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Free access to information and its role in achieving sustainable development goals in new and changing environments from the perspective of Sudanese university library workers:

An exploratory studen

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#### **Abstract**

Information institutions are facing unprecedented rapid changes as a result of globalization and continuous innovation of technology, and thus it is imperative that they develop continuously. The growth of technology also had an effective impact as it made knowledge widely available, which is evidenced by the ease of access to information. In front of this world with all its inventions and innovations, government and even private institutions in the library sector are facing successive waves of changes, whether legal, administrative, technical or technical. The problem of the study appeared in that some beneficiaries still overlook the leading role of libraries in national development plans as a result of the absence of good communication of library leaders with decision-makers and those responsible for sustainable development issues in the country. The importance of the study lies in its handling of a very important topic that is under discussion at the level of scientific media. It focuses on the topic of free access to scientific information and its role in achieving sustainable development goals by knowing the viewpoint of workers in libraries and information centers in order to enrich libraries and information centers with studies concerned with an important topic and issue related to the sustainable development of the library sector, using the documentary method in the study according to the literature of research on the theoretical side For the study, as well as the descriptive analytical approach, in which the questionnaire tool was employed to collect information in order to obtain practical results that are interpreted in an objective manner in proportion to the actual data of the phenomenon under study. The study tools are searching in sources, references and the web. The study reached a number of results, the most important of which is the development of national strategies for sustainable development that contributes to the development of the university library sector in Sudan. sustainable development. It is also necessary to hold a partnership between libraries and various institutions, which helps them to overcome the obstacles to achieving the goals of sustainable development.

# **Key words:**

Free access - digital repositories - sustainable development - change management - quality - strategic planning

#### **Introduction:**

Events and facts continue without stopping because the kinetic action in them does not stop, the impossible in yesterday has become a reality today, and human thought today has become more receptive to anything new or almost impossible because the successive changes have made nations, peoples, humans and individuals accept anything new that is useful and useful in the modern business environment This has affected the library sector, and institutions are facing unprecedented rapid changes as a result of globalization and continuous innovation of technology, which forces information institutions to continuously develop. Also, some recent phenomena in the library sector have revolutionized the business sector and created a growing need for change that has never occurred before and the growth and development of technology has had an effective impact, making knowledge widely available, and thus providing flexible methods for accessing information. In front of this world with all its spectrums, genders, inventions and innovations, governmental institutions, even private ones, are facing successive waves of changes, whether legal, administrative, technical or technical, in the library sector. Managing change at work, or organizational change, is an approach followed to transform or move an individual., a work team, or an organization from a current state to a desired future state, and this stage often takes place the first time when applying newer methodologies or electronic work systems, and that these changes require management thought or rather a leadership thought that absorbs them, their causes and effects, so today's leaders have become In their institutions, they are change makers. Therefore, the institutional leaders in the library sector should keep pace with these visions, and motivate their employees (librarians) to be strategic, because the sum of these visions achieves the higher vision of the state, which makes us look for new ways to manage change that these institutional leaders follow. To manage change in the environment of libraries and information centers (1) (Science Taleb 2018 p. /).

#### Scientific methodology of the paper:

The problem of the study and its importance: The problem emerged that some beneficiaries still overlook libraries and their leading role in national development plans and thus sustainable development. From here we can clarify some points through which the study can be identified, which are as follows:

- 1- Absence of good communication with decision-makers and those responsible for development issues in general and sustainable development in particular, in order to show libraries as a partner in issues of change and sustainable development issues.
- 2- Studying the factors causing change as a tool for forming informational awareness of the sustainable development goals by making scientific information available to researchers.

- 3- The importance of employing information and making it freely available, which confirms the great role of libraries in making change in academic institutions.
- 4- The new roles of libraries require the development of laws regulating their work (for example, copyright), which contributes directly to change.
- 5- Enhancing the importance of developing strategic plans to help spread the culture of free access to scientific information in a proper manner.

#### The importance of the study:

The importance of the study lies in dealing with a very important topic that is considered a subject of discussion at the level of scientific media. It focuses on the topic of free access to scientific information and its role in achieving sustainable development goals by knowing the viewpoint of workers in libraries and information centers. The importance of the study can be summarized as follows:

Enriching libraries and information centers with studies concerned with an important topic and issue related to the sustainable development of the library sector.

Providing those in charge of libraries, especially university libraries, with what helps them to develop society and participate in the development of the society of beneficiaries.

Advocating the availability of information and facilitating free access to information in libraries.

Objectives of the study:

The objectives of the study stem from the following:

A/ Ensuring the beneficiary's access to information, through the optimal use of various technologies, to ensure access to scientific and technical information that meets his needs, which means the necessity of making free information available in electronic form.

b/ Continuity of making information available, which means being able not only to digitize and archive it, but to keep it and retrieve it whenever necessary.

C / Support and encourage policy makers and decision makers interested in development issues to make library entities and information centers participate sources in managing change and sustainable development plans.

D / Finding horizons that help develop and activate the free access movement and its role in achieving sustainable development.

E/ Preventing overlap in specializations between library and information institutions and other entities.

**Study methodology:** The study used the documentary method, according to the literature of research on the theoretical side of the study, as well as the descriptive analytical method, in which the questionnaire tool was employed to collect information by studying the viewpoint of library workers during a known period of time in order to obtain practical results that are interpreted in an objective way, including It corresponds to the actual data of the phenomenon under study.

