

Awareness in People Regarding Social, Economic and other Issues

Ravi Rajan

Research Scholar, P. U. Chandigarh (India)

Abstract

Now a days, land, materials and energy will increasingly meet natural limits or be constrained by intergenerational equity arguments. In this paper author want to say, it needs global awareness for the sustainable development of the world. The UN can show leadership because of the global character of many environmental problems and the growing need for environmental and social minimum requirements in the global liberalized market. Increased public participation and involvement of private companies will be needed in order to balance the different perspectives on sustainable development. So people awareness and participation is must for world economy.

Keywords: *Industrial Accountability, Accountability towards Economy, World Sustainability, People Awareness.*

Introduction

The thrust of the "unanimous report" after three years of hearings held on five continents appears in the Chairman's Foreword in comments such as "the rights of people to adequate food, sound housing, safe water, to access to means of choosing the size of their families"; ". . . survival issues relating to uneven development, poverty and population growth" "the need for 'major changes' . . . in attitudes and in the way our societies are organized"

Following the Chairman's Foreword, an "Overview by the Commission Members" becomes more specific: ". . . Sustainable Development is not a fixed state of harmony, but rather a process of change. . . . We do not pretend that the process is easy or straightforward. Painful choices have to be made. Thus in the final analysis, sustainable development must rest on political will." "Governments that need to do so should develop long-term multifaceted population policies and a campaign to pursue broad demographic goals to strengthen social, cultural and economic

motivations for family planning, and to provide to all who want them the education, contraceptives and services required."¹⁰

Dispersed throughout the 400 pages of Our Common Future are so many references to population: "Population and Human Resources," "The Population Perspective," "Managing Population Growth," as to suggest a pre-conceived agenda. At the conclusion of its final meeting held in Tokyo in 1987, the Commission recommended "principles to guide their policy actions" including Principle #4 to "Ensure a Sustainable Level of Population" "Population policies should be formulated and integrated with other economic and social development programs. . . . Increased access to family planning services is itself a form of social development that allows couples and women in particular, the right to self-determination."

A Brundtland Commission recommendation that the UN General Assembly prepare a "Universal Declaration on environmental protection and sustainable development" resulted in the Earth Summit held in **Rio** de Janeiro in 1992. The Canadian, Maurice Strong, a radical environmentalist who had served on the Brundtland Commission, was selected secretary-general. "According to an Associated Press report, Strong declared: 'the United States is the greatest threat to the world's ecological health. . . . In effect, the United States is committing environmental aggression against the rest of the world.'"

At the opening session of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (The Earth Summit) Maurice Strong, the UNCED Secretary-General, bemoaned the world's "explosive increase in Population" and warned "we have been the most successful species ever; we are now a species out of control. Population must be stabilized and rapidly.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their own needs or in other way we can say that the resource base is not inexhaustible sustainable development is economic development Without environmental sustainability it is impossible to achieve sustainable development An indicator is needed for comparing the relative progress made by different countries towards sustainable development at a given time or for measuring progress made by a given country or region over time. Operational definition must be based on the reduction in consumption of goods and services by the affluent within and between nations. The production and consumption must be curbed to achieve even a modest degree of sustainable development and determined efforts must be made to reduce consumption through formal education. The economic dimension of the Sustainability challenge lies in enhancing profitability, increasing shareholder value and creating wealth whilst aggressively pursuing opportunities for growth.

The social dimension of the Sustainability challenge is in achieving high rates of economic growth in order to enable all sections of society enhance their quality of life and live with dignity.

The environmental dimension of the Sustainability challenge lies in pursuing economic growth whilst preserving and enhancing our natural resources.

For Industry, this calls for a 'Triple Bottom Line' approach that will drive corporate strategy and imbue its execution with a larger sense of purpose, encompassing economic, social and environmental dimensions.

Literature Review

As targeted by the Millennium Development Goals, the water problem does not simply mean scarcity in quantitative terms but also poor quality and contamination, which affects the existence and well-being of a community.

This issue is particularly felt in semi-arid environments, as is the case for most parts of the Mediterranean Region. The European Mediterranean countries are the major water consumers of the EU Community, mainly for agricultural purposes, and due to their

comparatively high development pressures. The current consuming patterns are not sustainable for the future, both for Northern and Southern Mediterranean Countries, while development processes would require increasing demand on water resources. This is particularly true in situations where agriculture is still the largest sector, while industrial and domestic sectors have already elaborated more efficient uses in water. However, quality monitoring systems are not as widely developed as it would be necessary, therefore this is a major cause of harming human health and ecosystems.

Water management is not only a matter of savings and allocates efficiency, and recent experiences show that privatization and decentralization policies are not the solution. Water supplies have a fundamental role for communities and thus are a matter of public interest. However, particular attention has to be paid to strategies of public management, that in quite a number of circumstances is not following productive and food security goals.

Water management is not only an internal issue, as it frequently regards trans boundary basins, either surface and groundwater aquifers, and therefore unsustainable practices affect water availabilities in neighboring countries.

Management practices refer to a multitude of factors, regarding the spheres of politics (involving national institutions and international relations), culture, social and spatial organization, economy, environment etc. The problems caused by mismanagement of water are less and less solved within the water sector. Also in ecological terms, salinity, pollution, and changes of water balance affect the functions of ecosystems; therefore the problem has to be evaluated by considering the relation water-soil-habitats-ecosystems, on one hand, and the relation water-soil-production-human health and welfare, on the other hand.

Water and Sanitation

- Governments agreed to halve the number of people lacking clean drinking water and basic sanitation by 2015.

