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## Exploration of Barriers and Success Factors of Sustainability at Producer Level in Textile Industry: A Study of Bangladesh Perspective

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#### Article

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The article describes the challenges and success factors of implementing sustainability in the Bangladeshi textile industry. The main purpose was to identify the barriers and change them to success to maintain a satisfactory and pleasant environment in the industry. Implementing and ensuring sustainability in the Bangladeshi textile industry is a priority. The barriers and success factors of sustainability in Bangladeshi textile industry through a survey based was evaluated. The survey was carried out through questionnaires of managers in the Bangladeshi textile industry. The test was carried out at the producer level of the industry based on the three pillars of sustainability (social, economic, and environmental). The 5-point Likert scale was used to receive the responses. We surveyed a total of 26 people from 7 different factories. SPSS software was used to analyse the surveyed data and quantify the barriers and success factors of sustainability. Data were statistically analysed using reliability tests, multiple regression analysis, ANOVA, coefficients, regression equation development, and Pearson's correlation. The analysis illustrated the socio-environmental aspect as the most important predictor, while the environmental-economic and economic-social aspects were the least important to the managers of the Bangladeshi textile industry. The performance of any industry depends on the management and their way of handling situations. Our research goal was to find out the challenges that the management faces and what could be possible solutions for these challenges. The article shows the ways of finding out the existing barriers to sustainability by conducting a survey of the textile industry and the possible solutions to these barriers to ensure a better work environment. The article also shows how to keep the industry performance updated, improved, and satisfactory. The report would be beneficial to the Bangladesh textile industry administration to identify industry barriers to implementing sustainability and changing it to success.

#### **KEYWORDS**

aspects of success, barriers factors, Pearson correlation, SPSS, sustainability, textile industry

#### INTRODUCTION

The rapid growth of industry and the use of natural resources have made an impact on the environment. The growth of industry is needed for developing and poor countries. Industrialization offers direct and indirect employment to the people of these countries reducing the unemployment

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rate. The concept of sustainability has been introduced to maintain natural harmony, and at the same time resolve unemployment problems. Today, sustainability has become a burning issue for both the environment and humans for a better future [1–4]. In the case of a manufacturing factory such as the textile industry, sustainability is needful. Industry uses huge natural resources, namely air, water, energy, and chemicals, and produces huge amounts of waste as well. The textile industry produces waste at each step of garment manufacturing. These wastes cause harm to the environment and human life if not properly disposed of [5]. Therefore, the implementation of sustainability in the textile sector is necessary.

Despite the increasing consensus around the world on sustainability and the green environment, its implementation has not yet been fully completed. Many reasons are lack of proper inspection, lack of proper instructions, lack of awareness among people, negligence of industry owners, cost factors, etc. Although the term "sustainability" was previously limited only to environmental perspectives now expands its limits. Sustainability now encompasses three dimensions, including social and economic aspects along with environmental aspects. Sometimes, a fourth dimension named technology can be introduced [3,6].

Textiles is a diverse and multidisciplinary sector. From fiber to garment finishing, there is a detailed supply chain in this sector that includes fiber process, yarn spinning, fabric manufacturing, dyeing, finishing, and garment manufacturing. Environmental sustainability defines biodiversity, ecosystem maintenance, stable resources, etc. Economic sustainability defines the management of resources for the future without compromising the present ones. Social sustainability defines ensuring equality, providing opportunity, ensuring basic needs, and gender impartiality. The sector also faces a lot of difficulties if the supply chain is not properly managed. The environmental impacts include the use of huge water, energy, and chemicals in the manufacturing process and the release of a large amount of toxic, harmful effluents, and the release of greenhouse gases [7]. In addition to waste from dyeing, waste from finishing also has a huge impact on the environment. Maintaining balance, reducing waste disposal, and ensuring proper waste management is necessary for a clean and green environment. Sustainability in Bangladeshi textile industries has progressed. Various types of discrimination were present, such as poor wages for workers, overtime work, gender inequality, poor safety measures, and risk factors. To attract foreign buyers, the owners offered less manufacturing costs. As a result, the workers received poor pay. The profit went to the owners only. The safety and security measures were very poor. Many workers died due to poor safety and security factors, building collapses, fire accidents, etc. The buyers stopped their orders due to the lack of safety measures. Then sustainability and sustainable supply chain management in the textile sectors have been introduced with proper safety and security factors [8]. Sustainable supply chain management implies sustainable development. Economic, social, and environmental concerns for human development are some of the components of sustainable development that have an impact on the supply chain and long-term business plans. To boost overall performance and obtain a competitive advantage in the rising market, industries have been urged to adopt sustainable practices in their supply chain operations by creative market, government laws, and growing awareness [9]. Figure 1 indicates the three spheres of sustainability.

