

# Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development in South Africa

Obey Dzomonda\*

*Department of Business Management, Turfloop Campus, University of Limpopo, Limpopo Province, South Africa*

**Abstract:** The purpose of this paper was to demystify the role of social entrepreneurship as a vehicle towards sustainable development in South Africa. This study adopted a quantitative research design as it intended to obtain and analyse numerical data. Data was collected using a self-administered questionnaire in a survey. A sample of 60 social entrepreneurs was conveniently sought to participate in the study. Data was analysed using factor analysis and regression analysis. Reliability of constructs was tested using the Cronbach's alpha. Descriptive statistics showed that the surveyed social entrepreneurs possess high levels of social entrepreneurship as measured by empathy, moral obligation, social mission and social innovation scales. The regression results validated the key role of social entrepreneurship towards sustainable development in South Africa. A significant and positive relationship was established between SE and ECS ( $\beta$ , 0.691;  $p$ .0.011) and between SE and SS ( $\beta$ , 0.431;  $p$ .0.002). On the other hand, no significant relationship was found between SE and ES ( $\beta$ , 0.052;  $p$ .0.321). The paper concludes that developing a huge social entrepreneurship base will immensely contribute towards the attainment of sustainable development in South Africa. Recommendations were made for the government to launch policies favouring social entrepreneurship growth.

**Keywords:** Innovation, Social mission, Social Entrepreneurship, South Africa, Sustainable development.

## INTRODUCTION

South Africa like other nations, is confronted with a plethora of sustainable development challenges such as economic (failure rate of businesses), environmental challenges such as water shortages, excessive carbon emission, energy shortages and social sustainability challenges such as poverty, inequality, high crime rate and incidences of deadly diseases such as HIV and AIDS (Littlewood & Holt, 2015). Such a plethora of sustainable development challenges stand as a threat to human life if measures are not adopted to promote sustainable development. Water shortage is projected to be a serious challenge in South Africa as the country received the lowest rainfall in 2015 since 1904 (Piesse, 2016). The acute water shortage is likely to affect food production if the challenge is not quickly abated, putting human life at risk (United Nations World Water Assessment Programme, 2016). Furthermore, issues such as greenhouse emissions remain relatively high in South Africa as approximately 95% of its electricity comes from coal (Girmay & Chikobvu, 2017). Other catastrophes such as cyclone Dineo and serious heat waves were experienced in countries such as South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique where it claimed lives (Mugambiwa & Dzomonda, 2018). This is a severe threat to human life which requires urgent but sustainable solutions. Recently, calls have been made

for the business fraternity to commit towards sustainable development goals as a way to balance current consumption and future needs (Kiron, Unruh, Kruschwitz, Reeves, Rubel & Felde, 2017). However, existing literature indicates that most forms of businesses especially private firms do not address the issue of sustainable development as they are mainly motivated by the desire to make profits (Lin & Tan, 2016).

As indicated by Littlewood and Holt (2015), social entrepreneurship can be a sustainable vehicle towards attaining sustainable development in South Africa and globally (Ziegler, Schulz, Richter & Schreck, 2014; Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). Social entrepreneurs are committed to sustainable development goals such as eradicating poverty, protecting the environment and economic inclusion (Holt & Littlewood, 2017). Social entrepreneurs are mainly driven by a social purpose as compared to other forms of businesses which are driven by the profit maximisation objective (Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). Bosma and Levie (2010) regard social entrepreneurship as an agent that bridges the gap between the shortfalls of the government and non-governmental organisations when it comes to addressing social ills. The novelty of this study is in linking social entrepreneurship initiatives to sustainable development, a new area which is still under researched (Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). Additionally, literature about social entrepreneurship is sparse in South Africa (Littlewood & Holt 2015). It is against this backdrop that this study was conducted to contribute to the knowledge gap in this field.

\*Address correspondence to this author at the Department of Business Management, Turfloop Campus, University of Limpopo, Limpopo Province, South Africa; Tel: +27818355324; E-mail: obeydzoms@gmail.com

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Sustainable Development

Sauvé, Bernard and Sloan (2016) define sustainable development as the ability of systems to meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. A number of summits such as the Brundtland Report 1987, the Kyoto protocol 1992, the World summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002, the Earth summit 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and the Paris Climate Agreement 2015 among others have been initiated to encourage nations, organisations, firms and individuals to participate in sustainable development initiatives seriously. The issue of sustainable development is best explained by Elkington (1997) using the triple bottom line approach (TBL). Elkington (1997) underscores that businesses should strive to balance and attain the triple bottom line by addressing the sustainable facets; economic, social and environmental sustainability.

