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Sustainable economic development and environment

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Abstract

Sustainable Development (SD) has become a popular catchphrase in contemporary development discourse. However, in spite of its pervasiveness and the massive popularity it has garnered over the years, the concept still seems unclear as many people continue to ask questions about its meaning and history, as well as what it entails and implies for development theory and practice. The purpose of this paper is to contribute to the discourse on SD by further explaining the paradigm and its implications for human thinking and actions in the quest for sustainable development. This is done through extensive literature review, combining aspects of the “Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines and the Recursive Content Abstraction (RCA) analytical approach. The paper finds and argues that the entire issue of sustainable development centre around inter- and intra-generational equity anchored essentially on three-dimensional distinct but interconnected pillars, namely the environment, economy, and society. Decision-makers need to be constantly mindful of the relationships, complementarities, and tradeoffs among these pillars and ensure responsible human behaviour and actions at the international, national, community and individual levels in order to uphold and promote the tenets of this paradigm in the interest of human development. More needs to be done by the key players— particularly the United Nations (UN), governments, private sector, and civil society organizations—in terms of policies, education and regulation on social, economic and environmental resource management to ensure that everyone is sustainable development aware, conscious, cultured and compliant.

Keywords: Sustainable development; sustainable development goals: economic sustainability; social sustainability; environmental sustainability

Introduction

In India, after independence enough progress took place in economic development but environmental problem arose in some decades. Lack of resources, environment pollution, bio- diversity loss etc. many obstacles arose. Environment loss took birth in the name of development. Soil, Water, Wind and Part of environment forest, animal and minerals are getting distorted. Agriculture component has increased due to use of chemical fertilizers and manures and insecticides but fertility loss. Living being loss and pollutions etc. problems took place. In real, it is a DE crescent and nutrition degraded development. This development is not according to situations. It is a long term destruction in place of stable development. In this resources are exploited, as a result we have to face many problems related to lack of resources. Therefore, such an economic development was imagined, where continuity and quality of environment resources should be maintained. This is known as Sustainable Economic Development.

Definition of Sustainable Economic Development

The capability to fulfill the requirements of present generations without hampering the requirements of future generations is known as Sustainable Economic Development. Sustainable Economic Development is kept under situational point of view.

Features of Sustainable Development

1. Environment's Preservation.
2. To pay attention on the needs of present and future generations.
3. Distributive Similarity.
4. Preservation Conservation of human Capital, Physical Capital and Natural Capital.

Conditions for Sustainable Economic Development

1. Growth in quality of life and per capital income.
2. Preservation of stock of Natural Capital.
3. Lack in Industrial Pollutions.
4. Lack in agriculture production.
5. Complete Rural Development.

Measurement of Sustainable Development

1. **Green National Income:** Green National Income is the difference between Green Pure National Income and Attrition/degradation of natural capital.
2. **Pure National Income:** Pure National Income refers to the market value of produced last goods and services by countries residents in the time period of 1 year.
3. **Degradation of Natural Capital:** Attrition refers to lack in value of capital as a result of continuous use of capital. Natural Capital refers to natural sources and environment.
4. **Net Savings:** The second measurement of sustainable economic development is net savings. Net savings refers to that rate of savings. Which is integrated through attrition taking place in capital created by man and lack in natural capita.

Literature of review

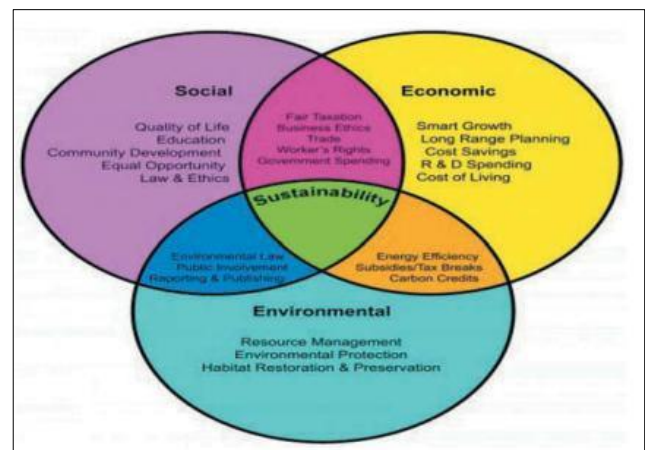
1. **Eyes (2001)** ^[9]: development is understood as a social condition within a nation, in which the needs of its population are satisfied by the rational and sustainable use of natural resources and systems.
2. **Smith (2006)** ^[10]: Development as a multidimensional process that involves major changes in social structures, attitudes, and institutions, as well as economic growth, reduction of inequality, and eradication of absolute poverty. Several theories have been put forward to explain the concept of development. They include the Modernisation, Dependency, World Systems and Globalisation Theories.
3. **Arj Anadze (2009)** ^[11]: Globalization is underpinned by political, economic, technological and social cultural factors and orientations. Although these developments theories have their weaknesses, they have paved the way for the current global development concepts and paradigm, namely “sustainability” and “sustainable development” (SD)
4. **Mensah and Enu-Kwesi (2018)** ^[12]: The definition must also emphasis the notion of cross- generational equity, which is clearly an important idea but poses difficulties, since future generations’ needs are neither easy to define nor determine. Based on the foregoing, contemporary theories of sustainability seek to prioritize and integrate social, environmental and economic models in addressing human challenges in a manner that will continually be beneficial to human.

