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A Critical Study of the Various Future Challenges for Sustainable Development in Global Perspectives

Dr. Phole Kamal Bhaurao

Assistant Professor & Head, Department of Commerce, Digambarrao Bindu ACS College, Bhokar

Abstract:

Development is always depend on the use of natural resources. Sustainable Development is having with the two concepts, one is the Sustainability and another is development. Sustainable Development is nothing but the development by which the needs of today's generation could be fulfilled without compromising the abilities of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable Development is a concept that stands for lifetime. Sustainability is considered to balance between human and ecosystem. There are 17 Goals of Sustainable Development which are decided by United State. They also known as 'Global Goals'. They are interrelated to each other. But every goal has its own purpose. Sustainable development is a way to acknowledge the past, accept the present and advance the future. It is included the various social and economic aspects as poverty, malnutrition, education, health, climate change, gender equality, water, power, environment and social justice etc. Every country wants overall development of the nation in the world. The main objectives of sustainable development are one is to uplift the lifestyle of the people and the second is significant transformations in economic growth of the nation. Sustainable development is needed due to increasing pressure on natural resources and the environment. Increasing population, industrialization, globalization, urbanization, disasters and pollution have put immense pressure on the natural resources on the earth leading to their depletion. Sustainable development is crucial to ensure that we conserve our natural resources to mitigate the impact of climate change and it is essential for the long term prosperity of business and economies. Sustainable development can promote innovations and provide new jobs and ensure that the needs of future generation are met. But we have to keep in mind that there are a large number of challenges have had an impact on sustainable development such as: war and instability, suitability and availability, Government issues and policies, poverty and unemployment etc. So it's a very essential phenomenon to make balance economic growth, to face the challenges for environmental protection and social balance development in the long term sustainable way for the nation.

This study provides its readers and the further research with an extensive understanding of the concept of Sustainable Development, its need and importance of study and the recent trends and pattern of sustainability in the business and economies worldwide.

Keywords: Natural Resources, Environmental Protection, Global Goals, Future Generation, Economic Growth, Sustainability, Balance Development.



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Introduction:

Sustainable development addresses the interdependencies between social, economic, cultural and environmental dimensions of life. Education for sustainable development (ESD) is education, which promotes the balancing of economic growth, environmental conservation, cultural diversity and social well-being in a way that is inclusive of marginalized populations and attends to gender issues (UNESCO, Federal Ministry of Education and Research, & German Commission for UNESCO, 2009).

The ability of educational institutions to respond to the complex expectations embedded in ESD can be enhanced through a multiple-perspective approach to teaching and learning. A multiple-perspective approach promotes interdisciplinary and intercultural competencies as it addresses challenges to local or planetary sustainability. Interdisciplinary thinking, in which concepts and knowledge from different academic traditions are used to analyse situations or solve problems, allows students to use knowledge in new and creative ways. "Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In addition to natural resources, we also need social and economic resources. Sustainability is not just environmentalism.

Sustainability is far from a new concept. Indigenous peoples have practiced elements of sustainable living for generations by being in tune with the natural environment and its limits, cycles, and changes. This understanding is usually referred to as traditional ecological knowledge, or the deep knowledge and beliefs about relationships between people, plants, animals, natural phenomena, landscapes, and timing of events in a specific ecosystem.

The term sustainability is derived from the Latin word sustinere. "To sustain" can mean to maintain, support, uphold, or endure. So sustainability is the ability to continue over a long period of time.

Objectives of the Study:

- 1. To study the concept of Global Sustainable Development.
- 2. To understand the meaning and goals of Sustainable Development.
- **3.** To know the accumulation of knowledge and the development of technology can enhance the carrying capacity of the resource base.
- **4.** To understand the relevance of Sustainable Development in global perspective.
- 5. To understand the correlation between natural resources, environment and Sustainable Development.
- **6.** To focus on the various future challenges for sustainable development in global perspectives.

