

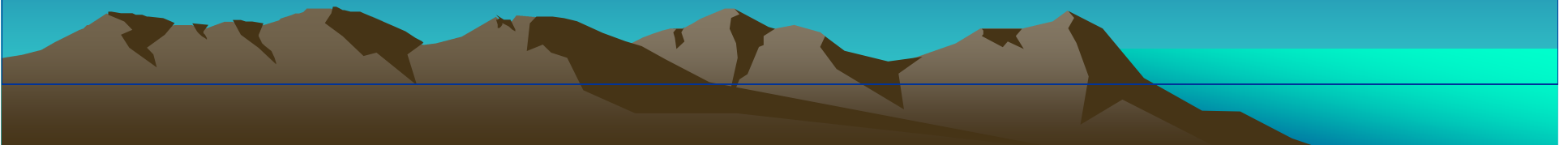


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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: AN ANALYSIS OF THE GLOBAL CONCEPTUAL DOMAIN WITH AN EYE ON PRAXIS

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THE RESEARCH FRAMEWORK

❖ INTRODUCTION

❖ EXPLANATION OF KEY CONCEPTS

Development

Sustainable

❖ FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

❖ ORIGIN, DEVELOPMENTS AND ADVOCACY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Classical Generation

The Contemporary Generation

The United Nations Advocacy in the 1990's



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Research Framework contd



- ❖ THE EARTH CHARTER AS A GLOBAL CONCEPTUAL DOMAIN
 - Policy Implications of the Earth Charter
 - A Critique of the Earth Charter
- ❖ GLOBAL VIEW ON SUSTBLE.DEVELPT.
 - Trade and Environment Considerations
- ❖ WHAT NEXT ? : THE PRAXIS APPROACH
- ❖ CONCLUSION



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INTRODUCTION

❖ PIONEER CONCEPTUAL RESEARCHERS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT in 1792

➤ **Mary Wollstonecraft: A vindication of the Rights of Women**

➤ **Thomas Paine: Rights of Men**

➤ **Present Generation: Limits to Growth of the Early 70's**

ARGUED: That Planetary Resources cannot accommodate indefinitely the high rate of economic and industrial growth of the times:



A DEVIATION FROM THE PRESENT DEBATE



- What is the present Debate:
 - Professional Advocacy by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- The New Debate:
 - Where to locate the Domain of sustainable development in the fast globalising world.





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THE PREAMBLES

- Global Experience and practice.
- Clear parameters around trade and environment.
- Generational developments around sustainable development.
- Ecological and Economic crisis
- Introduction of the Earth Charter

EXPLANATION OF THE CONCEPTS

- **Development : Everyone is able to have a better life now and in the future**
 - **Food**
 - **Employment or creativity**
 - **Health care**
 - **Freedom of expression**
 - **Living without fear**





THE CONCEPTS

➤ Sustainable

Sustainable means that development can continue and will be constrained by the earth's

- natural resources,
- conflict, or
- negative economic outlook



FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

- The Earth's Ecosystem is under pressure
- started to show some signs of stress because of the following:
 - pollution emissions,
 - global warming,
 - Environmental impact
 - Technological advancement
 - Indiscriminate harvesting of fishes and other aquatic animals.



FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSIS

- ❖ **The Free For All handling of the global ecosystem is in excess of the earth's ability to replenish it's destruction and yet companies believe that ecosystem is the major source of job and wealth creation.**
- ❖ **Major challenge: countries do not expect external interventions in their domestic affairs yet destruction of ecosystem has far reaching consequences**



ORIGINS, DEVELOPMENTS AND ADVOCACY FOR SD

Roots and Origins for Global Advocacy

- **Classical generation (Dwivedi, 1988:9)**
 - **a desire to dominate and control nature;**
 - **acquisitive materialism**
 - **a blind faith in science and technology and**
 - **an unconstrained growth ethic in a limited world.**



THE CONTEMPORARY GENERATION

- Implementation of programs by IUCN
- Global SD concerns the administrative activities of governments
- It has to be established whether nature conservationists and environmental activist could claim the domain of SD
- There must be a relaunch for stronger discussion to improve the knowledge base of sustainable development



THE UNITED NATIONS' ADVOCACY IN THE 90'S

- Publication of Bruland report provides a lively debate on aspect of SD amongst researchers and policy makers.
- SD is fully accepted as dimensional
 - ✓ economic
 - ✓ Social
 - ✓ Cultural
 - ✓ Environmental



UN ADVOCACY

- **The Agenda 21, which was adopted in Rio Summit provides a blue print for SD e.g.**
 - ✓ **poverty**
 - ✓ **Consumption patterns**
 - ✓ **Population growth**
 - ✓ **Health and human settlement**
 - ✓ **The need for conservation**
 - ✓ **Proper management of natural resources**
 - ✓ **Participation of Governments, women, children and youth**

THE EARTH CHARTER AS A GLOBAL CONCEPTUAL DOMAIN

- In May 1995, The Earth workshop, in 2000 the Earth Charter was endorsed by UNESCO
 - ✓ to food security an clean and safe air
 - ✓ water and soil
 - ✓ reinforcement of the rights to public participation in government decision making
 - ✓ eradication of poverty
 - ✓ Affirmation of gender equality
 - ✓ securing of rights to sexual and reproductive health and
 - ✓ global sharing of environmental costs

