

Beyond Human Development Reports: Emerging Social Dimensions

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Abstract

The paper will theoretically access that how for human development paradigm has replaced the GNP as an ultimate solutions to developmental strategy base of social sector planning in the world. The paper will highlight the varied dimensions captured by UNDP in its HDR's from 1990 onwards. The paper will also draw a light on the validity of HDR's in influencing social sector planning. The paper will further try to highlight the emerging dimensions of human development in world.

Key points: HDR; UNDP; Regional Inequalities; Political, Religious & Cultural Aspects; Environmental challenges.

Beyond Human Development Reports: Emerging Dimensions

Introduction

The idea of human development and related index has been developed and promoted by the UNDP through the HDR's. This marked the launch of what proved to be most influential concept. The concept draws on the greatness of human potentially despite our narrowly circumscribed lives (Sen 2006). This puts people back at the centre stage of the development policy. The roots of this concept are traced in number of earlier concepts like basic needs, Physical Quality Life Index, disparities in living conditions, and notes the contribution of some international organisations as well as the humanist voicing for the need for social justice. The idea of human development and the commanding presence of HDR's has been solid parts of the contemporary landscape of social thinking in the international community (Sen 2000). Graig Murphy (2006) notes that on 29th November 2005, the google search engine has found 2 million pages that mention at least on HDR- an indicator of its extra ordinary success. Kofi Anan said that we have defined what development means for the individual through HDR-so we have given a meaningful definition to poverty and development, which

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was not there before (quoted in Weiss & Carayannis, 2005 P255). To Sen the idea of human development won because the world was ready for it. The crucial reason for the success of idea was that it combined the practical and policy relevant with the academically respectable.

The human development goes beyond the choices that HDI captures (UNDP 1993), the HDI is the internationally comparable measure of people's ability to live a healthy life to communicate and participate in the life of community and to have a sufficient resources to obtain decent standard of living (UNDP 1993).

The multi faceted nature of developed process was well understood by the economists and the policy makers and a single index of living condition, the international human suffering index of a living condition, comprising to measure of human welfare including income, infant mortality, nutrition, adult literacy and personal freedom was already available (Sharan, Camp & J Joseph Speidel, 1987)

The impact of HDR on the global policy dialogue has exceeded expectations. This response is rather unusual for a report from the United Nations system (Haq 1995).

The single goal of HDR's is putting people back at the centre of the developmental process in terms of economic debate, policy and advocacy. HDR's has addressed on number of themes from 1990 onwards. HDR 1990 addresses the issue that how economic growth translates or fails to translate into human development. The report set forth the strategies for human development, emphasizing the importance of restructuring budgetary expenditure and creating an international economic and financial environment conducive to human development. HDR 1991 suggest that it is the lack of political commitment, not of financial resources, which is often the real cause of human neglect. HDR 1992 suggests that markets are the means, for the benefit of all nations and all people. While HDR 1993 looks at the people especially at people friendly markets, decentralised governance and community organisations and suggests concrete policy of job less growth. The report concludes that people centred world order must be built, new concepts of human security, new strategies for sustainable human development, new partnerships between state and markets, new patterns of national and global governance and international cooperation. The theme of HDR 1994 suggests that policy makers should address the emerging peace dividend; while as HDR 1995 analyzes the progress made in reducing gender disparities in the past few decades.

The first human development report brought out by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 1990 started with a simple, but far reaching statement, "People are the real wealth of nation". The basic objective of development is to create an enabling environment for people to enjoy

long, healthy and creative lives, to be educated and to have an access to resources needed for a decent standard of living. In principle these choices can be infinite and change over time. Since then, UNDP is bringing out a human development reports (HDRs) every year by adding additional criteria for the measurement of human progress and well-being of the people of various nations”⁴.

Now let us have a look at the various themes and foci of human development reports starting from 1990:

1990, Concept and Measurement of Human Development: The Human Development Report was first launched in 1990 with the single goal of putting people at the centre of the development process in terms of economic debate, policy and advocacy. The goal was both massive and simple, with far-reaching implications- going beyond income to assess the level of people’s long term well-being. Bring about development of the people, by the people, and for the people, and emphasizing that the goals of development are choices and freedom.

