



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: FUTURE GENERATION'S NEEDS

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ABSTRACT

The term “Sustainable Development” was used by the Brundtland Commission. It means the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs. Sustainable development refers to mode of human development in which resource use aims to meet human needs while preserving the environment so that these need can be met not only in present, but also for generations to come. The goal of sustainable development is to improve living standards and the quality of people’s lives, both present and for future generation. The concept of sustainability relates to the maintenance and enhancement of environmental, social & economic resources, in order to meet the needs of current and future generations. The concept of sustainable development has been broken into four pillars – 1) Environmental Sustainability 2) Economic Sustainability 3) Socio-political Sustainability 4) Cultural Sustainability. This paper tries to highlight the sustainable development, environmental ethics, environmental values, functional changes in lifestyles and all possible efforts towards environmental protection are most urgently needed.

Keywords : Sustainable development, Environment , Values, Lifestyles, Protection.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of sustainable development can be interpreted in many different ways, but at its core is an approach to development that looks to balance different, and often competing, needs against an awareness of the environmental, social and economic limitations we face as a society. Mankind was using technology in ways that were adversely affecting nature, day by day the resources are getting depleted and consumption had been increased manifold by the human .with the view to safegaurd nature and its valuable resource ,idea of sustainable development was introduced.

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development has continued to evolve as that of protecting the world’s resources while its true agenda is to control the world’s resources. Environmentally sustainable economic growth refers to economic development that meets the needs of all without leaving future generations with fewer natural resources than those we enjoy today. The essence of this form of development is a stable relationship between human activities and the natural world, which does not diminish the prospects for future generations to enjoy a quality of life at least as good as our own.

The aim of sustainable development is to balance our economic, environmental and social needs, allowing prosperity for now and future generations. Sustainable development consists of a long-term, integrated approach to developing and achieving a healthy community by jointly addressing economic, environmental, and social issues, whilst avoiding the over consumption of key natural resources.

Sustainable development encourages us to conserve and enhance our resource base, by gradually changing the ways in which we develop and use technologies. Countries must be allowed to meet their basic needs of employment, food, energy, water and sanitation.

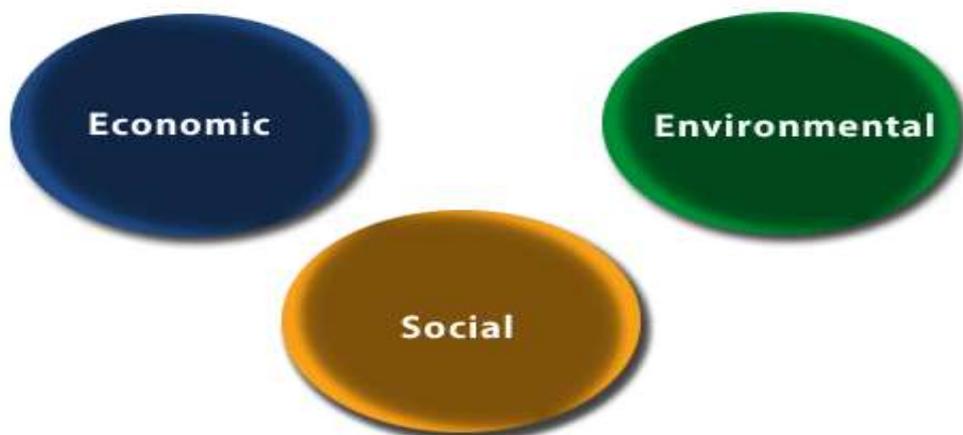
If this is to be done in a sustainable manner, then there is a definite need for a sustainable level of population. Economic growth should be supported and developing nations should be allowed a growth of equal quality to the developed nations. There are four objectives of sustainable development:

These include social progress and equality, environmental protection, conservation of natural resources and stable economic growth. Everybody has the right to a healthy, clean and safe environment. Everybody has the right to a healthy, clean and safe environment.

This can be achieved by reducing pollution, poverty, poor housing and unemployment. No one, in this age, or in the future should be treated unfairly. Global environmental threats, such as climate change and poor air quality must be reduced to protect human and environmental health. The use of non-renewable resources such as fossil fuels should not be stopped overnight, but they must be used efficiently and the development of alternatives should be encouraged to help phase them out.

