Education for Sustainable Development Prof. Atasi Mohanty Centre of Excellence for the Science of Happ

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Lecture - 05 Sustainable Development Goals (Contd.)

Hello, dear friends. Last week we have discussed about the Sustainable Development Goals, its brief history, its background, its evolution and its further agenda for 2030 agenda. So, and what are the different 17 SDGs and what are their priorities and what are the targets and sub targets and that we have discussed. So, actually I have got some of the case studies the on based on this SDGs, but I am not taking the lecture on that, but I will be providing you as the learning material ok.

So, today we will be discussing about the ESD that is Education for Sustainable Developments. So, let us explain the term education for sustainable development and its role in 2030 agenda of sustainable development goals ok, so let us see.

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So, education for sustainable development provides a valuable framework and methodology for achieving the goal of quality education for all as stated in SDG 4. So, all of us we have

already discussed that SDG 4 that SDG 4 is that relates to quality education, inclusive education, equal opportunity for all kinds of things under its under this SDG 4 quality education then ESD comes under SDG 4.

So, that is the education for sustainable development and it has already been declared by UNESCO that ESD is the key tool; education for sustainable development ESD is the key tool to spread the awareness, to help the people in achieving that other 16 SDGs. And ESD has to play a key role in disseminating the information, in enhancing the awareness of people and public and motivating them towards adopting a sustainable lifestyle, sustainable consumption, sustainable production all kinds of things.

So, with regard to again with regard to education policy implementation, governance and you know our social values, ethics all kinds of principles and social guidelines are also to be followed by the ESD approach ok. That means, ESD is there as a weapon, as a tool, as a technique to disseminate information to create awareness among the public and to change the mindset of the people towards the sustainability where.

That means, how in our mind, in our thought, in our life, in our habits, in our behaviour we adopt that sustainability approach. So, it is a paradigm shift we have already discussed it is a paradigm shift in our mindset, in our thought process, in collective consciousness, our individual cause and consciousness as well as the community consciousness how to bring that shift that transformation in the society.

So, that can only be possible through ESD that is education through education. So, as a means of implementation education is an important tool to support the achievement of the sustainable development goal it has already been acknowledged by UNESCO.

It has already been acknowledged by every country, every government etcetera; that means, how, but here education plays a major role. Then how ESD can be implemented? It has to be implemented through education policies, educational environment, educational ecosystem, educational content, educational curriculum everything, so how it should be?

So, how to bring that change that reform that reform in our education domain, education system and education educational level starting from the grass root level to the higher level of

education, research etcetera, how this ESD can be introduced to? How ESD can be developed? How ESD can be nurtured within the framework of education and educational policy?

Therefore, that what is called that education will be the linchpin of the sustainable development agenda which whose success relies on individuals throughout their lifetime requiring the relevant knowledge and developing positive attitude to address the global challenges.

So, ESD can only address the global challenges starting from you know climate change to our to unemployment problems to conflict to cross border terrorism all kinds of thing ESD can only address all kinds of global challenges.

So, that is why you can say ESD is considered as the linchpin of or you can a key tool or key weapon or key strategy to achieve this development sustainable development agenda ok. So, which depends not only on the individual sustainable lifestyle of our citizens, but our society, our global society, our community throughout our lifetime it is like a continuous learning process.

It is like developing a positive, a sustainable learning habits of mind, it is like in developing sustainable behavior, sustainable thought process, sustainable attitude, sustainable aptitude all kinds of thing; that means, we can think, feel and breathe sustainability.

So, that is that should be that should be, because it is not only teaching or educating or sharing the information. But you have to be consciously modify our behaviour, we have to consciously adopt, we have to immerse in that lifestyle that that aptitude and the attitude and the behavioral thing. So, that is why how this transformation can be achieved through ESD. So, the, so that we can achieves all the 17 SDGs all the 17 SDG for every country in the global context.

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So, now its already mentioned in UNESCO portal that SDG target 4.7 that is under SDG SDG 4 that is which is ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Under these SDG 4 SDG the target 4.7 relates to education for sustainability and global citizenship.

That means, being the global citizen how should we behave, how should we conduct ourselves to maintain that sustainability throughout our lives lifespan, in the society, in the global context, in the workplace, in the family, in the personal space everywhere.

So, that the agenda is that for our target 4.7 ESD for sustainability and global citizenship under this the targets are by 2030, UNESCO has given the declaration in the agreement that by 2030 ensure that all the learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote the sustainable development. That means, in order to achieve the complete sustainability sustainable development in our society, in our individual life span etcetera.

