}$$

where:

n: The sample size

N: The size of the community

p: Ratio of property availability and neutrality = 0.50

d: The error rate is 0.05

z: The standard score corresponding to the significance level is 0.95 and equals 1.96

According to the data issued by the Ensan Association, the number of beneficiaries of its services in the Riyadh region is 33,464 beneficiaries. By applying the previous equation, the sample size was determined at 380 beneficiaries. When the questionnaire forms were distributed electronically to the beneficiaries, 1,062 questionnaire forms were filled out.

3. Data Collection Tools:

A survey method was adopted in this study. Data was collected by distributing an electronic questionnaire to a sample of beneficiaries from the Ensan Association in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The researchers used two main tools to collect data: the first was the electronic questionnaire, which was

distributed through an electronic questionnaire to a selected sample of beneficiaries. The second tool was interviews conducted with some members of the sample.

3.1. An Online Questionnaire.

The study tool was developed to identify the impact of social responsibility of NPOs on sustainable development in the Saudi Arabia. This was done through several steps:

- Reviewing the literature and previous studies related to the study topic.

- Identifying the main themes of the questionnaire

- Defining the paragraphs for each theme

- Designing the questionnaire in its initial form

- Presenting the questionnaire to a number of specialized university professors

- Agreeing on the phrases, themes, and final form of the questionnaire

- Distributing the questionnaire

- Collecting and analysing responses

The questionnaire was designed on a five-point Likert scale, from strongly agree to strongly disagree, with the statements contained in the questionnaire. The questionnaire is divided into three main sections. The first section addresses social and demographic characteristics. The second section covers the social responsibility of NPOs. The third section of the questionnaire addresses the impact on sustainable economic development through two indicators: (i) in terms of the impact on raising the standard of living by contributing to education and health expenses; and (ii) in terms of the impact on reducing unemployment rates by providing job and training opportunities.

3.2. Processing of Data:

To collect the data for this research, the researchers took the following steps:

- On September 29, 2024, the first visit is an initial one to the association in order to learn about its activities and services and to explore potential opportunities for cooperation.

- On September 30, 2024, the official communication was through email to request some basic information. For example, how many branches does the Ensan Association have? What is the total number of beneficiaries affiliated with the association? What are the types of activities and services provided to beneficiaries, and list them (educational, health, social, cultural, etc.)?

- On October 3, 2024, the email was responded to by answering the inquiries and expressing the association's willingness to cooperate with the researchers.

- On January 12, 2025, an official letter was sent to the association requesting to encourage the target groups (the association's beneficiaries and employees) to complete the questionnaires and begin collecting responses.

- On February 6, 2025, due to the weak responses and not reaching the required number of responses, the association's senior management was contacted to urge participants.

- On February 23, 2025, the required number for all the target groups (the association's beneficiaries and employees) has been completed.

3.3. Validity and Reliability:

3.3.1. Validity of Measuring Instrument

To verify the validity of the questionnaire's content, it was presented to four university professors specializing in economics and administrative sciences for their opinions on each statement. Accordingly, some statements were modified, and others were added to the second and third axis. The scholarly evaluators agreed with all statements designed to measure the impact of social responsibility of NPOs on sustainable development through indicators of the standard of living and unemployment rates in the Saudi Arabia.

3.3.2. Reliability of Measuring Instrument

In this study, Cronbach's alpha coefficient was used to verify the accuracy and reliability of the measurement tool, as shown in the table (1).

Table (1): The Reliability of Research Indicators

Variable names	Cronbach's alpha coefficient
The Impact of Adopting Social Responsibility for Non-Profit Organizations	0.83
Raising the Standard of Living	0.91
Reducing Unemployment Rates	0.91
All Variables	0.91

Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program.

To determine the reliability coefficient, Cronbach's alpha coefficient value was 0.913 for all phrases in the questionnaire. This value determines the value of internal consistency, and it is a high value. Therefore, it confirms the consistency and reliability of the questionnaire in measuring the level of impact of social responsibility of NPOs on sustainable development. In addition, the value for each axis separately ranged between 0.83 and 0.95 for the phrases in the Two axes.

To assess the validity of the questionnaire, internal consistency was calculated using Pearson's correlation coefficient, which measures the association between statements and the axis. The test revealed a statistically significant association between all statements, the axis, and the total dimension to which they belong, at a statistical significance level of less than 0.01. This indicates the validity of the statements in what they were designed to measure.

