

THE FLOW OF SUSTAINABILITY VIA EDUCATION

Ishpreet Kaur Saini*

ABSTRACT

“Sustainability via education means preparing for the appearance of a distinct and feasible planet.”

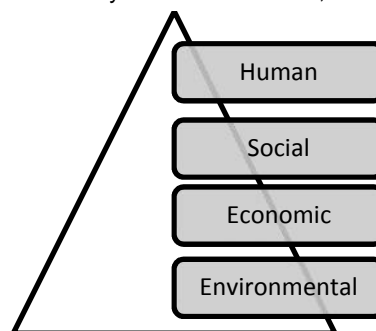
Education for Sustainability is one of the important need of the hour. This is a conceptual paper in order to understand the importance of sustainability in the education department of the country. Various teaching and learning strategies can be adopted to encourage students towards sustainability. The curriculum of the school must include the activities and topics related to the sustainability. The objective of the paper is to understand the role played by education in understanding and developing sustainability. This paper is a conceptual research paper to conceptualize the concept of sustainability by the way of education. The data has been collected from various secondary sources in reference to sustainability and education. To retain and maintain anything for future will mean to sustain it and that is what is necessary to teach the students whether young or adult practically so that the concept of sustainability will be well known among every member of the society.

Keywords: *Education, Sustainability, Students, Environment.*

Introduction

The ability to have a sustainable survival is referred to as sustainability. If anything is to be sustained then it should last endlessly. To retain and maintain anything for future will mean to sustain it. The growth of the economy without neglecting the future needs and requirements of the economy is referred to as sustainability. In other words, growing without compromising the future.

There are four poles of sustainability termed as Human, Social, Economic and Environmental.



- **Human Sustainability:** Preservation and Enhancement of the human capital is the aim of the human sustainability.
- **Social Sustainability:** Maintaining the social capital by charging and producing services facilities that composes the structure of our society.

* Student, The Bhopal School of Social Sciences (BSSS), Bhopal, M.P., India.

- **Economic Sustainability:** Preserving the entire wealth is the aim of economic sustainability. Sustainable development is not just about economic growth. The quality and quantity of growth both matters.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Human well-being by safeguarding the natural capital is the aim of the environmental sustainability.

The primary and secondary education is the growing stage is a child where a child builds his basic idea about various things like human, nature etc. Therefore, to provide a proper way to work upon a child must be taught about all the basis of the world in a proper way.

There is a great need to include the important aspects of the sustainability in the primary and secondary education to improve the state of sustainable development in various areas like natural, human, social etc. The right stage to teach and build a basis for sustainability is the education provided at primary and secondary levels.

Review of Literature

Allison Watson (2017); Sustainability education in primary and secondary schools: great needs and possible solutions

“The paper suggested that there is a great need for the knowledge of sustainability worldwide. It was uncovered that there is no or little knowledge about sustainability amongst student. Therefore, it is a challenge for the teachers their skills and utilize their power to teach students regarding it.”

W.Leal Filho, S.Raath, B.Lazzarini, V.R Vargas, L.Desouza, R.Anholon, O.L.G Quelhas, R.hadaad, M.Klavis, V.Lorlovic(2018); The role of transformation in learning and education for sustainability

“This study discovered that for the education of sustainable development it is necessary to opt for transformational strategies in teaching. It is the need of the hour to have open discussions, redesign the courses and developing new methods and techniques to develop sustainable environment via education.”

Margaret Somerville, Carolyn Williams (2015); Sustainability education in early childhood: An updated review of research in the field

“The study found that the sustainability education research is missing from the early childhood. It focused upon improving the quality of the researchers. The distinct research standards develop a means to interact and learn from each other.”

Mareieke Burmeister, Ingo Eilks (2013); An understanding of sustainability and education for sustainable development among German student teachers and Trainee teachers of chemistry

“The study discovered that the chemistry teachers, students and trainee have a positive attitude towards the sustainability and development of it. But learning and encouraging the education for sustainability was at lower level among the chemistry teachers in Germany.”

Objective

The main objective of the study is to understand the role played by education in understanding and developing the sustainability.

Methodology

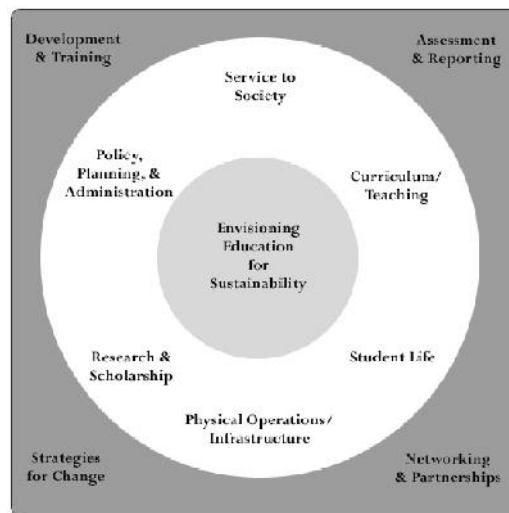
This paper is a conceptual research paper to conceptualize the concept of sustainability by the way of education. The data has been collected from various secondary sources in reference to sustainability and education.

