
ARTICLE REVIEW ABOUT THEORETICAL VIEWS ON THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Sustainable development aims to strike a balance between satisfying the demands of current generations and safeguarding the capacity of future generations to fulfill their own. Three main aspects underpin this idea: an economy emphasizing sustainable growth via efficient resource use; an environment demanding natural resource conservation and pollution control; and a society supporting social justice and equal opportunity in education, health, and work. Introduced in the 1987 report our common future, this idea served as a cornerstone for grasping sustainable development and advocated development plans preserving natural resources for future generations. Theoretical approaches to sustainable development differ from economic theory, which links economic growth with environmental protection; social theory, which emphasizes achieving social justice and improving individual well-being; and environmental theory, which stresses protecting the environment from excessive depletion. Policies and practices of countries like Sweden and Denmark have also helped to emphasize the practical aspect of sustainable development by helping to create a balance between environmental preservation and economic growth. Good laws and policies also underline the need of institutions in fulfilling sustainable development goals. Some policies, therefore, draw criticism for giving the environment or the economic first priority at the cost of other facets of sustainable development. Sustainable development is an integrated process that ensures the sustainability of resources and the welfare of future generations by means of the interaction of various economic, social, and environmental elements.

Keywords: Sustainable development, economy, environmental, Theoretical.

Introduction

Sustainable development aims to balance meeting the needs of current generations with protecting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Achieving this theory relies on three main axes: first, an economy that aims for the optimal and efficient use of resources and the promotion of a green economy; second, a society that aims to achieve stability; and third, prosperity through an unbiased distribution of resources. It calls for the application of justice between eras and generations, leading to a balance in economic,

developmental, and environmental resources through the use of a development policy based on and advocating for the preservation of natural resources to achieve sustainability for future generations, which is the cornerstone of the concept of sustainable development. The concept of sustainable development was formally presented in the 1987 Brundtland Commission Report, entitled "Our Common Future." The report emphasized this and the need to achieve economic development and balance it with environmental conservation at the same time. It also called for the use of development policies that ensure the conservation of natural resources to ensure their continuity for future generations. Sustainable development takes into account the social, environmental, and economic dimensions of making the best use of available resources to meet the needs of individuals while preserving the rights of future generations. The world faces the threat of environmental degradation, which must be overcome without compromising the needs of economic development, equality, and social justice. Sustainable development requires improving living conditions for all individuals without increasing the use of natural resources beyond the planet's carrying capacity. Sustainable development is pursued in three main areas: economic growth, natural resource conservation, the environment, and social development. One of the most important challenges facing sustainable development is eradicating poverty by encouraging balanced patterns of production and consumption without over-reliance on natural resources.

Part One: Sustainable Development: Defining the Idea

The seeds of sustainable development emerged in the 1980s with the Common Future approach, which aimed to address environmental issues through development policies that aimed to achieve a balance between the environment and the developing economy. In its development plans in the 1990s, Britain was the first nation to embrace some ideas of sustainable development [1].

2. Different Definitions:

Three key aspects of sustainable development are the environment (conserving natural resources), the economy (sustainable economic development), and society (attaining social justice). For instance, environmental theory stresses that the environment should not be sacrificed for economic development; economic theory advocates green growth that combines the economy and the environment [2].

3. Intergenerational Justice:

Intergenerational fairness is a basic component of sustainable development. The deeds of the current generation should not endanger future generations' ability to have a good life or use natural resources [3] [10].

Part Two: Sustainable Development: Theoretical Approaches

1. The Economic Theory of Sustainable Development:

Green growth, in the context of economic theory, has been the major aspect of achieving sustainable development, linking environmental conservation to the principle of economic growth. Joseph Stiglitz emphasized that investment in renewable energy technologies leads

to rapid economic development. This concept focused on the application of modern technologies to economic development [4]. It was characterized by precision and technical advancements to achieve economic sustainability.

2. The Social Theory of Sustainable Development:

Achieving social justice is a necessity that ensures sustainable development and stability for generations, through supporting education, health, and social impartiality. From the perspective of social philosophy, we see that it emphasizes the need to protect the environment to guarantee human rights. Therefore, countries facing such circumstances must ensure a fair distribution of human resources to include all segments and classes of society [5] [11].

