

# A REVIEW ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ETHICS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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**ABSTRACT:** *The natural resources are badly exploited by humans due to scientific and technological development. So there arises the need of the conservation of the natural resources. The conservation of environmental resources refers to management of human use of biosphere so that it yields maximum sustainable benefit to the present generation while maintaining its potential to meet the requirements of the future generations. This newer concept of development has come to be known as "Sustainable Development". Sustainable development means 'addressing today's needs without undermining future generations' capacity to fulfill their own needs.' It is a very complicated and broad definition that combines the following concepts. Principles to which development practices are explicitly or indirectly applicable: (a) economic sustainability; (b) environmental sustainability; (c) social sustainability; and (d) cultural sustainability. There are intra-generational as well as inter-generational equities and many approaches to sustainable growth. It also has some major steps that will be presented here.*

**KEYWORDS:** *Sustainable development, Environmental ethics, Generational equity, Carrying capacity, Biodiversity.*

## INTRODUCTION

Environmental resource protection refers to the management of the human use of the biosphere in order to provide the present generation with full environmental benefit while preserving its ability to meet the needs of future generations. This new definition of growth has become known as "Sustainable Development," described as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to satisfy their own needs." The Norwegian Prime Minister, Gro Harlem Brundtland (1987), who was also the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) from 1998 to 2003, provided this concept. She chaired the UN's World Commission for Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission), published the report 'Our Common Future,' also known as the "Brundtland Report," in 1987[1]. Influenced by the International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) 'World Conservation Plan' of 1980, the study established the concept of sustainable development as stated above. The publication of the report is seen as a landmark in raising international awareness of the value of global sustainable development and in the debate. Sustainable development has become a buzz word today and hundreds of projects have been launched on behalf of developing sustainably.

As a consequence of scientific and technological progress, natural resources are poorly abused by humans. Air, water and food are all contaminated and through overexploitation of natural resources, people are heading towards indiscriminate growth. If growth continues in the same way, as indicated by Meadows et al, (1972) in their world-famous academic study "doom day" humans will face a "The Limits to Growth" very soon[2]. In fact, this is unsustainable growth that will lead to the inter-related collapse of this planet's processes. From time to time, a number of scientists such as Glowka et al, (1994), Kaushik et

al, (2008), Odum (1971), Subba Rao (2001), Chris Maser (2009), Deswal et al, (2012) and Verma et al, (2012) have already detailed and defined the various aspects of the climate, biodiversity and other related issues (2016 and 2017a)[3][4][5]. Oh, Verma A.K. The (a) multiple in depth impact of unsustainable agriculture (2017b), (b) environmental ethics: the need to reconsider (2017c), (c) the need for ecological equilibrium for widespread biodiversity (2017d), (d) ecological equilibrium: the need for human survival (2018a) and (e) unsustainable agriculture, ecological ethics and biodiversity (2017a) ecological equilibrium (2018b).

### *Development from the Unsustainability towards the Sustainability*

When current advancement is at the detriment of future generations, unsustainable growth occurs. Irresponsible preparation and degrading the climate. Some of the reasons are the production of waste and contaminants through the use of resources. In the long run, such activities are not sustainable. Climate warming, ozone shield depletion, land and water acidification, desertification and soil degradation, deforestation and forest decline, reduced land and water productivity, and the extinction of species and populations indicate that the demand for human beings exceeds the capacity to sustain the environment[6]. Environmental destruction, inadequate planning and the indiscriminate exploitation of resources are signs of unsustainable growth. Excess levels of waste and contaminants have worsening effects on the environment, destroying biodiversity in turn. Sustainable development, actually, is not a new phenomenon. It literally means living in harmony with nature in complete appreciation of the needs of all other animals. This is not just 'survival of the fittest,' for each species has a role to play that is eventually beneficial to the planet and all its human population, humans must assist even the weakest of the species to survive. The needs of people in different parts of the globe may vary, but there is a common dependence on nature. The most important thing to note is that there is only one world, and our children will not have a place to live if we ruin it by our actions. Therefore, the harmonious coexistence of all living beings in a balanced way with the world is an essential requirement today.