Hypothesis:

- 1. Each and every development is always depend on the use of natural resources.
- 2. Increasing population, industrialization, globalization, urbanization, disasters and pollution have put immense pressure on the natural resources on the earth leading to their depletion.
- **3.** The earth has enough resources to meet our present and future needs for development if we use them economically.
- **4.** Sustainable development requires that societies meet human needs both by increasing productive potential and by ensuring equitable opportunities for all.
- 5. The SDGs are designed to end poverty, hunger, AIDS, and discrimination against women and girls.
- **6.** Environmentally, sustainable practices can help protect natural resources, mitigate and adapt to climate change and promote biodiversity.



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Research Methodology:

The Researcher has used the Primary and Secondary method of data collection. The primary sourced of data is collected by social and personal observations and also she has referred the reference books, articles and internet websites to collect the secondary data to analyse and conclude the research study. The research papers have been taken from various journals, reference books and the Internet information or website.

The Concept of Sustainable development:

Sustainable development is an approach to growth and human development that aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The essential needs of vast numbers of people in developing countries for food, clothing, shelter, jobs - are not being met, and beyond their basic needs these people have legitimate aspirations for an improved quality of life. A world in which poverty and inequity are endemic will always be prone to ecological and other crises. Sustainable development requires meeting the basic needs of all and extending to all the opportunity to satisfy their aspirations for a better life. Living standards that go beyond the basic minimum are sustainable only if consumption standards everywhere have regard for long-term sustainability. Yet many of us live beyond the world's ecological means, for instance in our patterns of energy use. Perceived needs are socially and culturally determined, and sustainable development requires the promotion of values that encourage consumption standards that are within the bounds of the ecological possible and to which all can reasonably aspire. Meeting essential needs depends in part on achieving full growth potential, and sustainable development clearly requires economic growth in places where such needs are not being met. Elsewhere, it can be consistent with economic growth, provided the content of growth reflects the broad principles of sustainability and non-exploitation of others. But growth by itself is not enough. High levels of productive activity and widespread poverty can coexist, and can endanger the environment.

Hence sustainable development requires that societies meet human needs both by increasing productive potential and by ensuring equitable opportunities for all. A society may in many ways compromise its ability to meet the essential needs of its people in the future - by overexploiting resources, for example. The direction of technological developments may solve some immediate problems but lead to even greater ones. Growth has no set limits in terms of population or resource use beyond which lies ecological disaster. Different limits hold for the use of energy, materials, water, and land. Many of these will manifest themselves in the form of rising costs and diminishing returns, rather than in the form of any sudden loss of a resource base. The accumulation of knowledge and the development of technology can enhance the carrying capacity of the resource base. But ultimate limits there are, and sustainability requires that long before these are reached, the world must ensure equitable access to the constrained resource and reorient technological efforts to relieve the presume.

Economic growth and development obviously involve changes in the physical ecosystem. Every ecosystem everywhere cannot be preserved intact. A forest may be depleted in one part of a watershed and extended elsewhere, which is not a bad thing if the exploitation has been planned and the effects on soil erosion rates, water regimes, and genetic losses have been taken into account. In general, renewable resources like forests and fish stocks need not be depleted provided the rate of use is within the limits of regeneration and natural growth.

In its broadest sense, the strategy for sustainable development aims to promote harmony among human beings and between humanity and nature. In the specific context of the development and environment



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crises of the 1980s, which current national and international political and economic institutions have not and perhaps cannot overcome, the pursuit of sustainable development requires:

- A political system that secures effective citizen participation in decision making.
- An economic system that is able to generate surpluses and technical knowledge on a self-reliant and sustained basis
- A social system that provides for solutions for the tensions arising from disharmonious development.
- A production system that respects the obligation to preserve the ecological base for development,
- A technological system that can search continuously for new solutions,
- An international system that fosters sustainable patterns of trade and finance, and
- An administrative system that is flexible and has the capacity for self-correction.

These requirements are more in the nature of goals that should underlie national and international action on development. What matters is the sincerity with which these goals are pursued and the effectiveness with which departures from them are corrected.

Meaning & Definition Global Sustainable Development:

Global Sustainable Development is a contested concept with many different meanings. Despite the multiplicity of definitions that the term has generated, everyone involved in addressing the impact of development, the possibilities for a sustainable life, and the complex moral and ethical debates around globalisation agrees that we have reached a point where business as usual is no longer an option.

The most frequently quoted definition of Sustainable Development is from the Brundtland Report: "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (United Nations Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future, 1987).

