


Chapter 17

Green Careers: Educating for the Future of Sustainability

Asma Khaleel Abdallah

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1028-7618>

Sharjah Education Academy, UAE

Laith Shlash Ismail

Action Against Hunger, Jordan

Ahmed M. Alkaabi

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7220-8087>

United Arab Emirates University, UAE

ABSTRACT

Empowering for change: Sustainability education equips individuals with the skills to navigate a changing world, understand complex systems, and continuously learn. Teachers can effectively integrate sustainability through project-based learning, incorporating relevant topics, and using real-world examples. This study explores green careers and strategies to promote them, recommending low-cost implementation through Carroll's model and leadership for engagement. By fostering critical thinking and problem-solving through practical learning and community involvement, educators can prepare students for the green economy. While the sustainability sector offers opportunities, challenges like economic downturns and lack of skilled professionals persist. Misleading environmental claims further discourage qualified individuals. Despite these hurdles, integrating sustainability education into current curriculums remains essential.

DOI: 10.4018/979-8-3693-2987-0.ch017

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INTRODUCTION

Now a days, the world is facing serious environmental issues and cases of global environmental imbalances. Due to the limitation of the resources and global climatic crises various challenges are to be dealt such as global warming, pollution etc. Governments and various stakeholders all over the world have come forward to decarbonize earth via various ways, and especially via day to day jobs. With the efforts of the government and businesses, millions of new jobs known as “**Green jobs**” are been created whose prime aim is to protect the environment or restore the same to its previous positions (Jacobson et al. 2019). The new efforts to protect the nature and the environment develop has provided opportunity in form of new jobs for the current generation and lead to the concept of Green careers.

The present report will focus on the concept of green jobs, and how one can opt for the green jobs, what all, skills; they needs to possess. Further, emphasis has been made on assessing skills and characteristics required in Future Eco-leaders. Even discussion has been presented on challenges and controversies relating to sustainable industry along with solutions and strategies with which it can be addressed prominently. The last part of the study specifies future research direction relating to the subject to highlight significant areas required to be explored.

BACKGROUND

U.S. Bureau of labour statistics (2024) defines green jobs as the jobs and tasks that produce goods and services which directly or indirectly protects and conserve the nature. The definition is further been supported by International labour organisation (ILO) where state green jobs to jobs in economic sector whose aim is to reduce negative environmental impact and maintain sustainable levels. Bassi & Guidolin (2021) has explained the importance of green jobs in the modern era and stated why the concept has become so important, and stated some of the reasons such as it meets the market demand for green businesses who wants employees for sustainable practices to attract customers. Stanef-Puică et al. (2022) further adds that the concept is more in trends because it is creating more job opportunities for increasing population. Local communities and flora and fauna are been supported by such practices. Organisations are able to fulfil their CSR goals by this.

Tcherneva (2020) discusses the importance of job guarantee with green careers, and its impact on economic growth. In contrast to this, some of the authors find green careers to have negative impact as well, which majority of studies seems to be missing such as creating of green jobs has attracted clients and employers and employers are paying more or only hiring staff with green skills, and this leads to

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