

REVISIT REVIVE AND RESTORE

Abstract

Sustainable development is the development of the present with the judicious use of the resources so that the future generation is not harmed. Recent development should not be at the cost of the next generation rather it should be the legacy which should be handed to our heirs or successors. Sustainable Development was a concept nurtured in 1987 by the World Commission on Environment and development. The holistic and ecological view is laid importance rather than the mechanistic view where life was led mechanically fulfilling only our self-centred goals. Human beings are so selfish that we forget our ethical obligations to protect our biodiversity. The new guideline is an attempt to revisit the old technology, system and revive the strategies and planning through modern measures in order to achieve the goal of restoration. The restoration of aesthetic values can lead the world dynamically towards an optimistic approach of a better world. Sustainable development can stop the detrimental impact of pollution, climate change and also establish laws of equality and justice so that the irreparable damage can be judiciously balanced. Careful planning can shift the mankind from a world of dominance to a world of coexistence.

Forests preceded mankind but deserts shall follow and we would leave a scorched planet if the resources are not used judiciously. Deteriorating ecosystem with world-wide loss of biodiversity has led to conservative challenges. We can see certain changes already spreading its claws to encroach upon the world like the melting of ice caps, rising of water table due to the global warming. Less rainfall or droughts and frequent floods are the impact of climatic changes which mankind has already started experiencing. Reviving these situations by

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2030 is undertaken globally by the environmentalists. All need to join hands in this rescue work as we have threatened ourselves with death by misusing and depleting the resources.

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I. ARTICLE

In one word we can define these three terms – Revisit, Revive and Restore to one single word- Recover. It means recovering to the normal form. It is recovering the withered and decayed environment to its pristine form, the world of flora and fauna from the verge of extinction to the world of abundance as it was found originally. So these three R's can fructify with sustainability. Sustainability can be defined as development of the present but not at the cost of the future generation. Today's development should not use so much of the resources that we leave a scorched world for the future generation.

The three R's focus on reassuring our present and current practices in our working areas, re-nourishing and revitalising our degraded ecosystem and restoring balance and regenerating life to the drooping and withered condition.

Revisit – In regard to sustainable development, reviving refers to revitalise efforts in enhancing the potential with proper commitments towards sustainable practices, conservation and protection of the environment. Reviving also means promoting renewable energy, sustaining agriculture and enhancement in its production and combats the social challenges. This is reviewing the policies and systems to find out the areas which need attention and perfection so that sustainability can be maintained and finally re-access them through a critical Analysis of resource consumption and resource wastage. Things can be planned and updated in a better way. Past actions and policies of individuals and its impact on society can be studied to shape a better future.

Revive – Reviving aims for revitalising, regenerating, reinvigorating and redeveloping basic areas like economics and ecosystem and to bring back the renaissance of the systems with new strategies and pumping in fresh energy to make it healthier and enhance its effectiveness, its amplification and its rehabilitation.

Restore – restoring involves breathing in life into old systems and culture to bring it back to its originality in regard to ecosystem. It means restoring degraded environment with careful planning and implementation of strategies. It can also be implemented to cultural heritage, infrastructure which have decayed and are destroyed. Restoration of aesthetic value and scientific theories to bring a fresh energy, thus avoiding the past mistakes and misconceptions. It is to acknowledge overlooked perspective of social bias to women and to the marginalised classes which were due to injustice and ignorance. The detrimental impact of pollution, climate change, and loss of biodiversity has required intervention to prevent irreparable damage with delicate balance of nature. The issue like inequalities, insufficiencies and bygone policies are to be addressed thus reviving the needed ones involving new technologies and with the assistance of innovations and adapting to changing technologies.

The resources of the world are being depleted to such an extent that it was becoming difficult to restore it to its original condition. So it was planned to be revisited otherwise could have been catastrophic. A group of people in New Zealand became active and framed the Green Revolution in order to turn the tables and act not only for the conservation but also to form new laws, apply novel methods to bring the world to its former glory.

This Green revolution is the only revolution where more and more countries are joining. All other movements had started with a lot of enthusiasm but all perished with the

passage of time. This is the single revolution which is consistent and persistent in this world. More and more countries are being added to the list. The conservation challenges are becoming more and more complete. There is a need for these challenges to be catered through the generic rescue. In 1972 the green party was founded in New Zealand when the hopes were irrevocably shifted from mechanistic view to a holistic and ecological view. A growing worldwide consciousness has dawned on human being when earth is treated as a living organism which has its metabolic needs and many vital processes. We need to respect these phenomenons and preserve them so that the earth does not come to a catastrophic decay.