Analysis

Sustainability via education means preparing for the appearance of a distinct and feasible planet. Sustainability basically means to utilize the resources and fulfil the needs without forgetting about the future requirements. Sustainable education is very important segment of the education system all around the globe. Students need to tackle with various issues in the different stages of their life like issues of the climatic changes, the degradation of the environment, the depletion of resources etc.

Adopting the following technique will be helpful in maintain sustainability in the environment:

“Quit the sphere fitter than you got, avail no supplementary than you acquire, bid not to misuse creation or mother nature, compensate if required.”



Source: Report_on_Higher_Education_Sustainability_Activiti.pdf by Amanda C. Graham Ph.D.

The above image states the four components by the way of which the sustainability could grow by education. These are development and training, Assessment and reporting, Networking and partnerships and strategies for change. All the four components are involved in every aspect of education for sustainability. The education for sustainability comprises of all the factors like service to society, curriculum/teaching, student life, physical operations/Infrastructure, Research and scholarship and policy, planning and administration. There are seven principles on which the education for sustainability is developed. The simplified form of these principles is presented below:

- **Transformation and Change**
In order to maintain sustainability inside organization, industry or community it is necessary to enhance education for sustainability to provide people with aptitude, amplitude and stimulus.
- **Education for all and Lifelong Learning**
Education for sustainability involves people of all age group, with any background and at all the portions of life so as to have the understanding of teaching and learning sustainability.
- **System Thinking**
The connection between the four elements i.e. environmental, economic, social and political systems can be understand be people be the way of education for sustainability.
- **Envisioning a Better Future**
To engage people in focusing upon a sustainable future education for sustainability plays an important role.
- **Critical Thinking and Reflection**
Personal experience and world views can be reflected upon by the individuals with the help of education for sustainability.
- **Participation**
Education for sustainability encourages people to participate in the activities that would lead to the development of a sustainable society.
- **Partnerships for Change**
The focus of education for sustainability is upon building relationships and networks to improve the level of communication between various sectors of the community.

One does not believe that there are limits to growth and one should not also. But the scenario today states that there is a need to understand the growth socially, economically, environment's resources etc and put a limit so as to focus upon the sustainability. It is needed to have a limit to the growth as it involves the usage of the natural resources which also have a limit on the earth i.e. the nature is also limited.

The individual's future growth, the countries growth cannot be achieved be neglecting the sustainability. Therefore, education for sustainability is necessary from a young child to an adult. Education is the basis for the foundation of any country and so it is a must to include every topic and every element necessary for the development of individual and the country. Sustainability is one such element which is necessary to be included in the education system for the proper development and growth of the students and gradually the society, environment and country's growth.

Conclusion

Sustainability is growing without compromising the future. In order to survive with the future generations, it is the need of the hour to provide proper education and understanding from the pre-school level to the higher education. Sustainable education is a versatile topic and so teaching and learning it is a difficult task and yet backbreaking to follow the sustainability in the current scenario. By combining the diverse elements and by adopting encouraging techniques the education can be made interesting for students in order to have a sustainable use of resources.

To maintain sustainability the easiest formula is:

"Quit the sphere fitter than you got, avail no supplementary than you acquire, bid not to misuse creation or Mother Nature, compensate if required."

Suggestions

- Sustainability must be added as a separate topic in the curriculum so as to enhance its impact over the students and make it a part of the basic education.
- Via education such an environment can be created that encourages the development of more research and technology that would lead to enhancement of sustainability.
- Group discussions, Live lectures, teaching with instances must be opted to make students understand the concept of sustainability.
- Practical examples must be made witnessed by students so that they can feel the importance of sustainability.
- Students can be made to understand the concept of sustainability even by making them feel the concern for personal sustainability and growth.

References

- ✓ An understanding of sustainability and education for sustainable development among German student teachers and trainee teachers of chemistry Mareike Burmeister, Ingo Eilks
- ✓ Learning for a Change: exploring the relationship between education and sustainable development Paul Vare and William Scott Final version of paper submitted to the Journal of Education for Sustainable Development, September 2007
- ✓ Report_on_Higher_Education_Sustainability_Activiti.pdf by Amanda C.Graham Ph.D
- ✓ Sustainability education in early childhood: An updated review of research in the field Margaret Somerville University of Western Sydney, Australia Carolyn Williams University of Western Sydney, Australia
- ✓ Sustainability Education in Primary and Secondary Schools: Great Needs and Possible Solutions by Allison Watson
- ✓ The Effectiveness of Education for Sustainable Development JelleBoeve-de Pauw ,Niklas Gericke , Daniel Olsson and Teresa Berglund
- ✓ The role of transformation in learning and education for sustainability W. Leal Filho, S. Raath, B. Lazzarini , V.R. Vargas , L. de Souza , R. Anholon , O.L.G. Quelhas , R. Haddad , M. Klavins , V.L. Orlovic
- ✓ <https://sustainabilityinschools.edu.au/why-teach-sustainability>
- ✓ <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/sustainable-business/1/steps/157438>
- ✓ <https://www.investopedia.com/articles/investing/100515/three-pillars-corporate-sustainability.asp>
- ✓ [https://www.sustainabilitycurriculum.co.uk/why-education-plays-an-important-role-in-the-sustainable-development-of-energy-resources/.](https://www.sustainabilitycurriculum.co.uk/why-education-plays-an-important-role-in-the-sustainable-development-of-energy-resources/)

