The Role of Social Responsibility in Achieving Sustainable Economic Development Goals with a Focus on Poverty Alleviation: A Case Study of the Ensan Association

دور المسؤولية الاجتماعية في تحقيق أهداف التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة مع التركيز على التخفيف من حدة الفقر: دراسة حالة جمعية إنسان

Dr. Mohammed Saud Almohaimeed

د. محمد سعود المحيميد

Assistant Professor of Economics, Scientific Departments at Shaqra, Shaqra University, KSA

أستاذ الاقتصاد المساعد، الأقسام العلمية بشقراء، جامعة شقراء، المملكة العربية السعودية

malmohaimeed@su.edu.sa
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9686-0608

Dr. Mona Ahmed Elsepaey Elsemary

د. منى أحمد السباعي السمري
- Assistant Professor of Economics, Scientific Departments at Shaqra, Shaqra University, KSA
Department of Economy and Foreign Trade, New - Cairo Academy, Egypt
– أستاذ الاقتصاد المساعد، الأقسام العلمية بشقراء، جامعة شقراء، المملكة العربية السعودية
– قسم الاقتصاد والتجارة الخارجية، أكاديمية القاهرة الجديدة، مصر
malsamri@su.edu.sa
https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1415-6762

Abstract: The current study focuses on how non-profit organizations (NPOs) support sustainable economic development by achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Saudi Vision 2030. The study aims to measure the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development, with a focus on poverty alleviation in Saudi Arabia. The study relied on the quantitative approach using the questionnaire method to collect data. It applied to a sample of 380 beneficiaries of the Ensan Association, and the data were analyzed using the SPSS statistical analysis program. The results of the correlation analysis found a strong relationship between social responsibility and the achievement of the economic SDGs, namely poverty alleviation, which is represented in this study. The results of the simple regression also showed that a one-unit increase in social responsibility leads to a significant improvement in poverty, with a positive impact on sustainable economic development. The main findings were that NPOs effectively address a variety of SDGs because they work through community partnerships and effective collaboration. Thus, the study recommends that NPOs strengthen partnerships, increase funding for low-income projects, and adopt standards of fairness and transparency, with a focus on vocational education and training to achieve SDGs, particularly poverty reduction.

Keywords:

Social Responsibility, Sustainable Economic Development, Poverty Alleviation, Non-Profit Organizations, Ensan Association, Socioeconomic

الكلمات المفتاحية:

المسؤولية الاجتماعية، التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة، التخفيف من حدة الفقر، المنظمات غير الربحية، جمعية إنسان، الجوانب الاجتماعية والاقتصادية

المستخلص :

تركز الدراسة الحالية على كيفية دعم المنظمات غير الربحية للتنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة من خلال تحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة للأمم المتحدة ورؤية المملكة العربية السعودية 2030. تهدف الدراسة إلى قياس أثر أنشطة المسؤولية الاجتماعية لجمعية إنسان على التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة، مع التركيز على التخفيف من حدة الفقر في المملكة العربية السعودية. اعتمدت الدراسة على المنهج الكمي باستخدام أسلوب الاستبيان لجمع البيانات. وقد طبقت على عينة من 380 مستفيدًا من جمعية إنسان، وتم تحليل البيانات باستخدام برنامج التحليل الإحصائي SPSS. وجدت نتائج تحليل الارتباط وجود علاقة قوية بين المسؤولية الاجتماعية وتحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة الاقتصادية، وتحديدًا التخفيف من حدة الفقر، وهو ما تمثله هذه الدراسة. كما أظهرت نتائج الانحدار البسيط أن زيادة وحدة واحدة في المسؤولية الاجتماعية تؤدي إلى تحسن كبير في الفقر، مع تأثير إيجابي على التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة. ومن أهم النتائج الرئيسة التي كشفت عنها الدراسة أن المنظمات غير الربحية تعالج بفعالية مجموعة متنوعة من أهداف التنمية المستدامة لأنها تعمل من خلال الشراكات المجتمعية والتعاون الفعال. وعليه، توصي الدراسة المنظمات غير الربحية بالعمل على توسيع وتعزيز شراكاتها بشكل أكبر، وزيادة التمويل للمشاريع ذات الدخل المنخفض، واعتماد معايير العدالة والشفافية، مع التركيز على التعليم والتدريب المهني لتحقيق أهداف التنمية المستدامة، وخاصة الحد من الفقر.

