



## **The role of people in Sustainable Development in Urban Environment**

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### **Abstract**

The term sustainable development is one of the overused terms in the recent urban policy documents and programmes. But the outcome of this term is very slow. Because people are only making conferences and debates on this issue but practical is less. Any development which is not sustainable cannot be considered as development. In this paper an attempt has been made to understand the real meaning of sustainable development and role of people in the sustainable development particularly in urban areas.

### **Sustainable Development**

Man and environment relationship is an extremely complex interactive phenomenon. The environmental set-up affects mankind of the world through their activities and human society also make affect the natural environment. This being so, it is impossible to consider matters relating to environment except in the perspective of human development and welfares.

Nature is a potent force, bringing human race development. But modern man is also growing into an increasingly potent force through development of science and technology. Human being is gaining the capability of adverse effect on the nature, at least locally and sometimes globally. With the fast growing population of the world, especially urban population, the concern for human environment and economic development is thus currently getting serious attention.

Despite the deteriorating condition of the environment, the fact remains that more international conference on human environment and development, people at large are now getting more and more concerned about the fate of our natural and man-made ambience at the global, natural and local levels. Numerous conflicts have been occurring like concentration of resources, requirement of livelihood and unhealthy urban environment created by automobiles and industries. Unfortunately many activities in the urban areas are anti-ecological and anti-people. That's why, many countries of the world are trying to find out the way of the existing terrible urban environmental and see how best the urban planning can be made for sustainable development.

### **Sustainable Development Paradigm**

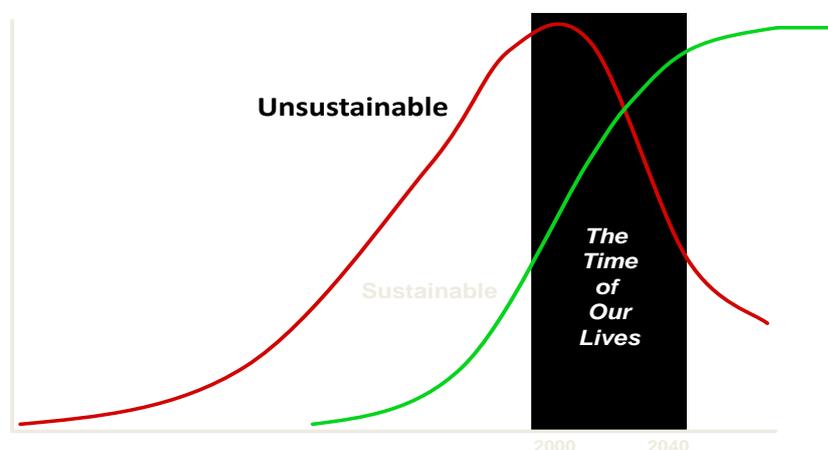
The traditional paradigm is rejected and replaced by an alternate paradigm of "Sustainable development" which is environmentally regenerative and renewable, ecologically, friendly, social justice and socio-culturally compatible and acceptable. It means "all harmony and no conflict with nature". Development should not be at the cost of environment. The resources are used sustainable and renewably showed that they do not get depleted and stolen from future generation.

Sustainable development must promote symbiotic relationship between development and environment. Any development that is not sustainable cannot be considered as development. Sustainable development should be creative, enlightenment, benign and blessed. It is not a static concept. It changes both in spatial and temporal contents. The definition of sustainable development is given by Brundtland Commission (World Commission of Environment and development) in 1987 in its report entitled 'Our Common Future' seems to be more popular and acceptable. It defined sustainable development as "the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the need of future generations". Jodha in 1991, has defined sustainability as the "ability of the system to maintain a certain well defined level of performance over time and if required and hence the same through linkages with other system".

Environment degradation is adversely affecting not only the urban ecology, but also the quality of life. Over-exploitation of various notably the forest resources and urban-industrial growth without due regard for planned and sustainable development, growing population coupled with poverty, unemployment and inequality has led to numerous crisis situations in the urban and rural areas (Kayastha). Mrs. Indira Gandhi(1972) observed that environment must be conserved and improved, but it cannot be improved in conditions of poverty. The development processes and practices led to greater environmental deterioration. There is a serious environmental imbalance between the development and the developing countries and urban and rural world.

Urban areas are eating good agricultural land and misuse of urban land is very common feature. Misuse of good cultivable land must be prohibited by law. Pollution, misuse and lack of integrated water management are the main causes for a water crisis in the face of increasing demands for urban water supply. There is need for a proper water management and a National Policy (Kayastha, 1981 and 2000).

## The Hope Graph:



The hope graph depicts the following points:

1. In 2000 the unsustainable development was dominant in the world. Heavy industries were setup which was not environmental friendly and invented devices and gases also not pollution free.
2. After 2010, the result of the unsustainable development was come out like disastrous situation. More disaster has starts to come in the world.
3. Then people starts to move sustainable development.
4. If the same trends will remain in the future then unmetable graph will decline and people move towards the eco friendly techniques and foods to eat.

Doing Sustainable Development require:

Attempting to integrate (or perhaps just balance) environmental, social and economic values which will suffice to make/ inspire/guide change toward sustainability.

Values					
Economic	Environmental	Social			
		Labour Practice	Human Rights	Society	Product Responsibility
1.Customers	1.Materials				
2.Suppliers	2.Energy	1.Employment	1.Non-discrimination	1.Community	1.Customer's health & safety
3.Employees	3.Water	2.Health & society	2.Child Labour	2.Corruption	2.Respect of Privacy
4.Public Sectors	4.Bio-diversity	3.Diversity & Opportunity	3.Indigenous rights	3.Political Contributions	
	5.Emmissions, effluents & waste	4.Training & Educations			
	6.Transport				
	7.Overall				

This table shows the values in the urban areas. Economic, Environmental and social must be taken into consideration for sustainable development in the cities. Replacement of coal, petroleum, diesel, firewood etc. with clean fuels is necessary to protect environment and to save non-renewable energy and inexhaustible energies like wind, tidal, geothermal and solar energy. Recycling of wastes and multiple utilisations of resources will immensely help to conserve urban environment.

The people participation is must to make the environment more sustainable in particularly urban areas. Man is more technocrats in urban areas than rural areas. Sustainable development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century will have to be based upon biotechnology, eco-technology and information and space technology.



Population stabilisation without further delay is imperative to achieve sustainable development. Unplanned expansion of the urban areas is the basis of problem. Hence, the eradication of these problems by launching various alleviation programmes is necessary.

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