True sustainable development is the best use of natural resources with a high level of reusability, minimal waste, minimum toxic generation. Byproducts and optimum performance. The multi-dimensional definition of sustainable development integrates the interactions between society, economic and environmental issues. It also looks at gender and age equality, races and genders, nations and continents. It requires, on the one hand, social growth and economic opportunities and, on the other, environmental requirements. It is focused on improving the quality of life for all, especially the poor and the poor, within the carrying capacity of the ecosystem assisting. It is a mechanism that results in a better quality of life while reducing the environmental effects.

The sustainable development has both intergenerational and intra-generational equities as following:

- i. Intergenerational equity: this form of equity reflects, for the benefit of future generations, the protection of natural resources and the environment. It expects minimal adverse impacts for future generations on resources and the climate, i.e. we should pass on to our future generations a stable, secure and resourceful environment. This is only possible here if we (a) avoid resource over-exploitation (b) reduce discharge of waste and pollution (c) preserve ecological balance.

- ii. Intra-generational equity: In terms of resource use, it deals with equality within the same generation. It requires the equal use of global resources among the people of the present generation. Around the global stage. The principle of intra-generational equity provides every participant of a single generation with rights and obligations to use and take moderate care of renewable and non-renewable resources among the members of the single generation. That century. It stresses that the mechanisms of growth should aim to minimize the wealth differences within and between nations. Development-related technological development can promote the economic growth of developing countries and help to narrow the gap in income and contribute to sustainability.

The Sustainable Development Indicators (SDI) are the different statistical values that assess the ability to meet current and future needs collectively. The SDI would provide information vital to national policy decisions and to the general public. The following are some important sustainable development measures:

- a. Usage of appropriate technology: This technology is one that is locally adaptable, environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient and culturally appropriate. Local capital and local labor are mostly involved. More useful, cost-effective and sustainable are indigenous technologies. Technology can make less use of resources and create less waste.
- b. Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Approach: In order to meet the goals of sustainability, this 3-R approach stresses the minimization of resource use, using them again and again instead of throwing them on to the waste stream and recycling the resources goes a long way[7]. As well as reducing waste generation and emissions, it decreases pressure on our energy.
- c. Environmental Education and Awareness Promotion: Environmental education will profoundly help to shift people's thought habits and perceptions towards our world and the environment[8]. Introducing the topic right from the school level would create a healthy and caring feeling for young children on earth. Planet thinking will eventually be integrated into our minds and behaviours that will greatly help turn our lifestyles into sustainable ones.
- d. Improving social, cultural and economic dimensions: growth does not rely only on one group of people who are already affluent. It should instead require the sharing of advantages between the wealthy and the poor. It should also protect the tribal, national, and cultural heritage of the people. There should be good group engagement in policy and practice. Development in populations should be stabilized.
- e. Use of resources according to carrying capacity: Any system can support a limited number of species, known as its carrying capacity, on a long-term basis. But in order to sustain the quality of life, human beings not only need food to survive, but also need so many other things. The viability of a scheme is largely dependent on the system's carrying capacity. If the carrying element is a system's potential is crossed by over-exploitation of a resource, beginning and continuing environmental degradation until it reaches a point of no return.

### *Ethics of the Environment*

Environmental ethics is a type of philosophy which deals with the study of human and environmental relationships. It requires a moral account of the human approach to natural resources and assumes that as a member of humanity, humans and other living beings. Morality refers to the idea of 'right or wrong' applied to human ethics, used in three contexts: individual conscience, values and decisions. Collectively, all three constitute

moral principles. Moral values that aim to describe one's environmental obligation are referred to as 'environmental ethics' or 'environmental philosophy' that takes into account the ethical relationship between humans and the natural environment. Therefore, environmental ethics investigate the relationship between humans and the environment and how ethics play a part in this. Environmental ethics agree that, like plants and livestock, humans are a part of society as well as all living beings. As a consequence of (1) recent influences on nature, (2) new awareness about environmental ethics has emerged and (3) increasing moral issues.

## CONCLUSION

Human beings should (a) comply with appropriate environmental ethics in order to achieve sustainable growth, (b) reduce harmful anthropogenic agents (c) eliminate poverty and hunger; (d) provide everyone with water, sanitation, clean energy and safe living; (e) promote inclusive education and growth; (f) care for the planet, the atmosphere and biodiversity; and (f) promote inclusive education and development (g) Facilitate cooperation between various social partners in order to establish an atmosphere of peace and harmony with equality between genders and ages, between races and groups, between nations and continents around the world.

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