

New Perspectives on Sustainable Development Strategies

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Abstract – In order to reduce the impact of development on the environment, it is necessary to save energy, especially when it is of fossil origin, to slow down or even stop deforestation and to encourage the planting of trees capable of storing large masses of carbon. Ecosystems are finite and vulnerable and to aim for their conservation, we must use efficiently their natural resources. This article sets out perspectives on sustainable development strategies based on existing legislation and related studies.

Keywords - Environment, Development, Sustainability, Ecosystem, Climate Change.

I. Introduction

The desire of those who launched the idea of sustainable development in the 1980s is to imagine policies capable of restoring natural order and stopping irreversible processes, especially climate change. As knowledge becomes clearer, achieving such a goal seems increasingly difficult to achieve: much of the world is still poor and unable to be denied access to better living standards, which will considerably increase the consumption of energy, food and raw materials. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was launched in 2015 to end the poverty and set the world on a path of prosperity, peace and opportunity for all on a health planet. Moreover, the effect of conservation policies is not immediate: if we miraculously managed to stop the emission of greenhouse gases, their accumulation in the atmosphere would remain low.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Evolution is a concept that has become ingrained in our existence, but by definition, this concept implies the idea of change. However, the concept has evolved, development projects have been widely criticized by researchers over the years for their impact on the environment.

Sustainable development has three dimensions; economic, social and ecosystem size. These three dimensions are all integrated and interconnected. An integrated vision of sustainability implies that the economic dimension must be supported by the social dimension, so that society as a whole can develop within the limits of the ecosystem dimension.

Thus, it is certain that sustainable development is within the limits that nature can manage at the same time as social, welfare and economic development. Sustainable development in developed countries places great emphasis on the sustainable development of the ecosystem, as it faces particular challenges with climate change and the biological crisis, which in turn is closely linked to unsustainable consumption and production.

The main challenges of sustainable development:

- Extreme poverty continues to overwhelm one in five people in the world.
- Political instability, which sometimes leads to conflict, hinders socio-economic progress in many countries and regions.

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- Continuous deterioration of the environment: every day there is a depletion of natural resources (soil
 erosion, deforestation, destruction of habitats and biodiversity, depletion of fishery resources), as well as
 pollution phenomena in most countries.
- The impact of global climate change. Population growth is expected to continue to increase these trends
 even if the level of consumption of the population matters more than the number of inhabitants.
- Social inequalities. Many countries are struggling with the combined effects of slow economic growth, overwhelming external debt, corruption, violent conflict and food insecurity. At the same time, they are affected by the decisions and activities of decision-makers in the field of trade, exports. All these factors are increasingly marginalizing underdeveloped countries in the global economy.

In order to make progress towards sustainable development, profound structural changes will have to take place in all areas of economic, social and political life. This will include reforming fiscal policies that have had a negative impact on disadvantaged sections of the population or that encourage environmental degradation in these underdeveloped countries. Issues of equity and equality, access to education, health and resources need to be discussed by higher forums. In the longer term, countries will need to ensure that natural resources (including natural capital, man-made capital and human capital) are maintained or increased. For this they will need to ensure that market prices reflect the full social and environmental costs, respectively a good support of the production-consumption relationship.

The ability to build consensus on how to achieve sustainable development will depend on factors such as peace and security, stable political systems, institutional structures and strong cultural norms.

Together, these elements form the basis of a sustainable development strategy. In other words, a strategy is not a grandiose project and no set of plans, but rather a set of tools and ways of working that allow a coherent and dynamic response to the challenges of sustainable development.

In addition, as part of their assistance programs, at macroeconomic, sectoral or local level, developed countries have the opportunity to help develop a large number of elements underpinning sustainable development strategies in deprived areas, in particular coordination mechanisms and intersectoral planning, means of collecting and analyzing information. Developed countries can also provide support specifically for strengthening the capacity of partner countries to implement mechanisms and processes for sustainable development and cooperation through strategic planning.

In order to establish a policy in favor of biodiversity, we must start from a global assessment. It must be acknowledged that the responsibility of states, local authorities, companies and households is much more direct than when it comes to air pollution.

III. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development involves all social, economic and political environments and requires individuals to be citizens of the world aware of the dangers of a polluted environment. In fact, it obliges companies to review their objectives and practices if they want to protect their good image in a society that tolerates pollution less and less.

Sustainable development is based on involving all levels of the political and administrative systems, from the

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global to the local level, and finding procedures that allow for effective cooperation between them.

The success of sustainable development actions is based on the adoption of new attitudes: it therefore implies a transformation of the symbolic links that exist in society. Intellectuals have a direct responsibility in this area.

The aim is to maintain a constant balance between human societies, which aspires to develop and the possibilities offered by the environment. This involves a double action:

- 1. Needs, which must be moderated by discouraging population expansion, choosing energy-saving technologies and scarce materials, and promoting the recycling of all elements used in industry;
- On the environment, by taking over operations that nature cannot undertake water treatment, for example, which is necessary whenever consumption increases above a certain level and natural processes cannot remove certain elements, for example, heavy metals.

Sustainable development policies have so far focused mainly on the first part of these measures.

The rapid growth of the economies of countries that were still poor a generation ago, such as China and India, shows that it is impossible to avoid the increased pressures on the environment.

And then the question arises: Is the choice of strategies adopted to ensure sustainable development perfectly satisfactory? The current strategies are based on the idea that the most urgent problems to be solved are those resulting from global imbalances. Addressing them requires regionalizing policies to control growth and the use of space and resources.

The United Nations used to address the problems of economic development and social inequalities by implementing development indicators. It is the same strategy that he applies in the field of sustainable development. This explains the involvement of economists, sociologists and environmentalists in the development of measurement tools that are indicators of sustainable development. It is necessary to take note of this and to understand how researchers from other disciplines work if they are to finally be able to formulate a critical assessment of development methods. The massive use of concentrated forms of energy is without a doubt the factor that contributes the most to increasing human pressure on nature by multiplying greenhouse gas emissions. That this is the priority issue, no one doubts. However, other approaches to sustainable development should not be neglected.

More space should be given to the analysis of local and regional imbalances and a precise analysis of traditional environments and those created by the modernization of lifestyles and activities. In this area, for example, the contribution of geologists is undoubtedly the most interesting: how do suburban and urban ecosystems work? How does the plant area transform there? What effect does this have on biodiversity?

IV. CONCLUSION

Natural capital exists in two forms: renewable and exhaustible. Everyone agrees that development does not threaten natural balances as long as it mobilizes only renewable resources. Neoclassical economists inspired by Robert M. Solow's research believe that today it is possible to replace forms of human or technical capital with the natural capital that progress destroys.

Researchers' theories support this reasonable optimism: when revenue increases, pollutant emissions increase



to a certain extent, then decrease. Technological developments accentuate this phenomenon: electronic equipment can be used to develop equipment that uses energy and raw materials more efficiently. Consumer tastes are also changing: their demand is more towards services, which does not involve such a high consumption of energy and materials.

Sustainable development is both an analytical tool and a political project.

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