The Report addresses, as its main issue, the question of how economic growth translates or fails to translate in to human development. The focus is on the people and how development enlarges their choices. The report discusses the meaning and measurement of human development, proposing a new composite index- the HDI. But its overall orientation is practical and pragmatic⁵.

1991, Financing Human Development: The lack of political commitment, not of financial resources is often the real cause of human neglect. This is the main conclusion of human development report 1991; the second in the series of annual reports on the subject. The report points to an enormous potential for restructuring of both national budgets and international aid allocations in favour of human development.

But the plea for greater allocative efficiency and more effective spending does not mean indifference to the need for economic growth, or for increased resource mobilization. On the contrary, the report’s position is that a more efficient and effective public sector will help strengthen the private role in human development. And the best argument for additional resources is that the existing funds are well spent.

Just as economic growth is necessary for human development, human development is critical to

⁴ Haq, Mahboob-ul. *Reflections on Human Development*.

⁵ UNDP. 1990. *Human Development Report*.

economic growth. The two way link must be at the heart of any enlightened policy action.

The Report suggests that:

- High levels of human development tend to be achieved with the framework of high levels of human freedom;
- The main task is to invest in people, liberating their initiatives; and
- The human experience ratio should become one of the principle guides public spending policy⁶.

1992, Global Dimensions of Human Development: The richest 20% of the population now receive 150 times the income of the poorest 20%. The report suggests a two-pronged strategy to break away from this situation. First, making massive investments in their people and strengthening national technological capacity can enable some developing countries to acquire a strong competitive edge in international markets (Witness the East Asian industrializing tigers). Second, there should be basic international reforms, including restructuring the Bretton Woods institutions and setting up a development security council within the United Nations.

The Report suggests that:

- Markets are the means, human development is the end;
- The issue is not only how much growth, but what kind of growth; and
- It is essential to combine global efficiency with global equity⁷.

1993, People's Participation: The report examines how and how much people participate in the events and processes that shape their lives. The democratic transition in many developing countries, the collapse of many socialist regimes, and the worldwide emergence of people's organizations- these are all part of a historic change, not just isolated events. People's participation is becoming the central issue of our time.

The report looks at three major means of people's participation: people friendly markets, decentralized governance and community organizations, especially non-governmental organizations (NGO's) and suggests concrete policy measures to address the growing problems of jobless growth.

⁶ UNDP. 1991. *Human Development Report*.

⁷ UNDP. 1992. *Human Development Report*.

The Report concludes that five pillars of people centered world order must be built:

- New concept of human security;
- New strategies for sustainable human development;
- New partnership between state and markets;
- New patterns of national and global governance; and
- New forms of international cooperation⁸.

1994, New Dimensions of Human Security: The report introduces a new concept of human security, which equates security with people rather than territories, with development rather than arms. It examines both the national and the global concerns of human security.

The report seeks to deal with these concerns through a new paradigm of sustainable development, capturing the potential dividend, a new form of development co-operation and restructured system of global institutions.

It proposes that the world summit for social development approve a world social charter, endorse a sustainable human development paradigm, create a global security fund by capturing the future peace dividend, approve a 20:20 compact for human priority concerns, recommend global taxes for resource mobilization and establish an economic security council.

Increasing human security entails:

- Investing in human development, not in arms;
- Engaging policy makers to address the emerging peace dividend; and
- Establishing an Economic Security Council⁹.

1995, Gender and Human Development: Human development, if not engendered, is endangered. That is the simple but far-reaching message of Human development Report 1995.

⁸ UNDP. 1993. *Human Development Report*.

⁹ UNDP. 1994. *Human Development Report*.

The report analysis the progress made in reducing gender disparities in the past few decades and highlights the wide and persistent gap between women's expanding capabilities and limited opportunities. Two new measures are introduced for ranking countries on a global scale by their performance in gender equality (GEM) and (GDI), and there follows an analysis of the under-valuation and non-recognition of the work of women. In conclusion, the report offers a five-point strategy for equalizing gender opportunities in the decade ahead.

