

Educational Management Through a Complexity Perspective: Challenges and Opportunities for Sustainable Development

Author: Dr. Yunaika Venegas Camejo

Email: yunaikavenegas@gmail.com

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8667-5185>

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ABSTRACT

This scientific documentary article analyzes educational management from the paradigm of complexity, examining its potential to reorient institutional practices toward sustainable development. The general objective was to analyze the foundations, challenges, and opportunities that the complexity approach presents for educational management, examining its potential to reorient administrative and pedagogical practices toward achieving sustainable development. Methodologically, it was based on a hermeneutic analysis of specialized sources, following a rigorous documentary design. The results, organized along two axes, reveal, on the one hand, profound structural challenges, such as the inertia of reductionist and bureaucratic management models. On the other hand, they identify enabling principles, such as responsible autonomy, contextualization, and facilitative leadership. The discussion contrasts the perspectives of authors such as Morin, Flores Crespo, Sautu, and Cortese, demonstrating that obstacles and opportunities exist in a dialectical relationship, where the very crisis of the traditional model generates the pressure to innovate. It is concluded that management with a focus on complexity is a necessary condition for educational institutions to transform into living microcosms of sustainability. This requires moving beyond instrumental logic and adopting an ethical and epistemological stance that prioritizes systemic thinking, institutional coherence, and the collective construction of viable futures, making education a true agent of socio-environmental transformation.

Keywords: Educational Management, complexity: challenges, opportunities, sustainable development.

Biographical Sketch: Bachelor's degree in accounting, Master's degree in Human Resources Management, PhD in Educational Innovations.