Research Methodology

1. **Materials and Methods:** The analysis of scientific literature was performed using a bibliometric analysis and was conducted. It is worth mentioning that the present study restricted the analysis to review articles, that capture a general view of SDG research, and allow to understand and identify the domain of knowledge, the development of theories and concepts, and the academic debates in SDG research without carrying out any new studies or exhaustive review of the literature,

as the review articles examine and summarize the state-of art on certain topics from the available literature.

2. **Search and data collection:** Analyzed metadata used in this investigation were obtained from the Clarivate Analytics WOS core collection database of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI, Philadelphia, PA). Documents were retrieved by searching (“Sustainable Development Goal*” or “SDG*”) in the field “Title”, on SCI-expanded collection and as filter “Review Articles.” The search was conducted on October 1, 2022 and was narrowed to documents with publications years after 2015, because of the adoption year of the SDG, resulting in 312 documents. All available metadata (abstract, keywords, funding, author, authors’ information, year of publication, thematic area, Journal) were downloaded as a CSV- file. The data were checked for debugging using Microsoft Excel software, and a thesaurus file was created. In the thesaurus file, the keywords were normalized, eliminating duplicities, unifying synonyms, and developing acronyms. For this purpose, the all keywords were included. The VOS viewer 1.6.18 software was selected for this phase, due to its remarkable visualization feature for bibliometric data and also because it is a freely available tool.
3. **Research areas:** The cumulative publications of the main fields covered by literature reviews of SDG classified by WOS thematic categories published over the years a. The main fields covered were (i) environmental sciences, (ii) green sustainable science technology, (iii) environmental studies, (iv) public environmental occupational health, (v) water resources, and (iv) energy fuels.



Relationships among social, environmental and economic sustainability

Key policy goals and dimensions of sustainable development

1. It should be universal in character, covering challenges to all countries rather than just developing nations.
2. It should express a broadly agreed global strategy for sustainable development.
3. It should incorporate a range of key areas that were not fully covered in the MDGs
4. It should be comprehensive, reflecting three dimensions of SD
5. It should incorporate near-term benchmarks while being long-term in scope, looking ahead to a deadline of perhaps 2030.

6. It should engage all stakeholders in the implementation and mobilization of resources
7. It should provide scope for the review of these goals in view of evolving scientific evidence.

Recommendations for Sustainable Development

1. Conserve resources and promote renewable energies
2. Innovation
3. Empowering people
4. Education and skills for sustainable development
5. Strengthening institutional governance
6. Integration of goals
7. Recommendations to food security

Conclusion

Sustainable economic development has attracted much attention in the academic, governance, planning and development intervention space. A wide range of governmental and non- governmental entities appear to have embraced it as an appropriate development paradigm. This is because most, if not all proponents and advocates of the paradigm, virtually seem to concur that the challenges confronting humankind today such as climate change, depletion of ozone layer, water scarcity, loss of vegetation, inequality, insecurity, hunger, deprivation and poverty can be addressed by adhering to the tenets and principles of. The Sustainable Economic Development ultimate aim of Sustainable Economic Development is to achieve a balance among environmental, economic and social sustainability, thus, making these the pillars on which SD rests. While not assuming a definitive posture, sustainability of society can be said to depend on the availability of proper health systems, peace and respect for human rights, decent work, gender equality, quality education and rule of law. Sustainability of economy, on the other hand, depends on adoption of appropriate production, distribution and consumption while sustainability of the environment is driven by proper physical planning and land use as well as conservation of ecology or biodiversity. Although the literature is awash with a plethora of definitions and interpretations of SD, implicit in the pervasive viewpoints about the concept is intergenerational equity, which recognizes both the short and long-term implications of sustainability in order to address the needs of both the current and future generations.

Implications

1. Governments of all countries should promote “smart growth” through proper land use and alignment of their economies with nature’s regeneration capacity. All countries should adopt appropriate production and consumption practices that fully align with the planet’s ecological processes. This could be done through taxation and subsidy policies which accentuate the acceptable and eliminate unacceptable outcomes. In this respect, all countries should, for example, regarding pollution, enforce the polluter-pays-principle whereby governments require environment-polluting entities to bear the costs of their pollution rather than impose those costs on others or on the environment.
2. Population growth should be checked through population policies backed by legal frameworks. Unless special action is taken, population growth coupled with

increased resource Mensah, Cogent Social Sciences (2019), 5: 1653531

<https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2019.1653531> Page 15 of 21 consumption beyond what the earth can accommodate, will lead to the decline in or the collapse of the environment, economy and society. All countries need to have population policies that seek to check unbridled population growth. In this connection, the UN should have a global policy on population growth and ensure that member countries comply with the policy.

3. There is the need for all countries to formulate and implement social policies that foster tolerance, social cohesion and justice as cornerstones of social interactions. This can be done by enshrining universal human rights within a framework of citizenship, inclusion, equity and effective political governance.

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