



SOCIAL ISSUES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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INTRODUCTION

- ❖ We live in the **natural** as well as the **social** world.
- ❖ Development cannot be of only the rich nor it means only high living standards.
- ❖ Also not just **ECONOMIC** development.
- ❖ It has to be a **holistic** approach, where it brings benefits to both **present** and **future** generations.



DOES DEVELOPMENT LEAD TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS?

❖ **YES.**

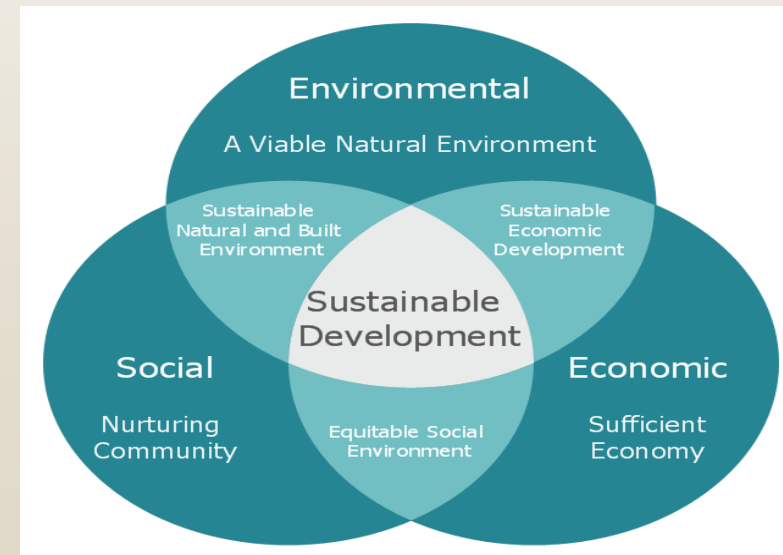
- ❖ Social aspects, development and environment have a strong relation.
- ❖ Development aims at improving **global economy** and standard of living yet leads to **environmental degradation**.
- ❖ Major factor is **Unsustainable Resource Use And Unsustainable Growth Practices**.

FROM UNSUSTAINABLE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT..

G.H Brundtland, (Norwegian Prime Minister and Director of World Health Organization) gave the definition for **sustainable development**.

Sustainable development is defined as

“meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”





Few parameters for achieving sustainable growth:



- ✓ Eradicate poverty and hunger, guaranteeing a healthy life.
- ✓ Universalize access to basic services such as water, sanitation and sustainable energy.
- ✓ Care for the environment combating climate change and protecting the oceans and land ecosystems.
- ✓ Prevention of social erosion and the protection of our biodiversity.
- ✓ Increment of the forest cover and to cut off the emissions of CFC, SOx, NOx and CO2.
- ✓ Reduction of waste generation.

CURRENT SCENARIO

- Until now development has been human oriented.
- We have touched greatest heights of **scientific and technological developments**.
- At WHAT COST??
- Due to over exploitation, our natural resources are dwindling.
- We will be facing a “**doom’s day**” – as suggested by **Meadows et al** (1972) in their world famous academic report “**The Limits to Growth**”.
- This is **unsustainable development** which will lead to a collapse of the interrelated systems of this earth.
- A clear discussion on sustainable development emerged on an international level in 1992, in the UN Conference on Environment and Development (**UNCED**), popularly known as The **Earth Summit, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**.
- The **Rio Declaration** aims at a new and equitable global partnership through the creation of new levels of cooperation among states.
- **Agenda-21** proposes a global programme of action on sustainable development in **social, economic and political** context for the 21st Century.





KEY ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

➤ INTER – GENERATIONAL EQUITY:

- ✓ Reduction of impacts on resources and environment for future generations.
- ✓ Hand over a safe, healthy and resourceful environment to our future generations.
- ✓ Stop over-exploitation of resources.
- ✓ Reduction in waste discharge and emissions.
- ✓ Maintain ecological balance.



➤ **INTRA – GENERATIONAL EQUITY:**

- ✓ Minimize the wealth gaps within and between nations.
- ✓ The Human Development Report of United Nations (2001) emphasizes that the benefits of technology should seek to achieve the goals of intra-generational equity.
- ✓ Technology should address to the problems of the developing countries.
- ✓ Production of drought tolerant varieties for uncertain climates, vaccines for infectious diseases, clean fuels for domestic and industrial use.
- ✓ This will support the economic growth of the poor countries and help in narrowing the wealth gap and lead to sustainability.





THANK YOU!!