- National and International efforts must mobilize to win legal equality of the sexes within a defined period;
- Many economic and institutional arrangements need revamping to extend more choices to women and men in the work place;
- A critical 30% threshold is regarded as a minimum share of decision- making positions held by women at the national level;
- Key programmes should embrace universal female education, improved reproductive health and more credit for women; and
- National and International efforts should target programmes that enable people, particularly women, to gain greater access to economic and political opportunities¹⁰.

1996, Economic Growth and Human Development: The report opens with a fundamental statement: "Human Development is the end- Economic growth a means". The report argues that economic growth, if not properly managed, can be jobless, voiceless, ruthless, rootless, and futureless, and thus detrimental to human development. The quality of growth is therefore as important as its quantity for poverty reduction, human development and sustainability.

The report concludes that the links between economic growth and human development must be deliberately forged and regularly fortified by skillful and intelligent policy management. It identifies employment as critical for translating the benefits of economic growth into the lives of people. But for this to happen, new patterns of growth will need to be developed and sustained well into the 21st century- and new mechanisms must be developed to integrate the weak and the vulnerable into the expanding global economy.

¹⁰ UNDP. 1995. *Human Development Report*.

To support economic growth as a means to enrich people's lives, the report demonstrates that:

- Progress in human development has mostly continued- but too unevenly;
- New approaches are needed to expand and improve employment opportunities, so that people can participate in growth- and benefit from it; and
- Economic growth is not sustainable without human development¹¹.

1997, Human Development to Eradicate Poverty: Eradicating poverty everywhere is more than a normal imperative; it is rather a practical possibility. That is the most important message of the Human development report, 1997. The world has the resources and the know-how to eradicate poverty –free world in less than a generation.

The report focuses not just on poverty of incomes but on poverty from human development perspective- poverty as a denial of choices and opportunities for living a tolerable life. The strategies proposed in the report go beyond income redistribution-encompassing action in the critical areas of gender equality, pro-poor growth, globalization and the democratic governance of development.

Eradicating poverty entails:

- Building assets for the poor;
- Empowering men and women to ensure their participation in decisions that affect their lives;
- Investing in human development- health and education; and
- Affirming that the eradication of absolute poverty in the first decades of the 21st century is feasible, affordable and a moral imperative¹².

1998, Consumption for Human Development: The report investigates the 20th century's growth in consumption, unprecedented in its scale and diversity. The benefits of this consumption have spread far and wide. More people are better fed and housed than ever before. Living standards have risen to enable hundreds of millions to enjoy housing with hot water and cold, warmth and electricity, transport to and from work-with time for leisure and sports, vacations and other activities beyond anything imagined at the start of this century. Yet the report states that the benefits of this consumption have been badly distributed, leaving a backlog of shortfalls and gaping inequalities.

¹¹ UNDP. 1996. *Human Development Report*.

¹² UNDP. 1997. *Human Development Report*.

Furthermore, ever-expanding consumption puts strains on the environment-emission and wastes that pollute the earth and destroy ecosystem, and growing depletion and degradation of renewable resources that undermines livelihoods. The world's dominant consumers are overwhelmingly concentrated among the well-off - but the environmental damage from the world's consumption falls most severely on the poor.

The Report demonstrated that:

- Rising pressures for conspicuous consumption can turn destructive, reinforcing exclusion, poverty and inequality;
- Globalization is integrating consumer markets around the world and opening opportunities. But it is also creating new inequalities and new challenges for protecting consumer rights; and
- There is a need for the development and application of technologies and methods that are environmentally sustainable for both poor and affluent consumers¹³.

1999, Globalization with a Human Face: Global markets, global technology, global ideas and global solidarity can enrich the lives of people everywhere. The challenge is to ensure that the benefits are shared equitably and that this increasing interdependence works for people- not just for profits.

The report argues that globalization is not new, but that the present era of globalization, driven by competitive global markets, is out pacing the governance of markets and the repercussion on people. Characterized by “shrinking space, shrinking time and disappearing borders”, globalization has swung open the door to opportunities.