The concept of sustainable development itself has many meanings and requires much more discussion and research than it has had so far in the U.S. However one defines sustainable development, concrete indicators are still urgently needed to measure progress toward it in different sectors. Traditional measures of economic welfare are just no longer adequate. Standard national accounting indices that measure gross national product or gross domestic product in monetary terms fail to capture many facets of human and environmental wellbeing. For example, these indices count all expenditures for pollution control and clean-up as part of the output of goods and services but do not subtract the economic value of losses caused by environmental degradation and depletion of non-renewable resources. Increased pollution thus counts positively rather than negatively, whereas depreciation of environmental capital is ignored. A number of scholars and international agencies, including the World Bank, have been developing alternative measures of welfare that more accurately value environmental goods and services and overall quality of life. The U.S. does considerably worse on some of these scales than on conventional economic indices.

Three Dimensions of Sustainability:

Although sustainability is linked to the environmental movement, the notion that it is only focused on the environment is a misconception. Sustainability is based on three dimensions:

1. Environmental Sustainability:

Environmental sustainability occurs when humanity's rate of consumption does not exceed nature's rate of replenishment and when humanity's rate of generating pollution and emitting greenhouse gases does not exceed nature's rate of restoration.



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2. Social Sustainability:

Social Sustainability is the ability of a society to uphold universal human rights and meet people's basic needs, such as healthcare, education, and transportation. Healthy communities ensure personal, labour, and cultural rights are respected and all people are protected from discrimination.

3. Economic Sustainability:

Economic Sustainability is the ability of human communities around the world to maintain their independence and have access to the resources required to meet their needs, meaning that secure sources of livelihood are available to everyone.

The Movement for a More Equal, Prosperous and Sustainable Future:

In order to secure "a new trajectory of sustainable development", we need inspired leaders in all sectors of society, across the world. From working in a small local conservation charity to issuing policy advice for an international engineering firm, having a dedicated knowledge of the issues surrounding sustainable development has never been more valuable. To study Global Sustainable Development is to arm yourself with this knowledge and participate in the movement for a more equal, prosperous and sustainable future. There are four pillars of Sustainable Development. Introducing the four pillars of sustainability; Human, Social, Economic and Environmental. The term sustainability is broadly used to indicate programs, initiatives and actions aimed at the preservation of a particular resource. Socially, sustainable practices can help strengthen community bonds, improve quality of life and provide hope for a better future. Environmentally, sustainable practices can help protect natural resources, mitigate and adapt to climate change and promote biodiversity.

Sustainable Development Goals:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The 17 SDGs are integrated—they recognize that action in one area will affect outcomes in others, and that development must balance social, economic and environmental sustainability. Countries have committed to prioritize progress for those who're furthest behind. The SDGs are designed to end poverty, hunger, AIDS, and discrimination against women and girls. The creativity, knowhow, technology and financial resources from all of society is necessary to achieve the SDGs in every context.

The SDGs strike a balance between the critical theoretical questions of why inequality exists, whilst also demanding an unequivocal global response through policy and practice. It allows us to preserve the environment, protect biodiversity, mitigate climate change, eradicate poverty, promote social inclusivity, and foster long-term economic growth. The earth has enough resources to meet our present and future needs for development if we use them economically.

Perspectives on Sustainable Development:

The adoption of sustainability as a benchmark for development has been hampered because of ambiguities in definition and interpretation, there is a consensus that sustainable development implies an active role for government in efficient and equitable management of natural and environmental resources. At a more basic level, however, both sustainability and the freeing up of private markets seek greater efficiency,



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although sustainable development stresses inter temporal efficiency and tempers this with a strong dose of equity concerns.

While the concept of sustainable development can be grasped at a conceptual level, it has proven more difficult to apply concretely. The Brundtland Report advised that qualitative development must replace quantitative growth in achieving sustainable development. Underlying conditions that could promote the process were described. These include: (1) broad citizen participation, (2) an economic system that produces sustainable surpluses and technical knowledge, (3) systems and processes for resolving disputes, (4) a system of production based on preserving the ecological base, (5) international economic and social systems that foster sustainable trade and finance, and (6) a flexible administrative system.