So, we; that means, we have to ensure that by 2030 all the learners across the age limit, across the level, across the domain, across the country they should adopt this kind of sustainability approach in their life by learning by learning new skills and competencies. Because, in order in order to be sustainable we have to definitely develop new skills, new

competencies. Not just technical skills, technological skills, but other kinds of skills and competencies.

So, the learners they are required to acquire the knowledge and the skills required needed to promote the sustainable development in the country including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyle. So, it is not for only the job prospect, is not just for your domain knowledge and in a particular carrier in a particular carrier or career span or you know particular career subject.

But besides that how to develop sustainable education, sustainable lifestyle, sustainable you know habits of mind, sustainable thought process sustainable and ultimately our goal is again community well being and happiness. So, and similar for this for achieving all these things we have to be also very careful about cautious about some of the critical issues in our social life.

Like for example, human rights is a very very crucial issue, human rights, gender equality, promotion of promotion of the culture of peace, non violence global citizenship; that means, we are accountable we are responsible not just for our own country, but for the planet earth totally the total planet earth.

So, that is why we closed globalization all of us we are the global citizen. Hence, we have to think of not only our country, but a total planet complete planet or globally, we have to be you know culturally adoptive, socially you know sensible we can say. So, we have to revisit we have to change our you know cultural perspectives, we have to revisit and modify and revise our thought process, our norms or policies or the principles then principles to behave like a global citizens.

So, to be a true truly global citizen and in appreciation of cultural diversity of the different countries, their culture, their cultural contributions and even; that means, how to integrate all kinds of the diversities to leverage the diversity for our own benefit or the our common benefit. That is the sustainable development for all, sustainable development global sustainable development we can say.

So, by this is the agenda of UNESCO by 2030 all the learners all the stakeholders all the participants should develop required skills, competency; not only knowledge, but require skills competency etcetera. Not only to pursue their career to be happy in their individual life, but also to serve others between, so make the community make the society globally having global; that means, the habitat more sustainable.

And then more sustainable and more affordable more comfortable for all the stakeholders for all these decisions without destructing, without the depletion of the resources and with the with the protection of resources, the restoration of the resources for the future generation as well.

So, it is a complex you can say it is a complex pattern it is a complex domain where so many factors so many factors they interplay with each other among each other. Like for example, the basic domains are you know economic perspective, social perspective and environmental perspectives are there.

So, these are the three main domain, but within this three domain framework that means the people, planet and prosperity. So, we have n number of n number of activities starting from education to health to a business to entrepreneurship to governance to communication to, so many things. So, all so all these aspects all the activities the interplay then they interplay their with each other every moment.

So, it is a complex you know network we can say, it is a complex network of all kinds of human activities achievements aspiration etcetera. So, in that particular context how ESD can play an very very important role and to help and to facilitate to reach out to every stakeholder and help them and empower them to take this decision towards the sustainable development.

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- What is ESD?
- Learning to Act; Learning to Achieve!!!!!
- ESD empowers learners to take informed decisions and responsible actions for environmental integrity, economic viability and a just society, for present and future generations, while respecting cultural diversity. It is about lifelong learning, and is an integral part of quality education.
- ESD is holistic and transformational education, which addresses learning content
 and outcomes, pedagogy and the learning environment. It achieves its purpose by
 transforming society.
- "For countries and communities that embrace the need to bring quality education to all, the benefits are enormous" (UNESCO, 2015a: 2).
- Improving the quality of education can provide an even more significant boost to economic growth than simply increasing attainment,
- As countries achieve higher levels of education, they not only experience economic growth but also rapid increase in resource and energy usage.

Economic viability and a just society ok. So, here as we know that it is ESD; that means, through sharing the information disseminating the information etcetera it empowers; that means, it is not that mean directly control or regulates the behavior of the individuals.

Rather empower them with knowledge, skill and competency to take the informed decision, right decision, responsible action for maintaining that environmental integrity and environmentally; that means, healthy ecosystem, economic viability through though the economic financial growth and prosperity and a just society.

That means, a complete; that means, a you know successful and happy and prosperous society that is not only for the present, but for present and future generation as well. For the; that means, not only were leading their happy and prosperous life nowadays, but for the present, but for we are also thinking for the future, so while respecting the cultural diversity.

So, now, in this context we are not going to disturb or not going to you know hamper and obstruct any kind of the cultural issues and the factors. Because you know especially for a country like India we have I n multiple languages, multiple cultural practices, rituals, belief system etcetera.