3. The Environmental Theory of Sustainable Development:

The concept of environmental conservation is one of the fundamentals that must be followed to achieve sustainable development. It focuses on biodiversity, with the need to protect natural resources, such as water and forests, from unjustified use. Reinhold Kolbert supported and endorsed this strategy, emphasizing the need for optimal use of natural resources and avoiding actions that cause global warming [6].

Part Three: Applied Aspects of Sustainable Development

The practical application of sustainable development strategies in the current world is one of the most important fundamentals addressed and emphasized in this section through investments in renewable energy, public transportation, and enhancing energy efficiency in buildings. Sweden and Denmark were among the countries that proved how a balanced process of environmental conservation and economic development could be implemented. Some successful experiences have also addressed sustainable agriculture initiatives, such as the use of ecological agriculture, which aims to preserve soil fertility and reduce the use of pesticides [7].

Part Four: Sustainable Development and Economic Development, The relation

Sustainable development can significantly contribute to the development of the global economy through long-term investment in clean technology, renewable energy, and improving environmental infrastructure. For example, solar and wind energy contribute to creating new job opportunities and reducing environmental pollution [8].

Part Five: Critique and Evaluation of Theoretical Approaches

Critical Analysis: In this section, we evaluate the theories presented and the actual critiques of these approaches. Some of these theories may focus too heavily on one aspect of sustainable development, such as environmental conservation at the expense of social justice. Some experts, such as Colin Freeman, criticize these approaches and suggest that sustainable development should be more comprehensive and encompass multiple dimensions.[9]

Part six: Theoretical Approaches to the Concept of Sustainable Development

1- The Material-Environmental Approach:

The concept focuses on linking material and environmental policies, focusing on the relationship between excessive use of natural resources and economic growth, and highlighting the important role that technology plays in improving the efficiency of resource consumption, also addresses how to reduce the environmental impact of material consumption [12]. It is believed that the sustainable use of natural resources requires advanced technologies and professional management of natural resources in a way that supports future generations [11].

2- Integrative Approach:

This method emphasizes integrating economic, environmental, and social factors into one framework so that no component is handled separately. This method believes that including the three dimensions will enable sustainability [13]. Sustainable development is a holistic process including all areas of society meant to guarantee a long-term balance between the environment and humans [14].

3- Institutional Approach:

This method emphasizes how political and economic structures help to reach sustainable development objectives. In order to achieve and ensure the continuity of sustainable development, institutions must have the ability to control resources and policies simultaneously [15] because they are considered fundamentally important for implementing laws and policies of governments as well as international organizations for the purpose of achieving sustainability [16].

4. Value-based Approach:

The value-based approach emphasizes that social and cultural values are the fundamental drivers of societies' ability to achieve sustainability, and the most important of these are their value and social aspects [17]. There must be radical transformations in human behavior and societal values to achieve sustainable development, including the adoption of sustainable lifestyles at both the individual and collective levels [18].

5. Critical Approach:

The concept of the critical approach views sustainable development as a way or means to monitor systems that may lead to excessive and unnecessary exploitation of resources, thus leading to economic imbalance between them. Through this strategy, sustainable development can be used as a cover to support economic exploitation [19]. Supporters of this approach believe that sustainable development is sometimes used as a cover for economic exploitation. Therefore, sustainable development, from its perspective, calls for reorganizing the available capital system to limit its harmful effects on the environment and on the generations that have not benefited from it. [20].

6. Geographical-Spatial Approach:

From this geographic-spatial perspective, sustainable development can be taken, which demonstrates and studies the impact of sustainable development on different geographical areas and the distribution of resources at the local level [21]. To achieve sustainable development, it must be taken into account that each region may require different strategies based on its resources and spatial conditions [22].

Conclusion:

It was concluded that sustainable development can only be achieved by striking a balance between economic, social, environmental, and spatial dimensions. Despite the many significant challenges facing the world in implementing this approach, this has been proven by the effective solutions and practices adopted by some countries to achieve success.

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