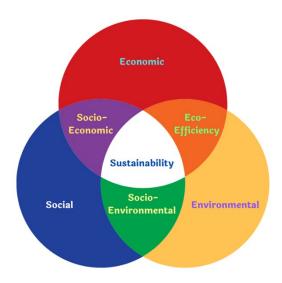


Figure 1. Three spheres of sustainability.

Many barriers stand in the way of long-term sustainability. In 2010, Connell [10] categorized potential barriers into two categories, namely internal, and external barriers. According to Connell, internal barriers are dependent on the consumers' behavior, whereas external behavior is not dependent on consumers' behavior. Lack of environmental concern, non-positive impact toward sustainable garments, inadequate understanding of garment impact on the environment, etc. are the internal barriers to sustainability. Age, education, motivation, values, etc. are also included in the internal barriers. Price, infrastructure shortage, and social and cultural norms are the external barriers to sustainability [11–13]. Sustainability ensures demand for the present and future. Effective waste management is necessary to reduce the environmental impact and promote sustainability. Several researchers have investigated the practical implementation and obstacles to sustainability in different interpretations of sustainability. Islam et al. [14] investigated the environmental performance of various Bangladeshi branded T-shirts. They used a standard sustainability evaluation tool named the Higg index to evaluate the performance. They concluded that Bangladeshi T-shirts manufactured by foreign brands show superior performance compared to Bangladeshi T-shirts manufactured by local brands. The foreign-branded Bangladeshi-made T-shirt addressed environmentally sustainable issues

at every step of manufacturing, such as eco-friendly, non-carcinogenic dyes chemicals, low impact finish, sustainable packaging materials and third-party verified, and so on.

In this article, we have statistically analyzed the data using SPSS software and determined the potential barriers and success factors related to the textile industry. The main objectives of the present work are to observe the evolution of sustainability of the textile industry and to assess the statistical analysis of barriers and success factors of sustainability in different aspects of sustainability.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

In this study, a survey test was conducted using a questionnaire on managers from the Bangladeshi textile industry. The test was carried out at the producer level of the industry based on the three pillars of sustainability (social, economic, and environmental) and a 5-point Likert scale was used to receive responses from them. We briefed them about our survey and then provided them with questions. The questions were about the social, economic, environmental, socio-environmental, environmental-economic, and social-economic aspects of the Bangladeshi textile industry and its environment for workers. Then we collected the responses from the respondents and analysed them. The SPSS tool was used to analyze the data. Very suitable and persuasive responses were found from managers of the Bangladeshi textile industry. We surveyed a total of 26 people from 7 different factories. The textile industries for our survey were Ahsan Textile Mill Ltd., Knit Concern composite Ltd., Rahim Textile Mills Ltd., Raising Group, DBL ltd, APS Apparels Ltd, and In-tramex Textile Mills Ltd. Then SPSS software was used, and the statistical data were analysed in terms of reliability test, multiple regression analysis, ANOVA, coefficients, regression equation development, and Pearson correlation. The analysed data was used to discover the barriers and success factors of each aspect.