Breakthroughs in communication technologies and biotechnology, if directed for the needs of people, can bring advances for all of humankind. But markets can go too far and squeeze the non-market activities so vital for human development. Fiscal squeeze are constraining the provision of social services. A time squeeze is reducing the supply and quality of caring labour. And an incentive squeeze in harming the environment, globalization is also increasing human insecurity as the spread of global crime, disease and financial volatility outpaces actions to tackle them.

The Report argues that, globalization requires leadership because:

- People everywhere are becoming connected- affected by events in far corners of the world;

¹³ UNDP. 1998. *Human Development Report*.

- Poor people and poor countries risk being pushed to the margin in this proprietary regime controlling the world knowledge; and
- Narrowing the gaps between rich and poor and the extremes between countries should become explicit global goals¹⁴.

2000, Human Rights and Human Development: Human rights and human Development share a common vision and a common purpose to secure, for every human beings, freedom, well-being and dignity. Divided by the cold war, the rights agenda and development agenda followed parallel tracks. Now converging, their distinct strategies and traditions can bring new strength to the struggle for human freedom. Human Development Report, 2000 looks at human rights as an intrinsic part of development and at development as a means to realizing human rights. It shows how human rights bring principles of accountability and social justice to the process of human development.

Achieving rights for all people in all countries will require action and commitment from the major players in the society. Tracing the struggle for human rights as common to all people, the Report concludes that the advances in the 21st century will be won by confronting entrenched economic and political interests.

The research and critical positioning of this Report shows that:

- Human freedom is the common purpose and common motivation of human rights and human development;
- The 20th century's advances in human rights and human development were unprecedented-but there is a long unfinished agenda; and
- The 21st century opens with new threats to human freedoms¹⁵.

2001, Making New Technologies Work for Human Development: The report 2001, like all Human Development Reports, is about people. It is about how people can create and use technology to improve their lives. It is all about forging new public policies to lead the revolutions in information and communications technology and biotechnology in the direction of human development.

Technology networks are transforming the traditional map of development, expanding people's

¹⁴ UNDP. 1999. *Human Development Report*.

¹⁵ UNDP. 2000. *Human Development Report*.

horizons and creating the potential to realize in a decade, the progress that required generations in the past. The technology divide does not have to follow the income divide. Throughout history, technology has been a powerful tool for human development and poverty reduction.

The Report demonstrates that:

- People all over the world have high hopes that new technologies will lead to healthier lives, greater social freedom, increased knowledge and more productive livelihood;
- In the network age, every country needs the capacity to understand and adapt global technologies for local needs; and
- Policy not charity, will determine whether new technologies become a tool for human development everywhere¹⁶.

2002, Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World: Politics matter for human development. Reducing poverty depends as much on whether poor people have a political power as on their opportunities for economic progress. Democracy has proven to be the system of governance most capable of mediating and preventing conflict and of securing and sustaining well-being. By expanding people's choices about how and by whom they are governed, democracy brings principles of participation and accountability to the process of human development.

This Report is about politics and human development. It is about how political power and institutions- formal and informal, national and international-shape human progress. And it is about what it will take for countries to establish democratic governance systems that advance the human development of all people- in a world where so many are left behind.

The Report argues that:

- For politics and political institutions to promote human development and safeguard the freedom and dignity of all people, democracy must widen and deepen;
- Just as human development requires much more than raising incomes, governance for human development requires much more than having effective public institutions; and

¹⁶ UNDP. 2001. *Human Development Report*.

- International efforts to promote change do not work if national actors feel excluded¹⁷.

2003, Millennium Development Goals; A Compact among Nations to End Human Poverty: The new century opened with an unprecedented declaration of solidarity and determination to get rid the world of poverty. In 2000 the UN Millennium Declaration, adopted at the largest-ever gathering of heads of states, committed countries - rich and poor-to doing all they can to eradicate poverty, promote human dignity and equality and achieve peace, democracy and environmental sustainability.

Emanating from the Millennium Declaration, the Millennium Development Goals behind countries to do more in the attack on inadequate incomes, widespread hunger, gender inequality, environmental deterioration, health care and clean water. They also include actions to reduce debt and increase aid, trade and technology transfers to poor countries.