# **Previous Studies: First: Foreign Studies:**

Study (2) (Watson Sarah 2007) on the extent of authors' awareness and attitudes and their use of digital and institutional repositories. The study aimed at publishing trends and behaviors of the Levin Foundation at Cranfield University and their concerns about it. And the extent of their awareness and use of institutional repositories such as Quitrents Cranfield Repository, and the study concluded: Many authors have not heard about Quitrents Cranfield Repository. On the library, as they were concerned about including their work in the warehouse, as well as additional work under work pressures (3) (Abu Zeid, 2015, 8.16.17).

Second: Arabic Studies:

Study (4) (Osama Mohamed Attia Khamis 2010), which aims to identify digital entities, their importance, types, methods of building, depositing, organizing and retrieval of digital entities in digital repositories on the Internet, the role of repositories in preserving and retrieving digital entities, and identifying the stages of building and testing the institutional digital repository Libraries and Information Department, Faculty of Arts, Menoufia University.

The study found many types and forms of digital entities, digital repositories are one of the most important places to store digital entities, the weakness of the Arab presence on the map of free access to information, the D-space program is one of the most famous digital repositories management programs.

The most important recommendations of the study: that each university establish a digital repository in order to publish the research of faculty members, encourage a culture of free access through seminars and lectures, establish digital repositories and raise awareness of the importance of digital deposit. (5) (previous source: 10)

Study (6) (Mustafa Nawari and Abdel Razzaq Mahmoud Ibrahim 2015) entitled Free Access to Scientific and Research Information - Concepts and Policies in the Arab Region: A Case Study of Sudan. This study sheds light on the concepts and policy of

free access to information in the Republic of Sudan through the study of some open access repositories registered in the OpenDoar database, and an attempt to provide a clear picture of the emergence and development of the concept of free access to scientific and research information as a natural, natural development due to the necessity of mutual benefit from scientific information and the consolidation of the principle of Scientific cooperation between researchers. The study indicated a lack of awareness and information, where many information institutions, beneficiaries and researchers suffer from a lack of awareness of the concepts and features of free access to information, which requires the need to hold more conferences and workshops aimed at spreading awareness among researchers and interested people, as well as institutions and information centers to introduce the importance Activating free access to research and scientific information initiatives that help build a knowledge society. The study also indicated that most intellectual property rights laws were keen to protect copyright, regardless of the protection of society's right to benefit from scientific information.

The most important recommendations: Coordination of efforts between the relevant authorities to develop a national strategy among its priorities, the formulation of clear policies for free access to information, the digitization of university libraries, software support and technical support centers.

· A study (7) (Samah Babiker Abu Zaid 2016) entitled Building a digital repository of university theses at the University of Gezira by application on D-space

Where the study referred to digital repositories as a means of managing, storing, providing and making digital content available. The study aimed to achieve control and control of the approved messages at the University of Gezira and to identify the quantitative volume of the approved messages and to shorten the time required by graduate students to identify the approved messages at the university. Statistical data analysis (SPSS).

The study reached many results, the most important of which is the lack of statistics for university theses approved by the university, there is an increase in the volume of approved theses, the lack of qualification and teaching for employees in the field of modern and advanced systems and programs in the field of libraries and their construction of digital repositories.

As for the recommendations, they are: the necessity of building a repository containing the approved university theses, in addition to containing other information repositories, including professors' lectures, the need to start the bibliographical control of the university theses.

The first axis / 1/ Change management: Change management is an approach to taking advantage of the basic structures and tools to control and control any effort in organizational change (8) (Science Taleb, 2018) The goal of change management is to achieve maximum benefits for the organization and reduce the effects of change on employees And avoid deviations from the path. Change is not an improvement or development in part of this institution. Rather, change requires management, risk management, initiative, and the principle of each in his time and place, because the traditional institutional doctrine of some leaders poses risks and perils at times. The institutional leader who thinks about reactions Without adopting a policy of planned change, it will lead his institution to decline and deterioration.. No doubt, in light of the increasing speed in the flow of information and the emergence of what are known as micro-specialties, it has become difficult to control the huge amount of information, as the intellectual production of people and institutions has become a steady increase, in addition to a rise Publication costs which led to the emergence of free access to information initiatives.

Digital repositories are one of the most important strategies for open access to information, so it had to be defined.

1- Digital repositories: There are many definitions of the term digital repositories and it can be defined in a simplified way as an institution that has the responsibility for the long-term preservation of digital resources in addition to making them available to the general public or groups of users agreed upon by the producer and the administrative authority of the repository (10) (Sahih Zainhom). Abdel Gawad, 2011)

# 2. Open Access Repository

It provides free access to articles, research, and other forms of intellectual production for members of your organization - it's called the Green Way.

#### Definition of free access

Free access to information can be defined as (it is electronic access without any obstacles to scientific intellectual production, and the Budapest Initiative confirmed that free access to information is for scientific and research texts without any form of financial payment). (11) (Website)

IFLA defines the term Open Access as free access in general to scientific intellectual production as well as research documentation, and this in itself is a vital factor that helps in understanding the world in which we live and helps us in reaching solutions that would meet global challenges, in particular the disparity in our access to information. (12) (Ahmed Ibrahim, Maha, 2016)

The observer of the movement of free access to information notes that there are many institutions that have adopted this movement in order to facilitate the flow of information at the global level, especially as the world is living in a state of openness in the world of information, and the movement of free access is an example of models between information and communication technologies, especially with regard to The free access to information initiatives and their important role in scientific research since the announcement of the free access initiative in February 2002 has followed the emergence of many initiatives and movements supporting it, which are making similar efforts in the field of Free access in scientific research, all of which appeared and practiced its activities via the Internet. It was summarized by Nozha Al-Khayat in the scientific paper entitled Free Access to Scientific and Technical Information. Concepts and problems: their representation, and their implications for the basic roles and functions of librarians and information professionals in the Arab world, a paper presented at: The Eighteenth Conference of the Arab Federation for Libraries and Information. The profession of libraries and the challenges of reality and the future and its role in free access to scientific and technical information. according to the initiative - the supporting body and goals (13) (Al-Khayat Nozha 2007).

