

Fayoum University
Faculty of Social Work
Methods of Social Work Department
Community Organization Major



"The Reality of Civic Associations Practicing the Green Economy in Achieving Environmental Sustainability in Local Communities"

Within the requirements to obtain a Doctor of Philosophy (PHD)
degree in social work - Community organization major

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2024 Ad – 1445 H

Summary

First: The problem of the study and its importance:

In light of the severe changes in climate that the world is going through today, the increasing rates of environmental pollution, and the environmental risks that are now threatening the health and safety of people and societies, as a result of not taking into account the environmental dimension in development, this imbalance and imbalance has resulted, and nature has become the victim behind everything. This, and depriving future generations of enjoying their resources, has therefore become necessary to work to achieve balance in development processes by taking into account their environmental dimension and achieving environmental sustainability.

Environmental sustainability is considered the vital key to sustainable development, as stated in the Millennium Summit statement issued during the meeting of world leaders in September 2000 in order to find a solution to the global problem of extreme poverty.

The social service profession is considered one of the professions most closely linked to the environment, its problems, the changes that occur to it, the methods of dealing with it, and the damage it inflicts as a result of unjust exploitation by humans of its natural resources, and to what extent this is reflected in human life and society.

The world today faces many social, economic and environmental challenges related to sustainable development, such as the increasing proportion of poor people, the rising rate of unemployment, social exclusion and environmental degradation. This is because most development strategies are based on encouraging the rapid accumulation of physical and human capital at the expense of excessive

depletion and destruction of natural capital. These models produce crises of an economic, social, and environmental nature that have a common denominator, which is the improper use of natural and human resources.

In the context of rethinking current development policies and programs, and searching for other ways to overcome these crises to achieve development that achieves justice, equality and sustainability in resources and a positive return or return from them, a new idea was born related to sustainable development, and a new development model in which access to material wealth is not limited to Accounting for social inequality and growing environmental risks.

It is called the "green economy", as it strongly imposes itself on achieving a balance between the sustainable management of natural resources and the creation of new green jobs that produce wealth sustainably, and aims to improve human well-being and social justice while significantly reducing environmental risks.

Based on what was previously presented, the problem of the current study is determined in: "Determining the reality of civil society organizations' practice of the green economy to achieve environmental sustainability in local communities," in a first attempt that could open the way for conducting other scientific studies and research examining how to increase green economy practices in private sector institutions and organizations. And creating an effective role for the social service profession and its method of organizing society in achieving its goals and objectives, which essentially contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development and social well-being.


Second: Concepts of the study:

- The concept of green economy.

-The concept of environmental sustainability.


Third: Objectives of the study:

The current study seeks to achieve two main objectives- :

 **The first main objective:** “Determining the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities” and a set of sub-objectives emerge from it, as follows:


- 1) Determine the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the economic dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.
- 2) Determine the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the social dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.
- 3) Determine the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the environmental dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.
- 4) Determine the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the technological dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.
- 5) Determine the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the value dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.
- 6) Identifying the obstacles to civil society organizations’ practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.

7) Identifying general proposals for the practice of green economy associations in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.

 **The second main goal:** “To arrive at a proposed guideline from a community organization perspective on the elements of strengthening the practice of green economy associations in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.

Fourth: Study questions:

The current study seeks to answer two main questions- :


 **The first main question:** “What is the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?” A set of sub-questions emerge from it, as follows:

- 1 .What is the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the economic dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?
- 2 .What is the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the social dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?
- 3 .What is the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the environmental dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?
- 4 .What is the reality of civil society organizations practicing the technological dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?
- 5 .What is the reality of civil society organizations’ practice of the value dimension

of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?

6 .What are the obstacles to NGOs practicing the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?

7 .What are the general proposals for the practice of green economy associations in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?

 **The second main question:** “What are the components of strengthening the practice of green economy associations in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities?”

Fifth: The theoretical orientation of the study:

GREEN THEORY:

The origins of green theory go back to the environmental and biological movement of the 1960s and 1970s. The movement arose as a response to growing environmental challenges and the negative environmental impacts of unlimited economic growth. Environmental activists sought to highlight environmental issues and push governments and communities to take action to conserve the environment. Its primary goal is to provide an explanation of the ecological crisis facing humanity, focus on it as the most important issue that human societies must deal with, provide a standard basis for dealing with that crisis, and raise awareness of environmental blindness (ignorance).

Sixth: Methodological procedures for the study:

1- Type of study: This study belongs to the type of descriptive analytical studies that aim to describe and analyze a variable, as it attempts to describe and analyze the reality of the practice of green economy civil society organizations in achieving

environmental sustainability in local communities.

2- The methodology used: A comprehensive social survey was used for members of the Board of Directors of associations and civil society organizations, the field of study in Fayoum Governorate, and a number of (33) associations and civil society organizations were selected. A social sample survey was also used for a group of academic and field experts in the field of the environment, numbering (91) individuals.

3- Study tools:

- For members of the Board of Directors: A questionnaire form on “The reality of civil society associations’ practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.”
- For academic and field experts: an interview guide on “Essentials for strengthening the practice of green economy NGOs in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities.”

4- Fields of study:

- **The human field:** For members of the Board of Directors: the total community is represented by (277) individuals. As for experts: the study was implemented by (91) individuals of academic and field experts in the field of the environment.
- **Spatial field:** The study was applied to associations and civil society organizations working in the field of the environment in Fayoum Governorate, and their number reached (33) associations and civil society organizations.
- **Time domain:** the period of data collection from the field.

Seventh: Study results:

- The results of the study resulted in an average level of the reality of civil

society organizations' practice of the economic dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (66.57%).

- The results of the study resulted in an average level of the reality of NGOs practicing the social dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (69.89%) .
- The results of the study resulted in an average level of the reality of civil society organizations' practice of the environmental dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (65.96%).
- The results of the study resulted in a weak level of the reality of civil society organizations' practice of the technological dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (52.75%).
- The results of the study resulted in an average level of the reality of civil society organizations' practice of the value dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (68.42%) .
- The results of the study revealed a moderate level of suffering from organizational obstacles associated with the association that negatively affect its practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (67.00%).

- The results of the study revealed a moderate level of suffering from societal obstacles associated with members of the local community that negatively affect their practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (62.06%) .
- The results of the study revealed a moderate level of suffering from general obstacles associated with the external community that negatively affect the practice of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (60.12%).
- The results of the study resulted in an average level of the reality of NGOs practicing the social dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (69.89%) .
- The results of the study resulted in a high percentage of approval for the first dimension: the elements of civil society organizations' practice, the economic dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (90.38%) .
- The results of the study resulted in a high percentage of approval for the second dimension: the components of civil society organizations' practice of the social dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (92.60%).
- The results of the study resulted in a high percentage of approval on the third dimension: the elements of civil society organizations' practice, the environmental dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental

sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (91.48%) .

- The results of the study resulted in a high percentage of approval for the fourth dimension: the elements of civil society organizations' practice, the technological dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (88.52%).
- The results of the study resulted in a high percentage of approval on the fifth dimension: the elements of civil society organizations' practice, the value dimension of the green economy in achieving environmental sustainability in local communities, with a relative strength of (90.89%).