

Environmental Ethics in Sustainable Development

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ABSTRACT: Humans as part of the living creatures that inhabit the earth have a reciprocal relationship with the environment. To achieve the welfare of human life by trying to take advantage of existing environmental resources. Some people have a wrong view of resources (frontier mentality) so their actions can cause environmental damage. On the other hand, there are also groups of people who try to carry out development by pursuing economic growth rates by producing as much as possible, so that exploitation of the natural environment cannot be avoided. To overcome the problem of the environmental crisis, the development paradigm needs to be changed so that existing resources are not extinct or only enjoyed by the current generation, but can be used as a provision for future generations. In other words, development must be sustainable. Sustainable development requires a foundation of values and morals so that everyone can support it. The foundation of these values is environmental ethics. Environmental ethics can have good control over every human action on the environment when there is a change in mindset (moral thinking), moral attitude (moral affective), and action (moral action). If environmental ethics have been built and internalized in humans, then sustainable development will not experience obstacles in its implementation. Building ethics can be done through formal/school and non-formal education (family and community).

Keywords: environmental ethics, sustainable environment.

INTRODUCTION

Environmental problems have become environmental issues for all walks of life, both at the local and global levels (Hartati, 2012). This environmental problem is a problem regarding human ecology, by describing cases that are sticking out caused by the change and degradation of environmental areas so that the impact is that they are no longer able to support human life. The inability of the environment to support human life will certainly have an impact on the decline in the quality of human life (Idris, 2016), if it is not addressed immediately it will have a bad impact on human survival and the environment itself. Environmental cases do not stand alone but are closely related to most of the many aspects of the cause. The relationship between one aspect and the other gives rise to cumulative-based consequences. The ever-increasing human population, environmental pollution, the shrinking of the number of resources, global climate change, development, and war are one of the many environmental cases at this time - so this is the triggering aspect. Environmental problems are the most important issues in human life (Maghfur, 2010).

Viewed from the human side, there is a reciprocal relationship between humans as aspects of the environment and their living zones (Rusdina, 2015). Almost every action taken by humans has an impact on the environment (Adack, 2013). Environmental conservation is not only a protection against the use of resources but is essentially self-serving and anti-development (Shabecoff, 2000). The main objectives of environmental management include describing the implementation of

environmentally sound development as well as the sustainable and controlled use of natural resources in a good and wise manner (Budianto, 2008). Therefore, the initial step of planning activities from an early age should be planned to estimate the impact on the environment as a result of exploitation activities on natural resources which are used for sustainable development processes. So that it provides benefits for the community at large, especially on the sustainability and sustainability of the environment itself. In this regard, it is necessary to try various efforts in preventing and overcoming the impacts caused by the implementation of sustainable development, to be able to achieve the targets that have been planned for the present as well as in the future.

FINDINGS

Preservation of the role of the environment is a series of efforts to maintain the continuity of the carrying capacity and capacity of the environment (Silaen, 2008). The ability of the environment to support the lives of humans and other creatures is called the carrying capacity of the environment, meanwhile, the capacity of the environment is the ability of the environment to absorb substances, energy, and other components that enter or are included in it, by combining the principles of sustainable development. environmentally friendly. In the use of resources in the process of development activities to ensure the ability, welfare, and quality of life of the current generation and future generations (Fahmi, 2011; Efendi *et al.*, 2021). Environmentally sound development is one of the efforts that can be done to gradually increase human quality (Rosana, 2018; Efendi *et al.*, 2022), by observing environmental aspects. Environmentally friendly development is known as Sustainable Development. Sustainable development is a city that in its development can meet the needs of its people today, and can compete in the national and global economy while maintaining the harmony in the area of social, cultural, political, and defense vitality without ignoring or reducing the quality of the capacity and carrying capacity of the environment in its use for present and future generations in meeting their needs.

Sustainable development is a development process to meet the needs of the present without risking meeting the needs of future generations. The ethics of sustainable development is to describe things that are evenly distributed, the income gap between rich and poor countries continues to widen, even though equity in many countries has increased. Another ethical aspect that needs attention for sustainable development is the prospects for future generations that cannot be compromised with the activities of the current generation. Development that respects diversity describes the prerequisites to justify that natural resources must exist on a sustainable basis for the present and the future. The concept of sustainable development is closely related to ethical issues, considering that the concept of sustainable development is oriented towards the future and also focuses on poverty problems. This concept pays close attention to the welfare of future generations, but at the same time, there is also no lack of attention to efforts to improve the living standards of the poor that exist in the current generation. In terms of environmental ethics, sustainable development is more about ecocentric thinking and not anthropocentric thinking. Principles in environmental ethics, which if studied further also play an important role in sustainable development efforts.