The study also considered here that it is necessary to address the factors that led to the emergence of the free access system: (14) (Faraj, Abdel Rahman, 2010)

- 1. The emergence of the Internet and networking techniques, their development and coherence with electronic publishing techniques, and then increasing the number of electronic information sources available on the network.
- 2.Increasing use of information available on the Internet and the emergence of a new generation of researchers who follow new patterns in research and communication, and their desires must be met.
- 3. The growth of the scientific publishing movement and the increase in scientific intellectual production at the world level.
- 4. The decrease in budgets and financial allocations directed to the acquisition of this intellectual production, and that most of these allocations are directed to periodicals in their paper form.
- 5. Restrictions related to copyright rights by publishers that limit the use and transmission of information.
- 6. Limited access to this intellectual production.

- 7. The works of researchers under traditional publishing are no longer visible or visible to all their peers in the field, and therefore do not receive the attention they deserve.
- 8. The global push for free access, especially at the level of international and national initiatives and statements.
- 9. Requiring research funding institutions (such as the Well come Trust, Jisc, and the National Institutes of Health Care NIH) for researchers to make available the results of research they fund according to open access.
- 10. The right of the citizen to know and have access to information.

Hence, the study saw that the free access movement is one of the most prominent contemporary developments in the world of scientific communication, and the many factors that prompted the emergence of this movement, including the open technologies environment, scientific publishing institutions, the provision of information services, libraries and scientific research funding devices, as well as researchers and beneficiaries.

To reinforce the importance of free access to information, the study considered the following: (15) (Abdul Rahman, previous reference)

- 1. Online availability.
- 2. Free access.
- 3. They are scientific works in the sense that fictional stories and general magazines, for example, are excluded from this definition, and since they are scientific works, these articles published on periodicals must be subject to scientific arbitration.
- 4. Although free access is based on journal articles, it also applies to other types of intellectual production such as conference research technical reports university theses books and educational resources, in addition to free-access data observatories (directories of digital repositories).
- 5. Access should be to the full text, not the abstracts.
- 6. With free access to the intellectual production, the beneficiaries can benefit from this production by downloading, printing, copying, and citing reference..., and the author must retain his right to authorship and attribution of the work to its author.

#### Free access to information movement in Sudan:

Sudan, like other countries, has made contributions to the movement of free access to information. The attempts made by the Eifl Organization (Electronic Information For Libraries) and made by a group of members and coordinators in Sudan are the actual beginning, as many conferences and workshops were held at the beginning of the

millennium The Sudan Open Archive is considered the first project aimed at free access to scientific and research information, and then the Sudanese Association for Libraries and Information established a digital repository specialized in the field of libraries through the Greenstone software. It is considered an initiative for free access to scientific and research information among the universities (Khartoum - Nilein - Sudan). ) One of the important initiatives in the field of free access to information in Sudan, and that was in 2012 with the support of UNESCO. (15) (Ibrahim, Abdul Razzaq, 2015)

#### The second axis: - sustainable development: -

The concept of sustainable development: To adopt a comprehensive change management in Sudanese information institutions, these institutions must put sustainable development plans in their priorities. Therefore, the study saw the need to define the beneficiary of what they are.

The concept of sustainable development is one of the ambiguous concepts around which controversy has arisen. One of the most important and widely spread definitions is "development that meets the needs of the present generation without sacrificing or harming the ability of future generations to meet their needs." (16) (United Nations, 2018)

**Sustainability:** development economists have used the term sustainability to clarify the required balance between economic growth and the preservation of the environment. We discuss another interpretation of the meaning of sustainability, which aims at development and takes into account well-being and increasing the space for future generations, and dealing with development and development with a broad vision in terms of dimension Just as sustainability is not a fixed funding for what we always do, it should be sustainability in both good and bad times.

# Procedural definition of the meaning of sustainable development:

It is the governmental management of available resources in a way that ensures economic, social and cultural prosperity and achieves the developmental and environmental needs of current and future generations, without underestimating the flexibility of life-supporting characteristics or the integration and cohesion of social systems.

It is clear to us from the above that sustainable development is in fact a comprehensive concept linked to the continuity of the economic, social, institutional and environmental aspects of society.

Characteristics of sustainable development: The study saw the need to shed light on the characteristics of sustainable development in the following points: (17) (Farghaly, Ahmed, 2002)

- . Take into account the right of future generations to natural resources.
- .Puts the fulfillment of the basic needs of the individual in the first place.
- . The human aspect and its development is one of its first goals, especially caring for the poor.
- . It takes into account the preservation of the diversity of societies and their privacy, culturally, religiously and civilly.

It is based on international coordination and integration in the use of resources and the regulation of the relationship between rich countries and poor countries.

# The foundations of sustainable development:

# Sustainable development depends on achieving two main things:

A/ The right to development B/ The right to protect the environment, both of which are fundamental human rights:

# The most important of these foundations are:-

- . The human being is the first responsible and the bearer of the trust from his Creator.
- . Nature and the resources it contains, which God has harnessed for the service of man, and the necessity of continuous use of them.
- . Technology and what it means by using scientific knowledge to invest in environmental resources solve its problems and address the dangers it faces.

