SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HUMAN CAPITAL AND MBA EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

Sustainable economic development, according to its common definition, is the economic development that attempts to meet the current needs of human beings but in a manner that sustains natural resources and without compromising the ability of future generations to satisfy their own needs. One of the most important factors and sources for sustainable economic development in a country is human capital. Human capital refers the knowledge, skills and experience possessed by an individual or population that can be used to create economic value for the individuals, and for the society. The quality of human capital will be determinative of sustainable economic development. Education, on the other hand, is the most important and the initial step in improving the quality of human capital and in achieving a sufficient level of qualification regarding human capital. In other words, education is an investment in human capital that pays off in terms of higher productivity. Today, in addition to undergraduate education, graduate education programs, especially Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs, make a greater contribution in upgrading the quality of the human capital. MBA programs have become widespread in many countries around the world. There is a necessity of measuring the quality level of human capital which is provided by the education especially, MBA programs. Within the framework of this necessity, in this paper, it is aimed to measure the level of contribution of MBA programs to human capital in Turkey.

Keywords: MBA education, human capital, sustainable economic development.