

Responsible AI: Ethics, Social Justice and Public Policy

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Models of Development

- Traditional understanding of development only emphasizes Economic development - capitalism
- Capitalist mode of development was driven by the imperial powers and later by private companies/enterprise
- After Marx, socialist and communist models of development came into vogue
- Welfare model based on planning emerged from Sweden
- Gandhian thought inspired the grassroots and Sustainable Development Model but not mainstreamed even in India

Sustainable Development

- Gandhian – policies for people – village development – MSMEs – decentralized governance
- E.F. Schumacher – Gandhian economics – economics as if people mattered – appropriate technology – sustainable development
- J.C. Kumarappa – economy of permanence – economics in consonance with nature
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr – Civil Rights
- Arne Naess – deep-ecology
- Johann Galtung – peace and conflict studies – structural violence

Economic Vs Sustainable Development

- Bruntland Report, 1987
- Poverty alleviation
- Sustainable, Inclusive & Equitable
- Decentralized governance
- Improving quality of life
- Redressing technological & digital divide
- Focus on MSMEs
- Environmental protection

Are we choosing the right paradigms?

- AI is seen as a complex adaptive system – for some comparable to financial and economic models
- Financial/economic models are about managing the risks
- On the other hand, there is also an attempt to make the AI design and implementation more democratized
- Responsible AI, Participatory AI, Explanatory AI, Ethical AI, to name a few
- But, what paradigm undergirds them?

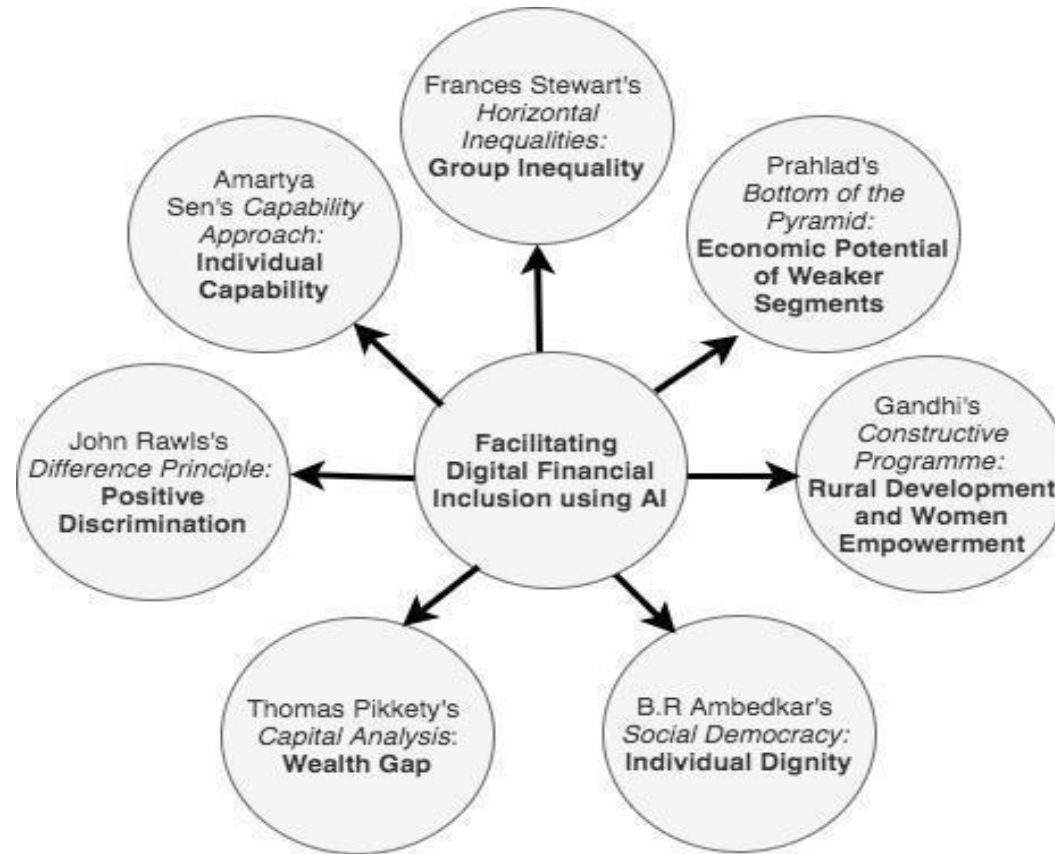
Some Paradigms in Public Policy

- Economic – Adam Smith vs Karl Marx
- Political – Centralization vs Decentralization – Democracy vs Authoritarianism
- Social – Lifeworld vs Systems
- Constitutional Law – Due Process vs Popular Sovereignty
- Social Action – Communicative Action vs Purposive Rational Action
- Development – Economic/Technological vs Sustainable/Environmental

Can AI handle the spectrum?

- In Economics – the two ends of the spectrum are Liberal Capitalism and Socialism
- Both are consequentialist theories in ethics, politics and economics
- Deontology is the theory that emphasizes duty for duty sake, categorical imperatives
- In public policy, there is always a need to balance deontology and consequentialism
- Public Policy involves a nuanced understanding of the relationship between economics, politics, law, ethics, technology, management and society

Facilitating digital financial inclusion using AI from a social justice perspective - Example



AI policy stuck in old paradigms?

- Old economic developmental models vis-à-vis Sustainable development
- AI public policy models focused on financial and economic models not sustainable development models
- Many articles written on how companies are cutting costs using AI
- As AI becomes more ubiquitous, are we going to see a tussle between these two paradigms, Economic/Financial vs Sustainable Development

Can AI in right earnest promote SDGs with such a divergent paradigm?

- The social, political, economic, ecological and cultural spheres are asymmetrical
- Even technology policy, which is more symmetrical and controlled, has to allow for asymmetrical understanding
- Complex adaptive system model used in finance cannot respond to the asymmetry of the social sphere
- So, is there a need for a paradigm shift in the AI public policy understanding?

- Thank you