### Economic Sustainability

Economic sustainability centres on the ability of the business to remain profitable in order to sustain its day to day activities (Masocha & Fatoki, 2018). Economic sustainability describes the firm's ability to be profitable and contribute to shareholder value (Sarango-Lalangui, Álvarez-García & del Río-Rama, 2018). According to the Global Reporting Index (GRI) (2019:48), "the economic dimension of sustainability concerns the organization's impacts on the economic conditions of its stakeholders, and on economic systems at local, national, and global levels".

### Social Sustainability

The social sustainability pillar explains a balance attained by the social systems in terms of culture, peace, wellbeing and justice (Social Sustainability Policy, 2016). Sarango-Lalangui *et al.* (2018) define social sustainability as the equilibrium attained between the business' activities and the needs of the society. This encompasses social responsibility and ethical behaviour of the business towards the community in which it conducts its operations. Social sustainability is key for business longevity (Sy, 2016). Recently, most communities have become aware of their rights due to the vastness of information made possible by the proliferation of technology. This has made communities to have strong bargaining power that their petitions for

socially undesirable deeds by businesses can see a firm close its operations.

### Environmental Sustainability

The concept of environmental sustainability has evolved over the past couple of decades (Ong *et al.*, 2014). Environmental sustainability has been defined differently in existing literature (Ong *et al.*, 2014; Amacha & Dastane, 2017). Environmental sustainability is defined as the ability of business systems to balance activities which enhance human welfare with environmental needs (McGinn, 2009). Goodland and Daly (1996:1003) define environmental sustainability as "holding waste emissions within the assimilative capacity of the environment without impairing it. It also means keeping harvest rates of renewables to within regeneration rates."

The Triple Bottom Line submit that the economic, social and environmental pillars are interrelated in some manner. For instance, for businesses to be successful in their economic activities, they need natural resources from the environment and human capital from the society (Elkington, 1997). When one of these pillars is not given attention, then the sustainable development agenda is weakened (Amacha & Dastane, 2017).

### Social Entrepreneurship

Pangriya (2019) defines a social entrepreneur as an agent of change driven by a social mission to transform people's lives through innovation and accountability. As defined by Martin and Osberg (2007:35), "the process of social entrepreneurship involves three stages: identifying a stable but inherently unjust equilibrium that causes the exclusion, marginalisation, or suffering of a segment of humanity that lacks the financial means or political clout to achieve any transformative benefits on its own, identifying an opportunity in this unjust equilibrium, developing a social value proposition, and bringing to bear inspiration, creativity, direct action, courage, and fortitude, thereby challenging the stable state's harmony and forging a new, stable equilibrium that releases trapped potential or alleviates the suffering of the targeted group, and through imitation and the creation of a stable ecosystem around the new equilibrium, ensuring a better future for the targeted group or even society at large." Sivathanu and Bhise (2013) describe a social entrepreneur as an individual who is ambitious, strategic, resourceful, result oriented and mission oriented. According to Littlewood and Holt

(2018), social entrepreneurship is an innovation driven process centred on the social will. On the other hand, Jilenga (2017:42) defines social entrepreneurship “as a process involving the innovative use and combination of resources to pursue opportunities to implement social change and address social needs.” Social entrepreneurship should not only be limited to describe individuals as it also involves any other organisation that is driven mostly by a mission to create social value (Bhatt, Qureshi & Riaz, 2019). In this study, social entrepreneurship is defined as a process of mobilising resources to solve social problems.

### **Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development**

Social entrepreneurship plays a key role towards achieving sustainable development (Zhang & Swanson, 2014). Even though social entrepreneurship is often overlooked when it comes to drivers of sustainable development, it remains one of the best factors which balances both business and the social mission (Sulphey & Alkahtani, 2017). It contributes directly and indirectly towards each sustainable development pillar; economic, social and environmental sustainability (Forouharfar, Rowshan & Salarzahi, 2019).