4. Results:

The results of this study is divided into two parts. The first part is the results of the surveys, while the second part is regarding interview finding.

4.1. Surveys

Table 2 shows the basic data of the beneficiaries. It shows that approximately 90.2% of the total sample was female, with the 18-25 age group representing approximately 30.3% of the sample size, followed by the 46-55 age group at 23.2%. The majority of the sample fell within the 18-45 age group.

Regarding the educational level of the study sample, 75.4% of the sample had a high school diploma or less. For employment, approximately 72% of the sample were unemployed, while employees and business owners constituted small percentages of 6.9% and 0.3%, respectively. This indicates that the majority of the sample classified as the category of unstable career paths or job seekers. Regarding employees and number of years of experience, the results showed that participants with five years or more of experience represented 52.4%, followed by those with three to four years of experience, at 19.6%.

These results can be summarized as follows, the sample members are characterized by predominant characteristics, including that most of the sample is female, young, and a large percentage of them are unemployed and have intermediate educational levels.

Table (2): Socio-demographic characteristics and Basic information.

Demographic Variables	Count		Percent (%)
Gender	Male	104	9.8
	Female	958	90.2
Age	18-25	322	30.3
	26-35	119	11.2
	36-45	259	24.4
	46-55	246	23.2
	55-	116	10.9
Education Level	High School or Less	801	75.4
	Diploma*	95	9
	Bachelor's Degree or Higher	166	15.6
Professional Status	Unemployed	765	72

	Student	19	16.9
	Employee	74	6.9
	Business Owner	3	0.3
	Other	41	3.9
Number of Years	Less than a Year	130	12.2
	1-2	168	15.8
	3-4	208	19.6
	5 Years or More	556	52.4

* A one or two-year program, typically designed for those seeking to entry-level positions. This program is greater than a high school and less than a bachelor's degree.

Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program.

Table 3 shows the linear relationship between the study variables using Pearson's correlation coefficient. More precisely, it displays the correlation coefficients between the independent variable, social responsibility, and the dependent variables.

Table (3): Correlation Matrix

Variables	Pearson Correlation				** Sig.
	Social Responsibility	Raising the Standard of Living	Reducing Unemployment Rates	Sustainable Economic Development	
Social Responsibility	1	0.782	0.703	0.722	0.000
Raising the Standard of Living	0.782	1	0.81	0.94	0.000
Reducing Unemployment Rates	0.703	0.81	1	0.93	0.000
Sustainable Economic Development	0.722	0.94	0.93	1	0.000

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

Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program.

The study showed that the correlation between the independent variable, the social responsibility, and the dependent variable, raising the standard of living, is 0.782. This indicates that the linear correlations between the two variables are stronger than average. On the other hand, the correlation coefficient between social responsibility and reducing unemployment rates is 0.703, implying that the linear correlation between these variables is also higher than average

Furthermore, the study results show that the relationship between the study variables is also statistically significant at a significance level of less than 0.01. A statistically significant correlation coefficient using the Pearson test indicates a statistically reliable relationship between the two variables being tested. The relationships between the independent study variables (social responsibility) and the dependent variables (raising the standard of living and reducing unemployment rates) are all statistically significant at a significance level of less than 0.01.