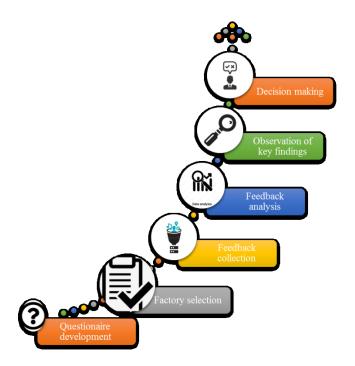


Figure 2. Process diagram of feedback collection and execution.

#### **DATA ANALYSIS TOOLS**

#### **SPSS**

The statistical package for social sciences, commonly known as SPSS, was created by IBM Corporation. The software is very popular for statistical analysis among researchers and academicians around the world. For parametric and nonparametric statistical techniques, this statistical program performs comparison and correlation statistical tests for univariate, bivariate, and multivariate analysis [2,15].

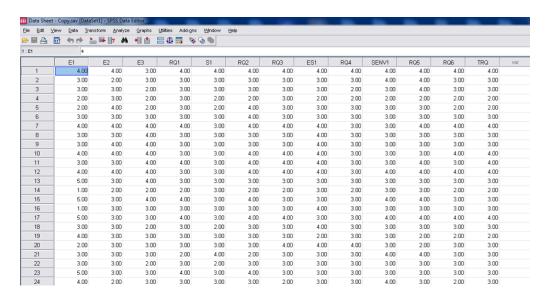


Figure 3. Data view in SPSS

From Figure 3, It can be seen the questionnaire's question number and their corresponding answers to the target population. The answers were converted in such a way that they could be put in the software and analysed. In the variable view, this software shows the types of question and their characteristics.

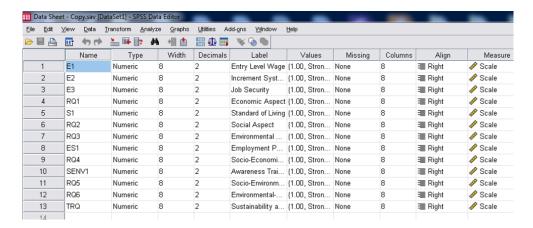


Figure 4. Variable view in SPSS

#### Cronbach's Alpha

The reliability of any scores is calculated using the Cronbach alpha test method. Internal consistency and reliability measurement is needed, where the 5-point Likert scale method is used for questionnaires. Therefore, Cronbach's alpha coefficient measurement method is crucial. Cronbach's alpha was applied to estimate the reliability of bulk items, not individual ones [16,17]. A formula (Equation 1) is used to analyze the reliability test result.

Cronbach's alpha (CA)= 
$$\frac{rm}{[1+(m-1)r]}$$
 (1)

The r = The mean of the inter-item correlations, and m = The number of items considered. The reliability test is calculated using a value range from 0 to 1 to assess the score. CA > 0.9 = Excellent, CA > 0.8 = Good, CA > 0.7 = Acceptable, CA > 0.6 = Questionable, CA > 0.5 = Poor and <math>CA < 0.5 = CA > 0.5 = CA

Sometimes lower reliability may show in the Cronbach alpha value for scores that have a smaller number of items. The results can also be varied due to the sample size [19].

#### Regression

Regression analysis, a statistical method, is mainly used for forecasting the relationship among variables (independent and dependent) which have cause and effect relationships. Based on the

number of independent variables, regression analysis can be classified as univariate (used one independent variable) and multivariate (used more than one independent variable) regression analysis. The main purpose of univariate regression analysis is to create a linear relation equation between dependent and independent variables by investigating their relationship. The connection between a dependent variable and more than one independent variable is investigated by multivariate regression analysis [20].

#### Coefficient of Determination (R square/R<sup>2</sup>)

The coefficient of determination is a statistical measurement that measures how variations in one variable may be expounded by differences in another. R<sup>2</sup> also measures the linear relationship between the variables. R<sup>2</sup> is the proportion of the variance in the dependent variable that can be anticipated using the independent variables.