The present condition of the earth reveals it as a patient declining in health. So it is our social, moral and ethical obligations to become the good stewards and caretakers of the planet thus delivering duties as responsible trustees of the legacy of the future generation. The concept of sustainable development was popularised in 1987 by the world commission on environment and development. Sustainable development is defined as “*Development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their needs*” (Palkhiwala, 2004, *Ailing Planet*). Nani Palkhiwala says “*In a zoo at Lusaka Zambia, there is a cage where the notice reads ‘The world’s most dangerous animal.’ Inside the cage there is no animal but mirrors on all three sides, where people can there is no animal but a mirror where you see yourself*” (Palkhiwala, 2004, *The Ailing Planet*). This shows that men prove to be the world’s most dangerous animal. Man has shifted from a system based on domination to a system of co-existence and partnership where now we have started believing in “live and let live”. The still languishing millions of species which are becoming extinct and going into the ignominious darkness.

International commissions which dealt with Internalia, with the question of ecology and environment was the Brandt Commission which had a distinguished Indian as one of its members – Mr. L. K. Jha. The first Brandt Report raised the question “*Are we to leave our successors a scorched planet of advancing deserts, impoverished landscapes and ailing environment*” (Jha, 2000, *Brandt report*).

Mr. Lester Brown has pointed out about the four biological systems that is fisheries, forests, grasslands and croplands in his book *The Global Economic Prospect* which are the foundation of global economic system. Humans are claiming these systems and establishing their dominance which has now reached the unsustainable level and its productivity has resulted into impairment. Finally these four biological systems have crashed altogether which have been converted into barren wastelands. The local forests are getting depleted and decimated due to the need of fuel wood and exotic woodwork. The firewood has become too expensive that now it can be stated as “*what goes under the pot now costs more than what goes inside it*” (Brown, 1990, *The Global Economic Prospect*, 03).

The Tropical forests are cut down which can be termed as “*The powerhouse of evolution*” (Dr. Myers, 117). As these trees are felled we see that many species are becoming extinct or endangered. Here in these forests the evolution also takes place which sounds far-fetched nowadays. It is well known to us that “*forests precede mankind, deserts follow*” (Lester, 1996, *The Ailing Planet*). Before we thrived on Earth, forests were there and human activities are leaving a desert. The forest area which was a natural legacy that cannot be inherited by the future generation as they are only left as deserts. The patrimony of tropical forests is now eroding at the rate of forty to fifty million acres a year.

Article 48A of the constitution declares that “*the state shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wide life of the country*” (Constitution, 1950, 48A). The forests had a catastrophic depletion in the last four decades where the data is not reliable and we are losing forests because of the fuel wood demand of the twenty first century. Many officially designated forest lands are virtually treeless.

A three-year study using satellites and Ariel photography conducted by the United Nations, warns that the environment has deteriorated so badly that it is ‘critical’ in many of the eighty- eight countries investigated.

Population is one of the major causes of forest depletion. In every four days the world population increases by one million. But a transcending concern can be seen globally, just not for people’s existence but for the planet. The new world leaders have seen the critical condition of the earth and have ushered in an era of responsibility. “*Our continued existence as a leading manufacturer requires that we excel in environmental performance*” (Woolard, 2001, Du Pont).

Even Margaret Thatcher had stated in this context during her tenure of Prime Ministership “*No generation has a freehold on this Earth. All we have is a life tenancy – with a full repairing lease*” (Thacher, 1979, World Economy). Lester Brown has also commented on this “*we have not inherited this earth from our fore fathers; we have inherited it from our children.*” (Brown, 1994, Our Planet).

Tishani Doshi had undertaken a programme ‘Students on Ice’ where the students were taken to Antarctica for the research work as it is the most pristine place, untouched mostly by human kind so the carbon records the ice lay untampered which gives us the correct picture of the world and its ecology.