Moreover, this study applied multiple linear regression analysis to test the study hypotheses related to the relationship between the independent variable (social responsibility) and the dependent variable (the economic dimension of sustainable development in the Saudi Arabia, which is measured through two indicators: raising the standard of living and reducing unemployment rates). The results found that the model did not exclude any variables, and that the variables follow the normal distribution as shown in Figure (3).
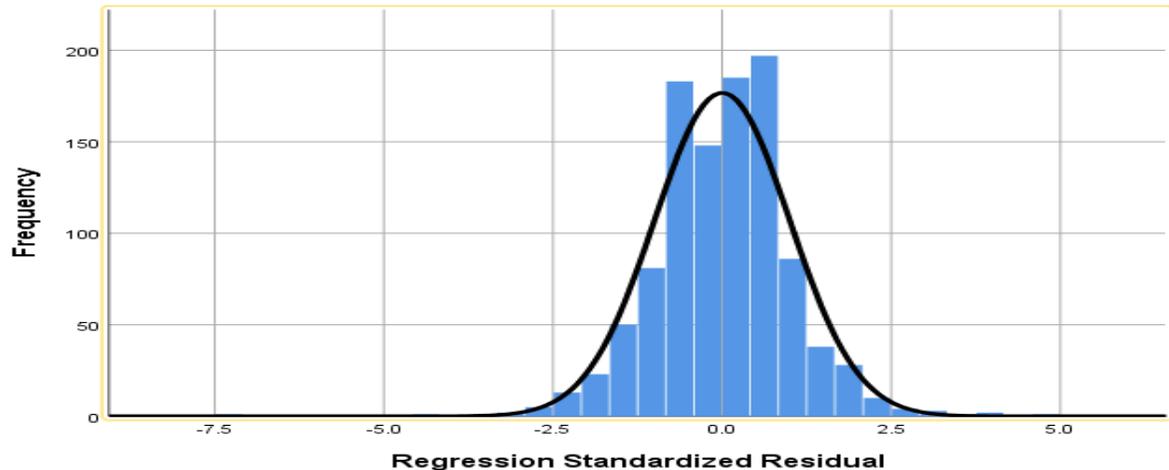

Figure (3): Histogram

Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program

Figure (3) shows the normal distribution of the study sample values, which takes the shape of a bell, clustering symmetrically around the central value, indicating that the distribution of data is equal on both sides, which is considered a condition for the validity of the regression analysis (Frees, 2010).

The following table shows the results of the one-way ANOVA test for the study variables.

Table (4): ANOVA Test

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	324.418	704	0.461	6.436	0.000
Within Groups	25.563	357	0.072	2.821	0.000
Total	349.981	1062			

Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program

Table 4 displays the results of the analysis of variance for a simple linear regression test to clarify the relationship between social responsibility and sustainable economic development. The significance value is 0.000, which is less than 0.05, indicating that the independent variable has an effect on the dependent variable (raising the standard of living, and reducing unemployment rates).

Table (5): The simple linear regression for the study variables

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R^2	Adjusted R^2	B	Sig.	T	*VIF*
Raising the Standard of Living	Social Responsibility	0.782	0.579	0.579	3.101	0.000	31.211	0.726
Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R^2	Adjusted R^2	B	Sig.	T	*VIF*
Reducing Unemployment Rates	Social Responsibility	0.703	0.596	0.596	0.988	0.000	31.222	0.655
Sustainable Development	Social Responsibility	0.722	0.577	0.577	2.062	0.000	31.222	0.695

Table 5 illustrates the relationship between the independent variable and each of the dependent variables separately using the simple linear regression model. The results of the regression showed that the model is statistically significant, with a statistical significance level of (0.000). The results can be interpreted as follows: when the degree of social responsibility in NPOs increases by one unit, this leads on average to an improvement in the living standards of beneficiaries, and a reduction in unemployment rates among beneficiaries by an amount of 3.10, and 0.99 units, respectively. Furthermore, whenever the degree of social responsibility in NPOs increases by one unit, this leads on average to raising the level of sustainable economic development by an amount of 2.06. The table also shows the results of the multicollinearity test, where the Variance Inflation Factor (VIF) is less than 3,

which implies that there is no multicollinearity problem between variables, as confirmed by the literature (Hair, Anderson, Tatham, & Black, 1995).

4.2. Interview:

The interviews included a sample of 24 employees from the Ensan Association in the Riyadh region, with work experience ranging from one to 23 years. The statements addressed to them were formulated using a five-point Likert scale to measure their opinions and attitudes with varying degrees of agreement or disagreement. This provided quantitative data that could be analyzed statistically and contributed to the extraction of general patterns and trends that support the objectives of the study.

Table (6): Frequencies and Percentages for Interview

	Statements	Strongly Agree		Agree		Fairly agree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
		Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1	The association cooperates with government agencies or other non-profit organizations	15	62.5	8	33.3	1	4.2	0	0	0	0
2	The association has support or partnerships that were more beneficial to its goals	14	58.3	8	33.3	1	4.2	1	4.2	0	0
3	The association contributes to the development of policies or advocates for sustainable development	15	62.5	7	29.2	2	8.3	0	0	0	0
4	The association faces major challenges in achieving its sustainable development goals	7	29.2	10	41.6	7	29.2	0	0	0	0
5	The association measures its overall impact on sustainable economic development by increasing the number of beneficiaries	12	50	5	20.8	6	25	1	4.2	0	0