### **Social Entrepreneurship and Economic Sustainability**

Ward (2016) asserts that social entrepreneurship sets a platform for sustainable development. Similarly, Jilenga (2017) endorse the above assertion by arguing that social entrepreneurship’s activities result in sustainable businesses in that they reinvest a large part of their surpluses in support of their mission in the communities they serve. Rather than just creating employment, social entrepreneurs establish networks that continuously support their ventures, hence, creating a more sustainable venture (Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). The active role of social entrepreneurs in fuelling economic activity is widely documented (Bhatt *et al.*, 2019). Based on the above empirical findings, this paper proposes that;

*H<sub>1</sub>: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and economic sustainability*

### **Social Entrepreneurship and Social Sustainability**

Tamara (2017) remarks that social entrepreneurship is primarily driven by social purpose and efficiency. As

pointed by Vohra (2017), Social entrepreneurs respond to social ills like youth unemployment, drug abuse and crime in a socially, economical, sustainable and environmentally friendly manner. Social entrepreneurship brings sustainable public wealth unlike other types of business ventures which are driven by individual profit maximisation (El Ebrashi, 2013). Manyaka (2015) endorse social entrepreneurship as a panacea to the high levels of unemployment in South Africa. Coetzee and Meldrum (2015), note that social entrepreneurship creates sustainable solutions to issues in their communities such as unemployment, poverty and inequality, diseases, crime and drug abuse among others. For example, few social entrepreneurship activities have been identified in South, Matthew and his North Star Alliance assists haulage truck drivers and other mobile workers with pills and medicine to cure sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and AIDS. His organisation has since expanded to Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Zambia. Other successful social entrepreneurship organisations in South Africa include, Andrew Muir and his Wilderness Foundation, the Cape Town Carnival and the MySchool fundraising programme. These social enterprises have achieved much in transforming people’s lives and helping to address social ills in South Africa. According to Sivathanu and Bhise (2013), social entrepreneurship result in social capital and it promotes equity. Based on the literature review above, this study hypothesises that;

*H<sub>2</sub>: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and social sustainability*

### **Social Entrepreneurship and Environmental Sustainability**

Social entrepreneurs can be applauded for their active role in environmental protection. Their activities range from recycling to environmental protection campaigns. Social entrepreneurs also participate in environmental issues such as climate change by launching programmes aimed creating awareness, mitigation strategies and also put pressure on governments to align their policies in favour of the environment (Van Cauwelaert, 2015). Other social entrepreneurs especially in Eastern African countries like Kenya are involved in waste management where, they go around collecting waste which can be sold to generate income to attain their social purpose (Holt & Littlewood, 2017). Social entrepreneurs usually

transform deemed useless garbage into something of value to the communities they serve while at the same time protecting the environment (Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). Another crucial element of social entrepreneurs is that they are not forced by legislation to take environmental sustainability into their business, but they do it voluntarily which in a way makes them effective in tackling environmental issues as compared to other business forms Muralidharan & Pathak, 2018). Based on the literature review above, this study hypothesises that;

*H<sub>3</sub>: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and environmental sustainability.*

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This study adopted a quantitative research design as it intended to obtain and analyse numerical data. Data was collected using a self-administered questionnaire in a survey. The questionnaire consisted of 3 sections. Section A consisted of demographic characteristics such as; gender, level of education and number of years of the organization. Section B consisted of questions related to social capital and section C consisted of questions related to sustainable development. The population of the study was all social entrepreneurs in Limpopo. The researcher considered social entrepreneurs who registered their Non-profit Companies (NPC) with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC), with Department of Social Development and unregistered social entrepreneurs who have been active in spearheading social change in their communities. A combination of convenience and snow ball sampling techniques were employed to draw a sample of 60 social entrepreneurs to participate in the study. Fatoki (2018) used empathy

and moral obligation to measure social entrepreneurship. This study added new variables such as social mission and social innovation to measure social entrepreneurship. Sustainable development was measured using economic, social and environmental sustainability. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and regression analysis. Reliability of constructs was tested using the Cronbach’s alpha. The Cronbach’s alpha results on all constructs were above the recommended 0.7 threshold indicating that the data collection instrument was reliable.