Generally, environmental degradation is most devastating for the poor and most vulnerable, who often depend on natural resources for their incomes and have few possibilities for substituting other assets. This is especially the case in the long run, where growth policies focus on accumulation, investment, and economic growth. Countries throughout the world have overexploited their forests, fisheries, and mineral wealth and have polluted their water and air in order to accelerate short-term economic growth. Clear paradigm shifts were identified as essential to sustainable development, but debate remained over the nature of these paradigm shifts and what they implied for the economic and social organization of a sustainable world. Increasing population, industrialization, globalization, urbanization, disasters and pollution have put immense pressure on the natural resources on the earth leading to their depletion.

Growth as a Challenge to Sustainable Development:

The concept of sustainable development as a constraint to unchecked growth is gaining support from governments, corporations, and environmental groups around the world. It is foolhardy, even dangerous, to ignore the precaution that growth should not exceed levels consistent with the health and wellbeing of future generations. However, this happens in the frenzy to be competitive in the world economy when nations follow a globalization process founded upon an upward, unlimited, and unchecked economic growth model that seriously threatens our global future. The process inevitably leads to the exhaustion of many of the world's natural resources, such as fauna, flora, and non-renewable sources of energy, as well as to the deterioration of natural processes that are crucial for any ecosystem's viability of life on the planet. Kenneth Boulding, a leading pioneer of sustainability, sarcastically quipped, "Anyone who believes that exponential growth can go on forever in a finite world is either a madman or an economist." However, it is not just rapid growth that leads to problems of natural capital degradation. Neither rapid nor slow growth is automatically a predictor of the degradation of natural capital.

Evidence to the contrary has not dispelled the perception that the environment is a luxury good that can be demanded as incomes rise with economic growth. As a result, developing countries tend to ignore environmental concerns as policymakers focus almost exclusively on accelerating economic growth. By doing so, they ignore the potential enormity of economic, social, and ecological costs and the reality that sometimes the damage incurred is irreversible. For example, while air and water pollution levels appear to be reversible, their impacts on human wellbeing often are not, and promises of future remedial action can hardly compensate for health and safety losses by the present generation. Belying East Asia's phenomenal record of economic growth and poverty reduction is its poor environmental record. In 1995, China was home to 15 of the 20 most polluted cities in the world, as measured by the concentration of total suspended particulates.



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While countries embarking on a path of sustainable development can incorporate environmental policies directly into their economic strategy at any time, most countries have followed the grow-now-and-clean-up-later approach. The fast growers among developing countries, such as China, Indonesia, Korea, and Thailand, have paid severely in terms of deteriorating environmental quality. This has recently become an even greater problem for Thailand and Indonesia. When recovering from the economic crisis of 1996-1997, both countries made environmental protection a low funding priority for implementation of even existing environmental policies. Although the economies in the region slowed during 1998 and gradually recovered during 1999 and 2000, the environmental impacts did not follow a similar fluctuating trend and were more or less persistent. For example, the levels of pollution in coastal waters showed no incremental reduction during the 1997-2000 period. Economic growth in the region was, and continues to be, strongly tied to export-oriented policies, high savings rates, sound macroeconomic policies, and strong institutional frameworks.

Challenges and Opportunities for Achieving Sustainable Development:

Sustainable development in the 21st century faces both challenges and opportunities. The main challenges for achieving sustainable development in the 21st century include environmental degradation, limited resources, poverty, climate change, and the need for inclusive development and for achieving environmental sustainability include the potential negative effects of technology on social-ecological systems. Other challenges include the impact on the built environment and power distribution grid when introducing sustainability solutions.

There are several opportunities for achieving environmental sustainability. These include developing renewable energy and sustainable technological solutions, smart cities and sustainable urbanization, and sustainable consumption. One opportunity is the potential of the state, particularly the developmental state, to play a central role in environmental governance and achieving sustainable development. Another opportunity lies in the use of green and eco-friendly technologies, such as nanotechnology, which can support the realization of the sustainable development goals. Additionally, efforts to rehabilitate and conserve mangroves in countries like Indonesia can contribute to sustainable development and benefit coastal communities. By addressing these challenges and seizing these opportunities, it is possible to achieve sustainable development in the 21st century. Mass transit is also positioned to help mitigate the climate crisis by reducing transportation-related emissions and allowing people to make personal choices about their impact on the environment.

