



World Sustainable Development Forum

DSDS 2006

Delhi Sustainable Development Summit

LINKING ACROSS MDGs
Towards innovative partnerships and governance

Organized by TERI, New Delhi, 2-4 February 2006

<http://www.teriin.org/dsds/>

Opening session

In brief...

Inaugural session

As it enters its sixth edition, the DSDS is gaining global recognition and visibility. The launch of the WSDF (World Sustainable Development Forum) to spread the message of the DSDS is an important international milestone. In this context, TERI is organizing an event in Japan collaboratively with Toyota Corporation, and will also seek to organize similar events in Australia and Tunisia. Continuing its commitment to sustainable development, DSDS 2006 has embraced many themes—tackling poverty, engendering sustainable livelihoods, furthering the WEHAB agenda, and linking across the MDGs. This necessitates a special focus on a number of sectors—water, health, gender, and energy.

Sustainable development requires financial investment, investment in human capital, and investment in natural capital. To increase financial investment, the need is political and socio-economic stability and a sustained fight against corruption. Investment in human capital entails investment in health, education, gender equity, and increased south-south cooperation. Investment in natural capital

- **Welcome addresses**
Dr Arcot Ramachandran and
Dr Prodipto Ghosh
- **Overview of the Summit**
R K Pachauri
- **Special address**
Prof. Klaus Töpfer
- **Keynote address**
Prof. Ernesto Zedillo
- **Address**
Dr Shoichiro Toyoda
- **Acceptance speech by Awardee
of 2006 Sustainable
Development Leadership Award**
- **DSDS 2006 Opening address**
Mr A Raja
- **Vote of thanks**
Dr Leena Srivastava

must focus on instruments to control the depletion of such capital.

The challenges of sustainable development are not easy to overcome. Meeting the challenges requires that countries address improvements in science and technology, address institutional weaknesses, and bridge the gap between education and policy-making. The multilateral approach to solving common problems of humanity is essential, albeit it is not an easy task and requires the emergence of a new global political economy.

In the context of the Asian economies, especially India and China, sustainable development is recognized as a limiting factor for development. Markets alone may not be sufficient to ensure sustainable use of environmental capital, and alternative regulatory interventions by the state may be necessary in certain cases.

Prof. Ernesto Zedillo receiving the Sustainable Development Leadership Award from Dr Shoichiro Toyoda and Dr Arcot Ramachandran



Distinguished leaders inaugurating the summit

KEYNOTE SESSION

Defining and meeting the challenge

Chairperson Mr Nitin Desai

Speakers

Challenges for business and corporate leaders

Prof. C K Prahalad

Challenges for the UN and global society

Prof. Jeffrey D Sachs



Exploring inter-linkages within the MDGs and sustainable development is central to DSDS 2006. This exercise could be seen as a bridge concept that seeks to find common ground among environmentalists, ecologists, and economists. If the 20th century was focused on political freedoms, the 21st century seeks economic freedom as a paramount objective. In this context, Prof. C K Prahalad spoke of the concept of 'democratizing commerce.' Every person in the world must have access to the benefits of the global economy.

Some four billion people, or two-thirds of the world's population, live on an annual per capita income of less than \$1500, placing them at the bottom of the economic pyramid. This group of people represents a potential multimillion-dollar market for companies with the necessary creativity, agility, and innovation to serve them in a low-cost but profitable manner. To include this group in the market would require a paradigm shift in boardrooms—to view the poor as an opportunity rather than as a problem. However, poverty alleviation remains a contested ideological market, even as it is crucial to recognize that surmounting poverty is not a problem of resources but a problem of imagination.

Accomplishment of the MDGs calls for more direct state interventions—creating new roles for public policy, redefining global political processes, achieving complementarity between business and public policy, and facilitating larger investments in health and agricultural technology.

Despite efficiency increases in developing economies, energy use has increased manifold and we are exhausting global fossil fuel endowments at a rapid rate. To pull back from the current development pathway, a paradigm for global governance for sustainability is

needed, centred around science and technology, multilateral treaties, incentives for R&D, market incentives, and public oversight in a networked world.

Lunch hosted by BP

Involving diverse stakeholders: partnering for change

Moderator Mr Raju Narisetti

Speakers Mrs Rajashree Birla • Mr Jean-Paul Bouttes • Hon'ble Dr Paula Dobriansky

• Mr Rajat M Nag • Mr Gavin Neath

• Mr Michael P Schulhof



The first session after lunch was presided over by Mr Raju Narisetti, Editor of The Wall Street Journal Europe, and brought together a cross-section of stakeholders, including governments, multilateral organizations, MNCs/TNCs, and venture capital investors.