The value of  $R^2$  ranges from  $-\infty$  to +1.  $R^2$  has a range of non-negative is [0,1]. Where 0 means no variability in the available data and 1 means perfect anticipation. And a negative value, meaning the poor performance of the regression model. But it is hard to say how poorly a model performs. If  $R^2 = -0.4$ , it cannot be said how bad the model performs as the lower limit of the model is  $-\infty$ .

The formula for calculating R<sup>2</sup> is stated below.

$$R^{2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{m} (X_{n} - Y_{n})^{2}}{\sum_{n=1}^{m} (\bar{Y} - Y_{n})^{2}}$$
 (2)

$$\bar{\mathbf{Y}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{n=1}^{m} Y_n \tag{3}$$

 $X_{n=}$  the forecasted nth value,  $Y_n=$  the actual nth value. For each  $Y_n$  element in the ground truth dataset, the regression approach predicts the  $X_n$  element [21].

#### **Analysis of variance**

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) is a parametric tool that is applied to assess the variations between several different groups and thus bypass the problems of making numerous comparisons between the groups. ANOVA is a complex and subtle method and cannot offer a clear idea about the comparisons of the numerous groups [22,23].

Univariate ANOVA is a reduction of multivariate ANOVA (MANOVA). Each condition provides a single measurement in univariate ANOVA. In MANOVA, the number of measurements should be greater than the number of variables. MANOVA is an expansion of ANOVA [24]. In repeated measures,

ANOVA, every level of multiple factors is quantified on the same subject. It is also known as factors within the subject. In between-subject factors, the levels should not be quantified every time; the levels are independent. Mixed ANOVA is a combination of both within-subject factors and between-subject factors. Additional covariates are added in the analysis of covariance (ANCOVA), where conditions are determined [25]. ANCOVA is applied in between-subjects factors, within-subjects factors, or mixed-model factors [26].

#### Beta

The slope of the line that connects the predictor and the dependent variables in a regression table is characterized by the value of Beta [19].

#### Multicollinearity

The term multicollinearity occurs in multiple regression analysis systems that signal a linear relationship among independent variables. The variables used in the regression analysis are considerably correlated to the dependent variables and each other [27]. Multicollinearity is noticed when a variable is included or removed, or data are changed or deleted [28].

#### **Tolerance**

Tolerance is derived using an initial linear regression analysis, which quantifies the influence of an independent variable on all other independent variables. In this first-step regression assessment, tolerance is specified as  $T = 1 - R^2$ . There may be multicollinearity in the data if T is less than 0.1, and there is multicollinearity if T is greater than 0.01 [19].

#### **Variance inflation factor**

When independent variables are correlated, VIF (Variance Inflation Factor) calculates how much the variance of an expected regression coefficient increases. When VIF= 1, multicollinearity is absent and no factors are correlated, when VIF> 1, regressors are comparatively correlated. The correlation becomes high for VIF= 5-10, which is challenging. If due to multicellularity, regression coefficients are incorrectly predicted, then the VIF would be above 10 [29].

#### **Pearson correlation**

Pearson's correlation is a statistical technique for defining the relationship between two arbitrary variables. The changes in the magnitude of the two variables are interrelated. The change of one variable influences the other either in the same (positive correlation) or opposite direction (negative correlation). Pearson's correlation is applied in bivariate normal distributions. The value of r measures

the relationship between the variables. When r=0, means that there is no linear relationship between the variables, with increasing the value of r, the relationship becomes stronger, and when  $r=\pm 1$ , the relationship becomes a straight line [30].

The following formula (Equation 4) is used to compute the Pearson correlation:

$$\frac{N(\sum xy) - (\sum x)(\sum y)}{\sqrt{[N\sum x^2 - (\sum x)^2][N\sum y^2 - (\sum y)^2]}}$$
(4)

Where, r = Pearson correlation coefficient; N = No. of observations;  $\sum xy = \text{sum of the multiplication of } x \& y \text{ scores}; \sum x = \text{sum of } x \text{ scores}; \sum y = \text{sum of } y \text{ scores}; \sum x^2 = \text{sum of squared } x \text{ scores}; \sum y^2 = \text{sum of squared } y \text{ scores}$  [27].

