

In the following text you will read about strong connections between sustainability and ethics.

For a good of present and future generation we have to adopt through SDE correct moral values and abilities. It will form ecological world outlook and place for living. Nurturing high moral values will provide new consciousness and behaviour, so positive environmental ethics must be imperative for today and tomorrow. Term noosphere, (Vernadsky, 1991, p 102) refers about new state of biosphere where people behave highly rationally towards it. Noospheric person type is capable to implement sustainable development concept of living. In other words, human ethical mind and behavior to nature is key. Relation between man and environment must be return to ecological and ethical principles.

Considering moral relationships of man and environment, environmental ethics embraces the broadest circle of problems. Environmental ethics is a teaching about moral relationships of man and nature based on the perception of nature as a moral partner aimed at the solution of the environmental problem. According to the environmental-ethical concept of the noosphere the main goal of sustainable development of a society may be characterized as follows: first and foremost, it is the construction of a system of value and normative attitudes of the society defining harmonious relations between man and nature. Achievement of this goal presupposes solution of the following problems: limitation of overconsumption by the rich (people and countries) and eradication of poverty; sublimation of human needs, i.e. limitation of material consumption and stimulation of spiritual (scientific, artistic, etc.) creativity as a form of a man's being in the world; provision of efficiency of using material and intellectual resources of the society, non-decreasing growth rate of productivity of social and natural systems not only at present, but also in the future; preservation of integrity, beauty, diversity and sustainability of all ecosystems of planet Earth. The reorientation of value system offered by environmental ethics aims at overcoming the consumer intentions of the industrial civilization. According to the noosphere concept the environmental-ethical development paradigm emphasizes the defining role of the humanity's spiritual power, scientific thought and moral foundations. The problem is that the science and technology progress and production of material goods and services, financial and economic structures should be not a goal, but merely a means of consolidation of the highest ideals of human existence. They are creative life and knowledge of the world, comprehensive harmonious development and spiritual-moral enhancement of people.

The movement of the humanity towards sustainable development will finally lead to forming of the sphere of mind (noosphere) predicted by V.I. Vernadsky, when spiritual values and knowledge of the humanity living in harmony with the environment will become measures of national and individual richness. Hence, sustainable development must be realized and understood as a moral and historical objective and a necessity to transfer from the material (industrial) civilization to spiritual (ecological) civilization.

Adopted ethical categories in SD context should be responsibility, altruism, take and use only you need, respect, honest, conscience, solidarity with different groups, making difference between right and wrong, equality... All of these categories will help in solving environmental problems because it takes the needs and rights of a variety of groups into account and make a big step to future ecological civilization.

Ethics must be applied within the three pillars of sustainability – social, environmental and economic. Rational mindset and the use of systems thinking are useful strategies to ensure that the collaborative effort will take everyone's needs into account.

Ethics in sustainability is a crucial piece of sustainable development. A goal of ethical sustainability is to think of how humans ought to live while also considering their connections with other humans, the natural world, and future generations. Without these considerations, certain groups may feel marginalized or that they are not being treated fairly. Although a large part of ethics centers around the treatment of people, it is also important to discuss the considerations towards nature.

Ethics is important to consider when solving grand challenges in sustainability because it takes the needs and rights of a variety of groups into account. When decision-makers use ethical approaches to solve sustainability problems, they consider how their actions can have effects on the environment, economy, and humankind in general – now and in the future. This aspect of time is important to keep in mind because the decisions made today, whether helpful or detrimental, can have significant impacts on the lives of those living in the future. Applying principles of ethics to sustainability challenges also promotes a holistic worldview that takes many different values into account.

Ethics must be applied within all three pillars of sustainability (environmental, economic and social) and should be present during the collaborative decision-making processes. The need for ethics in sustainability is important to consider during these processes and when analyzing all possible stakeholders in an issue. There is a need to conserve ethical values when coming up with a solution and the input from all stakeholders considering the types of challenges. The inclusion of ethics in sustainable decision making creates a more diverse process in that it bridges the boundaries between stakeholders who would not otherwise communicate with each other. This may require some social, political, or even cultural sacrifices, but it is ultimately beneficial for all.

Social ethics is a subset of ethics in sustainability that focuses on the ideas, actions, attitudes, beliefs, cultures, and the traditional philosophical role of one's moral values in life. Ethics within the social sector can be associated with making choices or decisions that line up with an entire group's identity.

Economic ethics is subset of ethics within sustainability that focuses on the costs, values, and implications of a financial decision. The role of economic ethics in sustainability is to ensure that goods are produced in a way that can be attributed to the larger concept and goals of sustainability.

Environmental ethics is a subset of ethics in sustainability that centers on the relationship between humans and nature. Focuses on the value of non-human nature or the living and non-living qualities within nature. Living qualities can be seen as animals, plants, and other types of species that live in nature and non-living can consider qualities like the welfare of forests, water, and conservation of broader landscapes. Environmental ethics considers what actions are right and wrong in natural environments. Challenges that could be considered within this type of ethics are the preservation of biodiversity, clean water and air, and the value of non-human life.

One form of environmental ethics is environmental justice is a form of environmental ethics focusing on how environmental problems and benefits are divided, often unequally among populations. It takes issues such as the placement of landfills and toxic waste location into account, because these can negatively influence human well-being. The hazardous location is often situated in minority communities or poverty-stricken areas.

Ethics in sustainability differs from environmental ethics because it considers the complex relationships between humans, the environment, and the economy for current populations and future generations. It is a much broader topic than environmental ethics and represents the set of multiple different fields of study. It takes many viewpoints into account at the same time, and can be used to help form solutions that consider the needs of various different groups and organizations, from businesses to environmentalists to homeowners. By considering the environmental, economic, and social pillars of sustainability at the same time, sustainability ethics differs drastically from environmental ethics, which focuses mainly on the environmental pillar of sustainability and does not draw on all three pillars simultaneously.

Ethics is sometimes overlooked. It comes from reason that societies accept sustainability only if it aligns with their values. The fact that making an ethical decision can sometimes require higher costs so it prevents decision-makers from behaving and thinking according to ethical principles. Another reason that ethics is commonly overlooked is due to the fact that there are very few university level professionals that are educated in the field of sustainability and all its aspects.