6	The association has successful experiences that demonstrate its positive impact on society	18	75	5	20.8	1	4.2	0	0	0	0
7	The association has future goals related to sustainable development	16	66.7	6	25	2	8.3	0	0	0	0
8	The association has additional resources that help it achieve its goals	15	62.5	8	33.3	1	4.2	0	0	0	0
9	The association has diverse funding sources	11	45.8	9	37.5	3	12.5	1	4.2	0	0
10	Individual donations are one of the association's sources of funding	14	58.3	7	29.2	3	12.5	0	0	0	0
11	Government support is one of the association's sources of funding	8	33.3	7	29.2	9	37.5	0	0	0	0
12	One of the association's funding sources is the endowment	21	87.5	2	8.3	1	4.2	0	0	0	0
13	The association has investment funds as one of its funding sources	14	58.3	7	29.2	3	12.5	0	0	0	0
14	The association has programs that have a high return compared to other sources	5	20.8	10	41.7	9	37.5	0	0	0	0
15	The association relies on a fixed income	8	33.3	9	37.5	6	25	1	4.2	0	0
16	The association can ensure continuity with donors and funders	8	33.3	9	37.5	7	29.2	0	0	0	0
17	The association plans to ensure continuity with beneficiaries	12	50	10	41.6	1	4.2	1	4.2	0	0

18	The association has specific plans to ensure sustainability and non-stop operation	12	50	9	37.5	3	12.5	0	0	0	0

Table 6 displays the answers of the study sample for the personal interview, which demonstrates that most of the sample members agree with all the statements. In particular, the results showed that the association has a strong collaborative network, with 95.8% of participants confirming its collaboration with government agencies and other NPOs, where 91.6% believe it has partnerships that support its goals. Regarding the policies, 91.7% believe the association contributes to the development of policies related to sustainable development, but it faces challenges, with 70.8% indicating obstacles that require innovative solutions. In terms of measuring the association's impact, 70.8% of the association's employees participating in the interview believe that the association measures its impact on sustainable economic development, while 95.8% expect it has successful experiences demonstrating its positive impact on society.

For financial resources, 91.7% agree that the association has future goals in sustainable development, and 83.3% believe it has additional resources, relying primarily on endowments (87.5%) and individual donations (87.5%), while government support is less widely accepted (33.3%). For financial sustainability, 87.5% think the association has investment funds, but its high-return programs are limited, according to 37.5% of participants. Furthermore, 70.8% believe the association is able to ensure continuity with donors. In terms of planning and sustainability, 91.6% agree that the association plans to ensure continuity with beneficiaries, and 87.5% expect it has clear sustainability plans. In conclusion, these results indicate that the association is on the right track, but it needs to strengthen its financial stability and overcome challenges to achieve its long-term goals.

Based on the above,we reject the null hypothesis, and we accept the alternative hypothesis, which states:

- H.a: There is a significant relationship with a statistical significance of less than 0.05 between the social responsibility of NPOs and sustainable economic development.

- H.a$_1$: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and raising the standard of living of beneficiaries.

- H.a$_2$: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and reducing unemployment rates.

5- Discussion:

It is clear from the results that there is a relationship between social responsibility and sustainable economic development through its impact on raising the standard of living and reducing unemployment rates. More precisely, the results showed a positive relationship between increasing the degree of social

responsibility of NPOs and the economic dimension of sustainable development by increasing the standard of living and reducing unemployment rates.

For raising the standard of living, the study confirmed a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and the improvement in the standard of living of beneficiaries. This occurs through contributions to their educational and healthcare expenses. Among the studies that confirmed the role of NPOs in raising the standard of living is the study of (Naguib, Afandy, & ELbagoury, 2022). Their funding showed that non-governmental organizations enhance opportunities for improving standards of living. The same result was confirmed by (Mburu & Mutundu, 2023).

Regarding reducing unemployment rates, the current study also showed a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and reducing unemployment of beneficiaries. This happens by providing job opportunities and vocational training for beneficiaries. Many studies agreed with the results of the current study. One of them is (Handiso, 2014), which evaluated the impact of NPOs on social and economic improvements for beneficiaries, finding that programs enhance empowerment, create job opportunities, and provide vocational training that would reduce unemployment rates. In addition to this result, the study of (Alnwairan, 2021) and the study of (Henna & Mdiniso, 2023) confirmed the positive economic effects of non-profit charitable organizations.