So, without disturbing, without disturbing and hampering or obstructing or damaging this cultural diversity how we can maintain universality, how we can maintain that sustainable

mindset to achieve others; that means, that means how we can leverage that cultural diversity for our benefit. So, it is like it is like a lifelong learning ok. And it is a part of our quality education not just the formal education, but informal education as well as the non formal education.

So, the thing is that why; that means, even though all of us we know the purpose here is to you know streamline it to customize it to put it in the formal platform. So, that consciously all of us we become aware, no we have to do it. So, it is a it we have to put it in the curriculum framework, we have to blend it in the content. So, how ESD is going to be communicated to, is going to be talk and going to be given, going to be put in the curriculum and content of the education system.

So, that is again major challenge. So, previously all of us you know in our school syllabus, college syllabus environmental science, environmental education was a very component. But now this ESD sustainability is not just confined to only environmental awareness or environmental system.

It is also economic viabilities, it is also people prosperity, the social societies are peoples prosperity, their happiness, their success and to prepare peaceful and just society. So, yes it has a multiple role. So, ESD is a holistic and transformational educations, how to bring that change 360 degree change in our society?

So, ESD has to play a very major role holistic role in the transformation process trans. So, ESD is a holistic and transformational education; that means, is the ESD is a tool to bring that complete transformation in the society, so which addresses the learning content outcomes pedagogy and the learning environment.

So, how ESD can bring this 360 transformation in our society? That means, now by introducing it, by blending it in our content, in our outcome; that means, within the school curriculum, content pedagogy, even in the teaching process pedagogy learning environment everywhere a to z everywhere. Not only in the content, but an outcome, pedagogy behavior, thought process, actions everywhere; even in our personal and professional domains professional aspects peers.

So, it has to be put through it has to be you know it has to be practiced, it has to be upgraded, it has to be uplifted, it has to be implemented in such a way that it helps in achieving a really transformative society, really sustainable society. Ultimately, here our thing not only that means, our society from the not to make it as just society, peaceful society, but a sustainable society.

That means, which can prosper respective of time; that means, that sustainable society; that means, it is in the present it is going to be there in the future generation that in society; that means, a culture a civilization, it can become a sustainable civilization we can say.

So, in history we have we have read about this Greek civilization, Asian civilization etcetera, but due to some or other reasons the civilizations they have all these civilizations have been perished. Now, it is our purpose here how to prepare a sustainable society which will not only survive, but you know it will also prosper in future, so ok.

So, the for countries and the communities that embrace the need to bring the quality education to all the benefits are enormous. So, hence education is such a platform education is the only tool through which this kind of prosperity and can happen.

So, and the countries and communities can embrace the need to bring quality education out to all the benefits and neighbor. So, if any country as per the UNESCO guideline it they can modify they can bring the quality education, they can achieve the quality education in their domain, their school, though in the school education, in the higher education, in the professional education domain.

So, definitely it can bring them enormous benefits to that country. So, improving the quality of education can provide an even more significant post to economic growth than the simply increasing the attainment. So, education is not just informing us, guiding us, empowering us in only in information domain or in behavioral domain and in environmental domain.

But also it helps us in now financial and economic prosperity, it also brings economic prosperity that makes our society you know very you know society very very democratic society, society to be very you know very ethical society, sustainable society with right values, morals and the activities. And the in social and social relationship, interpersonal

communication, interpersonal relationship then with, so that our people can develop the all kinds of the positive minds.

Not only positive mindset positive characteristic, strength like you know sympathy, empathy, love, affection, gratitude, appreciation you know sacrifice, then optimism, resilience all these kind of positive attributes characteristics can be built up among our citizens.

So, that why society can become a completely transformative society, enlightened society, elite society and sustainable society. So, as the countries achieve higher levels of education they not only experience the economic growth, but also rapid increase in resource and energy usages.

So, the more sustainable the society will be the more happy and prosperous the people will be in a community. Definitely, the progress will be enormous progress and research and you know innovation, progress in technology, progress in communication, progress in business, progress in you know; that means, empowerment in the sense the defense ability that is to self defensibility.

Then the; you know science and research, then the space research, all kinds of domain in research domain creativity and innovation they will definitely excel. Because now they are happy people are happy people are at peace and they focus all that energy and effort towards the positive goals, positive achievements for the country.

So, so they can explore many; that means, there will be there can be rapid increase in the resources and energy which is also like for example, they can explore many many new things many things for and restore it and save it for the future generation as well. So, not only we are leading a very happy life that, but we will be also protecting our safeguarding our future generation and make them comfortable and happy in future also.