# **Sustainable Development Goals:**

- 1. It seeks to work on the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals in education, health, agriculture and the environment.
- 2. Work to reduce disaster risks at the local, regional and national levels
- 3. Enabling libraries to play an important role in sustainable development, where the endless possibilities provided by information technology or through the nature of tasks, activities and services provided by libraries can be harnessed.

**Patterns of sustainable development**: There are several patterns of sustainable development that have components, and they can be summarized as follows:

1. Institutional sustainability: It means governmental institutions and to what extent these institutions are characterized as regulatory bodies capable of performing their role in serving their society so that they can play their role in achieving sustainable development alongside NGOs and civil society institutions.

- **2. Economic sustainability:** development is described as economic sustainability when it includes policies that ensure the continuation of economic activities in society and the performance of the expected role, and at the same time are ecologically sound for agricultural development, for example, but not limited to.
- **3. Environmental sustainability:** Environmental sustainability is described as the ability of the environment to work properly, so its goal is to minimize environmental development, as sustainability requires its natural nourishment, meaning that nature is able to determine the ecological balance. This can be achieved by incorporating environmental considerations when planning development so as not to cause damage to natural capital as a minimum.
- **4. Human sustainability:** There is a link between human development and the concept of sustainable development, and this relationship is highlighted by the urgent need to find a balance between the population on the one hand and the available resources on the other hand, and therefore it is a relationship between the present and the future with the aim of ensuring a better life and standard of living for future generations, which It needs to link environmental issues with sustainable development in a specific and continuous manner, as there is no sustainable development without human development

# Areas of sustainable development:

Sustainable development requires improving the living conditions of all individuals without increasing the use of natural resources. This development takes place in three main areas: economic growth, conservation of natural resources and the environment, and social development. Among the most important challenges it faces is the challenge of eradicating poverty through encouraging the adoption of balanced production and consumption patterns. (18)(Org/wikie..https://ar.wikiepedia

# In the context of the foregoing, it can be said that "sustainable development addresses three main, overlapping and integrated dimensions," which are:

Social development and equality - social cohesion and mobility - preservation of the environment and natural resources.

# The importance of libraries as a partner to achieve sustainable development:

Today's leaders in information institutions in their institutions have become change makers to achieve the goals of sustainable development. Therefore, it was incumbent on the institutional leaders of the library sector to keep pace with these visions, and motivate their employees (librarians) to be strategic and partners with the senior management of change management in information institutions, and with the sum of these visions combined The higher vision of the state, which makes us look for the change management methods that these institutional leaders will follow to manage change in information institutions to achieve sustainable development goals in the libraries, information and study sectors. The reasons are summarized in the following (19) (the IFLA Declaration, 2014).

# 1- Libraries give individuals opportunities for all:

Libraries are found everywhere in urban and rural areas, in universities, in schools, in workplaces, in places of worship, and they serve everyone regardless of their origin, nationality, gender, age, abilities, religions, economic conditions or political affiliations.

# 2- Libraries enable individuals to achieve their own development:

Libraries support communities through which all individuals can learn, create and innovate. Libraries also support a culture of learning and critical thinking, in addition to the ability for individuals to harness technology and the Internet to improve their lives. Libraries also protect the rights of beneficiaries to provide information in a secure environment.

# 3- Libraries give access to global knowledge:

Libraries provide the appropriate availability of information in all its forms (manuscript - print - audio - visual or digital) as well as formal and informal support for lifelong learning. It also preserves cultural heritage and original and primary information, as well as being the natural partner for providing public access to information, communication technology and information resource networks.

# 4- Librarians are given expert guidance where:

Librarians provide training and support to obtain information for the community and individuals, and they are responsible for preserving cultural heritage and identity.

# 5- The library is part of a multi-contributing community:

The library works effectively and in various circumstances with many groups contributing to the community, as it provides programs and services with the favored and national government, community groups, charitable institutions, funding bodies, and private and public sector companies. Business in realizing policies. Recognizing the role of libraries in policy frameworks.

Hence, the study found that libraries actually contribute to achieving the goals of sustainable development by promoting the generalization of literacy, including media, information and digital skills, and linking the gap between access to information and helping the government and civil society to understand local needs and preserve cultural heritage and identity. United Nations Vision 2020/2030 for Sustainable Development (20) un.org/sustainabledevelopment)/ On January 1, 2016,

the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by world leaders in September 2015 at a summit, will officially enter into force. historical international. Over the next 15 years, with these new goals that are universally applicable to all, countries will mobilize efforts to end poverty in all its forms, combat inequality and tackle climate change, while ensuring that those efforts work for all.

The Sustainable Development Goals are built on the success of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), and aim to move forward to end all forms of poverty. The new goals are unique in that they call on all poor, rich and middle-income nations to act to promote prosperity while protecting the universe. It also recognizes that ending poverty must go hand in hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job creation, while addressing climate change and environmental protection.

Although the SDGs are not legally binding, governments are expected to take ownership of them and develop national frameworks to achieve them. Therefore, it is States that bear the primary responsibility for monitoring and reviewing progress, which requires the collection of qualitative — easily accessible — data in a timely manner, so that follow-up and review at the regional level are based on analyzes carried out at the national level, and thus contribute to follow-up and review at the global level .

Quality and strategic planning in the library sector: Because of the importance of quality in the library sector, it was necessary to shed light on it.

The process of upgrading the human element is considered one of the basic and important processes that affect the efficiency of workflow in organizations, especially the library and information centers sector of all kinds and categories. To achieve this goal, it was necessary to pay attention to setting foundations and standards through which the competence of library and information specialists can be determined; To ensure that they achieve continuous development and keep pace with the successive developments of library and information technology, in addition to the accurate and prior identification of these standards will help us in the processes of selecting and promoting workers in various positions in libraries and information institutions.