**RESULTS**

**Demographic Characteristics**

Table 1 shows demographic information for the participants. The results show that most social enterprises (58%) in study area are run by women while 42% are owned by men. Considering the age of the participants, participants above 50 years constituted the highest percentage (30%) followed by the 41-50 years age group at 28%.

**Descriptive Statistics for Social Entrepreneurship**

Table 2 presents descriptive statistics for social entrepreneurship. Social entrepreneurship was measured based on social mission, social innovation, empathy and moral judgement. The results show that social entrepreneurship is high among the participants as indicated by high scale mean of 4.8.

**Descriptive Statistics for Sustainable Development**

Table 3 shows descriptive statistics for sustainable development. The table shows that social entrepreneurs who participated in the study are actively

**Table 1: Biographical Information**

Variables	Category	Frequency	Percent (%)
Gender	Male	25	42%
	Female	35	58%
Age	Below 20 years	2	3%
	20-30 years	8	13%
	31-40 years	15	25%
	41-50 years	17	28%
	Above 50 years	18	30%
Location	Rural	37	62%
	Urban	23	38%

**Table 2: Descriptive Statistics for Social Entrepreneurship**

Statement	N	Mean	Standard deviation
I am alone or with others, currently trying to start or currently owning and managing any kind of activity, organization, or initiative that has a social mission.	60	4.58	1.09
Our organization/initiative is aimed at creating social value	60	4.44	1.11
We exist to solve the basic needs of society, such as food, shelter, education, and basic health and hygiene services.	60	4.22	1.07
Creativity and innovation drive our social enterprise's model	60	4.78	1.03
Most of the resources we command emanate from our innovative ways of fundraising	60	4.13	0.89
Seeing individuals that are socially disadvantaged generates an emotional response in me	60	4.41	1.13
I feel compassion for individuals that are socially marginalised	60	4.77	1.10
When I think about socially disadvantaged individuals, I try to put myself in their situation	60	3.66	0.97
It is our ethical responsibility to help individuals that are socially disadvantaged	60	3.89	1.03
We are morally obliged to help individuals that are socially disadvantaged	60	4.47	1.12
Social justice expects us to help individuals that are less fortunate than ourselves	60	4.66	1.05
Scale mean	60	4.8	

**Table 3: Descriptive Statistics for Sustainable Development**

Statement	N	Mean	Standard deviation
<b>Economic sustainability</b>			
The number of our beneficiaries has increased.	60	3.78	1.13
We actively retain our funds to incrementally grow our social enterprise for better impact in future.	60	4.21	0.77
Our organisation has sufficient funds to pursue its social mission	60	3.86	1.10
Our organisation is economically well managed	60	4.33	1.11
We invest in economically viable projects to generate funds for our social mission	60	4.66	1.05
<b>Social sustainability</b>			
Our organisation is actively involved in the fight against crime	60	4.56	1.22
Our organisation is actively involved in promoting access to health for all	60	3.88	0.88
We thrive to ensure that disadvantaged groups in society have access to quality education, shelter, food and access to other basic amenities	60	4.68	1.14
Our organisation employees people from the local community	60	4.11	1.00
Our organisation actively participate in human rights awareness campaigns in rural areas	60	3.66	1.08
Our organisation has facilities to feed the disadvantaged groups such as orphans and the elderly	60	3.59	0.94
Our organisation is involved in initiatives that promotes social cohesion and cultural values	60	4.66	1.01
Our organisation advocates against child labour and abuse of women in societies	60	4.22	0.85
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>			
Our organisation is involved in environmental protection advocacy	60	2.44	1.03
Our organisation has initiatives to protect the environment	60	1.68	1.00
We are actively involved in waste recycling	60	1.55	0.66
Our organisation is involved in initiatives to mitigate climate change.	60	2.33	1.11
Our organization carries out specific initiatives to reduce environmental pollution.	60	3.44	1.02
Our organization carries out specific initiatives to reduce water consumption	60	1.23	0.95
Our organization carries out specific initiatives to reduce carbon emissions.	60	2.10	1.12

