



The Role of Educational Philosophy in the Formation of a Sustainable Economy in Makassar City

Ibadurrahman¹, Abdullah Sinring², Syamsu A. Kamaruddin³, Ambo Paerah⁴,
Syamsinar⁵

University Indonesia Timur^{1,4,5}, University of Makassar^{2,3}

Email: ibadurrahman1990@gmail.com, abdullah.sinring@unm.ac.id,
syamsu.k@unm.ac.id, apaerah@gmail.com, 1972syamsinarr@gmail.com

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Abstrak

This study highlights how educational philosophy plays a role in promoting sustainable economic development in Makassar City. This study stems from the need to manage economic growth in a more holistic manner, not only pursuing financial gains but also considering social and environmental aspects. Using a descriptive qualitative approach through case study methods, this research examines how sustainability values are instilled in the community through the education system. Data was collected through in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and review of various relevant documents. The results of the study show that educational philosophy plays a central role in building public awareness and behavior towards sustainable economic practices. Programs such as the Green School in Makassar are concrete evidence of the application of sustainability values in education. However, various obstacles still arise, including a lack of policy support, minimal educational facilities, and low public awareness of the importance of sustainability. Therefore, this study recommends strengthening sustainability-oriented curricula, increasing the capacity of educators, and fostering cooperation between the government, educational institutions, and the community to create an educational ecosystem that promotes a sustainable economy.

Keywords: Philosophy of education, sustainable economy.

Abstract

This study highlights how educational philosophy plays a role in fostering a sustainable economy in Makassar City. This study stems from the need to manage economic growth more holistically, not solely pursuing financial gain, but also considering social and environmental aspects. Using a descriptive qualitative approach through case studies, this research examines how sustainability values are instilled in the community through the education system. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and a review of various related documents. The results indicate that educational philosophy plays a central role in building public awareness and behavior toward sustainable economic practices. Programs such as the Green School in Makassar provide concrete evidence of the application of sustainable values in education. However, various obstacles remain, including a lack of policy support, limited educational facilities, and low public awareness of the importance of sustainability. Therefore, this study recommends strengthening sustainability-oriented curricula, increasing the capacity of educators, and collaborating between the government, educational institutions, and the community to create an educational ecosystem that fosters a sustainable economy.

Keywords: Educational philosophy, sustainable economy.

Introduction

Sustainable economy has become a crucial topic in the modern era, along with the increasing awareness of the social and environmental impacts of economic activities. Based on a report by the National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), Indonesia is targeting inclusive and sustainable economic growth. In this context, the city of Makassar, as one of the main growth centers, has a strategic position in supporting the achievement of these national goals. With a population of over 1.5 million and its role as a center of trade and services in eastern Indonesia, Makassar has great potential in terms of natural and human resources. However, the city still faces significant challenges in ensuring that its economic development is sustainable.

Education plays a fundamental role in supporting the realization of a sustainable economy. The philosophy of education can serve as a basis for values that foster awareness of the urgency of sustainability. Through the educational process, people are equipped with the knowledge and competencies necessary to participate in economic activities that not only pursue financial gain but also take into account environmental and social dimensions. The implementation of environmental education programs in schools in Makassar, for example, has had a positive impact on increasing students' understanding and awareness of sustainability issues (Ministry of Environment and Forestry, 2021).

1. Problem Solving

From the introduction above, the problem to be discussed in this study is

- a. How does the philosophy of education contribute to promoting

sustainable development in Makassar City?

- b. What are the obstacles that arise in the application of educational philosophy principles in Makassar City?
- c. What are the challenges related to weak educational policy support and low public awareness of the urgency of a sustainable economy?

2. Research Objectives

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of this study are

- a. To identify the contribution of educational philosophy in supporting the realization of a sustainable economy in Makassar City.
- b. Examine various challenges and opportunities that arise in the application of educational philosophy oriented towards sustainability principles
- c. Identifying various obstacles so that effective solutions can be formulated to strengthen the role of education in promoting sustainable economic development.

3. Significance of Research

The significance of this research is highly relevant to policymakers, educators, and the general public. This study is expected to provide a deeper understanding of the urgency of integrating educational philosophy into efforts to achieve a sustainable economy. In addition, this study also aims to present recommendations that can be applied in the formulation of

education policies and in the development of programs that support the sustainability agenda in Makassar City. Thus, this study is expected to make a real contribution to the achievement of sustainable development goals (SDGs) at the local level.

4. Theoretical Study

a. Philosophy of Education

The philosophy of education is a branch of philosophy that examines the values, principles, and basic orientation of education. Taba (1974) explains that the philosophy of education includes studies on what is appropriate to teach, the most appropriate methods to use, and the ultimate goals of the educational process. Several major schools of thought in the philosophy of education include perennialism, progressivism, and essentialism.

Perennialism emphasizes universal knowledge and timeless moral values as things that must be passed on to the next generation. In contrast, progressivism places the needs and experiences of learners at the center of the learning process and emphasizes the relevance of education to contemporary social dynamics. Meanwhile, essentialism prioritizes the mastery of basic skills and academic competencies as the main foundation of education. In the context of a sustainable economy, the progressive approach is considered more appropriate because it encourages learners to develop critical and creative thinking in responding to sustainability challenges.

b. Sustainable Economy

Sustainable economy is defined as an economic system that is able to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The underlying principles include efficient use of resources, social justice, and environmental protection. The *World Commission on Environment and Development* (1987) report emphasizes that sustainable development must maintain a balance between economic, social, and ecological aspects.