1.Introduction

Social responsibility is considered the ethical idea that organizations and individuals should act for the benefit of society. Thus, the emphasis on integrating social responsibility within non-profit organizations (NPOs) emerged from its critical role in advancing sustainable economic development. NPOs play an important role in addressing gaps not covered by both the public and private sectors, focusing on a variety of areas such as poverty alleviation, healthcare, education, and housing to support underserved populations. Thus, they promote social equity, empower local communities, raise awareness of critical issues, and stimulate economic growth through job creation and skills development (Salustri & Viganò, 2017; Thun & Manh, 2021; and Alsani, 2023).

This study gains its importance from its emphasis on measuring the impact of the social responsibility activities of Ensan Association[1] on sustainable economic development in the local community. The study seeks to highlight the role of these organizations in supporting sustainable economic development by achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Saudi Vision 2030. The study pays particular attention to the first goal of the Sustainable Development Goals, which is to end poverty in all its forms everywhere.

The introduction section also outlines the study's problem, importance, objectives, hypotheses, and a discussion of the most prominent explanatory theories. Furthermore, it provides a literature review and the history of the non-profit sector in Saudi Arabia. The following sections of this study present the methodology, data collection tools, results, and discussion. Finally, it concludes with a conclusion, recommendations, and suggestions for future research.

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[1] Ensan Association is a prominent non-profit organization in Saudi Arabia concerned with caring for orphans and their families. Its services clearly intersect with efforts to combat poverty, as the majority of beneficiaries have a monthly income of less than 1,000 Saudi riyals (The Charity Committee for Orphans Care, 2023).

1.1 Problem of the Study

Despite the significant growth in the non-profit sector's contribution to the Saudi economy, reaching more than SAR 100 billion in 2024, equivalent to 3.3% of the gross domestic product (King Khalid Foundation, 2025), studies measuring the actual impact of these organizations' social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development remain limited, especially in the Saudi context. A particularly prominent knowledge gap is in understanding the role of these activities in reducing poverty and enhancing economic stability for beneficiary groups. Therefore, this study aims to bridge this gap by analyzing the experience of the Ensan Association, focusing on the extent of its contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to eradicating poverty and achieving comprehensive development for beneficiary families. Finally, we find that the problem of the study is represented by the following question: Is there a relationship between the social responsibility activities of NPOs and alleviating poverty?

1.2 Importance of the Study

The importance of this study is highlighted by its focus on a vital aspect of sustainable development, which is the role of NPOs in alleviating poverty and promoting sustainable economic development in Saudi Arabia. This topic still suffers from a clear lack of research, especially in the local context. Despite the sector's increasing contribution to the national economy, the actual impact of social responsibility activities implemented by these organizations on economic and social indicators has not received sufficient study and analysis. Moreover, the importance of the study stems from its convergence with the Saudi's Vision 2030, which places great emphasis on activating the role of the non-profit sector and enhancing its developmental contribution through effective partnerships and programs with a sustainable impact (Saudi Vision 2030, 2016).

1.3 Objectives of the Study

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

2. Analyzing the extent of social responsibility practices adopted by the Ensan Association.

3. Identifying the extent of the impact of NPOs on poverty alleviation in Saudi Arabia.

1.4 Study Hypotheses

- H.0: There is no significant statistical relationship between the social responsibility of NPOs and sustainable economic development.

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

- H.a1: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and poverty alleviation.

1.5 Theories Explaining the Study

There are a number of theories that explain poverty and seek to understand its roots, its spread, and its persistence in societies. However, the current study will focus on the most important theories, the most notably are the vicious circle theory, the subcultural poverty theory, the dependency theory, the welfare school, and the role theory.