Sitting in our comfortable zones we won’t be able to understand the risk that we are causing to nature. When the water table rises and lands get submerged because of global warming then we understand the treat that we are causing to ourselves as, when nature won’t remain, we humans cannot thrive on Earth. Ecosystem worldwide faces biodiversity loss and has developed conservation challenges.

Sunderlal Bahuguna had etched a mark in the hearts of the people by his Chipko Movement. People, like him are there who want to save the trees and consider them to be a part and parcel of their lives. “*The rapid increase of human population has left us battling with other species for limited resources, and the unmitigated burning of fossil fuels has now created a blanket of carbon dioxide which is increasing the average Global Temperature.*” (Doshi, 2000, Journey to the end of the World). When we see the ice caps melting, glaciers retreating and ice shelves collapsing, then we realise the unmitigated threat to nature.

1. Reasons Why Sustainable Development is Needed

- To conserve our natural resources.
- To maintain ecological balance.
- To mitigate the impact of climate change.

- To promote and to make comprehensive strategies along with technology for equitable distribution of resources.
- To improve social wellbeing.
- It's a long term approach for economic, social and ecological interdependence and harmony,
- It plays a crucial role to regenerate and revitalise the Planet.
- To remove the escalating pressure on different resources.
- Long term plan for business and economic prosperity.
- Efficiency will be enhancing by reducing cost. Abundance of resource will make it cost effective.
- Poverty can be alleviated as it will ensure economic growth to one and all.
- Social equity by attacking the root cause like social exclusion of the vulnerable groups.
- Protection of life and the need of basic resources of the marginalised communities.
- Environmental Protection for healthy future generation. Loss of resilience in ecosystem.
- Minimising devastation effect of human activities. Lack of waste management is also another concern.
- Protection of endangered species for maintaining food chain.
- Promoting fair trade by developing alternatives of natural resources like trees and fossil fuel.
- Reduce pollution, Rampant environmental degradation.

2. Issues to be Addressed

- **Poverty free country:** By the year 2030, poverty needs to be eradicated for which plans, strategies are being made but due to Covid situations the rate has again increased. The unprecedented reversal is more aggravated and exacerbated by the steady inflation.
- **No hunger pangs or zero hunger:** no food insecurity globally is the aim by 2030. Malnutrition has been enhanced by the Ukraine war which has also disrupted the food chain of the whole world.
- **Healthy citizens and their well being:** Healthy life and well being of all is the need of the hour to be ensured by 2030. Global life expectancy can be triggered up by ending HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria. Immunization can be targeted for all.
- **Guaranteed Quality Education for all:** knowledge and skill development for better jobs and better standard of living is the key aim by 2030. Covid days has had a great set back which needs to be recovered in due course.
- **Gender equality:** Be it men, women or transgender: it is a fundamental right of all paving a foundation of a better world. Everyone has the right to live and let live. Sexuality should not be the cause of difference in treatment. Gender bias and prejudice should take a back stage for a progressive world.
- **Clean water and sanitation to eradicate diseases:** The basic services of clean and safe water along with sanitation and hygiene can be clubbed with basic human need. Due to population outburst and urbanization, water which is an indispensable part of human need, is at crisis now. Misuse, mismanagement, overuse and contamination

have led to global challenge. Tran's boundary water management can lead to a better ecosystem by 2030.

- **Affordable energy to boost up development for all in all the sectors:** Reliable modern energy and an access to it at affordable price can ensure economic and human development. Sustainable energy targets by the end of 2030 can achieve the goal in future.
- **Economic growth of individual, thus leading to national growth:** economic growth through employment for all can reverse the dip of graph and recover the prosperity of different nations thus uplifting the world globally. Labour market challenges can also be reduced.
- **Global Partnerships for fulfilling the goal of sustainable development:** join hands globally to combat the challenges.
- Strong and sturdy institutions for global peace and justice.
- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure.
- Reducing Inequality among different strata of society. Not only in the field of job but even equal political representation so that all races and castes can be catered to.
- Sustainable cities and different communities: proper human settlement in cities with economic development is the aim of sustainable development.
- Consumption and Production in such a responsible manner that future generation remains unaffected. Value diversity in society fulfils basic needs of food, shelter and clothing. Sustainable consumption and production is the key to the success of future generation.
- Climate action and changes are the resultants of thoughtless human activities: global temperature rise have resulted to melting of ice caps thus having weather drift resulting in floods and droughts.
 - Reduce greenhouse gas emission.
 - Limit global warming and acid rain
 - More use of renewable energy like wind, solar and hydro.
 - Promoting recycling.
 - Afforestation by planting saplings.
- Life below water, effect on it and how the food chain gets affected: sustainable marine resources are essential for human existence.
- Life on land how is it connected to marine life: sustainable management of forests can reverse land degradation.
- Environmental economist Herman Daly has joined hands with India to formulate the steps to be taken.