**Table 4: Regression Results**

Hypotheses		Regression weight ( $\beta$ )	T-values	P values	Reject $H_0$
H <sub>1</sub>	SE → ECS	0.691	5.234	0.011	Yes
H <sub>2</sub>	SE → SS	0.431	3.644	0.002	Yes
H <sub>3</sub>	SE → ES	0.052	1.223	0.321	No

involved in initiatives that contribute immensely towards economic and social sustainability. This is evidenced by high means on these sustainable development pillars. This is supported by existing studies. For instance, Jilenga (2017) assert that social entrepreneurship's activities result in sustainable businesses in that they reinvest a large part of their surpluses in support of their mission in the communities they serve while Vohra (2017) remarks that social entrepreneurs actively respond to social ills such as youth unemployment, drug abuse and crime. However, the weak scores on environmental sustainability shows that social entrepreneurs are not actively involved in environmental protection initiatives. This is supported by Littlewood and Holt (2015) who found out that South Africa still lags behind in terms of social entrepreneurs responding to environmental sustainability as compared to most developed countries.

### Regression Results

Table 4: Regression results shows regression results on the relationship between social entrepreneurship and sustainable development. Based on the results, a significant and positive relationship was established between SE and ECS ( $\beta$ , 0.691; p.0.011) and between SE and SS ( $\beta$ , 0.431;p.0.002). On the other hand, no significant relationship was found between SE and ES ( $\beta$ , 0.052; p.0.321). The hypotheses that; **H<sub>1</sub>**: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and economic sustainability and **H<sub>2</sub>**: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and social sustainability were accepted. On the other hand, the hypothesis which stated that; **H<sub>3</sub>**: There is a positive and significant relationship between social entrepreneurship and environmental sustainability was rejected. The findings of this study are supported by several studies. For example, Sulphay and Alkahtani (2017) reported that social entrepreneurship positively influences economic sustainability. The study further submitted that social entrepreneurs play an active role towards allowing nations to move towards being sustainable nations which enhance their global

competitiveness. Littlewood and Diane Holt (2018) also provide strong evidence that social entrepreneurs positively contribute towards social sustainability which is crucial in addressing imbalances in South African societies. This is an area which the government and private firms have failed to address in the past decades. Forouharfar *et al.* (2019) exuberate the critical role played by social entrepreneurship towards sustainable development. Their study provides strong evidence that social entrepreneurship actively contributes towards all pillars of sustainable development which are economic, social and environmental sustainability.

### CONCLUSION

Social entrepreneurship plays a critical role towards sustainable development in South Africa. This was confirmed in the current study. Hence, supporting and growing a large base for social entrepreneurs goes a long way in addressing the sustainable development challenges confronting South Africa. More importantly, the results revealed that social entrepreneurship is a possible antidote towards the sustainable development challenges in South Africa such as poverty, unemployment, high crime rate and diseases such as HIV and AIDS. Another crucial empirical finding was that social entrepreneurs in South Africa are active in addressing the economic and social sustainability pillars of sustainable development but are not fully active in the areas of environmental sustainability. Hypotheses; **H<sub>1</sub>** and **H<sub>2</sub>** were accepted while **H<sub>3</sub>** was rejected. This study makes recommendations to the government to develop a customised support programme for social entrepreneurs as they are not catered for in programmes extended to mainstream for profit entrepreneurs. Social entrepreneurs are also advised to tap into initiatives to protect the environment as there are funding opportunities provided by stakeholders such as Nedbank among others.

### REFERENCES

Amacha, E. & Dastane, O. (2017). Sustainability Practices as Determinants of Financial Performance: A Case of Malaysian