Various examples of sustainable economic implementation can be found in Indonesia. One example is the integrated waste management program in the city of Surabaya, which has been successful in reducing waste volume and increasing community involvement in waste management (Surabaya City Sanitation and Parks Agency, 2020). Similar initiatives have the potential to be implemented in the city of Makassar, especially if supported by a sustainability-oriented education system.

c. The Relationship Between Educational Philosophy and Sustainable Economy

Various theories link education to economic growth. The *human capital* theory, for example, argues that investment in education will result in increased workforce competence and productivity, which ultimately supports economic growth. In addition, education also plays an important role in building public

awareness and skills related to environmentally friendly and sustainable economic practices.

Through education, the community gains an understanding of the urgency of resource conservation and responsible environmental management. For example, environment-based education programs in a number of schools in Makassar have been proven to increase students' understanding of sustainability issues such as natural resource conservation and climate change. These programs not only provide theoretical insights, but also foster attitudes and behaviors that support the implementation of a sustainable economy (Makassar City Regional Development Planning Agency, 2022).

Method

1. Type of Research

This study applies a descriptive qualitative approach with a case study design. This method was chosen to gain an in-depth understanding of the role of educational philosophy in supporting the realization of a sustainable economy in Makassar City. Through this approach, researchers can comprehensively collect data from various relevant sources.

2. Data Sources

This study utilizes two types of data, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data was collected through in-depth interviews with educators, policymakers, and economic actors involved in various education initiatives and sustainable economic programs in Makassar. Meanwhile, secondary data

was obtained from relevant literature and documents, including scientific publications and books discussing topics related to this study.

3. Data Collection Techniques

Several techniques were used in data collection, namely in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and document analysis. In-depth interviews were conducted to explore informants' views and experiences regarding the relationship between educational philosophy and sustainable economic development. Participatory observation was used to understand the social and cultural situations surrounding the interaction between education and sustainable economic practices. Documentary studies aim to examine policies and programs that have been designed and implemented in this context.

4. Data Analysis

The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis. This technique allows researchers to identify patterns, categories, and important themes that emerge from the data. Through this process, a deeper understanding of the contribution of educational philosophy to sustainable economic development in Makassar City can be obtained. The findings of the analysis are expected to produce recommendations that are useful for educators and policy makers.

Research Results And Discussion

1. The Role of Philosophy of Education in Sustainable Economy

The philosophy of education plays an important role in shaping the mindset and

behavior of society that supports the realization of a sustainable economy. Educational values instilled from an early age contribute to raising awareness of the urgency of sustainability. For example, various educational programs that integrate sustainability principles in schools in Makassar have shown positive impacts. Students not only gain theoretical understanding, but also practical skills that can be applied in everyday life. One successful implementation is the "Green School" program, which teaches students about waste management and environmental conservation efforts. This program not only increases students' understanding but also encourages the involvement of parents and the local community in preserving the environment. Based on data from the Makassar City Education Office, community participation in the program has increased by 30% in the last two years (Makassar City Education Office, 2023).

2. Challenges in Implementation

Despite various opportunities, the implementation of educational philosophy that supports sustainable economy in Makassar City still faces a number of obstacles. One of the main problems is the lack of policy support from the local government. The current education curriculum has not fully incorporated sustainability aspects, making it difficult to integrate these values. In addition, cultural barriers also arise, marked by the low level of public understanding of the importance of education in the sustainability agenda. Limited educational resources are also a major challenge. Many schools in Makassar do not yet have adequate facilities to

support environment-based learning. For example, the low availability of learning media and supporting facilities means that the teaching process is less than optimal. Based on a survey conducted by the Hasanuddin University Institute for Research and Community Service, around 65% of schools in Makassar experience obstacles in providing facilities that support sustainability-oriented learning (Hasanuddin University, 2022).

3. Opportunities for Development

Despite these challenges, there are still ample opportunities for the development of educational philosophy in support of a sustainable economy in Makassar. One important strategy is to formulate a curriculum that is more relevant and integrated with sustainability issues. The development of this curriculum needs to involve various stakeholders, such as the government, educators, and the community. Another opportunity can be pursued through increasing the capacity of educators. Training and developing teachers' competencies is important so that they have an adequate understanding of the concept of sustainability. Training activities can be initiated through collaboration with universities and non-governmental organizations working on environmental issues. By strengthening the capacity of educators, the values of sustainability can be conveyed to students more effectively.

Conclusion And Recommendations

Conclusion

The results of this study indicate that educational philosophy has a crucial contribution in promoting the formation of a sustainable economy in Makassar City. Through the educational process,

sustainability values can be instilled in the younger generation so that they can play a role as drivers of change in society. However, the application of sustainability-oriented educational philosophy still faces various obstacles, particularly in terms of policy, culture, and limited educational resources. Therefore, efforts to improve and strengthen these aspects need to be continued.

1. Recommendations

Based on the findings of this study, policymakers and educators in Makassar City are encouraged to design better educational programs that are relevant to sustainability issues. In addition, increasing public literacy and awareness of the role of education in supporting a sustainable economy is also an important step. Further research is recommended to explore best practices in sustainable education that are appropriate to the local socio-cultural context.

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