There are international opinions by experts and specialists in the field, all of which call for setting international standards for the quality of specialists in libraries and information. This field suffers from a scarcity in Arab and foreign intellectual production, and in general, quality is considered by Gemanalini (21) Jatmanalini, G, 2009 those applications necessary to achieve benefit The aim is to improve the quality of services and production, raise the level of performance and reduce costs and thus gain customer satisfaction, and as defined by the Federal Quality Institute as "a collaborative form of business performance that depends on the joint capabilities

of both management and employees, with the aim of continuous improvement in quality and productivity through work teams"22 (Farahat, 2003) "As for the quality standards for library and information specialists, there are elements that should be met, including the following:

Techniques used in evaluation processes and measuring the quality of library and information specialists - information used in the assessment process - financial funding that supports quality measurement processes - planning processes - training - follow-up - evaluation, all the previous elements will lead to the provision of an efficient and effective librarian, and he has renewed knowledge.

**Strategic planning**: is a systematic process that seeks to achieve a clear vision about the future of something in order to translate it into goals based on a series of steps. (23) strategic planning", Business Dictionary2019), and also defines strategic planning as setting the general objectives of the work environment, specifically those that need a long time to reach its results, and then choosing the appropriate means for their implementation.

The importance of strategic planning: Strategic planning in the work environment is one of the most important administrative processes, and its importance is summarized according to the following points (24) Strategic Planning, Iowa State University 2017:-

- \* Assisting in capital preservation by reviewing the financial performance of the business.
- \* Be sure to provide permanent updates to it, which contributes to achieving the best results.
- \* Ensure that the business is on the right track.
- \* Contribute to setting a time frame for the implementation of the work by relying on the development of an appropriate strategic plan that contributes to the design of its steps.
- \* Participate in transforming the planned actions into measurable and applicable things so that sufficient knowledge is achieved in obtaining acceptable results.
- \* Industry services and financial means that take into account the changes affecting work in light of the prevailing economic climate.
- \* Relying on the use of practical experience, and the accurate method in applying planning in the practical aspect of work.

From the above, it can be said that strategic planning is based on five main pillars:

Good knowledge of the target groups for the work of the institution (their characteristics, qualifications, problems, needs ....),

- 1. A clear and precise definition of the institution's mission and objectives,
- 2. Good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses associated with the organisation,
- 3. Good understanding of the available opportunities and potential threats,
- 4. Making decisions about the future of the organization (where we want to be).
- 5. Establishing executive/procedural mechanisms to reach the target position.

**Stages of strategic planning**: Strategic planning is a process based on data collection and analysis in order to make future strategic decisions.

The major stages of strategic planning can be summarized as follows (25) https://coachup.ma/blog/3p7lrj7g.html2019:

**First: The stage of preparation for planning:** This stage is called "planning for planning" and is characterized by taking the strategic planning decision and setting up the organizational and human structures to initiate this process through:

- . Determining the work team that will assume the tasks and responsibilities of strategic planning.
- . Justifying the reasons for adopting the scheme: explaining the reasons, adopting the approach, and controlling its various stages.
- . Determine how long this plan will cover.
- . Choosing the methodology and mechanisms for searching and analyzing information.
- . Underline the agenda of meetings and meetings.
- . Allocate the necessary funds for planning.

Develop a project scheduling scheme.

**Second:** Analysis of the current situation: The exercise of strategic planning begins with the first step of identifying the nature of the environment in which the institution operates. Situation analysis involves analyzing both the organization's external environment and its internal environment (or its own capabilities).

The third axis / strategic planning in libraries: -

Strategic planning for libraries and information centers is an organized effort to make critical decisions, which shapes the identity of the library or information center and justifies its existence. Provided that it makes effective decisions that lead to the achievement of its mission and satisfy the community of beneficiaries in light of the opportunities and threats that surround the library in the external environment and strengths and weaknesses in its internal environment. Strategic planning can also be viewed as a process through which the library studies a set of assumptions and possibilities surrounding it that affect the achievement of its objectives. This is in addition to the need to ensure the clarity of the results that the library seeks to achieve and how to use its resources in order to achieve this, desired change. It also defines strategic planning as creating a new reality that responds to the expected future challenges, which are expressed in the form of values or ideas, not only for the library or its employees, but also for the surrounding environment in which the library is located.

# The importance of strategic planning for libraries and information centers (26) (Obeid, Essam / 2007):

Proceeding from the principle that the library aims to bring about a change in the field of scientific research in accordance with the purpose of its establishment, which is to serve the parent institution to which the library is affiliated, which is also part of a larger scientific and cultural movement aimed at changing a social and cultural reality. A sector of society believes that this reality must be changed. Thus, a library is not created in order to maintain an existing situation, but rather to change this situation to a better picture. The beneficiary seeks willingly to meet with other beneficiaries who share his vision and goal in order to form a library that aims to bring about a change in the general community. For example, if a school or university (educational institution) is established, it will be part of a cultural and social research movement - more general and comprehensive - and therefore will affect the surrounding community as a whole.

Based on the foregoing, the study found that there are a number of factors through which to anticipate the importance of strategic planning for libraries and information centers, on top of which is that strategic planning:

- Helps determine the course of work in the library.
- Helps in developing the desired results of the library's existence.
- It leads to improving the quality of the decisions taken by the library, by focusing on the vital issues and the challenges facing the library. It helps decision makers to determine what should be done.