This Report adds to the understanding of poverty by analyzing the root cause of failed development. It demonstrates that the range of human development in the world is vast and uneven, with astounding progress in some areas amidst stagnation and dismal decline in others. Balance and stability in the world will require the commitment of all nations, rich and poor, and a global development compact to extend the wealth of possibilities to all people.

This Report explores constraints that are crucial for sustainable human development:

- The need for economic reforms to establish macroeconomic stability;
- The need for strong institutions and governance- to enforce the rule of law and control corruption; and
- The structural constraints that impede economic growth and human development¹⁸.

2004, Cultural Liberty in Today's Diverse World: Accommodating people's growing demands for their inclusion in society, for respect of their ethnicity, religion and language, takes more than democracy and equitable growth. Also needed are multicultural policies that recognize differences, champion diversity and promote cultural freedoms, so that all people can choose to speak their language, practice their religion, and participate in shaping their culture so that all people can

¹⁷ UNDP. 2002. *Human Development Report*.

¹⁸ UNDP. 2003. *Human Development Report*.

choose to be who they are.

The Report builds on that analysis, by carefully examining and rejecting claims that cultural differences necessarily lead to social, economic and political conflict or that inherent cultural rights should supersede political and economic ones. Instead, it provides a powerful argument for finding ways to “delight in our differences”, as Archbishop Desmond Tutu has put it. It also offers some concrete ideas on what it means in practice to build and manage the politics of identity and culture in a manner consistent with the bedrock principle of human development.

The Report makes a case for respecting diversity and building more inclusive societies by adopting policies that explicitly recognize cultural differences-multicultural policies:

- Cultural liberty is a vital part because of being able to choose one’s identity is important in dealing a full life;
- Cultural liberty allows people to live the lives they value without being excluded from other choices important to them such as education, health and job opportunities; and
- Power sharing arrangements have broadly proven to be crucial in resolving tensions¹⁹.

2005, International cooperation at a crossroads: Aid, Trade and Security in an unequal world: This report takes stock of human development, including progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDG’s). Looking beyond statistics; it highlights the human costs of missed targets and broken promises. Extreme inequality between countries and within countries is identified as one of the main barriers to human development—and as a powerful brake on accelerated progress towards the MDG’s.

The report suggests that the world’s governments are faced with a choice. They can start a decade for development with the financial resources, technology and capacity to end poverty or we could have a human development failure. “Business as usual” will not allow fulfilling the promises and the commitments made in 2000. The cost of this failure will be measured in human lives, increased inequalities, violations of human rights and threats to peace.

International aid, one of the most effective weapons in the war against poverty, needs to be renovated and reshaped. It should be thought as an investment as well as a moral imperative. In this

¹⁹ UNDP. 2004. *Human Development Report*.

respect, three conditions for effective aid are:

- Sufficient quantity;
- Better quality; and
- Country ownership²⁰.

2006, Beyond scarcity: Power, Poverty and the Global Water Crisis: Throughout history water has confronted humanity with some of its greatest challenges. Water is a source of life and a natural resource that sustains our environments and supports livelihoods – but it is also a source of risk and vulnerability. In the early 21st Century, prospects for human development are threatened by a deepening global water crisis. Debunking the myth that the crisis is the result of scarcity, this report argues poverty, power and inequality are at the heart of the problem.

In a world of unprecedented wealth, almost 2 million children die each year for want of a glass of clean water and adequate sanitation. Millions of women and young girls are forced to spend hours collecting and carrying water, restricting their opportunities and their choices. And water-borne infectious diseases are holding back poverty reduction and economic growth in some of the world's poorest countries.

Beyond the household, competition for water as a productive resource is intensifying. Symptoms of that competition include the collapse of water based ecological systems, declining river flows and large scale ground water depletion. Conflicts over water are intensifying within countries, with the rural poor losing out. The potential for tensions between countries is also growing, though there are large potential human development gains from increased cooperation.