3. Certain Steps that the Government is Taking

- **Formulation of NitiAayog:** National institute of transforming India Aayog is the newly formed commission which does mapping based on proper visionary, planning, budgeting and monitoring systems which would be sponsored by the states. Under this system India has launched many flagship programmes.
- Planting saplings is undertaken both by central and state Government.
- Clean and green city under the slogan Swachh Bharat Aandolan. More use of slogans like 'Plant a tree, get oxygen free.'
- Alternative to fossil fuel: CNG, Biogas, Solar and E Vehicles.

- Pollution check on vehicles.
- Ban on cutting trees and implementing penalty and imprisonment if laws are not followed.
- Filtering the smoke before emission from industries by quality circle department.
- Filtering and treatment of industrial wastes and water before letting it out into the water. This will save the marine life.
- Population control by creating awareness and by birth control measures. Population is a major drawback to the progress and utilisation of resources.
- Decarbonising the energy to make it affordable and available to all.
- Catalyst science fund has been generated.
- Cloning for conservation.
- Advanced Coral Toolkit.
- Wild genomes.
- National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)
- National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)
- National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP)

4. Suggestions

- Comprehensive education programs can develop critical thinking, inclusive education.
- Stricter laws enforcement with penalty.
- Regular survey of impact on environment
- Inclusive decision making.
- Forest conservation laws should take local people into confidence.
- Non- forest activities should receive prior approval.
- Swachha Bharat Andolan should include waste management.
- Develop at least one forest per city. Central Government is working on this scheme and has consented to the scheme of Nagar Van Udyan.

5. How Companies Use - Revisit, Revive And Restore: Companies can revisit their strategies, processes and policies. It can identify the shot comings, loopholes and areas of improvement and make necessary changes and adjustments. Customer surveys and market study can give new insights, zeal to face the competitive world.

Products and services can be rebranded, redesigned and made attractive to tempt the modern world and regain market. Companies need to adapt to customer choice and preferences.

Company can restore its name, fame, reputation and public image by dropping down past mistakes, disputes and controversies. Imbibing transparency and undertaking corporate social responsibility initiative. They can implement sustainable practices by stopping carbon emissions, conserving resources and taking initiative to promote global ecological partnership among nations.

II. CONCLUSION

The goal of ecosystem restoration is meant to improve the biodiversity globally and recover its health. Efforts to repair damage can be witnessed. The world is looking for volunteers who would dedicate their time to the task. An ecosystem restoration team will be set up which would survey first, then do mapping of hazardous structures and man-made hazards. Sustainability is thus long term planning of preservation of resources rather consuming them continuously and incessantly for the satiation of short term demands. The threat of human survival can be removed by sustainable development. The economic development has withered the environment and has made it an ailing planet. Sustainable development focuses on the development of the society without having a negative impact on the environment which has also become the transcendental concern of the whole world. In order to protect our Mother Earth restoration of the crumbling world is the vital issue. Restoring will also promote a healthy clean and fresh biodiversity which will enable new species to thrive and create habitat for new species.

The solar and wind energy, the non exhaustible gifts of nature can become the solution. There should be total ban on plastics as it can't be recycled. The archaeological department has been excavating the civilizations for ages together. In the next ages the artefacts excavated would be only plastics. This should not become the situation so we need to take precautions from the present itself. The concept of revisit, revive and restore focuses that human beings desire for a better future by learning from our past mistakes. By critically analysing and revisiting then revitalising with the aim of restoring we can address ongoing challenges across various domains. Collective decisions of the intellectuals and by embracing the three R's we can achieve our target of sustainable development.

Change may not be noticed in a day. May be one day will not make a difference in nature. Just as million years of misusing and squeezing out the nature for satisfying our selfish motives brought about the drastic change in nature similarly another million years can bring about a positive change thus bringing back the earth to its former glory and grandeur.

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