The Vicious Circle Theory: The concept of the vicious circle of poverty is associated with economist Nurkse Ragner, who based his analysis of the phenomenon of poverty on the basic idea that the economy revolves in vicious circles, beginning with low income, which leads to low purchasing power. This, in turn, leads to malnutrition, which is reflected in the general health situation. This, in turn, affects the individual's productivity level. Low productivity means low income, which in turn leads to low savings and, consequently, to low investment, which is the primary driver of development. Thus, the cycle closes (Kattel, Kregel, and Reinert, 2011). There are several vicious circles that lead to the exacerbation of poverty. For example, the vicious circle related to low levels of education begins with low levels of education and a decline in the level of technical skills, which negatively impacts worker

productivity, leading to a decline in income. The same can be said of the vicious cycle related to low health, which begins with low real income, then nutrition, and ends with a decline in health (Al-Athari and Al-Daami, 2010).

The Subcultural Theory of Poverty: By Oscar Lewis, who believes that poverty is not limited to a lack of resources alone, but also extends to an inherited culture characterized by values, behaviors, and customs that restrict individuals and prevent them from escaping the cycle of poverty. In this theory, we find that Lewis placed the blame on the poor themselves, without considering other economic, social, and political factors (Lewis, 1967).

Dependency Theory: Dependency theory focuses on analysing the economic and political relations between developed and developing countries. This theory assumes that poverty in the countries of the Global South is caused by the historical and colonial exploitation of capitalist countries. It seeks to understand how these relations contribute to the continued economic backwardness of developing countries. It adopts the idea that economic and political dependence on developed countries is the primary cause of the backwardness of developing countries. Among the most prominent pioneers of this theory were economists such as Raoul Prebisch, André Gunder Frank, and Samir Amin. These thinkers strongly criticized traditional theories that believed that development could be achieved through Integration into the global economic system. The theory is based on the premise that developing countries are overly dependent on developed countries through unequal trade. Developing countries export raw materials and basic commodities to developed countries and import manufactured goods and technology, resulting in a loss of local value added (Frank, 1967 ; Amin, 1989).

The Welfare School: This school based its principles on economic welfare, or what is known as the principle of economic welfare, which is based on the material measurement of welfare, or what is known as monetary poverty, using income or consumer spending as an indicator of the level of individual welfare (Hisham, 2017). Welfare, according to the proponents of this theory, led by Wolffrist, is divided into individual welfare and societal welfare. The latter is nothing but the

welfare of the collective, meaning that total welfare is the sum of partial welfare. Therefore, according to this view, the study of welfare should focus on studying the behavior of the individual in his or her pursuit of achievement.

Role Theory: The idea behind this theory is that society is a set of interconnected social positions that include social roles played by the individuals who occupy these positions. It is also based on the concept of expectations associated with these social positions, which include various types of expectations that determine individuals' behavior and are interconnected to form a network of social relations within society (Omar, 1982).

1.6 Literature Review

According to Howard R. Bowen's perspective, social responsibility is the moral duty to make choices and take actions that advance community well-being, encourage economic growth, and reduce detrimental environmental effects (Sama et al., 2020). The idea of social responsibility became popular during the Industrial Revolution and the rise of capitalism since new issues forced organizations to embrace it as a fundamental tactic. Since then, it has remained a core mission of the non-profit sector as well. Accordingly, this sector can be considered the leader in social responsibility in the modern world. In this regard, numerous studies support this assumption by demonstrating the sector's steady growth (Faulk et al., 2021; Howard, 2023).

In sustainable development, the non-profit sector plays a key role in achieving sustainable development in its three aspects: economic, social, and environmental. By analyzing the historical development and roles of NPOs, Dulkadiroglu (2019) investigated their position in the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 (SDGs). The main findings were that NPOs effectively address a variety of SDGs because they act as advocates, innovators, service providers, and value guardians.

The SDGs are directly related to each of these NPOs' functional categories, including environmental protection, education, and health services.

The following review illustrates how social responsibility in the non-profit sector helps to reduce poverty. In this regard, a notable effective strategy used by NPOs for poverty alleviation is providing cash and in-kind assistance. According to Maghsoudi et al. (2023), cash and voucher assistance are typically preferred in the majority of underserved communities because they give people the freedom to choose how they want to use the funds to meet their individual needs. Moreover, the effectiveness of cash and voucher assistance is more apparent after incidents such as disaster strikes, which aggravate poverty due to displacements, infections, hunger, and loss of property (Elayah et al., 2022). Therefore, by offering cash and voucher support, people living in extreme poverty can rebuild their lives by investing in income-generating agricultural ventures, buying new homes, and launching new businesses.