- It helps to create an identity for the library and meet the needs of the beneficiaries and their support within the library, which increases the efficiency of work.
- The senior management and the working body as a whole can carry out their roles more effectively when they have a vision and strategies that were made with participation, \*helps the library to respond effectively to internal and external needs and demands.
- Contributes to solving the problems facing the library by identifying the library's internal capabilities and its available strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and how to deal with each of them, and mainly the expectations of the target groups.
- It helps the library to allocate (distribution of available resources) and determine the ways to use them. Strategic planning depends on careful considerations of the capabilities and environment of the library, and this leads to important decisions related to the resource distribution process.
- Increases managers' awareness and sensitivity to the winds of change and the surrounding threats and opportunities, while taking change into account in a complex environment. Perhaps the only constant idea these days is change rather than addressing the current situation.
- Reducing the degree of risks associated with variables outside the control and management of the library and providing it with flexibility to adapt to the variables and providing tools for prediction and estimation and helps the library anticipate the changes in the surrounding environment and how to adapt to them.
- Strategic planning sets goals for implementation and incorporates methods to ascertain progress, and maps directions for already existing operational and financial plans, in addition to setting budgets.

Explain to the study that the importance of strategic planning in libraries and information centers is a basic pillar in determining the course of work in the library and leads to improving the quality of the decisions it takes, which helps to create the identity of the library and meet the needs of the beneficiaries.

The role of librarians and information specialists in achieving sustainable development goals

Librarians and information specialists in various organizations are responsible for obtaining, analyzing, organizing, retrieving, broadcasting and disseminating knowledge. The new concept on the other hand, because the sustainable development goals in themselves are based on monitoring information. In this context, the librarian is one of the important pillars that undertake many efforts, which may include:

- Supporting libraries to access information to achieve sustainable development goals.

- Supporting citizens' rights to information.
- Create collections that are relevant and easy to access.
- Enable citizens to access government information through all means.
- Contribute to the development of legislation that guarantees freedom of access to information.
- Participate in setting high standards for information ethics.
- working with NGOs; To ensure community transparency.
- Contributions of libraries to achieving sustainable development goals

The study found that libraries already contribute to achieving the sustainable development goals by promoting universal literacy, including media and information, and digital skills. Bridging the gap between access to information and assistance from government and civil society; In order to understand local needs. In addition to providing a network to provide government programs and services to those who need them, increasing digital inclusion by providing access to communications and information technology and allocating staff; To help people develop their digital skills.

Library associations and the library sector as a whole need to raise awareness, at all levels of society, of the important contributions that libraries can make. Furthermore, you need clear insights into the role that libraries can play in development, and we also need to have examples of good practice; To clarify and prove the impact that libraries can have In view of the foregoing, the study concluded that it is possible to discover the most prominent contributions of libraries in improving results through the sustainable development goals (SDGs) through:

- Promote comprehensive literacy, including media and information literacy, and digital literacy skills.
- -Access to information and help government, civil society, and business better understand local information needs.
- -Providing a network of websites to be a reference center for access to government programs and services
- -Enhancing digital inclusion through access to information and communication technology, and a dedicated staff to help people develop a new digital system.
- -Working towards the library being the heart of the research and academic community.

Preserving and accessing world culture and heritage In particular, libraries can support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals by providing access to information, literacy support, ICT skills and community access.

#### Fourth axis / field work:-

The study distributed the questionnaire to the research community through direct personal distribution and the use of collaborators with credibility, scientific integrity and trust for the two researchers.

#### First, the statistical processing methods

The study was adopted using the Statistical Analysis Program for Social Sciences (SPSS) in order to analyze the quantitative data and obtain the frequencies, percentages, arithmetic averages and standard deviations to obtain the results of the study questions. Therefore, the Cronbach Alpha test was used to ensure the stability of the study tool.

# Secondly, analysis of the study

After collecting the questionnaire and reviewing it by the researcher, unloading the data and entering it into the computer for statistical processing, the results were drawn and the most important recommendations came out.

# Third, the study tool (the questionnaire):

The questionnaire that was used with data and information related to the subject of the study included a number of items that reflect the objectives of the study and its questions to be answered by respondents from the specialists of libraries and information centers in Sudanese universities, which were divided into two parts as follows:

**Section One:** Personal Data: This section included the following elements:

Gender - age - educational qualification - specialty

#### **The second section:** the axes

- 1- Axis of free access to scientific information
- 2- Axis of strategic planning
- 3- Axis of sustainable development

### The reliability and validity of the study tool (the questionnaire):

Since the stability of the questionnaire means its ability to give the same results if applied in a similar society, the researcher chose to apply the Cronbach's alpha test

for all the questionnaire expressions to find the coefficient of the overall resolution stability and the validity of its construction.

The Reliability:

Method 1 (space saver) will be used for this analysis \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*

(RELIABILITYANALYSIS-SCALE(ALPHA)

N of Cases = 60

Alpha = 0.729

It is clear from the above that the credibility of the study using the (Crnbach's alpha coefficient) is that the credibility equals 72% according to the alpha value (0.72), which indicates the reasonableness of the resolution and the credibility of the information, as the alpha coefficient is greater than (60%, the minimum credibility).

The researcher used the statistical analysis program for the social sciences (SPSS) in order to analyze the quantitative data and obtain the frequencies, percentages, reference averages and standard deviations to obtain the results of the study questions. Therefore, the Cronbach Alpha test was used to ensure the stability of the study tool.