Everybody has the right to a good standard of living, with better job opportunities. Economic prosperity is required if our country is to prosper and our businesses must therefore offer a high standard of products that consumers throughout the world want, at the prices they are prepared to pay. For this, we need a workforce equipped with suitable skills and education within a framework to support them.

DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- **Environmental Sustainability**-Environmental Sustainability can be defined as the capacity to preserve over time the three basic functions of the environment: the resource supply function, the waste receiver function and that of direct usefulness. In other words, within a territory (area / region), environmental sustainability means the capacity to increase and bring up the value of the environment and its peculiarities, while assuring the protection and the renewal of natural resources and the environmental patrimony.
- **Economic Sustainability** – Economic Sustainability can be defined as the capacity of an economic system to generate a constant and improving growth of its economical indicators. In particular, the capacity to generate incomes and employment in order to sustain the populations. Within a territorial system, economic sustainability means the capability, through the most efficient mix of resources, to produce and maintain the highest added value, in order enhance the specificity of territorial products and services.
- **Social Sustainability** –Social Sustainability can be defined as the ability to guarantee welfare (security, health, education), equitably distributed among social classes and gender. Within a territory, Social Sustainability means the capacity of the different social actors (stakeholders), to interact efficiently, to aim towards the same goals, encouraged by the close interaction of the Institutions, at all levels.

IMPORTANT MEASURES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

(i)Technology:

Using appropriate technology is one which is locally adaptable, eco-friendly, resource efficient and culturally suitable. It mostly involves local resources and local labour. Indigenous technologies are more useful, cost-effective and sustainable. Nature is often taken as a model, using the natural conditions of that region as its components. This concept is known as “design with nature”. The technology should use less of resources and should produce minimum waste.

(ii) Six R’s for Sustainable Development

The principle of reducing waste, reusing and recycling resources and products is often called the "3Rs" which aims to build a sound-material-cycle society through the effective use of resources and materials. Upgrading the idea of 3Rs The Prime Minister Narendra Modi, proposed the six R’s that countries should adopt: "We need to follow the six Rs that stand for reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, redesign and remanufacture; this will lead to rejoicing meaning 'Anand'."

(iii) Promoting Environmental Education and Awareness:

Making environmental education the centre of all learning process will greatly help in changing the thinking pattern and attitude of people towards our earth and the environment. Introducing subject right from the school stage will inculcate a feeling of belongingness to earth in small children. ‘Earth thinking’ will gradually get incorporated in our thinking and action which will greatly help in transforming our lifestyles to sustainable ones.

(iv) Resource Utilization as Per Carrying Capacity:

Any system can sustain a limited number of organisms on a long-term basis which is known as its carrying capacity. In case of human beings, the carrying capacity concept becomes all the more complex. It is because unlike other animals, human beings, not only need food to live, but need so many other things to maintain the quality of life. Sustainability of a system depends

largely upon the carrying capacity of the system. If the carrying capacity of a system is crossed (say, by over exploitation of a resource), environmental degradation starts and continues till it reaches a point of no return.

Carrying capacity has two basic components:

- i. Supporting capacity i.e. the capacity to regenerate
- ii. Assimilative capacity i.e. the capacity to tolerate different stresses.

In order to attain sustainability it is very important to utilize the resources based upon the above two properties of the system. Consumption should not exceed regeneration and changes should not be allowed to occur beyond the tolerance capacity of the system.

(v) Improving Quality of Life Including Social, Cultural and Economic Dimensions:

Development should not focus just on one-section of already affluent people. Rather it should include sharing of benefits between the rich and the poor. The tribal, ethnic people and their cultural heritage should also be conserved. Strong community participation should be there in policy and practice. Population growth should be stabilized.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Sustainable development is a vision and a way of thinking and acting so that we can secure the resources and environment for our future generation. It will not be brought about by policies only — it must be taken up by society at large as a principle guiding the many choices each citizen makes every day, as well as the big political and economic decisions that affect many. We can only improve sustainable development when it will put an emphasis on involving citizens and stakeholders. Ultimately, the vision will become reality only if everybody contributes to a world where economic freedom, social justice and environmental protection go hand in hand, making our own and future generations better off than now.

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