In this respect, Emmanuel (2012) investigated the experience of benefactors in the riverine region of Ondo State, Nigeria, in relation to poverty alleviation strategies implemented by NPOs. The study's objective was to find out how residents' poverty is reduced by NPOs. According to the findings, loans were the most important benefit for 48% of respondents, followed by business equipment (24%). The loans were rated as moderately successful by 75.5% of respondents, whereas overall economic initiatives were rated as average or above by 60% of respondents.

Tetteh (2018) investigated the role of NGOs in poverty alleviation and education in Ghana. The study aimed to identify specific NGOs initiatives and explore their impact on education and poverty. The results demonstrated the importance of providing educational resources and scholarships as a means of assisting students with their education, financial support, consulting services for community development, job creation, and providing basic infrastructure such as clean water. The results of this study are also consistent with a recent study by Habibi (2024), which indicated that illiteracy rates in California have risen to a concerning level, threatening the chances of

future generations in underfunded public schools to find fulfilling jobs.

Breunig's and Majeed's (2020) study, titled "inequality, poverty and economic growth", aimed to investigate the impact of injustice or inequality in income distribution on economic growth, and subsequently its impact on poverty. The study concluded that there is a negative impact of income inequality on economic growth, and that when poverty is low (less than 25%), the relationship between income inequality and economic growth is statistically insignificant.

Furthermore, Fuseini, Sulemana, Abu Abdulai, Ibrahim, and Azure (2022) examined the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the fight against poverty in the Global South. The research investigates the ways in which World Vision Ghana (WVG), as a non-profit organization, assists to alleviate poverty in the Kintampo South District. The results showed that the NPOs played an effective role in fighting poverty through increased beneficiary incomes, enhanced food security, promoted access to clean water, restrooms, and educational opportunities for children, and helped to build human capital.

On the comparison of governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the study of Naguib, Afandy, and ELbagoury (2022) assessed the role of NGOs in fighting poverty in developing countries. The study aimed to compare how NGOs combat poverty in three different countries: Bangladesh, Tunisia, and Brazil. The findings showed that NGOs in Bangladesh significantly reduce poverty by excelling in informal education and microfinance. In Tunisia, NGOs prioritize awareness and education programs to boost the economy. For Brazil, NGOs play a significant role in rural development and environmental efforts, as well as emphasizing labor market integration for rural communities.

1.7 History of the Non-Profit Sector in Saudi Arabia:

The non-profit sector in Saudi Arabia has its roots in individual charitable work supported by the community within the Islamic teachings that encourage giving. The regulation of this sector began with King Abdulaziz, when institutional entities were established in

1928, such as the charity distribution system and the orphanage of the Two Holy Mosques. Despite the lack of local research at that time, the sector has witnessed institutional development since the establishment of the Ministry of Hajj and Endowments in 1961. Following that, the sector witnessed a great boom starting in the 1970s due to abundant oil revenues in the country (The National Center for Non-Profit Sector, 2024). Recently, current developments include the establishment of the General Authority for Awqaf in 2011, the King Salman Center for Relief in 2015, the Saudi Vision 2030 initiative in 2016, the National Center for Non-Profit Sector in 2019, and the Mohammed Bin Salman Non-Profit City (Misk City) in 2021 (Dahim, Alshumrani, and Aleidi, 2023).

1. Methodology:

This research applied a quantitative approach. This approach is appropriate for the current research objectives, which seek to measure the relationship between variables in an objective and accurate manner. This approach also relies on primary data through using tools such as closed-ended questionnaires, which allow for statistical analysis and the extraction of generalizable results for the study population. The methodology section divides into study design, setting, subjects, and sample size used in this research.