For tables, ratios and resolution analysis:

1- Type:

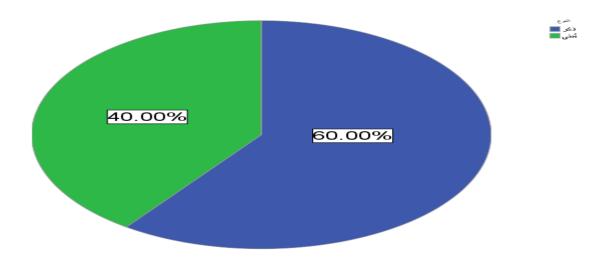
Table No. (1) shows a description of the study sample members according to the gender variable:

percentage	repetitions	Туре
60%	36	Male
40%	24	female
100%	60	Total

# **Source: field study**

The table above shows that the proportion of males in the study sample is 60%, which is higher than the proportion of females of 40%.

Figure (1) shows the percentage by type of study individuals



2-Age:

Table No. (2) shows a description of the study sample members according to the age variable

النسبة المئوية	التكرار	الفئة العمرية
%0	0	من 15–25
%35	21	من 26–35
%38.4	23	من 36–45
%23.3	14	من 46–55
%3.3	2	من 56–65
%100	60	المجموع

**Source: field study** 

The above table shows the age groups of the sample members that the largest percentage of the sample members was in favor of the group (from 36-45) with a percentage of 38.3% of the sample members, while the second place came in the category (from 26-35) with a percentage of (35%). The third rank was in favor of the category (from 46-55) with a percentage of 23.3%, and the fourth rank was for the category (from 56-65) with a percentage of 3.3%. The last rank was for the age group (21-25), with a percentage of 0%.

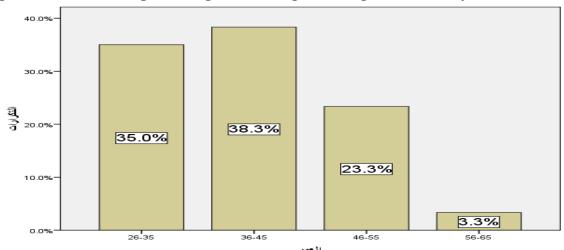


Figure (2) shows the percentage according to the age of the study members

Source: Table No. (2)

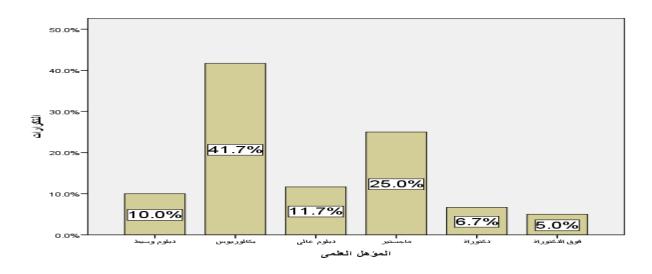
# 3. Academic qualification

percentage	Repetition	Qualification
%10	6	Intermediate Diploma
%41.7	25	Bachelor
%11.7	7	Higher Diploma
%25	15	.M.A
%6.7	4	PhD
%5	3	Postgraduate
%100	60	Total

**Source: field study:** 

The table shows, which represents the academic qualifications of the sample members. The largest percentage of the sample members was a bachelor's degree, with a percentage of 41.7% of the sample members; the second rank was in favor of a master's qualification with a percentage of 25%. The third rank was in favor of a high diploma qualification with a rate of 11.7%. The fourth rank was in favor of an intermediate diploma qualification with a percentage of 10%. The fifth was in favor of a doctoral qualification with a rate of 6.7%, and the last was qualified for a post-doctoral degree, percentage amounted to 5%.

Figure (3) shows the percentage according to the educational qualifications of the study members



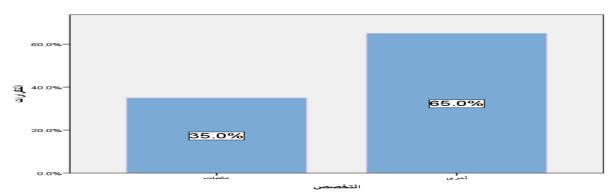
# 4. Specialization

Туре	Repetitions	percentage
libraries	21	%35
Other specialties	39	%65
Total	60	%100

**Source: field study** 

The table above shows that the highest percentage was in favor of other disciplines of the study sample 65%, which is higher than the percentage of libraries specialization of 35%.

The following figure shows the percentage by specialization of the study members



Source: Table No. (4)

The first axis (free access to scientific information):

Trend	standard deviation	average reference	I totally agree	agree	I don't agree	The first axis
	<b></b>		percentag e	percenta ge	percentage	
I totally agree	0.497	2.583	% 58.3	% 41.7	% 0	Employing free access to information confirms the great role of libraries in making change in .institutions
agree	0.654	2.250	% 36.7	% 51.7	% 11.7	The difficulty of controlling research information in light of facilitating free access to information confirms the importance of formulating laws to make information available.
I totally agree	0.594	2.450	% 50	% 45	% 5	New roles for libraries to be included in the state's .national strategy
I totally agree	0.643	2.400	% 48.4	% 43.3	% 8.3	The existence of laws regulating how to freely access information leads to activating the principle of rapid access to information and making it available to researchers, thus contributing directly to change in information institutions
I totally agree	0.501	2.550	% 55	% 45	% 0	Software support and technical support centers for libraries help in digitizing libraries in universities and thus contribute significantly to changing the availability of information in university .libraries
agree	0.615	2.166	% 28.3	% 60	% 11.7	Software support and technical support centers for libraries help in digitizing libraries in universities and thus contribute significantly to changing the availability of information in university .libraries

From the above table, there is strong agreement to employ the free availability of information, which helps researchers to complete their research projects, and the new roles of libraries are to be included in the national strategy of the state, as well as the

existence of laws regulating how to free access to information leads to activating the principle of rapid access to information and its availability, as well as software It helps in digitizing libraries in support Technical support centers for libraries universities and there is an agreement on the difficulty of controlling research information in light of free access to information, as well as the new roles of libraries necessitate the development of laws regulating their work (copyright law). As it is clear from the previous table also aesthetically that free access to information has a role in achieving goals Sustainable development from the point of view of Sudanese university library workers.