The Human Development Report continues to frame debates on some of the most pressing challenges facing humanity:

- Investigates the underlying cause and consequences of a crises that leaves 1.2 billion people without access to safe drinking water and 2.6 billion without access to sanitation;
- Argues for a concerted drive to achieve water and sanitation for all through national strategies

²⁰ UNDP. 2005. *Human Development Report*.

and a global plan of action; and

- Examines the social and economic forces that are driving water shortages and marginalizing the poor in agriculture²¹.

2007/2008, Fighting climate change: Human solidarity in a divided world: Climate change is the defining human development challenge of the 21st Century. Failure to respond to that challenge will stall and then reverse international efforts to reduce poverty. The poorest countries and most vulnerable citizens will suffer the earliest and most damaging setbacks, even though they have contributed least to the problem. Looking to the future, no country-however wealthy or powerful-will be immune to the impact of global warming.

The Human Development Report 2007/2008 shows that climate change is not just a future scenario. Increased exposure to droughts, floods and storms is already destroying opportunity and reinforcing inequality. Meanwhile, there is now overwhelming scientific evidence that the world is moving towards the point at which irreversible ecological catastrophe becomes unavoidable. Business - as - usual climate change points in a clear direction: unprecedented reversal in human development in our lifetime and acute risks for our children and their grandchildren.

As the Human Development Report 2007/2008 argues, climate change poses challenges at many levels. In a divided but ecologically interdependent world, it challenges all people to reflect upon how we manage the environment of the one thing that we share in common: planet earth. It challenges us to reflect on social justice and human rights across countries and generations. It challenges political leaders and people in rich nation to acknowledge their historic responsibility for the problem, and to initiate deep and early cuts in greenhouse gas emissions. Above all it challenges the entire human community to undertake prompt and strong collective action based on shared values and a shared vision²².

2009, Overcoming barriers: Human mobility and development: Human Development is about putting people at the centre of development. It is about people realizing their potential, increasing their choices and enjoying the freedom to lead lives they value. Since 1990, annual Human Development Reports have explored challenges including poverty, gender, human rights, democracy,

²¹ UNDP. 2006. *Human Development Report*.

²² UNDP. 2007/08. *Human Development Report*.

cultural liberty, globalization, water scarcity and climate change.

Migration, both within and beyond borders, has become an increasingly prominent theme in domestic and international debates, and is the topic of the 2009 Human Development Report (HDR-09). The starting point is that the global distribution of capabilities is extraordinarily unequal, and that this is a major driver for movement of people. Migration can expand their choices— in terms of incomes, accessing services and participation, for example -- but the opportunities open to people vary from those who are best endowed to those with limited skills and assets. These underlying inequalities, which can be compounded by policy distortions, will be a theme of the report.

The report investigates migration in the context of demographic changes and trends in both growth and inequality. It also presents more detailed and nuanced individual, family and village experiences and explores less visible movements typically pursued by disadvantaged groups such as short term and seasonal migration.

National and local policies play a critical role in enabling better human development outcomes for both those who choose to move in order to improve their circumstances, and those forced to relocate due to conflict, environmental degradation, or other reasons. Host country restrictions can raise both the costs and the risks of migration. Similarly, negative outcomes can arise at the country levels where basic rights, like voting, schooling and health care are denied to those who have moved across provincial lines to work and live. HDR 2009 shows how a human development approach can be a means to redress some of the underlying issues that erode the potential benefits of mobility and /or force migration²³.

2010, The Real Wealth of Nation: Pathways to Human Development: The 2010 Human Development Report—The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development —showed through a detailed new analysis of long-term Human Development Index (HDI) trends that most developing countries made dramatic yet often underestimated progress in health, education and basic living standards in recent decades, with many of the poorest countries posting the greatest gains. Yet patterns of achievement vary greatly, with some countries losing ground since 1970, the 2010 Human Development Report shows. Introducing three new indices, the 20th anniversary edition of the report documented wide inequalities within and among countries, deep disparities between women and

²³ UNDP. 2009. *Human Development Report*.

men on a wide range of development indicators, and the prevalence of extreme multidimensional poverty in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. The report also included a change in the methodology used to calculate the indexes using better statistical methods, as well as new parameters for judging the growth and development.

