

Sustainable projects as support for achieving the sustainable development goals

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Abstract

Sustainable development is becoming one of the key strategic priorities of contemporary organisations, as businesses face increasing pressure to act responsibly towards the environment, society, and the economy. In this context, Sustainable Project Management (SPM) is gaining an increasingly important role as a mechanism for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined within the United Nations 2030 Agenda. Sustainable project management can also be understood as a significant component of sustainable governance and leadership, as it supports responsible organisational processes, long-term strategic orientations, and the alignment of sustainability goals with organisational business operations. The purpose of this paper is to examine the role of sustainable project management in supporting sustainable development and achieving long-term strategic organisational objectives. The paper is based on a qualitative research approach and a review of scientific and professional literature, supplemented by an analysis of selected sustainable business practices of Slovenian companies. Special attention is given to the integration of sustainability principles into project management processes, key barriers to implementation, and the relationship between sustainable project management and selected sustainable development goals. The results indicate that sustainable project management contributes to long-term competitiveness, stakeholder engagement, environmental responsibility, and organisational resilience. The paper highlights examples of Slovenian companies Mikro+Polo d.o.o., Krka,d.d., Novo Mesto and Luka Koper d.d., which successfully integrate sustainability principles into their strategic and project activities.

Keywords: sustainable project management, sustainable development, SDG, project management, sustainable business

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