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### STATISTICAL EVALUATION

#### **Reliability Assessment**

Using the Cronbach alpha (CA) method, the reliability of the collected data was calculated. CA signifies the general reliability of a set of variables. The standard value of CA is 0.70. In this study, we found that the CA is 0.939 which illustrates a high level of internal consistency for the scale of this sample.

Table 1. Reliability statistics

CA	CA based on standardized items	No. of items
0.937	0.943	7

#### **Multiple Regression Analysis**

In multiple regression analysis, two or more independent variables (predictors) affect a single dependent variable. As there is a dependent variable that is sustainability at the white-collar workers level and six predictors are the environmental-economic aspect, socio-economic aspect, socio-environmental aspect, social aspect, environmental aspect, and economic aspect. Therefore, this regression is a Multiple Regression. The value of R<sup>2</sup> in the model summary table is 0.950 which indicates taken as a set that the predictors account for 93.4% of the variance in the sustainability at the managers level.

Table 2. Multiple regression analysis

Model	R	R <sup>2</sup>	Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	Std. error of the estimate		
1	0.975ª	0.950	0.934	0.18895		

#### **ANOVA**

- a. Predictors: (constant), social-economic, social, environmental, environmental-economic, economic, and socio-environmental.
- b. Dependent variable: sustainability at the producer level (managers).

From the ANOVA Table 3 it is clearly observed that, F(60032) = 25, p < 0.001,  $R^2 = 0.950$ . Above these results indicate that our regression analysis was statistically significant. When we take those six predictors as a group, they predict sustainability at the white-collar person level significantly.

Table 3. ANOVA

Model	Sum of squares	df	Mean square	F	Sig.
Regression	12.860	6	2.143	60.032	0.000a
Residual	0.678	19	0.036		
Total	13.538	25			

#### Coefficient

In coefficient table 4, the constant is not important, and we must focus on the significance columns which are p values for each of the predictors. Therefore, we will evaluate each of these predictors based on  $\alpha$  (0.05). It was found that the p-value for all predictors or independent variables is 0.000 which means p <  $\alpha$ . As a result, we can say that all independent variables are a significant predictor of sustainability at the managers level. From the coefficient table, it can be said that all the predictors of sustainability aspect have a great impact on sustainability at the managers level. Here, the sequence of the significance of the predictors on the dependent variable can be expressed as follows:

Table 4. Coefficients

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity test	
	B Std. Error Beta				Tolerance	VIF	
(Constant)	-0.020	0.024		-0.862	0.391		
Social research dimension	0.179	0.010	0.212	17.328	0.000	0.412	2.428
Economic-Social Research dimension	0.212	0.011	0.235	18.598	0.000	0.386	2.598
Economic Research Dimension	0.169	0.010	0.201	17.316	0.000	0.458	2.181
Environmental-Economic Research Dimension	0.172	0.011	0.235	16.355	0.000	0.298	3.351
Environmental Research Dimension	0.206	0.011	0.237	19.635	0.000	0.423	2.365
Socio-Environmental Research Dimension	0.062	0.007	0.091	8.705	0.000	0.566	1.767

a. Dependent Variable: Sustainability at managers Level.

Economic Aspect> Social Aspect> Socio-Economical Aspect> Socio-Environmental Aspect> Environmental Aspect> Environmental-Economic Aspect.

If the tolerance value <0.1 and VIF= 10 or more, then multicollinearity is present in the analysis, which means a very high intercorrelation between the predictors. The presence of multicollinearity in the data causes a disturbance. The data may not be reliable. From the table of coefficients 4, we can clearly say that our analysis is free from multicollinearity.