2011/12, Sustainability and Equity: a Better Future for All: The 2011 Human Development Report argues that the urgent global challenges of sustainability and equity must be addressed together – and identifies policies on the national and global level that could spur mutually reinforcing progress towards these interlinked goals. Bold action is needed on both fronts, the Report contends, if the recent human development progress for most of the world’s poor majority is to be sustained, for the benefit of future generations as well as for those living today. Past Reports have shown that living standards in most countries have been rising - and converging - for several decades now. Yet the 2011 Report projects a disturbing reversal of those trends if environmental deterioration and social inequalities continue to intensify, with the least developed countries diverging downwards from global patterns of progress by 2050.

2013, The Rise of the South: Human Progress in a Diverse World: The 21st century is witnessing a profound shift in global dynamics, driven by the fast-rising new powers of the developing world. China has overtaken Japan as the world’s second biggest economy, lifting hundreds of millions of people out of poverty in the process. India is reshaping its future with new entrepreneurial creativity and social policy innovation. Brazil is raising its living standards by expanding international relationships and antipoverty programmes that are emulated worldwide. But the “Rise of the South” is a much larger phenomenon. Indonesia, Mexico, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and other developing countries are becoming leading actors on the world stage. The 2013 Human Development Report identifies more than 40 developing countries that have done better than expected in human development in recent decades, with their progress accelerating markedly over the past 10 years.

2014, Sustaining Human Progress: Reducing Vulnerabilities and Building Resilience: The Human Development Report Office (HDRO) is pleased to inform that the 2014 Human Development Report 'Sustaining Human Progress: Reducing Vulnerability and Building Resilience' was launched in Tokyo, on 24 July 2014. The 2014 Report highlights the need for both promoting people's choices and protecting human development achievements. It takes the view that vulnerability threatens human development, and unless it is systematically addressed, by changing policies and social norms, progress will be neither equitable nor sustainable.

2015, Work for Human Development: The Global Human Development Report 2015 asks a fundamental question – how can work enhance human development. The Report takes a broad of work, going beyond jobs and taking into account such activities as unpaid care work, voluntary work and creative work and argues that work can be a means to enhance human development by contributing to the public good, reducing inequality, securing livelihoods and empowering individuals. It recommends policies to harness human potential and achieve equitable and sustainable progress, and also presents the latest findings on India's progress on the Human Development Indicators.

HDR 1996 opens with that human development is end, economic growth is means. This has totally changed the thinking of the masses in whole. The report argues that economic growth, if not properly managed can be jobless, voiceless, ruthless, rootless and futureless. Economic growth has increased the inequalities in income, more in developing countries. Under these auspices UNDP in its HDR 1997 stresses on eradicating poverty everywhere is more than a moral-imperative, it is practical possibility. The report focuses not just on poverty of income but on poverty from human development perspective-poverty as a denial of choice and opportunities and opportunities for living a tolerable life. It highlights that it should safeguard people from new global pressures that create or threaten further increase in poverty, building assets for poor.

HDR 1998 investigates 20th century growth in consumption, unprecedented in its sale and diversity. The globalisation no doubt is global reach of product but it also had increased the unprecedented consumption pattern through out the world, which has negative effects on the sustainability of food security. The other part of story cannot be ignored that globalisation has led technology to reach to the doorsteps of countries. This was followed by HDR 1999, which highlights global market technology, ideas, integrity; solidarity can enrich lives of people everywhere. The challenge is to ensure that benefits are shared equitably.

Global violence, terrorism, human rights violation were dominating policy debates in 2000, with these policy debates UNDP come with HDR 2000, which looks at human rights as an intrinsic part of development. It shows how human rights bring principles of accountability and social justice for the process of human development. The HDR 2001 enlightens that new technology network are transforming the traditional map of development, expanding peoples horizons and creating the potential to realize in a decade progress that required generation in past.