- This agreement was perhaps the most positive outcome of the Summit.

accountability for environmental crimes."

Global Warming:

- The agreement referred to the need to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, though various organizations and nations were hoping for more concrete plans.
- Russia and some other nations announced they would ratify the Kyoto Protocol. This was seen as positive, because earlier some had implied that they might not.
- Had they not, with the U.S. already rejecting the protocol, Kyoto might have headed for collapse.

The World Development Movement (WDM) were disappointed on the overall outcome of the summit but on corporate accountability commended that, "The only glimmer of hope is that for the first time proper regulation of multinational companies has been placed on the agenda. The NGOs and developing countries that have achieved this in the face of fierce opposition from rich governments deserve massive credit. But it will be a long struggle to get a binding, enforceable agreement."

Biodiversity and Natural Resources

- Nations agreed that by 2010, the rate at which extinctions of rare plants and animals are occurring should be cut.
- There was commitment to restore fisheries to their maximum sustainable yields by 2015;
- To establish a representative network of marine protected areas by 2012;
- To improve developing countries' access to environmentally-sound alternatives to ozone depleting chemicals by 2010.
- While these were on the positive side, World Wildlife Fund, one of the world's leading conservation organizations felt the Summit didn't do enough.

Sustainable development is defined as a pattern of social and structured economic transformations (i.e. development) which optimizes the economic and societal benefits available in the present, without jeopardizing the likely potential for similar benefits in the future. A primary goal of sustainable development is to achieve a reasonable and equitably distributed level of economic well-being that can be perpetuated continually for many human generations.

Sustainable development implies using renewable natural resources in a manner which does not eliminate or degrade them, or otherwise diminish their usefulness for future generations. It further implies using non-renewable (exhaustible) mineral resources in a manner which does not unnecessarily preclude easy access to them by future generations. Sustainable development also requires depleting non-renewable energy resources at a slow enough rate so as to ensure the high probability of an orderly society transition to renewable energy sources.

Corporate Accountability

- There was recognition that corporate accountability must be increased.
- Environment News Service commented that the U.S. attempted to "circumvent efforts to develop new, binding international rules on environmentally irresponsible corporate behavior" and wanted it to apply only to existing international agreements. However, country delegates in the end rejected this and "conference delegates prevented the United States from evading a commitment to corporate

Based on similar arguments, sustainable development has been alternatively defined in various manners also, some of them are as follows:

"Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs"

"Sustainable development ensures that the maximum rate of resource consumption and waste discharge for a selected development portfolio would be sustained indefinitely, in a defined planning region, without progressively

impairing its bio-productivity and ecological integrity. Environmental conservation, therefore, contrary to general belief, accelerates rather than hinders economic development.

Therefore, the Development plans have to ensure:

- Sustainable and equitable use of resources for meeting the needs of the present and future generations without causing damage to environment.
- To prevent further damage to our life-support systems;
- To conserve and nurture the biological diversity, gene pool and other resources for long term food security.

Conclusion

"The primary objective of the Sustainable Development is to reduce the absolute poverty of the world's poor through providing lasting and secure livelihoods that minimize resource depletion, environmental degradation, cultural disruption and social instability".

References

- [1] Urbanization, Environment and Security, a summary of the issues, Issue 5, ISSN 1091-9988
- [2] Meadows. Donella H, Meadows Dennis L, Randers Jorgen (1992) Beyond the Limits,
- [3] Global collaps or a sustainable future, EarthScan Publications Ltd, London
- [4] Shah, Anup. "World Summit on Sustainable Development" Global Issues, Updated: 07 Sep. 2002. Accessed:
- [5] The Rise of Global Green Religion," ECO-logic Special Report, Feb. 9, 1997
- [6] Hammond, Allen (1998) Which World? Scenarios for the 21st Century. Global Destinies, Regional Choices, Island Press/ Shearwater Books
- [7] Pearce, D., A. Markandya and E. Barbier, 1989. Blueprint for a green economy, Earthscan, London, Great Britain
- [8] Hamilton, K., and M. Clemens, 1999. Genuine savings rates in developing countries. World Bank Econ Review, 13(2):333–56
- [9] Dasgupta, P. 2007. The idea of sustainable development, Sustainability Science, 2(1):5-11
- [10] Heal, G., 2009. Climate Economics: A Meta-Review and Some Suggestions for Future Research, Review of Environmental Economics and Policy, 3(1):4-21
- [11] Ayong Le Kama, 2001 A.D. Ayong Le Kama, Sustainable growth renewable resources, and pollution, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, 25:1911–1918
- [12] Endress, L., J. Roumasset, and T. Zhou. 2005. Sustainable Growth with Environmental Spillovers, "Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization," 58(4):527-547,
- [13] Stavins, R., A. Wagner, G. Wagner Interpreting Sustainability in Economic Terms: Dynamic Efficiency plus Intergenerational Equity, Economic Letters, 79:339-343
- [14] Arrow KJ, P. Dasgupta, L. Goulder, G Daily, PR Ehrlich, GM Heal, S Levin, K-G Maler, S Schneider, DA Starrett, B Walker. 2004. Are we consuming too much? Journal of Economic Perspectives, 18(3):147–172
- [15] Asheim, G. 1999. Economic analysis of sustainability In: W.M. Lafferty and O. Langhelle, Editors, Towards Sustainable Development, St. Martins Press, New York, p. 159
- [16] Pezzey, J. 1989. Economic Analysis of Sustainable Growth and Sustainable Development, Environmental department Working Paper No. 15, World Bank