#### **Regression Equation**

Sustainability at the managers level =  $-0.020 + (0.179 \times Social aspect) + (0.212 \times Economic-social aspect) + (0.169 \times Economical aspect) + (0.172 \times Environmental-economic aspect) + (0.206 \times Environmental aspect) + (0.062 \times Socio-environmental aspect)$ 

From the above equation, it is clear that '1' point increase in the dimension of economic-social research corresponds to '0.212' unit increase in sustainability at the level of managers.

#### **Pearson Correlation**

The Pearson's Correlation table exhibits a correlation matrix. Here, we can see a perfect correlation between sustainability at the managers level and with socio-environmental aspects. On the other hand, we can see a high-level correlation between environmental aspects, economic aspects, and social aspects with the dependent variable, whereas moderate correlation between the dependent variable through environmental-economic aspect and economic-social aspects.

Table 5. Pearson correlation

		Sustainabi lity at the producer level	Social	Economic	Environmental	Socio- environ mental	Environm ental- economic	Social- economic
	Pearson	4	0.807	0.741	0.782	0.885	0.822	0.852
Sustainability at	Corr.	1	**	**	**	**	**	**
the producer	Sig. (2-		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
level	tailed)		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Pearson	0.807		0.691	0.681	0.748	0.702	0.570
	Corr.	**	1	**	**	**	**	**
Social	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Pearson	0.741	0.691		0.390	0.775	0.715	0.663
	Corr.	**	**	1	*	**	**	**
Economic	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000	0.000		0.049	0.000	0.000	0.000
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Pearson	0.782	0.681	0.390		0.616	0.580	0.601
	Corr.	**	**	*	1	**	**	**
Environmental	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.049		0.001	0.002	0.001
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Pearson	0.885	0.748	0.775	0.616		0.702	0.728
	Corr.	**	**	**	**	1	**	**
Socio- environmental	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001		0.000	0.000
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Environmental- economic	Pearson Corr.	0.822	0.702	0.715	0.580	0.702	1	0.716

		Sustainabi lity at the producer level	Social	Economic	Environmental	Socio- environ mental	Environm ental- economic	Social- economic
Environmental- economic	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.000		0.000
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
	Pearson Corr.	0.852	0.570	0.663	0.601	0.728	0.716	1
Social-economic	Sig. (2- tailed)	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	
	N	26	26	26	26	26	26	26

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is important at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

Table 6. Analysis of Pearson co-relation

		Sustainability at the examinee level	Social research dim.	Economic- social research dim.	Economic research dim.	ental- economic research dim.	Environ mental research dim.	Socio- environmental research dim.	
Sustainability	Pearson Corr.	1	0.652 ****	0.550 ***	0.733	0.573	0.610	0.821	
Issue	Sig.(2- tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
*		0	.000-0.200			Almost no co	rrelation/ver	y low	
**		0	.210-0.400			Poor (	Correlation		
***		0	.410-0.600		Moderate Correlation				
****		0	.610-0.800		High-level Correlation				
****		0	.810-1.000		Perfect Correlation				

#### **ANALYSIS OF FEEDBACK FROM RESPONDENTS**

The feedback received from the managers of the industry is shown in Table 7. The feedback was taken based on the various aspects of sustainability. The success and barriers to sustainability have been measured from the feedback of the respondents.

<sup>\*.</sup> Correlation is important at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Table 7. Responses from respondents

Research		Percentage of Respondents							
Question	Aspect	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree			
Number		(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)			
1	Economic	35	50	15	0	0			
2	Social	46	42	12	0	0			
3	Environmental	50	50	0	0	0			
4	Economic-social	61	20	15	4	0			
5	Socio-environmental	46	39	15	0	0			
6	Environmental-economic	46	42	12	0	0			
	Target research question	47	40	10	3	0			

#### **Respondent Feedback on Economic Aspect of Industry**

From Figure 4 it is seen that 35%, 50%, and 15% of the managers strongly agreed, agreed, and neutral, respectively, with the development of sustainability in the economic aspect of their industry. However, no one disagreed or strongly disagreed with the assertion. The main barrier to the development of sustainability in economic aspects may be the insufficient investment in the textile industry of the factory owners. Those who were neutral were confused about the statement, or they could not want to disclose the fact. And that turned toward the disagreement of the statement. Nobody disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement. This means that the maximum number of respondents believe that the development and implementation of sustainability in the economic sector of the industry are satisfactory.

