



## STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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### ABSTRACT :

*The United Nations which will gather UN members states and other stakeholders in Brazil in 2012 is a key occasion to take stock of 20 years of action at all levels to promote sustainable development, and to provide a clear vision and way forward for the international communities, national governments, partnership and other stakeholders in implementing the sustainable development agenda in an integrated manner.*



**KEYWORDS :** Sustainable Development.

### INTRODUCTION

#### Goals of sustainable development :-

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at ages.
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
6. Ensure availability and sustainable and modern energy for all.
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all.
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.
10. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.
11. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
12. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.
13. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, manage forests.
14. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies.
15. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership.

Strategies for sustainable development:- The Rio Summit established sustainable development as the guiding vision for the development efforts of all countries. At Rio all governments undertook to establish and implement national sustainable development strategies. The strategies for sustainable development called for at Rio are foreseen as highly participatory instruments intended to ensure socially responsible economic development while protecting the resource base and the environment for the benefit of future generation. The Rio agenda 21 was reaffirmed most recently in the Millennium Summit Declaration. The

International Development Goals call specifically for the “ establishment of sustainable development strategies by 2005” We are committed to provide support for sound nationally- owned sustainable development strategies where conditions for effective partnership are in place. Sustainable development means integrating the economic , social, and environmental objectives of society, in order to maximize human well-being in the present without comprising the ability of future generation to meet their needs. For developing countries , and for development co-operation, reducing poverty and meeting the International Development Goals are imperatives—within the broad context of sustainable development.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES –**

- Country ownership and participation, leadership and initiative in developing their strategies.
- Broad consultation to open up debate on new ideas and information, expose issues to be addressed, and build consensus and political support on action.
- Ensuring sustained beneficial impacts on disadvantaged and marginalized groups and on future generations.
- Integration of economic, social and environmental objectives through mutually supportive policies and practices and the management of tradeoffs.

The environment is the key determinant of growth and of poverty reduction. There is a particular opportunity to promote the better integration of environmental and other issues of sustainability into poverty reduction strategies.

#### **STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT :-**

A co-ordinated set of participatory and continuously improving processes of analysis, debate, capacity- strengthening, planning and investment, which integrates the economic , social and environmental objectives of society, seeking trade offs where this is not possible. The set of desirable processes and outcomes which taken together, are likely to help ensure success of strategies for sustainable development .

**Key principles for strategies for sustainable development :-** 1) People- e An effective strategy requires a people – centered approach, ensuring long –term beneficial impacts on disadvantaged and marginalized groups, such as the poor.

**Consensus on long –term vision :-** strategic planning frameworks are more likely to be successful when they are based on a long-term vision with a clear timeframe upon which stakeholders agree. At the same time, they need s to have the commitment at all political parties so that an incoming government will not view a particular strategy as representing only the views or policies of its predecessor.

**Comprehensive and integrated :-** Strategies should seek to integrate, where possible, economic, social and environment objectives. But where integration cannot be achieved , trade –offs need to be negotiated. The entitled and possible needs of future generations must be factored into this process.

**Targeted with clear budgetary priorities :-** A sustainable development strategy must be fully integrated in existing budget processes to ensure that plans have the financial resources to achieve their objectives, and do not represent mere wish lists. Targets need to be challenging but realistic in relation to these constraints.

**Based on comprehensive and reliable analysis :-** Identification of priorities must be based on a comprehensive analysis of the present situation. Forecasted trends and risks, and link between local, national, and global challenges. The impact of global climate change – need to be factored in this analysis, which requires credible and reliable information on changing environmental, social and economic conditions, pressures and responses, and their correlations with strategy objectives and indicators. Local capacities for analysis and existing information should be fully used , and different perceptions amongst stakeholders should be reflected. Monitoring and evaluation needs to be

**Incorporate monitoring, learning and continuous improvement ;-** Monitoring and evaluation needs to be based on clear indicators and built into strategies to steer processes , track progress, distil and capture lessons, and signal when a change of direction is necessary.

**Country- led and nationally –owned ;** - It is essential that countries take the lead and initiative in developing their own strategies if they are to be enduring.

**High level government commitment and influential lead institutions :-** It is essential policy and institutional changes are to occur , financial resources are to be committed and for there to be clear responsibility for implementation.

**Building on existing processes and strategies :-** The good management to ensure co –ordination of mechanisms and processes, and to identify and resolve potential conflicts. The latter may require an independent and neutral third party to act as a facilitator the roles, responsibilities, and relationships between the different key participants in strategy processes must be clarified early on.

**Effective participation :-** Broad participation helps to open up debate to new ideas and sources of information ; expose issues that need to be addressed; enable problems, needs and preferences to be expressed; identify the capacities required to address them; develop a consensus on the need for action that leads to better implementation. Central government must be involved but multi- stakeholder processes are also required. These should involve decentralized authorities , the private sector and civil society, as well as marginalized groups. This requires good communication and information mechanisms with a premium placed on transparency and accountability.

**Link national and local levels :-** Strategies should be two-way iterative processes within and between national and decentralized levels. The main strategic principles and directions should be set at the central level, but detailed planning, implementation and monitoring would be undertaken at a decentralized level, with appropriate transfer of resources and authority.

**Develop and build on existing capacity :-** It is important to assess the political, institutional, human, scientific and financial capacity of potential state, market and civil society participants. The provision should optimize local skills and capacities both within and outside government.

Local agenda21s can help address many weaknesses or limitations in local development planning and environmental management- they have increased the wiliness of citizens, community organizations and NGO's to buy in "to planning and environmental management where they are organized , in such a way as to encourage and support their participation. They also have some potential to allow the integration of global environmental concerns into local plans.

**Requirements for effective participation in strategies :-** 1) Appropriate participatory methods for appraising needs and possibilities, dialogue, ranking solutions forming partnerships, resolving conflicts and reaching agreement on the way ahead.

2) Proper understanding of all those with alegitimate interest in the strategy, and a considered and concrete approach to include the more vulnerable and disenfranchised among them.

3) Catalyst for participation to start participation and link decisions that need to be taken centrally with those appropriate to more local levels.

The strategy would aim to ensure sustained growth that takes into account social, political, cultural and environmental concerns such as

- Sustainable human development
- Equity in the distribution of the benefits of growth.
- Transparency in the management of public affairs and the provisions of assistance
- Efficiency and sustainability of development programmes
- Reinforcement of capacities at the national level.

## REFERENCES-

- [www.oecd.org/dac](http://www.oecd.org/dac)
- The DAC Guidelines Strategies for sustainable development