

Exploring the Influence of Facilities Management Sustainability Objectives on Office Work Practices: A Social Practice Perspective

Exploring the Influence of Facilities Management Sustainability Objectives on Workplace Setup: A Social Practice Perspective

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SUMMARY

The global drive toward achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has led organizations to embed sustainability objectives within their strategic frameworks. Facilities managers play a pivotal role in steering sustainability initiatives by ensuring that the built environment aligns with these objectives. However, the translation of organizational sustainability strategies into day-to-day work practices remains underexplored. This study adopts a social practice perspective to investigate how facilities management sustainability objectives influence office work practices and the extent to which sustainability consciousness shapes setup of physical environment in which office work is accomplished. Using a qualitative approach, the research explores the lived experiences of office workers in a situated case and examines their engagement with sustainability initiatives within the workplace. Through in-depth semi-structured interviews, participant observation and document analysis, the study examines how sustainability agendas are internalized and enacted by employees. Key areas of investigation include resource efficiency, waste reduction, and environmentally conscious task execution. This approach highlights the interplay between organizational sustainability goals, material arrangements, and workers' routines. Preliminary findings suggest that while sustainability objectives are increasingly emphasized in organizational strategies, their impact on everyday work practices varies significantly. This study seeks to contribute to understanding how workers' preferences contribute to the attainment of sustainability objectives and emphasizes the importance of fostering a collective sense of responsibility among workers. It also identifies opportunities for facilities managers to design interventions that bridge the gap between organizational goals and worker actions. The study argues that a social practice perspective provides valuable insights into the social and material dimensions of sustainability in the workplace. By emphasizing shared practices and interactions, facilities managers can better align worker preferences with sustainability objectives, thereby advancing both organizational and global sustainability agendas.

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