The second axis: (Strategic Planning)

			I totally		I don't	
Trend	standard	average	agree	agree		The second axis
Tienu	deviation	reference			agree	The second days
			percentage	percentage	percentage	
agree	0.666	2.283	% 40.0	% 48.3	% 11.7	There is an urgent need to give the strategic planning sufficient attention for the advancement of the university library sector in Sudan
I totally agree	0.594	2.450	% 50	% 45	% 5	National strategies for sustainable development contribute to providing integrated plans in the field of libraries
I totally agree	0.581	2.366	% 41.7	% 53.3	% 5	Good strategic planning plays an important role in achieving sustainable development goals in the library sector
I totally agree	0.501	2.450	% 45	% 55	% 0	Strengthening the importance of developing strategic plans helps in spreading the culture of free access to scientific information in a sound manner
agree	0.640	2.216	% 33,7	% 55	% 11.7	Studying the factors that call for change as a tool for forming information awareness of the sustainable development goals by making scientific information available to researchers

It is evident from the above table that there is strong agreement on the contribution of national strategies for sustainable development to provide integrated plans in the field of libraries as well. For information, the study also found that there is an urgent need to give strategic planning sufficient attention to advance the university library sector in Sudan, as well as studying the factors that call for change as a tool for forming information awareness of the sustainable development goals through the availability of information. It is also clear from the previous table that strategic planning has a major role in achieving sustainable development goals from the point of view of Sudanese university library workers.

The third axis (sustainable development)

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Trend	standard	average	I totally agree	agree	I don't agree	The third axis
Trend	deviation	reference	percentage	percentage	percentage	The time axis
I totally agree	0.501	2.550	% 40	% 41.7	%18.3	Providing information freely helps achieve sustainable development goals
agree	0.642	2.166	% 30	% 56.7	%13.3	Achieving the sustainable development goals depends on activating laws that help facilitate free movement of access to scientific information
agree	0.738	2.216	% 40	%41.7	%18.3	Increasing local production and localizing information technology are among the priorities of the sustainable development goals in the library sector
I totally agree	0.592	2.433	% 48.3	% 46.7	%5	Libraries are a partner in achieving the sustainable development goals by providing opportunities for all, enabling individuals to achieve their own development
I totally agree	0.566	2.533	% 56.7	% 40	% 3.3	Recognizing the leading role of libraries in national policy frameworks to achieve sustainable development goals

From the above table, there is agreement from the surveyed segment that providing information freely helps to achieve the goals of sustainable development, because libraries are an authentic partner in achieving the sustainable development goals to provide opportunities for all, enabling individuals to achieve their self-development, as well as recognizing the role of libraries in policy frameworks to achieve sustainable development. The study also proved that achieving the sustainable development goals is compatible with activating laws that help free access to information to ensure the protection of authors' rights, increase local production, and localize information technology, which are among the priorities of the development goals.

### Based on the foregoing, the study concluded that:

- 1- The importance of freely employing information confirms the great role of libraries in making change in academic institutions, and the new roles of libraries require the development and activation of laws regulating their work as a model for that (copyright), which contributes directly to change and this enhances the development of strategic plans for sustainable development, which helps In turn, in spreading the culture of free access to scientific information in a sound manner.
- 2- The study proved that some neglect the large and important role of libraries as a partner in setting sustainable development plans, as well as the absence of communication between decision-makers and those responsible for issues in general and sustainable development in particular in order to show libraries as a partner in change in sustainable development. The study of the factors causing change as a tool for shaping Informational awareness of sustainable development goals by making scientific information available to researchers.

#### **Results:**

- 1/ The study found that the percentage of university library workers from non-specialized groups is more than specialized groups.
- 2/ Some specializations between library and information institutions and other parties overlapped, which had an impact on the divergence of visions and ideas.
- 3 / The study showed that the free availability of information confirms the great role in making change in institutions.
- 4/ The need to formulate laws and regulations regulating how to freely access information to protect the rights of authors of information available on the network.
- 5 / Setting national strategies for sustainable development contributes to the development of the university library sector in Sudan.

- 6/ Developing strategic plans helps spread the culture of free access to scientific information.
- 7/ Libraries are an authentic partner for achieving sustainable development goals in terms of empowering individuals to achieve their own development.

#### **Recommendations:**

- 1. Strengthening the leading role of libraries through participation in national policies to develop strategic plans to help achieve sustainable development goals.
- 2. The necessity of partnership between libraries and various institutions to help them overcome obstacles to achieving sustainable development goals.
- 3. The necessity of defining a budget to support software, technical equipment and infrastructure to keep pace with technical developments in libraries, and thus contribute significantly to making information available in university libraries to researchers.
- 4. The necessity of implementing sustainable development plans and strategies in university libraries.
- 5. Preparing regular courses and workshops to rehabilitate the human cadres working in university libraries.
- 6. It is necessary to spread informational awareness of the goals of sustainable development by making scientific information available to researchers.
- 7. Interest in introducing information technology to bring about the required change is one of the goals of sustainable development in the library sector.

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