- Corporations. *The Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business*, 4(2), 55-68.  
<https://doi.org/10.13106/jafeb.2017.vol4.no2.55>
- Austin, J., Stevenson, H. & Wei-Skillern, J. (2006). Social and commercial entrepreneurship: same, different, or both? *Entrepreneurship theory and practice*, 30(1), 1-22.  
<https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-6520.2006.00107.x>
- Bhatt, B., Qureshi, I., & Riaz, S. (2019). Social entrepreneurship in non-municipal institutional environments and implications for institutional work: Insights from China. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 154(3), 605-630.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-017-3451-4>
- Bosma, N.S. & Levie, J. (2010). Global Entrepreneurship Monitor 2009 Executive Report. Available online: <http://dspace.library.uu.nl/handle/1874/209570>.
- Coetzee, M. & Meldrum, B. (2015). Social Entrepreneurship in South Africa. Available online: <http://www.marcuscoetzee.co.za/wpcontent/uploads/2016/03/SocialEntrepreneurship-in-South-Africa-Red-Bull-Magazine-Marcus-Coetzee.pdf>. Accessed on 23 April 2016.
- Dees, J.G. The meaning of "social entrepreneurship." Center for the advancement of Social Entrepreneurship, Fuqua School of Business, Duke University, Durham, NC.
- El Ebrashi, R. (2013). Social entrepreneurship theory and sustainable social impact. *Social Responsibility Journal*, 9(2), 188-209.  
<https://doi.org/10.1108/SRJ-07-2011-0013>
- Elkington, J. (1997). Partnerships from cannibals with forks: The triple bottom line of 21st-century business. *Environmental quality management*, 8(1), 37-51.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/tqem.3310080106>
- Fatoki, O. (2018). Determinants of Social Entrepreneurial Intentions of University Students in South Africa. *Journal of Economics and Behavioral Studies*, 10(6), 72-80.  
<https://doi.org/10.22610/jebs.v10i6A.2663>
- Forouharfar, A., Rowshan, SA., Habibollah Salarzahi, H. (2019). The Relationship between Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Development from the Social Experts's Points of View. *Quarterly Journal of Environmental Education and Sustainable Development*, 7(4), 70-82.
- Girmay, M.E. & Chikobvu, D. (2017). Quantifying South Africa's sulphur dioxide emission efficiency in coal-powered electricity generation by fitting the three-parameter log-logistic distribution. *Journal of Energy in Southern Africa*, 28(1), 91-103.  
<https://doi.org/10.17159/2413-3051/2017/v28i1a1530>
- Global Reporting Index (GRI) (2019). Sustainability reporting guidelines. Available: <https://www.globalreporting.org/Pages/default.aspx>.
- Goodland, R. & Daly, H. (1996). Environmental sustainability: universal and non-negotiable. *Ecological applications*, 6(4), 1002-1017.  
<https://doi.org/10.2307/2269583>
- Holt, D. & Littlewood, D. (2017). Waste livelihoods amongst the poor—Through the lens of bricolage. *Business Strategy and the Environment*, 26(2), 253-264.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/bse.1914>
- Jilenga, M.T. (2017). Social enterprise and economic growth: A theoretical approach and policy recommendations. *International Journal of Academic Research in Accounting, Finance and Management Sciences*, 7(1), 41-49.  
<https://doi.org/10.6007/IJARAFMS/v7-i1/2538>
- Kiron, D., Unruh, G., Kruschwitz, N., Reeves, M., Rubel, H. & Felde, A.M.Z. (2017). Corporate sustainability at a crossroads. Available: <https://sloanreview.mit.edu/projects/corporate-sustainability-at-a-crossroads/>.
- Lin, B. & Tan, R. (2016). Ecological total-factor energy efficiency of China's energy intensive industries. *Ecological indicators*, 70, 480-497.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2016.06.026>
- Littlewood, D. & Holt, D. (2015). Social Entrepreneurship in South Africa: Exploring the Influence of Environment. *Bus & Soc.* 2015, 57, 525–561.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0007650315613293>
- Littlewood, D. & Holt, D. (2018). Social entrepreneurship in South Africa: Exploring the influence of environment. *Business & Society*, 57(3), 525-561.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/0007650315613293>
- Manyaka, S. J. (2015). Social entrepreneurship: A solution for transforming the disadvantaged community of Nellmapius. *HTS Theological Studies*, 71(3), 1-7.  
<https://doi.org/10.4102/hts.v71i3.2821>
- Martin, R. L. & Osberg, S. (2007). Social entrepreneurship: The case for definition. *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, 5, 28-39.
- Masocha, R. & Fatoki, O. (2018). The impact of coercive pressures on sustainability practices of small businesses in South Africa. *Sustainability*, 10(9), 3032.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10093032>
- McGinn, D. (2009). The greenest big companies in America. *Newsweek*, 154(13), 34-54.
- Mugambiwa, S. S. & Dzomonda, O. (2018). Climate change and vulnerability discourse by students at a South African university. *Jambá: Journal of Disaster Risk Studies*, 10(1), 1-6.  
<https://doi.org/10.4102/jamba.v10i1.476>
- Muralidharan, E. & Pathak, S. (2018). Sustainability, transformational leadership, and social entrepreneurship. *Sustainability*, 10(2), 1-22.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10020567>
- Ong, T., Teh, B. & Ang, Y. (2014). The Impact of Environmental Improvements on the Financial Performance of Leading Companies Listed in Bursa Malaysia. *International Journal of Trade, Economics and Finance*, 5(5), 386-391.  
<https://doi.org/10.7763/IJTEF.2014.V5.403>
- Pangriya, R. (2019). Hidden aspects of social entrepreneurs' life: a content analysis. *Journal of Global Entrepreneurship Research*, 9(1), 1-19.  
<https://doi.org/10.1186/s40497-019-0199-6>
- Piesse, M. (2016). South Africa: Drought Threatens Food, Energy and Water Security 2016. Available online: <http://www.futuredirections.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/South-Africa-Drought-ThreatensFood-Energy-and-Water-Security.pdf>
- Sarango-Lalangui, P., Álvarez-García, J. & del Río-Rama, M. (2018). Sustainable practices in small and medium-sized enterprises in Ecuador. *Sustainability*, 10(6), 1-15.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/su10062105>
- Sauvé, S., Bernard, S., & Sloan, P. (2016). Environmental sciences, sustainable development and circular economy: Alternative concepts for trans-disciplinary research. *Environmental Development*, 17, 48-56.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envdev.2015.09.002>
- Sivathanu, B. & Bhise, P.V. (2016). Challenges for Social Entrepreneurship. Available online: <http://www.ijaiem.org/RATMIG2013/MGT%2025%20Challenges%20for%20Social%20Entrepreneurship.pdf>. Accessed on 15 May 2016.
- Social Sustainability Policy, (2016). A city for all: Towards a socially just and resilient Sydney. Available at: [http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/262346/Social-Sustainability-Policy.pdf](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/262346/Social-Sustainability-Policy.pdf).
- Sulphey, M. M., & Alkahtani, N. (2017). Economic security and sustainability through social entrepreneurship: the current Saudi scenario. *Journal of security and sustainability issues*, 6(3).  
[https://doi.org/10.9770/jssi.2017.6.3\(12\)](https://doi.org/10.9770/jssi.2017.6.3(12))
- Sy, M.V. (2016). Impact of sustainability practices on the firms' performance. *Asia Pac. Bus. Econ. Perspect*, 4, 4–21.

