

Editorial

The empirical evidence represented by the Human Development Index (HDI), the Gini index, the Ecological Footprint and the current stalemate in the progress of multilateral negotiations in different areas (trade, climate agreements, human rights, etc.) clearly explains to everyone what the causes of the unsustainability of the current development model are.

The overall picture that emerges can be summarized as:

- an economic dimension of insufficient well-being;
- an unbalanced individual and collective well-being between material living conditions and quality of life;
- a social dimension of development where equity and justice are lacking;
- bad environmental governance (low use of renewable resources and excessive consumption of fossils, poor protection of environmental deposits);
- a model of institutional development where there is low democracy and low sharing of rules.

In a nutshell, overturning the current state of unsustainability of the development model means starting a *“process based on the principle of intra-generational and inter-generational equity, capable of generating an individual and collective well-being balanced between material living conditions and quality of life; counteract inequalities; guarantee the three functions of the environment; to ensure equal conditions of access to human rights”* (Simone Cesaretti Foundation, April 2019).

This issue of the *Review of Studies on Sustainability* presents a collection of new essays that propose analysis and solutions with respect to some of the “challenges” to be overcome by 2030, as established by the Global Agenda approved in September 2015 by the United Nations.

The first and, perhaps, the most important challenge to win to “bring the world on a sustainable path” (ASVIS) remains, even today, to “promote the culture of Sustainability” towards all the company’s stakeholders.

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The essay written by Raghavendra Sode and Dr. Kalaa Chenji highlights how it is essential, for the purposes of implementing a global strategy in favor of Sustainable Development, to advance consciousness and the positive motivations that link competitiveness and sustainability in companies.

“Corporate should not shirk their responsibility because increasing sustainability consciousness among stakeholders and motives to adopt sustainability will drive them towards sustainable development”.

Certainly if the culture of sustainability constitutes the fundamental lever, capable of “orienting” each stakeholder towards choices compatible with a new development model, it is equally important that on the whole there is no need to lose sight of the need for an integrated approach to Sustainability.

That is, the ability to understand that climate change, inequality, growth and globalization of rules cannot and must not be seen as challenges to be solved in a “segmented” way.

Thus the contributions of the following authors must necessarily be read and studied as if they were parts of a “unicum” oriented precisely to the search for integrated solutions.

In the essay by Francesco Zecca the subject of climate change is tackled in a natural logic of partial economic equilibrium, analyzing how the change in the food consumption model can offer a useful contribution to climate change mitigation.

The essays by Antonio Falessi and Rosa Maria Fanelli and Luca Romagnoli address the issues of territorial inequalities (the first) and well-being in terms of large national products per capita and human development index (HDI) (the second).

Antonio Falessi proposes new strategic lines for the new RDPs 2021-2027 to close the development gaps that exist today in many rural areas.

The second highlights how current inequalities in terms of per capita income and human development index have led to consumption patterns where the “culture of waste” has been dominant.

The essay by Flavio Boccia, Daniela Covino and Brunella Di Pietro proposes the lever of an innovation attentive to the issues of sustainability as a central incentive for growth compatible with the replicability of natural, social, environmental and economic capital stocks.

The essay by Alessio Franconi addresses the issue of sustainability again through a focus on the repeatability of capital stock, while highlighting the environmental issue.

The author proposes, applied to the field of mobility, the sharing economy as a paradigm shift in behavioral models of citizens aimed precisely at the pursuit of environmental sustainability.

Finally, authors Aliya S. Koshkinbaeva, Malik G. Shaigaliyev, Yermek A. Buribayev, Zhanna A. Khamzina, Sholpan S. Khamzina, analyzing the case study of the Environmental safety of modern Kazakhstan, underline how the environmental challenge in this country has required, to be addressed, an increasingly gradual alignment to international rules.

Thanks to the essays presented by the authors, I believe that this issue of the *Review of Studies on Sustainability* constitutes an important methodological and proactive contribution.

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