So, that is we are not working for ourselves, but for we are also restoring saving and making the future of our children, future of our next generation in a very healthy, happy, comfortable life also. So, we are also restoring the resources for them as well. (Refer Slide Time: 21:28)



So, education for sustainable development therefore, you know it extends its scope to deal with the complex amalgamations of the issues relevant to environment, society and economy. So, as these are the primary three domains like environment, society and economy and economy. So, within these three domain there are also so many complex issues are there, some you know complex issues, complex targets, objectives, goals.

So, ESD takes care of all these things. So, when these three domains like environment, society and economy they interact with each other these are the three main drivers of sustainability when they interact with each other. So, n number of factors emerge there will be there are there is a constant interplay of n number of factors.

Some social factors with economical factors, economical factors with environmental factors as beat education beat, health beat, business beat you know vigilance beat. Whatever the kind of activity or job or workplace will be these three domain, under these three domains all the factors will interplay.

So, ESD can only address it. ESD can only extend its scope to deal with all kinds of these complexities all kinds of this complex interactions with all kind of deal with and to get the solution of all kinds of the you know conflicts, all kinds of the dilemmas, all kinds of the complex interactions and to get the solutions.

So, ESD prepares the people to cope with and to find the solution to problems and threatens and threaten the sustainability of; the problems that threaten the sustainability of the planet. So, ESD can prepare the people to cope with. So, here our human resource will be empowered to learn so many new things like you know tolerance or to learn the new things like sustainable practices, tolerance, habits of mind.

So, that they not only they become conscious, but they can mitigate the problems they can bring the solutions to so many problems that threatens our planet. That not only the climate and global warming and climate change, but also terrorism, but also conflicts, all kinds of the conflicts; all kinds of the conflicts conflict.

So, ESD can oh is the only tool which can resolve these issues ok. So, so this has been already elaborately discussed in different conferences in different conferences organized by UNESCO from time to time. So, the Earth Summit also had read Rio de Janeiro 1992 also where issues regarding the sustainability of the planet were brought to the international discussion table.

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And similarly, later on also other in other conferences and world conferences and summits also like summits also this has been again discussed again and again and again and modified their strategies to achieve it. So, The World Summit on sustainable development held in Johannesburg 2002. So, where it was recognized that education has in fact, the capacity to put sustainability concern at the centre of learning context ok.

So, that has been decided in 2002 in World Summit. And then at the that conference again governments agreed to reorient the national education system to a vision of sustainability that links economic well being with respect to cultural diversity, the earth and its resources.

So, in that conferences also governments have also commonly agreed to reorient because you know as ESD plays a vital a vital role hence our education system should be robust enough to mitigate all these challenges, to face to resolve all these conflicts and dilemmas.

So, all the countries are they commonly agreed to reorient their education system with by revising their policies and principles with revisiting their systems again and again to modify it and with a vision to, so with a vision to adopt sustainability. That links not only the environmental factors, but also economic well being, prosperity and cultural diversity also. Take care of the cultural diversity and making in building a peaceful society as well as planet earth and restoring its resources and resources.

So, these are the this is a web YouTube link is there you can also go through for the details also for in UNESCO portal. So many YouTube links are there from time to time I am just giving you the links and you can also later on go through it.

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So, this is you can say briefly you can elaborate on how this is ESD plays a verily important role it starting from the plantation in case of the school children to basic ESD approach like knowledge values and the actions necessary for sustainable development.

That means, we have to revisit our not known the value system principles and social rules regulations that are and actions to be taken for the necessary actions to be taken for the sustainable development. And again now with the internet with the internet explosion of the knowledge and information service it is a knowledge society that would be economies also primarily based on knowledge.

So, it is a knowledge based economy. So, here knowledge, values and our practices or action actions and practices these three components play a very vital role significant role in our in making our planet more sustainable. Like for example, environmental education is one domain, cultural education is one domain other related education formal, non formal, professional educations are there, tertiary educations are there.

Then international understanding in education, global partnership, international understanding, global citizenship these are also very important. Then energy education how to create the; generate energy, create energy which is a very vital factor of our life system, our living system.

Similarly, education for sustainable development start begins so; that means, it plays a very important role within the domain of education or SDG 4 ok. So, these are some of the things that that are very relevant starting from biodiversity to disaster prevention to waste management to solar to other kinds of areas of study studies.

So, now it has become all the domains, all the subjects are in the when you when we view a sustainability or ESDs as a platform such education for sustainable development is a platform is a common platform which incorporates which includes all the subjects.

