

Sustainable Development - A Multidimensional Concept

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Abstract: *The environmental issue is just a dimension, though indeed important, of the issue of sustainable development, along with the social, economic, cultural and other dimensions. Concerning these latter components, it is not possible to claim to be politically neutral. The involvement of politics in the economic and social development has been and continues to be a fact. The fact that the human mind has been capable to pollute the ideatic atmosphere on a theme, which, by its nature, should have been protected from ideology, makes it necessary to state the neutrality of politics and of ideology in relation to the environment. However, the issue is not so simple. If there is really a place where to attain one's goal means are less important, then sustainable development should be the place where such a logic should be applied. Eventually, everybody wants to live a life of the best quality possible, and this thing has a primordial importance. No matter how hard the researchers who study the issue of sustainable development try to be objective, they will finally have to admit that it is a useless waste of energy, as the issues of growth and development cannot be disconnected of the social, cultural, political, religious network etc., in which they take place, and an analysis in this respect cannot be achieved without taking into account the researcher's onset heritage, which cannot be neutral in relation to his ideological vision.*

Keywords: *sustainable development, environment, multidimensional concept.*

1. Introduction and Discussion

Definition of sustainable development formulated by the Report of the Brundtland Commission in 1987 is formally considered both as related basis and analyses, often disputed regarding aims, dimensions, demands as facts of its accomplishment etc. From the theoretical dispute supplied by this definition try it is considered to be worth holding the following aspects:

a) Introduction the syntagma of sustainable development in usual vocabulary of economic science an objective necessity has meant. Notion has been conceived and imposed theoretically as a reply to the economic slump and especially the ecological one on which passes mankind at the End of the 20th Century and at the beginning of the 21st Century.

b) Also, at the level of mankind (feeling the public opinion) the draft that the sustainable development masters a strong moral load has been required. It has been gone down from the realistic premise that each generation build its future on the inherited dowry. From this point of view, it is duty of today's generation (that a testamentary obligation) to offer those who will succeed at least the same opportunities inherited.

c) Sustainable development will become more and more a constant of socio – economic policies of each state. Diverse events but fairly require this fact.

- there is not economic or ideological borders of pollution;

It may be asserted that under the objectives report and general demands, sustainable development is a concept as mondo in so far as:

- the tolerableness range both of pollution and of poverty, if the facts keep their nowadays trends, will be put under the survival terms and then globalization of necessary actions to counteract a such trend, will really only solution;
- it won' t stand such waste any longer, where it is indifferently generated; the environment resources, namely of life support are limited;
- it cannot be accepted the obvious degradation of environment factors and human implicitly against time, induced by this increase type that converted but especially corrupted admirable qualities that generally define development or progress or increase

At the same time, sustainable development is also imposed like a mosaic reality. The national nature, understanding by this the concrete situation from each countries, regarding population, its own needs of increase of production and consumption, the environment characteristic features, typical philosophy of life, etc., comes into view, comes true, and outlines the policies of sustainable development within each national perimeter. But, it is held back that, just this "specialization" of coming into view and application some policies of sustainable development by each country, compels at collaboration for the solution of some problems with high range of interconditionation, strengthening by this the common dimension, globally of sustainable development.

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d) In connection and in extension the mentioned ones at the point "c", it is worth keeping that sustainable development requires a different treatment like level, approach way and understanding, technology, resources, at which can be done appeal with success chances. The concept is relative open and can get different ways and meanings depends on time, space, geographical area, etc.

Inside this theoretical matrix, a special signification for the coming into view sustainable development concept has got differentiating of the countries of the world into the rich country and the poor ones.

Thus, for the developed country, the depollution question, of improvement of life quality, etc. is the change one, adaptation and modernization. For the change of economical increase kind there are also political and technological forces in these countries and, very important, resources, in this way the success chances are very great.

For the developing country, the problem has completely other terms. If, here and there, the question is not one of the life quality but even of life, survival, it has sense what priority order occupies sustainable development in the policy of these country.

And, like a vicious circle, just here, the production structures in debt, pollutant, with ill-fated traces for the degradation of soil, water, etc., adds at the material situation already poorly, new worse factors. And the circle has no any chance to be broken because the reduced rate of economic increase, here, it is not able to generate the funds necessary for investment into control equipments and antipollutant technology for the technological, institutional and managerial restructurations that are required.

Relation between richness and poverty has some to deliver and the line of "contribution" to pollution as out of respect for nature. Thus, statistics prove with undoubt data, that the poor country of the world practise the most weak pressure on planet. The low levels of economic development make from them the smallest pollutants with CO₂, SO₂ and NO₂ actually at half as against OECD countries. Therefore, the greenhouse gases and global warming are not due to the poor.

Contradictorily, but care and respect for what the environment means, it seems that is an attitude which depends on outlook of the rich ones. The higher level on the biological scale the more respectful attitude on nature.