1.1 Study Design:

Data will be collected by distributing a questionnaire to beneficiaries, with a focus on data collection and converting qualitative data into quantitative data to enable accurate analysis of their responses. To analyze this data, SPSS will be used to conduct statistical analyses, including analysis of variance, regression, and t-tests, with the goal of extracting reliable and accurate results from the collected data.

1.2 Setting:

For the purposes of this study, a descriptive approach was used to examine the extent of the impact of the social responsibility practices of the Ensan Association on sustainable development in its economic dimension, with a focus on the goal of alleviating poverty. The study

was conducted on the Ensan Association in the Riyadh region of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, a leading non-profit organization in this sector.

1.3 Subjects:

The study aims to be applied to 380 beneficiaries.

- Saudi participants of both genders will be allocated during the study period.

- Inclusion criteria: To be among the beneficiaries of the association's programs, of both genders, and living in Saudi Arabia.

- Exclusion criteria: Outside the study period and outside the Ensan Association.

1.4 Study Population and Sample Size:

The study population consists of beneficiaries of the community activities of the Ensan Association in the Riyadh region. According to the data issued by the Ensan Association, the number of beneficiaries of its services in the Riyadh region is 33,464. Therefore, the researchers selected a sample for the study from the category of beneficiaries of Ensan Association. The following statistical formula, known as Stephen K. Thompson's equation (2012), was used to select a sample size:

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

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

By applying the previous equation, the sample size was determined at 385 beneficiaries.

2. Data Collection Tools:

Using the survey research method, quantitative data was collected from a number of beneficiaries of the Ensan Association in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by distributing an electronic questionnaire to a sample of beneficiaries. The data related to this research were collected using an electronic questionnaire.

2.1 An Online Questionnaire

The questionnaire form was designed based on a five-point Likert scale, as shown in the below table.

Table (1): Five-Point Likert Scale

The scale	Strongly Agree	Agree	Fairly agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Weighting	1	2	3	4	5

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement, from strongly agree to strongly disagree, on the statements contained in the questionnaire on a metric scale. The questionnaire is divided into three main sections. The first section includes socio-demographic characteristics. The second section covers social responsibility for NPOs. The third section of the questionnaire examines the impact on sustainable economic development through the poverty alleviation index through the provision of cash and in-kind assistance.

2.2 Validity and Reliability:

2.2.1   Validity of Measuring Instrument

To verify the validity of the questionnaire content, it was presented to a group of peer reviewers to express their opinions on each phrase of the questionnaire. Their number was four professors in the fields of economics and business administration. Accordingly, some phrases were modified, and others were added, the independent variable of social responsibility. The peer reviewers agreed with all the phrases

that were made to measure the impact of the social responsibility of NPOs on sustainable development in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

2.2.2 Reliability of Measuring Instrument

The reliability of a measuring instrument refers to the extent to which the instrument can provide consistent results when used to measure the same phenomenon under the same conditions at different times (Kimberlin and Winterstein, 2008). That is, if the measurement is repeated multiple times, the results will be close or identical. In the current study, Cronbach's alpha was employed to verify the accuracy and reliability of the measurement instrument.

Variable names	Cronbach's alpha coefficient
The Impact of Adopting Social Responsibility for NGOs	0.83
Poverty Alleviation	0.95

Table (2): The Reliability of Research Indicators

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

To determine the reliability coefficient, Cronbach's alpha coefficient value was 0.977 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.

To assess questionnaire validity, the internal consistency validity was calculated using Pearson's correlation coefficient, which measures the correlation between the phrases and the axis. The test showed that all statements and phrases had a statistically significant correlation with the total of the 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.

3. Results:

   Based on the questionnaire, Table 3 shows the socio-demographic characteristics and basic information of the families under study. The results showed that the majority of the participants were female compared to males, representing 90.2% of the total sample. This indicates that females likely constitute the largest portion of the association's beneficiaries. Regarding age, the most represented age group was 18-25 years, representing 30.3%, while the least represented was 46-55 years, representing 23.2%. However, we conclude that more than half of the sample fell within the 18-45 age group. Regarding the educational level of the study sample, the majority of participants had a high school or less, representing 75.3%, followed by those with a diploma, representing 8.9%, and then those with a bachelor's degree or higher, representing 15.6%. This result indicates that the sample of the study is mainly comprised of those with lower educational levels.