#### **Respondent Feedback on Social Aspect of Workplace**

From figure 4, the column graph explains that 46%, 42% and 12% of the managers strongly agreed, agreed, and neutral, respectively, that the social aspect of their workplace was suitable and satisfactory for them. However, 0% of the managers disagreed and strongly disagreed with the statement. The main barrier to sustainability in the industry in terms of social aspects may be the lack of facilities. The social status, health, and hygiene security, educational facilities, daycare facilities for female workers, zero child labor, etc. make the social aspect of the industry satisfactory.

#### Respondent Feedback at Environmental Aspect Workplace

Half of the managers strongly agreed and half of them agreed, respectively, with the development of sustainability in the environmental aspect of their workplace was suitable and satisfactory for them.

On the other hand, no one remains neutral, disagreed, or strongly disagreed with their opinion of the statement. Everyone is in favor of sustainability in the industry. The reason behind the barriers to implementation of 100% sustainability in environmental aspects may be a lack of adequate knowledge about sustainability and its impact on the environment. The development and implementation of sustainability is necessary for the textile industry, as it emits huge amounts of waste, carcinogenic chemicals, etc.

#### Respondent Feedback on Economic-Social Aspect of Industry

The graph presented in figure 4 shows that 61%, 20%, 15%, 4%, and 0% of the managers strongly agreed, agreed, neutral, disagreed, and strongly disagreed, respectively, with the development of sustainability in the economic-social aspect of their industry. They (managers) indicated very few problems which act as barriers to the social-economic aspect of the development of sustainability in Bangladeshi textile industries. Bangladesh is a low-cost labor country. So, the manufacturing cost of the textile industry becomes less in Bangladesh rather than in other countries. The buyers also prefer Bangladesh for low-cost quality products. The quality of products depends on the skill, experience, quality of the raw materials, and the balanced management of the workers.

#### Respondent Feedback on Social-Environmental Aspect of Workplace

The 46%, 39%, and 15% of the managers strongly agree, agree, and are neutral, respectively, with the development of sustainability in the social-environmental aspect of their workplace that was suitable and satisfactory for them, as shown in Figure 4. On the other hand, 15% of the respondents remain neutral in their opinion. However, none of the managers disagreed or strongly disagreed with the assertion. The textile industry uses a huge amount of natural fibers including cotton, jute, etc. The processing of these fibers produces huge amounts of wastewater and effluents. Besides, every step of garment manufacturing produces a lot of waste. During dyeing, various carcinogenic and environmentally harmful chemicals are used that generate polluted water. All of these wastes are discharged into the river or nearby locality. The majority of factories do not have ETP or WTP plants. Those that have do not use it regularly. This poses a huge threat to the environment. Steps must be taken to properly discharge waste and effluents and ensure a clean, green, and healthy environment for all.

#### Respondent Feedback on Environmental-Economic Aspect of Workplace

From Figure 5, it is evident that 46%, 42%, and 12% of the respondents strongly agree, agree, and neutral, respectively, with the development of sustainability in the environmental-economic aspect of

their workplace that was suitable and satisfactory for them. However, none of the managers disagreed or strongly disagreed with the assertion. The environment and economy play an important role because both are equally needed for a balanced structure. The main barriers to sustainability in this respect are the use of hazardous, harmful chemicals, and raw materials in textile processing, the use of low-cost materials, the lack of proper maintenance, and the failure to use the ETP or WTP regularly. We can use alternative methods to overcome the situations. Using dry dying, eco-friendly processes, less energy utilization, and implementation of 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle).