The question looks to be the outlook and culture one, but not only.

Inhabitant from Ferentari has not the same instruction and culture like Viennese, but the contribution of responsible administration as his miserly condition did not cancel love for order and beauty, if he had them.

Numerous authors illustrate this aspect, an exemple is offered even by Romania in the following terms: " It is clear, the author has been writing, that the inhabitant of a block " ghetto " unwarmed, without water and sewerage from Ferentari or Cornetu, that must provide for maintain his numerous family, will not pay attention the same importance to parks or garbage storage like a Viena's inhabitant".

If he did not hereditarily inherit and not even got them by instruction, any inhabitant, no matter where, the administration with specific forces had to impose the observing some rules both in Ferentari and to Viena. For sure that an unpolluted hospitable and bracing nature generates enjoyment to inhabitant from ghetto like Viennese but no of the same force, because the priorities are different.

e) Strictly etymological talking, the notion of sustainable sends to duration, at a long lapse of time. Or, it seems that the craftsmen of concept did not firstly refer to temporal size, extent temporally of process.

On the economic increase has been spoken about two centuries and it seems that at least from this point of view it is very sustainable. Which seems the hard spot to assert the definition of sustainable development aims at the inner anatomy of phenomenon. Briefly, it is wanted to be ensured a parentage of quality to the detriment of amount increase of goods made and consumed.

Much more, the economic increase of which sources come from the 17 - 18 the centuries, built and perpetuated a relationship crisis of human being with environment and of the relationship ones of human being with the social and moral values that always defined the general progress.

For this reason and besides the process has to be converted to a human sustainable development first of all directed to the life and environment quality. To these dimensions of very comprehensive phenomenon of development have to be ensured them a real sustainability in the course of time.

f) Also, it has to give much prominence to tackling and generally the phenomenon analysis with the name of sustainable development has been done and go on doing unfortunately from position of prevalent predominant economic. The explanation is that guilty by ecological degradation and mutations, some with negative results on the social, morale, political, etc factor is economical philosophy after that it has been corrected and gave a configuration to production and consumption mode. In consequence of the solutions research to ensure the bold objective to get reconciliation the human being himself and with nature, will keep the same direction. In particular, they will mean an answer imposed to induced effects by logic that inspired the postwar economic increase and development, logic after that the natural resources and environment have been treated like simple instruments placed themselves at service of increase and the environment degradation like result the damages brought to human health that were put on one side.

g) Exactly by a privileged treatment, in economic theory regarding sustainable development, the environment and environmental policy are the objects of attention. The degradation cadence of ecosphere like planetary ecosystem gives only explanation in this direction. There is even the danger

like the prevalent concern on this theme of environmental policy to reduce impermissibly much attention and efforts necessary for clearing and solving the other problems on which phenomenon and concept of sustainable development subsuming them.

Thus, for biologists and ecologists the resources and natural environment are important.

h) The term connotation like the inner anatomy of sustainable development phenomenon are also influenced by "speciality" of the ones who consume its energy and talent on this theme.

In return, economists centre their research on costs and prices being in agreement that cannot be accepted a development with very high environmental costs, but at the same time using the market logic. Namely, they are their persuasion that if a resource costs too expensive because of internalization of environmental costs, the market signal, by the agency of price, will be that the respective resource has to be replaced.

The demography specialists, sensitively of the emphasized increase of population these last 50 years, accept that is unimaginable the future development without to trespass against rules that define and establish the world stock of resources.

Futurologists, optimistic, start from premise that a good part from today's planetary univers is an unknown and the science and knowledge progresses will help us accede to new resources and methods of their operation.

Sociologists and moralists are concerned with great cleavages at which drive the different acces to resources and the incomes adjustment between the resources holders and performance technologies and evidently that preserving the environment, too.

All these conceptions and many other, require a larger definition more comprehensive of sustainable development concept than the one given by Brundtland Report. Under these conditions, Jan S. Hagendorn considers that "The idea of sustainable development will be more convincing if it is performed in the sense that a certain rate of increase can be hard supported if the environment is degraded or if inequity increase of incomes lead to revolution or if the population demography gets out of control or if the agricultural field is shared and consequently the productivity is reduced. A suitable definition Hogendord affirms can be that that non sustainable development is the development as part of whose the negative effects on environment affect even the economic increase".

Trying to astonish the essence of sustainable development by its negative, nonsustainable development, Hogendorn compels attention also on a posible interpretation of definition from the Brundtland Report according to which the future generation can be compromised and confiscated and then "who should accept a sustainable poverty", the quoted author has been asking. In other words, it concerns that sustainable development ensures to the future generations a life more and more prosperously and good quality by uncompromision their chances by present type of increase.

