

Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development



Agenda 21 it is designed as a bridge

- between environment and development
- between the public and private sectors
- between governments and civil society
- between global and national goals
- between current and future generations
- between knowledge and action
- between developed and developing countries.



The report has been structured in the following way:

- ❖ **Introduction** – outlines review of the evolution of the concept and practice of sustainable development over the years
- ❖ **Outcomes:** Refers to the concrete sectoral targets and is further sub-divided into
 - (i) sustainable human development
 - (ii) conservation and management of resources for development
 - (iii) environmentally sound management of toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes, solid wastes and sewage-related issues, and radioactive wastes
- ❖ **Institutions and governance:** Refers to the evolution of governance capacity, including those of Major groups, to contribute towards the achievement of sustainable development
- ❖ **Actions:** Lays out the menu of options available to governments and the international system to achieve the goals.



Introduction

The environmental phase (1948-72):

Specific environmental goals begin to be championed

The environment and development phase (1972-2009):

UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972

UN Conference on Environment and Development

The sustainable development proper phase (2009-):

All development actions should be approached through the prism of sustainability.

Green New Deal

Combination of economic and climate crises have not only made it urgent to find the answers to Rio questions, they have in some sense brought the world closer to the answers.

The economic crisis and the economic stimulus packages have led to the articulation of innovative concepts—such as the green new deal and green growth—which are means of mainstreaming ecological concerns into the very fabric of economic decision making, and which could lead to a new round of policy innovation.



Policy discussions on governance

- ❖ In the first phase of environmental advocacy, there was no discussion of governance but how to fit environmental issues within existing governance systems;
- ❖ Governance issues started in the second phase, when environment and development concerns were brought together, but their focus has remained exclusively on environmental governance.
- ❖ In 2009, the discussion has already taken on the more integrative question of governance for sustainable development.

OUTCOMES

SUSTAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

A21 Ch	Title	Positive trends	Negative trends	Source
3	Combating Poverty	<p>From 1990 to 2005, per cent of people in extreme poverty decreased from 1.8 bl to 1.4 bl.</p> <p>There was a dramatic decline in the poverty rate in Eastern Asia — in large part due to rapid economic growth in China, which helped lift 475 million people from extreme poverty</p>	<p>Between 2008 and 2009, number of people in extreme poverty— on less than \$1.25 a day in 2005 prices— rose from 915 mn to 1.02 bn, which is 55 to 90 million higher than the estimates made before the global economic crisis. Many countries are not on track to achieve MDGs. In sub-Saharan Africa and Southern Asia, both the number of poor and the poverty rate are expected to increase further.</p> <p>Although the overall poverty rates in the developing world will still fall in 2009, but at a much slower pace than before the downturn</p>	<p>FAO (2009) UNDP (2009) MDG Report 2009</p>

Views of Member-States regarding a high-level event on sustainable development

There are three views on this proposal as follows:

- ❖ A number of member states would like to have a high-level event on sustainable development to take place in 2012 in Brazil as a high level political forum for an overall review and appraisal of obstacles faced, progress achieved and for identifying measures and creative approaches to bridge the implementation.
- ❖ Some member states maintain an open view about having a high-level event on sustainable development, but they did not state at what year and underlined that any such event needs to take into account the effective conclusion of the current multi-year programme of work agreed to at the CSD taking into account current key multilateral initiatives.
- ❖ One state believes that a high-level event should take place in 2017 at the end of the CSD multi-year work programme.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Call on Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and major groups to deepen their commitments to sustainable development by redoubling their efforts to implement Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;**
- **Call on Governments to continue providing their support to the CSD and to organize intersessional activities, taking into account the thematic cluster of issues considered by the Commission in 2010/2011 and to emphasize the importance of a consensus outcome and action-oriented policy sessions;**
- **Call on Governments to continue providing their support to the CSD and, in this regard, to contribute to the Commission's trust fund in support of enhanced participation of representatives of developing countries and representatives of major groups in the work of the CSD;**

- **Invite the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination to continue monitoring, through its High-level Committee on Programmes, the operational efficiency and effectiveness of inter-agency collaborative mechanisms, including UN-Energy, UN-Water, UN-Oceans and other collaborative arrangements, in the follow-up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development;**
- **Invite Governments to continue discussing a possibility of convening a high-level event on sustainable development in order to reach a consensus;**
- **Call upon donor Governments and international financial institutions to support developing countries in the areas of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and a Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns;**
- **Encourage Governments, in collaboration with the organizations of the United Nations system and major groups, including business and industry, as appropriate, to consider enhancing the implementation and increasing the effectiveness of national sustainable development strategies including through development cooperation frameworks through the use of voluntary multistakeholder partnerships as well as through shared learning and an exchange of experiences and best practices.**