Conclusion:

This study seeks to demonstrate the role of NPOs in supporting sustainable development and the extent to which their efforts align with the United Nations goals and Saudi Vision 2030. The Ensan Association was chosen as a model to measure the impact of its social responsibility activities on economic development, particularly in raising the standard of living and reducing unemployment in Saudi society.

The study applied a combination of quantitative and qualitative methodology in mixed methods research. Primary data through questiannoire and interview methods were used to collect data from association's beneficiaries and employees. The results of questionnaire survey showed that the majority of participants were female (90.2%), with the 18–25 age group being the most represented, while the 46–55 age group was the least. Most held a high school diploma or less (75.3%), 72% were unemployed, and more than half of the sample had more than five years of experience. Pearson correlation analysis showed a strong and statistically significant relationship between social responsibility and raising the standard of living (0.782) and reducing unemployment (0.703) at a significance level of less than 0.01.

The results of the multiple linear regression analysis showed strong statistical significance (sig=0.000), confirming the impact of social responsibility on sustainable economic development. The simple regression also showed that a one-unit increase in social responsibility was associated with improved living standards by 3.10 units, reduced unemployment by 0.99 units, as well as and enhanced sustainable development by 2.06 units. The VIF test (less than 3) indicated no multicollinearity.

On the other hand, the results for the interview of the employees showed general satisfaction with the association's performance, with 95.8% confirming its cooperation with government agencies and

NPOs, and 91.6% indicating the existence of partnerships that support its goals. 91.7% also believed that the association contributes to the development of sustainable development policies, but 70.8% believed there were challenges that required innovative solutions. Regarding financial resources, 91.7% agreed that there were future goals, but only 33.3% believed that government support was sufficient, while funding relied on endowments and individual donations. 87.5% also believed that the association had investment funds, with limited high-return programs. Finally, 91.6% confirmed the existence of plans for the continuity of services, and 87.5% anticipated clear plans for sustainability, reflecting the need to enhance financial stability to meet challenges and ensure the achievement of long-term goals.

In summary, the study accepted the alternative hypotheses, which confirm the existence of a statistically significant relationship between NPOs' adoption of social responsibility policies and the achievement of sustainable economic development. This relationship included the impact of these policies on improving the standard of living of beneficiaries and reducing unemployment rates. The results also showed that Ensan Association's initiatives in the areas of education, healthcare, vocational training, and community engagement are not limited to meeting the immediate needs of orphans and their families, but extend to effectively contribute to promoting long-term economic growth and achieving social well-being for the local community.

Recommendations:

In light of the study's findings, a set of recommendations can be drawn, which are divided into recommendations for NPOs and recommendations for decision-makers.

To start with the recommendations for NPOs, the results indicate that NPOs need to focus more on developing specialized training programs that address the skills gap in the labor market, through collaboration with universities and vocational training centers. It is also recommended to prioritize the most neediest groups , such as women, unemployed youth, and people with disabilities, through employment programs and microfinance grants that promote their economic integration. Furthermore, community awareness of the role of associations in development should be raised through effective media campaigns. Regarding financial sustainability, the study recommends diversifying funding sources through income-generating investments, such as portfolios and stocks. This can ensure the continuity of activities and promotes the shift from reliance on temporary donations to permanent financial resources.

Regarding the recommendations for Decision-Makers, the study emphasizes the need to empower NPOs through a package of supportive policies, including stimulating partnerships with the private sector by facilitating financing procedures and granting priority in government contracts. This is in addition to developing a government support system through grants and exemptions linked to performance and tangible results. In addition, this study calls for strengthening the legislative framework to enable safe and sustainable investment for associations. Together, these measures aim to enhance institutional integration and ensure the sustainability of development work.

Future Studies:

- Expanding the scope of the study by employing quantitative and qualitative research to measure the impact of social programs implemented by NPOs on various sustainable development indicators, including economic, social, and environmental aspects in a comprehensive manner.

- Conducting sectoral and geographical comparisons, such as conducting comparative studies between organizations in urban and rural areas to measure impact variation.

- Applying advanced statistical models, for example, using ARDL or VAR models to measure the dynamic relationship between the adoption of social responsibility by NPOs and economic development indicators.

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