- Tamara, S. (2016). Social Entrepreneurship as Sustainable Development. Available online: <http://www.springer.com/us/book/9783319480596>. Accessed on 21 May 2017.
- United Nations World Water Assessment Programme (2016). The United Nations World Water development report 2016: Water and jobs. Paris: UNESCO.
- Vohra, V. (2017). Multiplying impact: The idobro way. *The International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Innovation*, 18(2), 136-147.  
<https://doi.org/10.1177/1465750317707898>
- Ward, E. (2016). Social enterprises step up to tackle the SDGs. Available online: <https://www.pioneerspost.com/news-views/20160504/social-enterprises-step-tackle-the-sdgs>. Accessed on 21 May 2017.
- Zahra, S. A., Gedajlovic, E., Neubaum, D. O. & Shulman, J. M. (2009). A typology of social entrepreneurs: Motives, search processes and ethical challenges. *Journal of business venturing*, 24(5), 519-532.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbusvent.2008.04.007>
- Zhang, D. D. & Swanson, L. A. (2014). Linking social entrepreneurship and sustainability. *Journal of Social Entrepreneurship*, 5(2), 175-191.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/19420676.2014.880503>
- Ziegler, R., Schulz, S., Richter, L. & Schreck, M. (2014). Following Gandhi: Social Entrepreneurship as a Nonviolent Way of Communicating Sustainability Challenges. *Sustainability*, 6, 1018–1036.  
<https://doi.org/10.3390/su6021018>

Received on 04-03-2020

Accepted on 28-05-2020

Published on 03-09-2020

[DOI: https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-7092.2020.09.27](https://doi.org/10.6000/1929-7092.2020.09.27)

© 2020 Obey Dzomonda; Licensee Lifescience Global.

This is an open access article licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>) which permits unrestricted, non-commercial use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the work is properly cited.