   In the professional context, there was a large percentage of unemployed people, constituting 72% of the sample, while employees and business owners constituted small percentages of 0.7% and 0.3%, respectively. This suggests that the sample may include individuals with unstable careers or those seeking employment opportunities. Regarding the number of experience years, the results showed that 52.4% of participants had five years or more of experience, followed by those with three to four years at a rate of 19.6%. This result reflects the large percentage of those with long experience in the sample. In summary, these results provide a clear picture of the demographic distribution of the sample, with a bias toward females, youth, and intermediate educational levels, in addition to a large percentage of the unemployed and those with long experience.

Table (3): Socio-demographic characteristics and Basic information.

Demographic Variables		Percent (%)
Gender	Male	9.8
	Female	90.2
Age	18-25	30.3
	26-35	11.2
	36-45	24.4
	46-55	23.2
	55-	10.9
Education Level	High School or Less	75.3
	Diploma*	8.9
	Bachelor's Degree or Higher	15.6
Professional Status	Unemployed	72
	Student	16.9
	Employee	0.7
	Business Owner	0.3
	Other	3.9
Number of Years	Less than a Year	12.2
	1-2	15.8
	3-4	19.6
	5 Years or More	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.

The following table shows the correlation analysis between the research variables using Pearson's correlation coefficient, which measures the extent of a linear relationship between the variables.

Table (4): Correlation Matrix

Variables	Pearson Correlation		** Sig.
	Social Responsibility	Poverty Alleviation	
Social Responsibility	1	0.725	0.000
Poverty Alleviation	0.725	1	0.000

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

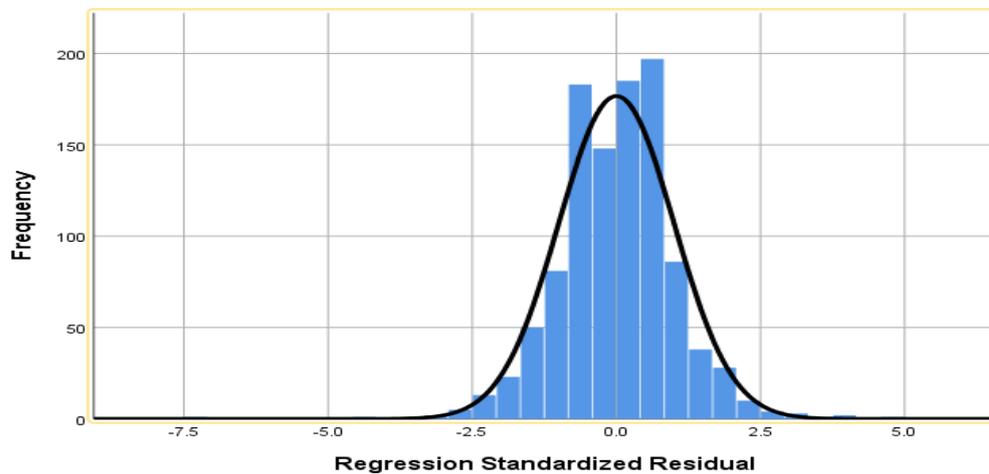Source: Statistical analysis data for the sample using SPSS statistical program.

Moore, McCabe, and Craig (2014) offered a comprehensive explanation of the correlation, which always ranges between -1 (negative correlation) and +1 (positive correlation). The sign of the correlation determines the direction of the linear relationship, whether positive or negative. The correlation value also refers to a strong relationship between variables when the correlation value is close –1 or +1 and vice versa. If the correlation value is exactly equal to –1 or +1, it indicates to a perfect correlation. From table 4, it is clear that the correlation coefficient between the independent variable, social responsibility, and the dependent variable, alleviating poverty, is 0.725, which means that the linear correlation is strong between the two variables.

On the other hand, the relationship between alleviating poverty is significant at a significance level of less than 0.01. Regarding sustainable economic development, the results display that the relationship between the study variables is also significant at a significance level of less than 0.01. A statistically significant correlation using the Pearson test implies that there is a statistically

reliable relationship between the two variables being tested. Thus, the relationship between the two variables is unlikely to be due to chance.