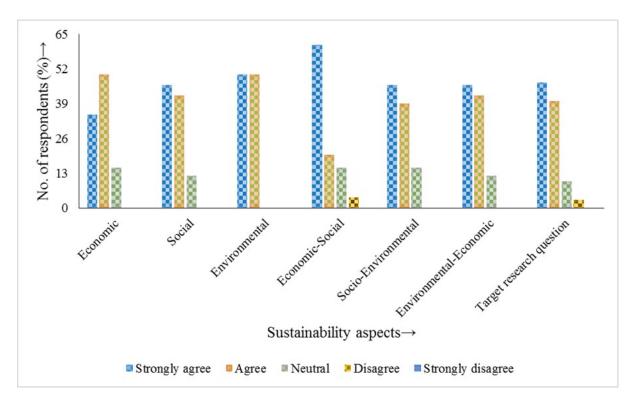


Figure 5. Graphical representation of different sustainability aspects of the respondents

#### **Comparative Profile of Success and Barriers**

Figure 6 explains the barriers and success factors of sustainability at the producer level. It shows that success factors are greater than barriers. The main barriers in respect of the Bangladeshi textile industry are a lack of proper knowledge on the sustainability issue and reuse, recycling, and the reduction process not available in each factory. The factory owners and management are not concerned about the sustainability issue and its effect on society and the environment. The textile industry does not pay attention to the waste and hazards it creates. This waste has a severe impact on the environment and human beings. For the betterment of all, we should be aware of the impact of

these wastes. The law should be strict for the industry administration so that they can not do any harm to the environment by their negligent, and nonchalant attitude.

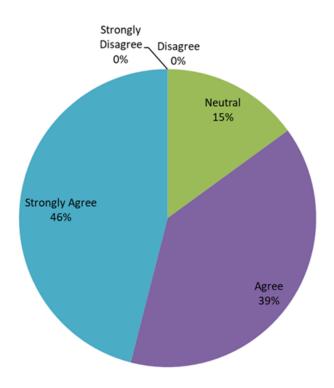


Figure 6. The comparative scenario of success and barriers

#### **CONCLUSION**

The depletion of natural resources and increasing pollution has led to the need for sustainability. In the world of modernization and industrialization, sustainability is mandatory for every sector. The Bangladeshi textile industries use a large number of natural resources and also generate a massive quantity of waste. Changing all the underlying barriers into successes and ensuring sustainability in Bangladeshi textile sectors is a very tough task. A strong background study is needed. The task at the producer level for the managers in the Bangladeshi textile sector was made. The statistical data were surveyed and analyzed. It was concluded that there are more success factors than barriers. The textile industries are one step ahead of sustainability implementation. Despite that, awareness must be increased among owners, officers, executives, and workers to minimize the gap between barriers and successes. Some of our findings about the barriers to implementing sustainability are that many industries do not reveal their views in terms of sustainability, owners are too busy to look after the issues, and owners are negligent at some point. This article could be very useful to the textile industry management bodies to update the sustainability status of the industry. The industry could use the

method to identify the barriers to sustainability existing in the industry and ways of converting barriers into success. The article theoretically shows the method of surveying through questionnaires and practically analyzing the data using software and drawing a conclusion from the data. The necessary steps should be taken by both government and industry to minimize barriers and ensure sustainability in the textile industry.

#### **Author Contributions**

Conceptualization – Akter N and Baral LM; methodology – Akter N, Baral LM and Rashed MFR; formal analysis – Akter N, Auntu SK and Alim MA; investigation – Akter N, Baral LM, Auntu SK and Rashed MFR; resources – Akter N, Baral LM and Rashed MFR; writing-original draft preparation – Akter N, Auntu SK and Alim MA; writing-review and editing – Akter N, Baral LM, Auntu SK and Alim MA; visualization – Akter N, Auntu SK and Rashed MFR; supervision – Akter N and Auntu SK. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

#### Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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