



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

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Abstract-

present paper discussed about what is education for sustainable development, role of education in sustainable, components of education for sustainable education . Contribution of Sustainable Development to Education. Sustainability adds purpose to education. Sustainability gives relevance to the curriculum.

Introduction-

Education is seen as a big force; a force that not only contributes to national development, but also sustainable development. It is a key to development, be it social, economic, political or environmental. Education promotes development of knowledge and skills required to achieve sustainable development (SD). It encourages promotion of economic well-being, social equity, democratic values and much more. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) enables people and citizens to learn as to how to preserve earth resources which are limited in availability. The ESD has the objective of empowering present and future generations to meet their needs using a balanced and integrated approach to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of SD.

Education for Sustainable Development -

Education for Sustainable Development means including key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning; for example, climate change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, poverty reduction, and sustainable consumption.

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is simultaneously a sub-field of education and a conceptual tool to aid policy makers in authoring educational policies that take into account the present environmental, societal and economic challenges. According to the UNESCO, it is based on

all levels and types of learning - learning to know, learning to be, learning to live together, learning to do and learning to transform oneself and society.” It further says that, “Perhaps ESD can be seen as the total sum of diverse ways to arrive at a ‘learning society’ in which people learn from and with one another and collectively become more capable of withstanding setbacks and dealing with sustainability-induced insecurity, complexity and risks. From this vantage point, ESD is about- through education and learning- engaging people in sustainable development issues, developing their capacities to give meaning to SD and to contribute to its development and utilizing the diversity represented by all people- including those who have been or feel marginalized- in generating innovative solutions challenges”

Role of Education in sustainable Education-

Education for sustainable development (ESD) promotes the development of the knowledge, skills, understanding, values and actions required to create a sustainable world, which ensures environmental protection and conservation, promotes social equity and encourages economic sustainability.

Components of education for sustainable development-

To reorient a curriculum to address sustainability, educational communities need to identify the knowledge, issues, perspectives, skills, and values central to

sustainable development in each of the three components of sustainability – environment, society, and economy – and integrate them into the curriculum.

Contribution of Sustainable Development to Education

Not only does education contribute to sustainable development and the transformation of society; the reverse is also true. Sustainability improves education and has the potential to transform education. As countries and communities struggle to cope with contemporary challenges accompanied by major life-changing events (e.g. climate change-induced drought or the rise in sea level), the purpose and relevance of education itself have been questioned.

Sustainability adds purpose to education.

Perceptions of the purpose of education vary according to the role and perspective of the person responding to the question. Teachers often say that the purpose is to help children develop their full potential. However, the reality of a teacher's job is that s/he must also prepare students to pass end-of-the-year exams for promotion to the next year of schooling. Parents often hope that school will prepare children for jobs that will provide economic security for their families. Some politicians claim that the purpose of education is to ensure national economic competitiveness. Others say that global stability is the goal of education.

For years, many countries have used education as one of several investments to increase economic growth. Unfortunately, such economic growth has brought with it unprecedented environmental challenges as well as large gaps - both economic and societal – between the “haves” and the “have-nots.” It is evident that economic growth as the purpose of education no longer serves the planet well. From the perspective of sustainable development, it is time to rethink, reorient and restate the purpose of education. Education that promotes sustainability, global stability and resilient societies could help create a more sustainable future for the planet.

Sustainability gives a common vision.

Many children and adults know that something is not right in their community and in the wider world. They see environmental deterioration, social injustice, and economic inequity around them and learn about it in the media. Children and adults can easily identify what is unsustainable in the world around them. They also want a better world and some can even envision that world. Sustainability also positions education to make a concrete contribution to a better world.

Sustainability gives relevance to the curriculum.

The relevance of many primary and secondary curricula has also been called into question. The disconnection between the curriculum and life in the community is a factor in children and adolescents dropping out of school. Unfortunately, retention in school is a problem for countries around the world. One of the causes of dropout is that pupils or their parents do not perceive education as being relevant to the lives they lead or would like to lead. Making the curriculum more directly related to the lives of children and adolescents is important to retention. Education that is reoriented to address sustainability examines real-life problems in the community and explores solutions, thereby adding relevance to the curriculum by connecting it to learners' felt needs.

Conclusion-

education for sustainable development promotes research and provides information needed to solve sustainable developmental problems arising out of human-made decisions. Education as an investment in human resources plays an important role among the factors, which contribute to sustainable development.

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