The principles of environmental ethics are 1) Respect for nature; 2) The principle of responsibility (moral responsibility for nature); 3) Cosmic solidarity; 4) The principle of love and care for nature (caring for nature); 5) The principle of no harm; 6) The principle of a simple life in harmony with nature; 7) The principle of justice; 8) Principles of democracy, and 9) Moral principles. One aspect that must be faced to achieve sustainable development is how to repair the environmental damage caused, without compromising the need of future generations by focusing on the carrying capacity of the environment, achieving social justice, economic sustainability, and also environmental sustainability. On the other hand, if the protected area is properly designed and managed, it can

provide sustainable benefits for the community, both direct benefits in the form of economic value from these resources that are used wisely or indirect benefits in the form of balancing the ecosystem and maintaining the role of water management as a result of preserving the protected area. Conservation plays a valuable role in social and economic development in rural areas and contributes to increasing the economic welfare of urban centers and improving the quality of life of their inhabitants.

The implementation of sustainable development has now become a must agenda for developed countries as well as developing countries. It can be said that almost all countries in the world, both developed and developing countries have realized how important it is to carry out the concept of sustainable development so that they can improve the welfare of their people, both now and in the future. In reality, the development that has been carried out in Indonesia so far has been lacking, or even more so, it can be said that it does not pay attention to the principles of the concept of sustainable development, both from an economic, ecological, or social perspective. Many things can be used as facts for Indonesia's failure to carry out sustainable development. Destruction of forests-illustrating one of the markers of the non-execution of the concept of sustainable development, which does not take into account the interests of future generations. At this time the destruction of forests in Indonesia is very severe. Of the 112 million hectares of forest in Indonesia today, the damage reaches 59.2 million hectares or 2.83 million hectares per year. Forest damage of this magnitude is very serious. If left unchecked, nothing will happen, so in the next 10-15 years, Indonesia will become a forest-free country. With such widespread devastation, at this time the repercussions were palpable. Rice fields that were not dry before, now many are dry. The rivers are not normal when the rainy season floods when the dry season is dry. The direct result of this forest destruction is the decline in agricultural production. Any input that is carried out will not be valid if there is no water. So the result of forest destruction greatly affects rice production. Another matter is the issue of land conversion, the implementation of which often does not take into account the environmental carrying capacity and the welfare of the local population and other related parties (stakeholders). As described earlier, sustainable development focuses on the problem of poverty, which is closely related to the issue of ethics.

In terms of poverty, Indonesia still has to work even harder. Based on information from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the number of poor people in March 2021 was 27.54 million people, and the number of poor people in March 2021 in urban areas increased by 138.1 thousand people (from 12.04 million people in September 2020 to 12, 18 million people in March 2021). Therefore, concrete efforts to alleviate poverty are needed without overexploiting natural resources. From an ethical point of view, the implementation of sustainable development in Indonesia is hampered and is closely tied to the high prevalence of corruption, which occurs at almost all levels and structures of society. Before Indonesia was able to build, the mental behavior of its people must be corrected first. This psychological approach is known as mentality theory which explains that as long as the population's mentality is still more inclined toward the mental of corruption than the mentality to fight corruption Indonesia will try or not be able to develop (Himawan, 1980; Gusman *et al.*, 2019; Gusman *et al.*, 2020; Gusman *et al.*, 2021). In implementing the concept of sustainable development, Aziz (2010) emphasizes the value of the partnership triangle between the government, the business world, and civil society in an equal relationship - by observing the laws of the economy, nature, ecology, and civilization.

CONCLUSIONS

Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. There are three main reasons

why economic development must be sustainable, namely: moral reasons, ecological reasons, and economic reasons. The concept of sustainability can be broken down into three aspects of understanding, namely: economic sustainability, environmental sustainability, and social sustainability. Thus, sustainable development has three main objectives, namely: economic goals (efficiency and growth), ecological goals (conservation of natural resources), and social goals (reducing poverty and equity). Making guidelines or principles of environmentally-ethical sustainable development is a must for every country, with the social and economic systems and ecological conditions of each country. Sustainable development is closely related to ethical issues, considering that the concept of sustainable development is oriented towards the future and also focuses on the problem of poverty. From an environmental ethical perspective, sustainable development follows the ecocentrism view, and not the anthropocentrism view. The implementation of sustainable development has now become an international agenda, including in Indonesia. The success of sustainable development does not only depend on the economic sector but also on the need for intervention from the power holders, in this case, the government, to implement sustainable development to achieve equitable distribution of welfare. Therefore, sustainable development is oriented toward the development of Green Cities that have a good quality of life and conducive environmental conditions.

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