Future Challenges for Achieving Sustainable Development:

Achieving sustainable development faces numerous future challenges, including climate change, poverty, inequality, resource depletion, and governance issues. These interconnected challenges require urgent and coordinated action across all sectors and countries to ensure a sustainable future.

Key Challenges:

- 1. Climate Change: Climate change and environmental degradation are major threats, impacting ecosystems, weather patterns, and human health. Extreme weather events, rising sea levels, and resource scarcity exacerbate existing inequalities and hinder development progress.
- 2. Poverty and Inequality: Deep-seated poverty and inequality, both within and between countries, undermine efforts to achieve sustainable development. Unequal access to education, healthcare, and



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economic opportunities disproportionately affects marginalized communities.

- **3.** Resource Depletion and Pollution: Overconsumption of natural resources, pollution, and waste generation degrade ecosystems and threaten long-term sustainability. Balancing economic growth with environmental protection is crucial for resource management.
- **4. Governance and Institutional Weaknesses:** Lack of effective governance, corruption, and weak institutions hinder progress towards sustainable development. Transparent and accountable governance, along with strong institutions, is essential for implementing sustainable policies and initiatives.
- **5. Social Challenges:** Social exclusion, lack of access to basic services, and gender inequality are significant roadblocks to sustainable development. Promoting social inclusion, gender equality, and access to quality education and healthcare is crucial.
- **6. Funding and Investment:** Insufficient funding and investment, particularly in developing countries, limit the implementation of sustainable development projects and initiatives. Mobilizing financial resources from va
- 7. Technological and Infrastructure Gaps: Developing countries often face technological and infrastructure gaps, hindering their ability to adopt sustainable practices and technologies. Bridging these gaps through innovation and investment is critical.
- **8.** Overconsumption and Unsustainable Practices: Unsustainable consumption and production patterns, particularly in developed countries, put immense pressure on the environment and resources. Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns is essential for long-term sustainability.
- **9. Conflicts and Instability:** Conflicts and political instability disrupt development progress and exacerbate existing challenges. Addressing the root causes of conflict and promoting peace and stability are crucial for sustainable development.
- **10. Population Growth:** Rapid population growth in some regions can strain resources and infrastructure, making it more challenging to achieve sustainable development goals. Managing population growth while ensuring access to resources and opportunities is important.

Overcoming these challenges requires a holistic and integrated approach that considers social, economic, and environmental dimensions. Strengthening international cooperation, promoting innovation and technology transfer, and fostering partnerships among governments, civil society, and the private sector are crucial for accelerating progress towards sustainable development.

Conclusion:

The concept of sustainable development itself has many meanings and requires much more discussion and research than it has had so far in the U.S. However one defines sustainable development, concrete indicators are still urgently needed to measure progress toward it in different sectors. Traditional measures of economic welfare are just no longer adequate. Standard national accounting indices that measure gross national product or gross domestic product in monetary terms fail to capture many facets of human and environmental wellbeing. For example, these indices count all expenditures for pollution control and clean-up as part of the output of goods and services but do not subtract the economic value of losses caused by environmental degradation and depletion of non-renewable resources. Increased pollution thus counts positively rather than negatively, whereas depreciation of environmental capital is ignored. A number of scholars and international agencies, including the World Bank, have been developing alternative measures



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The SDGs strike a balance between the critical theoretical questions of why inequality exists, whilst also demanding an unequivocal global response through policy and practice. Economic growth in the region was, and continues to be, strongly tied to export-oriented policies, high savings rates, sound macroeconomic policies, and strong institutional frameworks. It allows us to preserve the environment, protect biodiversity, mitigate climate change, eradicate poverty, promote social inclusivity, and foster long-term economic growth. The earth has enough resources to meet our present and future needs for development if we use them economically. The term sustainability is broadly used to indicate programs, initiatives and actions aimed at the preservation of a particular resource. Socially, sustainable practices can help strengthen community bonds, improve quality of life and provide hope for a better future. Environmentally, sustainable practices can help protect natural resources, mitigate and adapt to climate change and promote biodiversity.

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