There is no you know there is no boundary that is rather it is more interdisciplinary, it is more transdisciplinary and it is more interactive. And more you know inclusive in nature that all the subjects are linked to other subjects is the science physics can also be related to music, music can also be related to computer, computer can also. So, it is all interdisciplinary transdisciplinary subject.

So, which can hold in which can totally integrate the whole thing and we can develop a holistic platform starting from our grassroots level school education, nursery and environmental consciousness how to put it among the children from the KG 1 level to the research and professional level.

So, that is this is the and these all these SDGs are 17 SDGs are there like a life cycle, it is our learning cycle, it is a life cycle. Which is; that means, it is a in a way it has been presented by in us in a very compact and with you know very customized way.

So, that all of its all of us we can without getting diverted, without getting confused we can focus our activities, our thoughts, our actions etcetera directly with clarity into any of the SDG. And can and all these SDGs are also interrelated that we can achieve it with our effort.

So, whatever that is a let us make a you know habit, make a practice that whatever we do; even if we are going to the Big Bazaars for any kind of shopping or buying the project class or whatever we are doing in our even in our schools. Nowadays you know we are also talking about green marketing, green shopping and the waste management and the green energy all kinds of things.

So, how to; that means, how to minimize this pollution, how to minimize the carbon footprint, be it our education, be it our health, be it our consumption, be it our production, be it our air quality, be it our music; that means, noise whatever in every domain it has to we have to develop a consciousness.

Consciousness that means, not only individual consciousness, personal consciousness, but also social consciousness within our community. So, for how to bring that social consciousness collective consciousness among the people to be sustainable, to be to develop that habit to be um; that means, to be bring that paradigm shift on our education system, in our living system everywhere.

So, now, you know our government has already introduced this Swachh Bharat Abhiyan or you can say this even also Digital India also encourages to some extent to you know to decrease, to reduce the; this reduce the waste materials also how to recycle it recycle the waste materials all kinds of things.

These are taking together. So, it is a complex system of its not just confined to one activity or two activity or only changing the policy, structure etcetera, but it is a integrated well integrated and it happens in our day to day activities. And it has n number of you know n number of what we can say the n number of activities are related to how.

So, every time the more we think about it, the more we practice it evolves it evolves. It again new ideas new things coming some coming up to our mind, new innovations, new research also explores more opportunities and avenues for bringing that sustainability. So, now we can say very well that in our in nations in a globally even especially in Asian societies, Japan is well ahead well ahead in sustainability issues.

Similarly in European countries, the Scandinavian countries then Switzerland, Finland they are also well ahead well ahead in sustainability of approach, sustainability achieving the sustainability and sustainable development goals.

Similarly, American countries and etcetera, but the way it is only now this the only setbacks are the back African countries and African people are a little bit back backward in the sense

that because the lack of education and lack of resources poverty etcetera. So, that is a most many of the projects are also projects and the people are also working in those countries.

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- Improvements in the quality of education and equitable access to it can have a wide diversity of development benefits that demonstrate a high return on investment.
- Educational policies play a primary role in the effective implementation of ESD and framing how it influences and benefits the curriculum, teacher training, development of learning materials, and the learning environment.
- The 17 SDGs serve as "a comprehensive, far-reaching and peoplecentred set of universal and transformative goals and targets"1 with the aim of achieving them globally by 2030.
- Quality education for sustainable development has the potential to support transformative learning and bring about fundamental change.

So, now, to summarize it now you can say improvement in the quality education equitable access to it to that can have wide diversity of development benefits. Then education policies, reform in the policies, reframing our policies now policies and learning environment facilitating the benefits of curriculum.

That means, curriculum content which are training ESD based teacher training, ESD based curriculum, ESD based learning developing learning material all kinds of ESD based learning environmental ecosystem. So, all these things; that means, in every step of our life it has to be put forth, it has to be put forward, it has to be practiced, it has to be advocated, it has to be you know established.

So, the 17 SDGs serve as a comprehensive far reaching people centered set of universal transformation transformative goals and targets with the aim of achieving the achieving this by call it globally by 2030. So, by 2030 how our quality education goal SDG 17 and SDG 4 and under this ESD.

So, how it can make possible how can it make it make feasible to achieve as many as the 17 SDGs for India for India and all the other countries across the global. So, quality education for sustainable development has the potential to bring the transformation to support the transformative learning and to bring about that fundamental change in our society.

So, in the next class we will just further discuss about what are the key components concepts etcetera the now I am concluding it. So, in the next class we will continue with this concept.

Thank you.