

The Sustainable Development and Women Empowerment

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ABSTRACT

Firstly, that equality between women and men - equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities – is a matter of human rights and social justice. And secondly, that greater equality between women and men is also a precondition for sustainable people-centred development. The perceptions, interests, needs and priorities of both women and men must be taken into consideration not only as a matter of social justice but because they are necessary to enrich development processes. Gender equality is a key factor for sustainable economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability. By providing the same opportunities to women and men, including in decision-making in all kinds of activities, a sustainable path of development can be achieved to ensure that women's and men's interests are both taken into account in the allocation of resources. It is not important to conceptualize women's empowerment and gender equality as a question of social development alone, but as a cross-cutting issue in economic and socio-cultural development and environmental protection. We need women at all levels, including the top, to change the dynamic, reshape the conversation, to make sure women's voices are heard and heeded, not overlooked and ignored.

Keywords: Women empowerment, sustainable development, environment, economic.

INTRODUCTION

Women have very important role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development. There is a dual rationale for promoting gender equality.

Sustainable development depends on an equitable distribution of resources for today and for the future. It cannot be achieved without gender equality. Sustainable development is broadly defined as development which meets the requirements of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development should be a key principle of all policies and actions, which are broadly designed to create a society which is based on freedom, democracy and respect for fundamental rights, fostering equality of opportunity and solidarity within and between generations.

The sustainable development should be based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment, a high level of education and social progress, and a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment.

Sustainable development should be a key objective for all national policies, and should aim at the continuous improvement of the quality of life on earth of both current and future generations. It is about safeguarding the earth's capacity to support life in all its diversity. It is based on the principles of democracy and the rule of law and respect for fundamental rights including freedom and equal opportunities for all. It brings about solidarity within and between generations. It seeks to promote a dynamic economy with a high level of employment and education, of health protection, of social and territorial cohesion and of environmental protection in a peaceful and secure world, respecting cultural diversity.

Viewed in a broad spectrum, women have played a vital role in the global environmental movement. The World Commission on Environment and Development, in its report entitled *Our Common Future*, published in 1988, linked the environmental crisis to unsustainable development and financial practices that were worsening the North-South gap, with women a majority of the world's poor and illiterate.

Over the years, women have continued to speak out for policies and practices that do not threaten the health and well-being of future generations. They continue to fight for improved living standards and protection of the environment. In almost all countries, women are disproportionately represented among the poor. And studies have found that the poor, in urban and rural areas of rich and poor countries, bear the greatest burden of environmental degradation and pollution.

Women share the primary responsibility for nutrition, child care and household management in almost all countries. They are also active in environmental management. In most developing countries, women play a major role as farmers, animal tenders, and water and fuel collectors. Yet, despite their roles, women are not adequately represented in the decision-making processes related to the issues of environment and development at local, national or international levels.

Having their expertise, knowledge and perspective been overlooked for years, women are now demanding that their voices be heard. They recognize that an integrated approach to sustainable development is necessary since political, economic, social and environmental issues are closely interlinked.

Women took active part in the Rio Earth Summit process and succeeded in obtaining a chapter on women and sustainable development and over one hundred references and recommendations pertaining to women in the final agreement, Agenda 21. The 1992 Rio Summit, together with the 1993 Human Rights Conference, the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development, the 1995 Social Summit and the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, have focused the work of the United Nations on the environment, population, human rights, poverty and gender, and the relationships between these issues.

Women bring new perspectives, raise issues that others overlook, and listen to those that others ignore. One woman brings hope to her family, many women bring hope to humanity. Women and girls make up more than half the world's population and they are on the frontlines, often more deeply impacted than men and boys by poverty, climate change, food and nutrition insecurity, lack of healthcare system, and global economic and environmental crises. Strengthening women's participating in political sphere is also a critical step towards empowerment of women. Women have a vital role in environment and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development goals. Their contributions and leadership are central to finding a solution. Sustainable development relies upon an impartial appropriation of assets for now and for what's to come. It can't be accomplished without sex fairness. Women's strengthening is a vital factor for accomplishing sustainable financial development, social development, and ecological maintainability.

CONCLUSION

Women play an imperative part in ecological administration and development. Their full interest is thusly fundamental to accomplish sustainable development. There is a double reasoning for advancing sexual orientation correspondence. Initially, that correspondence among women and men, equivalent rights, openings, and obligations, involves common liberties and social equity. Besides that, more noteworthy uniformity among women and men is additionally a precondition for (and compelling marker of) sustainable individuals focused development. The insights, interests, requirements, and needs of all kinds of people should be thought about as an issue of social equity as well as on the grounds that they are important to enhance development measures.

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