Moreover, this study applied simple linear regression analysis to test the study hypotheses related to the relationship between the explanatory variables (social responsibility) and the dependent variable (the economic dimension of sustainable development in Saudi Arabia). The results showed that the variables follow the normal distribution, as shown in Figure (3).
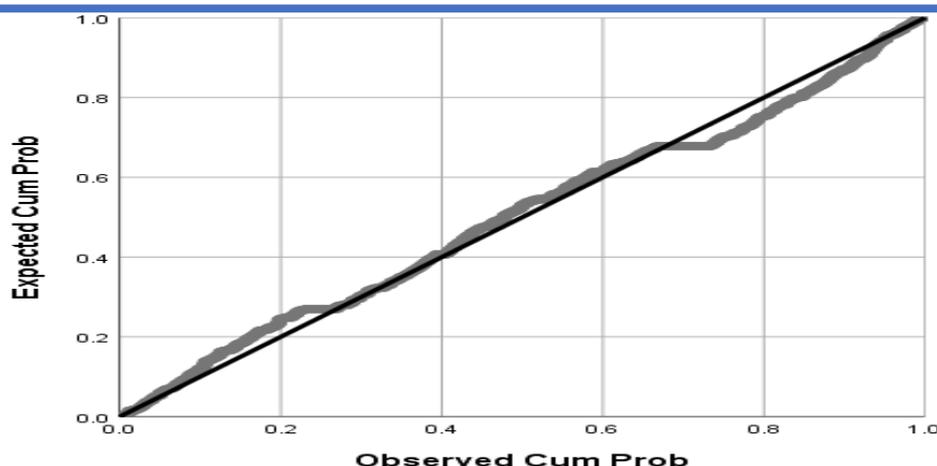
Figure (3): Histogram

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

Figure (3) displays the normality of the distribution of the residuals, and thus the residuals follow the normal distribution, which is considered a condition for the validity of the regression analysis.

Figure (4): Normal P.P Plot of Regression Standardized Residual

Dependent Variable: Sustainable Development

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

The following table shows a summary of the results of the simple regression test for the study variables.

Table (5): ANOVA Test

	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Between Groups	324.418	45	7. 217	27.770	0.000
Within Groups	264.047	1016	0. 260		
Total	588.815	1062			

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

Table 5 shows the results of the ANOVA analysis to test the significance of the regression. We find that the value of sig (0.000) is less than 0.05, which means that the regression is significant and thus there is an effect of the independent variable on the dependent variable.

The following table shows a summary of the results of the regression test, simple linear regression, to illustrate the relationship between social responsibility and sustainable development (alleviating poverty).

Table (6): The simple linear regression for the study variables

Dependent Variable	Independent Variable	R	R²	Adjusted R²	B	Sig.	T	VIF
Poverty Alleviation	Social Responsibility	0.725	0.589	0.589	0.942	0.000	34.362	1.322

Table 6 displays the relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variables 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, less than the significance level of 0.05. The results can be interpreted as when the degree of social responsibility in NPOs increases by one unit, this leads on average to alleviating poverty among beneficiaries by an amount of 0.94 units. 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.

Accordingly, we reject the null hypothesis, which states that:

- H.0: There is no significant statistical relationship between the social responsibility of NPOs and sustainable economic development.

Accept the alternative hypothesises, which state that:

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

- H.a1: There is a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and poverty alleviation.

4. Discussion:

It is clear from the results that there is a relationship between social responsibility and sustainable economic development through its impact on poverty alleviation. The results showed a positive

relationship between increasing the degree of social responsibility of NPOs and the economic dimension of sustainable development by reducing poverty.

The main findings were that NPOs effectively address a variety of SDGs because they work through community partnerships and effective collaboration. This result was confirmed by many studies, including the study of Dulkadiroglu (2019). The results are also consistent with other studies, e.g., Falk et al. (2021) and Howard (2023), which confirmed that the nonprofit sector plays a prominent role in the field of social responsibility. On the other hand, among the studies that agree with the results of this study in terms of the positive impact of NPOs on economic development are the study of Woller and Parson (2002) and the study of Drouin, J. (2016), which confirmed that the economic benefits of nonprofit development programs extend beyond the program beneficiaries to the broader local community.