They are not these only critics brought to the Brundtland Report. It is accused that does, here and there, confusion between causes and effects especially then when try to explain the chronic poverty state from the Horn of Africa by environment degradation and no in consequence of perpetual conflicts between tribes; that it does not speak anybody about the ecological crisis from former sovietic block, thought should have had to do, that is regardless, in solutions wording, of the supreme values on which western democracies support, today prosperous-fellow, liberty, private property, etc. like the present generation.

The achieving an objective formulated in the above termes, and still at the best level, it is not an easy question. On the contrary, it suposes the assuming some major responsibilities, respecting some general principles and some requires among that more important are considered as follows:

Taking these aspects into account less substantiated from the Brundtland Report and trying the attempt to extend the term as such, other authors considering that this new sintagma promotes preserving and regeneration of natural resources, techological development, production increase and investments orientation in harmony with satisfaction of needs for all society members at present,

without to compromise the possibility of future generation to ensure their own needs”¹⁴ and to support the reasoning in favour of a more comprehensive defining, I is considered that “the general objective of sustainable development is to found a best of interaction among four system: economic, human, environmental and technological I a dynamic process and running flexible”¹⁵.

◆ Assurance of sustainability in the course of time of economic increase for all countries, without exception, for the developed ones with the conditions reconsidering of its development with a view to quality assurance of environment and the life one, generally, and for the developing ones at which the increase in accelerated rates represents a vital question, only way, in fact, to come out from the socio economic disheartening in which is found it and, here, provided that the increase type choose not to become an enemy of environment and human being.

◆ Human being’s settling, with his diverse needs, in the central attention, provided that his efforts for more and better to aim at environment. Sustainable development with all policies arsenal on which trains them, touching the targets, inclusively the protection and preserving ones of environment represents only manner; purpose is human being’s advantage, individually and jointly, his material prosperity, culture like his physical and psychc health.

◆ With an essence generally, commonly established, sustainable development covers “concrete coat ” passing through national specification of each country. Each country has to formulate and establish its own concrete priorities like its achievement means depending on the economic basis of yied up, cultural specification, religion, history, etc.

◆ Assurance of progrss simultaneity, on all dmensions of sustainable development poces starts from premise of elements interconditioning that belongs to its inner technology and tacking population health and environment into account that are sources of productivity increase as seems only productivity additions can support the funds liberation necessary fight against pollution and poverty.

Technically, the Brundtland Report contains some objectives suitable whose the sustainable development achievement means:

- assurance further on of economic increase respects the basis condition of natural resources preserving;
- elimitation poverty and assurance of conditions satisfying of essential needs of work, food, energy, water, dwelling place and health;
- processes direction of economic increase to a new quality;
- assurance a checked increase of population;
- preserving and increase of natural resources, supervision of economic development impact on environment;
- technologies restructuration of production and maintain under control of their risks;
- assurance an integrate approaching regarding decisions of economic increase, environment and energy resources;

It is easy to ascertain that the requires observing of sustainable development claims solutions such as: social and politic, economic, demographic and technical. Taking service of efforts on the large area, sustainable development can be tackled only like a study – as multidimensionally and multidisciplinary connected.

i) Although, it is obvious that on the top of politics decision like the economic one that propeled it to power, should want not to be in this way, the phenomenon of sustainable development had and has even much more a political charge. If this thing is beneficial or no it will keep opening for research. Undoubtedly, the fact that air or water purity has to mean the same thing in Fidel Castro’s Cuba and Sarkozy's France how the smog does harm both London inhabitant and the Bucharest one.

However, absurd theories coming from the former socialist space have been launched by the supportes of this regime, assert that thre is not technical basis for passing to new type of

development, generally, and technico material basis of socialism differs from the capitalism one, and pollution is a typical phenomenon of capitalism.

If the human mind was capable to pollute ideation atmosphere on the theme that is safe keeping its nature from ideology, imposing a recognition of political and ideological neutrality as against environment. The question is not even so simple. The environment problem is only a dimension, indeed important, of sustainable development, near by the social, economic, cultural one, etc. Just the presence of ideological at coming into view of political countenance of postwar economic development policy explained the difference between material and social condition of eastern German as against the western one and today explains the same difference between the Chinese life inhabiting on the isle and the other on continent.

It remains to be seen, towards also if from prospect of solutions necessary to achieve the sustainable increase, the political colour being impertinent.

If USA, for example, preponderance of state regulations for the preserving of environment charge with "totalitarian of Greens" in France, structural to left, supporters of liberalism decorate their liberal speech with themes like "For a liberal tackling of environment".

If it is exist a place where, indeed, for succeed in secure its object the means matters less, then sustainable development should lend oneself to this logic. In the end, each wants like life to be lived very high and this thing matters firstly. We want to OBJECTIVE the position of who concerns with sustainable environment question we will find that uselessly spent energy; the questions of increase and development cannot be broken by the social, political, religious, etc. textute in which they happen, and an analysis on them cannot be realized without to take starting of researcher dowry into account that cannot be neuter as against its ideological vision.

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