

Chapter 6

Estimating the Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals on the Lebanese Society: Effects on Bio–Economic Indicators

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ABSTRACT

The current project thesis aims to examine the influence of the sustainable development goals on Lebanese society and whether or not they enhance the Lebanese people's quality of life. For this purpose, via sequential exploratory mixed research methods, the researcher intended to target one expert interviewer in the field of sustainability followed by a survey sent to over 40 respondents. Our findings demonstrate that the shift from service economies to production economies is needed in order to build up a strong economy, and sustainability will indeed ultimately help us lead healthier and better lives. Thus, the link with the aforesaid variables was determined and indeed, a positive relationship was determined between the implementation of SDGs and the improved quality of life for the Lebanese people. Thus, demonstrating the proportional relationship with both variables,

INTRODUCTION

This study aspires to discover how can people wishing to act as responsible quality citizens ought to behave if they want to live a sustainable, through considering adopting a life surrounded by sustainable development goals (henceforth referred to as SDGs), which both individuals and their respective communities can consider if they want to have a dignified life, and consider Patrick Geddes's concept of "thinking globally for acting locally" (see: Kaufman & Herman, 1991).

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Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals on the Lebanese Society

The Concept that Geddes (1915) coined a century ago is similar to the reality that Kauffmann et al; (1996) disused along the lines that people ought to live sustainably and manage all resources wisely so that they can be safeguarded for future generations. Thus, the following inquiry will be addressed as the researcher sets to find out *how applying SDGs in our daily lives will enhance the Lebanese daily life quality*.

The study at hand examines how, we as Lebanese people need to be masters of our own future, and as the SDGs can help us reach the stability we want, as we know neither the governments not the central bank will get us out of the economic trough we were in since 1993, it is our job to be quality and responsible citizens as Bellos (2021b) argued, through the data presented in Table A.1 in the Appendix. A concept that in the last year seemed to fail the Authorities as Lebanon faced drastic economic collapses, a dysfunctional system crippled in debt, with an estimated debt to GDP ratio nearing 454%, fed by the corrupt elites, more concerned than the quick gain than they are concerned for economic growth among other impediments. A more recent paper addresses the economics issue further, as per recent figures (Noaman et al., 2022). Research evidenced that from the summary economic indicators table presented by Hobeika (2019) detailed the situation of all industrial sectors in Lebanon, pre-pandemic, with extrapolated Debt to GDP values in Lebanon ranging from 165% to 454% by Noaman et al. (2022), as shown in Table A.2 in the Appendix.

Some of the aforesaid impediments were locally induced, which recent researches notified that the most two major obstacles to economic development were terrorism and political corruption which also were linked to money laundry among other illicit transactions (Massoud, 2021; Zreik, 2021). Yet, among the other external factors which impeded on the economic growth, several sources pointed the finger to the incompetent ruling class since die to the fact that the same leaders roamed around since the last three decades, and ruled in a way that was defined by some as an oligarchic mafia, there was no governance or they were not held accountable for their actions. Worldwide impacts on Covid 19 were raised by Rogoff (2020).

Thus, the local outcomes of the Covid 19 disaster, which visibly the state mismanaged the pandemic prevention, as it mishandled its assets (which recently ex. CEO of Renault and Nissan, Mr. Carlos Ghosn, said their net worth at raw state were 40 bn USD, so had they utilized them wisely, we would not have been in that mess to start with) and were dissimulating the fact the harbor had stocked ammonium nitrate, what caused the Beirut Port, to explode, and with it half of our Nation's capital to be blasted to oblivion. The mismanagement was summarized by El-Bacha (2020), Gerges (2020) and Chatterjee (In Press). Yet when HE Hassan Diab was blamed, the prosecutors should have pressed charges against all parties, aware since 2013, which equates to the entire political oligarchy.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Our direct concern ought not to be in the next government, in the parliament or in the Presidential Palace, as they are all equally to blame for the socioeconomic nightmare we are currently facing: The researcher is convinced the entire corrupt class is responsible for the geopolitical tensions, hence the mentioned impediments as such as "terrorism" and "corruption" which were mentioned by El-Hajj (2020), Abdalla (2021), Massoud (2021) and Zreik (2021) as they mentioned some of the issues linked to money laundering/were among the obstacles that impinged on the implementation of the SDGs in Lebanon.

Why conducting this study? The researcher firmly believes that entrepreneurship is the key to get us out of this endless nightmare Lebanon faced since 1993, which the elite was unable to hide since

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