While sharing their experiences, panelists – both government and private – reiterated the need to develop a commonality of interests, goals, and objectives. Even as the panel agreed that building consensus and commonality is a time-consuming and difficult process, past experiences have shown that not having multi-stakeholder partnerships is often more detrimental in the long run. Panelists also emphasized that considerable differences exist in how participating stakeholders view success, and how they measure or quantify it. For example, public-private partnerships are often held hostage to the contradictory pulls exerted by tenets of profits on the one hand and social objectives on the other. Given this scenario, the crucial challenges for multi-stakeholder initiatives are accountability and empathy.

Panelists reaffirmed the need for public investments in core sectors as a precursor for business to offer additional and value-added services. Given the high incidence of poverty in developing countries, a clear need for lifeline incentives (e.g. subsidy) for the underprivileged was also advocated. It was also noted that public-private partnerships are often limited. For scaling up such partnerships, it was suggested that national

government development programmes and global aid for development could be effectively utilized. Further, in light of the global agreement on development progress/indicators, speakers suggested that diverse partnerships report success in terms of contribution towards stated national development priorities and/or global commitments such as the MDGs.

Energy: the cross-cutting MDG

Moderator Mr Raj Chengappa

Speakers Mr Warren Evans • Mr Vikram Singh Mehta • Dr Leena Srivastava • Mr Christian Stoffaes • Mr Stefan Wallin • Dr Njeri Wamukonya



The session focused on the role of energy as a cross-cutting element essential for the achievement of the MDGs. It began on the critical note that the MDGs should be renamed 'Millennium Development Deadline,' since timelines assume critical significance in achieving the ambitious goals that have been set forth.

While emphasizing on the critical linkage between the provision of energy and poverty alleviation, the panel highlighted the need for various sectors to work together towards the global development agenda. A different policy agenda is required for energy provision in urban and rural areas, as barriers related with each are of different nature. For instance, a majority of the population in rural areas of the developing world still depends on traditional sources of energy. Poor people spend a larger portion of their incomes on meeting energy requirements not only because of the lower levels of their income, but also due to the inefficiencies associated with traditional fuels.

Besides, there are a large number of environmental and health problems associated with traditional fuels that need to be duly addressed.

Rural areas also do not have a high demand for energy, which makes provision of energy services financially unviable. To address this dilemma, it is important to 'create' demand for energy by linking it with income generating activities. Partnerships among corporations,

NGOs, governments, and local communities assume special significance in building entrepreneurial opportunities and capacities for providing sustainable energy solutions.

The linkage between energy and climate is assuming growing importance at various international forums. In order to deal with the problem of climate change, developed countries need to find innovative solutions for financially viable clean technology packages. There are various opportunities for cooperation and partnerships in international forums, which need to be tapped.

Dinner address

Chair Mr Vinod Mehta

Speaker HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal

Dinner host: Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India



The session started with a brief introduction by Dr R K Pachauri, after which the chair invited the distinguished speaker HRH Prince El Hassan bin Talal, Prince of Jordan, to share his views and experiences on development initiatives. During his speech, HRH highlighted concerns emerging from a myopic understanding of international development and politics that is limited to national identity alone. To combat these, he stressed on the need to evolve regional and global identities based on ethics, values, and humanitarian principles.

HRH laid particular emphasis on a more active role for India at the South Asian level to work towards peace, women's empowerment, and elimination of social and economic disparities. He spoke at length of the need for 'anthropo-sensitive' policies for sustainable development. The need for transparent negotiation in order to improve access and reduce costs of technology in development was also advocated during the speech.

As they said it . . .

Negotiations imply polarization; polarization implies sleepless nights.

Dr Prodipto Ghosh, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India

We need to bring jobs to people and not people to jobs. We need to provide a positive perspective to young people.

Prof. Klaus Töpfer, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi

Explosive development of energy has led to an impact on the environment. In most cases, the impact is felt intensely and acutely by the poor.

Dr Shoichiro Toyoda, Honorary Chairman and Member of the Board, Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan

Sustainable development at the national level cannot be pursued in isolation. Once the willingness to develop together emerges from within, partnerships would emerge.

Mr A Raja, Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, Government of India

Our prime minister would like to see India as a developed country by 2020. This is very ambitious and possible only when the role of the rural population is considered in the developmental process.

Dr Leena Srivastava, Executive Director TERI, New Delhi

Partnership is not just a theoretical, desirable thing to do; it is something absolutely imperative. Even though having a partnership is painful, it is much more painful not to have it.

Mr Rajat M Nag, Director-General, Mekong Department, Asian Development Bank, The Philippines

Self-sufficiency still remains a Gandhian idea. Self-sufficiency can be created only through interdependence and not through isolation.

Prof. C K Prahalad, Paul and Ruth McCracken Distinguished University Professor The Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan, CEO and Founder The Next Practice, USA

Sustainable development means a chance for the poor parts of the world to catch up with the economically developed areas of the world, and a chance for high-income parts of the world to continue to progress so that the gains of the poor are not at the expense of the rich.

Prof. Jeffrey D Sachs, Director - The Earth Institute and Special Advisor to the Secretary-General of the United Nations

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