With regard to poverty alleviation by providing cash and in-kind assistance to beneficiaries, it became clear that there is a statistically significant relationship between the practice of NPOs of social responsibility and their ability to alleviate poverty. Several studies agreed with this result, confirming the existence of a strong relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and poverty alleviation. Among these studies are the studies of Emmanuel (2012), Maghsoudi et al. (2023), and Das & Sethi (2024).

The current study demonstrated that NPOs play an important role in poverty alleviation by providing basic needs, education, employment opportunities, and empowerment for the poor. These findings are consistent with the studies of Al-Adali' (2018) and Al-Harthi (2018), which emphasized the role of civil society organizations in empowering the poor, amending legislation, and their flexibility in addressing issues that governments are unable to address, especially in informal areas. They also align with the studies of Tetteh (2018), Breunig and Majeed (2020), and Fuseini et al. (2022) which emphasized the positive impact of these roles on poverty reduction and, consequently, on economic growth and development.

5. Conclusion:

Social responsibility in NPOs is significant, as it promotes sustainable economic development and serves the community. The current study focuses on how these NPOs support sustainable economic development by achieving the United Nations SDGs and Saudi Vision 2030. The study also identifies the Ensan Association, as a leading association in the nonprofit sector in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to be examined. This study aims to measure the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development within the local community, focusing on poverty alleviation in Saudi Arabia.

The first conclusion is that the study adopted a quantitative approach using questionnaires to collect data from beneficiaries. It aimed to measure the impact of Ensan Association's social responsibility activities on sustainable economic development in the local community, with a focus on poverty alleviation in Saudi Arabia. The results of the statistical analysis revealed a strong and statistically significant relationship between social responsibility and poverty alleviation (correlation coefficient = 0.725, significance value < 0.01).

The second conclusion indicates that the results of simple linear regression analysis also showed that social responsibility positively impacts sustainable economic development. Precisely, a one-unit increase in social responsibility led to a 0.94-unit improvement in poverty and a 2.06-unit improvement in sustainable economic development. The study also demonstrated that the model was free of multicollinearity (VIF < 3).

The third conclusion is based on previous findings related to the study hypotheses. In particular, the alternative hypotheses of this study were accepted, confirming the existence of a statistically significant relationship between the social responsibility policies of NPOs and both sustainable economic development and poverty alleviation. This indicates the positive role of the Ensan Association's initiatives in promoting development in the local community.

6. Recommendations:

- NPOs are recommended to strengthen their long-term strategic partnerships with government agencies, the private sector, and other NPOs, based on the results of the current study demonstrating the positive impact of social responsibility on economic development. This collaboration contributes to improving resource allocation and expanding the impact of

programs. This can be implemented through signing cooperation agreements and forming joint task forces to plan and evaluate projects.

- NPOs are recommended to increase funding for economic empowerment projects for low-income groups, such as handicrafts and microfinance, due to their impact on improving income and promoting self-reliance. The study results showed that promoting social responsibility contributes to poverty reduction, which supports the expansion of these programs by allocating budgets for small loans and supporting training in craft projects.

- NPOs are recommended to implement clear standards of fairness and transparency in aid distribution, using electronic data and registration systems to ensure that support reaches those who deserve it without discrimination. The study demonstrated the link between social responsibility and development, which calls for the implementation of reliable distribution systems, including digital payments and independent oversight, to enhance efficiency and trust.

- NPOs are recommended to focus on vocational education and training as an effective means of reducing poverty. This is achieved by funding labor market-related programs and partnering with training centers. The study results showed that promoting social responsibility contributes to supporting the development process. Thus, investing in human capital is a sustainable option, by providing short-term scholarships and training opportunities that contribute to job creation.

7. Future Research

Future research could include, but is not limited to:

- The economic role of non-profit organizations in reducing unemployment rates.

- The economic role of non-profit organizations in improving the standard of living of beneficiaries.

- The economic role of non-profit organizations in supporting sustainable environmental conservation.

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