Major thematic Areas of the Earth's Charter

- **Respect and Care for the Community of Life**
- **Ecological Integrity**
- **Social & Economic Justice**
- **Democracy, Non-violence & Peace**



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THE CHARTER ADVOCACY

- Focused on the goals and Objectives of SD
- ✓ International Commitments
- ✓ Legal regulations
- ✓ Changes in Attitude, values and Behaviour.
- ✓ Earth regarded as people's Habitat
- ✓ Preservation of a healthy biosphere
- ✓ Rich Variety of plants and Animals
- ✓ Fertile Soil and Pure Water

“RESPONSE BREADS RESPONSIBILITY” GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO TAKING RESPONSIBILITY:



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CRITICISMS OF THE CHARTER

✓ **Similar ethical considerations went to The Stockholm's Commitment, the Rio Commitment and World Charter for Nature**

- **Non-binding agreement**
- **The legal status of its principles are weak**

Outstanding Contribution of the Charter:

- **Provision of the political framework**
- **More Effective at the National level**
- **National Attitudinal Change**
- **Hope in reservation of Nature**





POLICY ALTERNATIVES

- ✓ Increased protection of ecological systems through the creation of protected areas;
- ✓ An absence of anthropogenic activities resulting in climate change;
- ✓ The maintenance of natural resources especially those in developing countries
- ✓ Implementation of programmes must go with Country's commitments
- ✓ Collaboration between developed and developing countries.



VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION (Timmerman 1992:155)

❑ Developing countries view.

- To receive financial support from developed countries
- Developed countries to address the unsustainable pattern of production and consumption

❑ Developed countries view.

- Organized gimmick by the developing countries
- Developing countries focus on development agenda



WTO TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT

- **Committee on Trade and Environment (CTE)**
- **Trade and Development Committee (TDC)**
- ❑ **TRADE POLICY COMPLEXITIES**
 - **trade liberalization**
 - **economic growth**
 - **Development and**
 - **Sustainable development**



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UNDERSTANDING THE DOHA ROUND

- ❑ **WTO 4th Ministerial in Doha Qatar 14-19 November 2001**
 - **Multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) should not prejudice the WTO rights of any member that is not a party**
 - **Procedure for exchange between MEA and WTO committees for granting of observer status**
 - **Appropriate elimination of tariff and non tariff barriers to environmental goods and services**
 - **The effect on environmental measures on market access**
 - **The relevant of agreement on trade and intellectual property**
 - **Labelling requirement for environmental purposes**



ENVIRONMENT

Environmentalists argues

- Limits to growth

WTO argues that

- Growth will continue
- Wealth will increase
- Poor people will benefit
- Fixing up environmental damage as a result of wealth

ANTI-GLOBALISATION PROTEST IN SEATTLE



THE SEATTLE CONCERNS	PRIMARY CONCERNS	SECONDARY CONCERNS	OTHER CONCERNS
Northern NGOs	Endangered species	Sustainable consumption	Fair trade; questioning trade expansion
Northern Governments	Environmental concerns equivalent to market protection	Multi-functionality of agriculture	Precautionary principle
Southern NGOs	No strong voice on environment	Component of sustainable development; vision on environmental justice	Questioning exported growth
Southern Governments	No to environmental issues	Pro-active to TRIPS	Article xx (general exception)
South African Government	Premature to include environment	Broad development round	

TRADE AND ENVIRONMENT VERSUS SD

- WTO linked trade to environment
- USA favors liberalization of environment services
- Evaluation of trade and environmental against SD

□ WHAT NEXT ? THE PRAXIS

- Praxis is to translate theory into Outcome-based results.
- ✓ Collaborations
- ✓ Negotiations
- ✓ Implementations



THE PRAXIS APPROACH

- ✓ **Share benefits of trade between countries**
- ✓ **Bring people and countries back into trade negotiations**
- ✓ **Build meaningful economies around the world**
- ✓ **Incorporate environments issues to give trade in future**
- ✓ **Sustainable consumption should be vigorously encouraged**
- ✓ **Countries and regions should take SD very seriously**

THE WAY FORWARD

- Research (learning) must be shaped around the needs of the user (learner)
- Research (knowledge) be used for implementation of SD projects and programmes
- The SD linkages between what is being learned and how information is used by practice (praxis) is not always apparent to the learner and therefore there is a need for collaboration
- SD is one of the most critical objectives of Agenda 21
- A fundamental change in the relationship between WTO and other stake holders will be needed

CONCLUSION

- Moving from a mere advocacy to establishing practical projects and programmes
- Mitigation of ugly effects of the present unsustainable development situation around the world
- Commitments on trade and environment and practical solutions are needed as against mere advocacy
- WTO commitment to export led growth outside the framework of SD takes political space away from the UN
- Globalization goes fundamentally against SD and people's value
- Trade and environment will continue to dominate the global debate on SD



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