HDR 2003 set forth Millennium Development Goals (MDG), balance and stability in the world will require the commitment of all nations, rich and poor and a global development compact to extend the wealth of possibilities to all people n the world. HDR 2004 stresses on accommodating people's growing demands for

their inclusion in society, for respect of their ethnicity, religion and language takes more than democracy and equitable growth. In the year 2005 UNDP takes stock of human development, including progress towards MDGs. It looks beyond statistics, it highlights the human costs of missed target and broken promises. HDR 2006 highlights that human development are threatened by a deepening global crisis, which can exist in any form. The HDR 2007-08 indicates that climate change is the greatest challenge facing humanity today, failure to meet that challenges raises the spectre of unprecedented reversals in human development. The HDR 2009 put a theme as human development on the move, migration both within and beyond borders, has become an increasingly prominent, both in national and international debates.

Now questions arise how to assess the HDRs against their own promises and performances and assess these reports against their inbuilt limitations and weaknesses. There is no argument against it that HDRs have not gone beyond descriptions. Lets go into the causes..

Issues, Causes, Concerns & Emerging Dimensions

In HDR we have conceptual, methodological and statistical issues related to the HDI and the indicators on which it is based. This aspect needs a good deal of further work, although the simplicity of the index is appealing. For example the problem with the HDI is the implicit trade off between life expectancy and income, which is misguiding the policy affairs (e.g. an increase of annual GDP per head of \$99 will exactly compensate for 1 year of life expectancy, so as to keep HDI constant and vice versa (Ravallion 1997). HDR's has also converted domestic price of GNP of 173 countries into international dollars using PPP exchange rates that were put together by Robert Summers and Alan Heston (1991) who use problematic procedures of extrapolation from data for a few years and countries to many more. HDRs involve problems of non comparability over time and space, measurement errors and biases, meaningful inference about the process development and performance as well as policy implications could hardly be drawn from variation in HDI. There are more serious flaws like this; that is why some people rate it as a false Paradigm.

From 1990, 16 years period provides lot of empirical evidence which begs very uncomfortable questions. Human Security, Peace Dividend, Development Cooperation, Friendly Markets, Global Governance, A New Economic Security Council, etc. were treated as necessary logical next steps to translate this new vision into reality?.

No doubt HDR's have considerable political appeal and are eye catching (Streeton 1995). The concept may be blurred and blunted largely because of desire to achieve consensus and to attract a larger constituency of

support. The concept are distorted through excessive or inappropriate quantification and it is taken by academic researchers who introduce a degree of complexity that distance concept from practical world of policy making.

The interesting issues are not conceptual but empirical: do other indicators besides income provide additional information in accessing development performance. Has HDI being able to replace GNP as a measure of wellbeing. The economists like Arthur Lewis (1955) argued long back that growth is primarily for its instrumental role in promoting human development. The advantage of economic growth is not that wealth increases but it increases the range of human choice. The case for economic growth is that it gives man greater control over his environment and thereby increases his freedom- economic growth also gives us freedom to choose greater leisure. So what is the new things in it.

The index should capture an autonomy and self reliance, independence and a sense of community or freedom and human rights, environmental damage, violence, insecurity and fair, and disintegration of social fabric. Work on human, social and political indicators has been going on for a long time but nothing so far has been replaced the powerful hold of GNP in spite of numerous attempts to weaken it.

There are issues relating to the impact of public expenditure on poverty reduction and income distribution, who benefits from public expenditure on health; education; nutrition; and other social services, who contribute to the finance services.

The empowerment of women has lost its shine in contemporary debates because women are able to stand against the oppression but still lot more needed. One of the new dimension include those areas of research that would be directly relevant for the policy and programmes is the development of gender sensitive methods of cost benefit analysis, national and social accounting which takes account of women's time.

A micro based examination of the differential patterns of expenditure, consumption saving and leisure time use of men and women and the implications of these differentials for households welfare.

In my opinion the foremost emerging research area in human development should be on political and social movements based on religion, ethnicity, national or cultural identity and their impact on people especially on women. Islamic fundamentalism Christian evangelism, spreading in Latin America and east Asia, Hindu and Muslim communism, sinnahala Buddhist communalism in Sri lanka, Jewish fundamentalism in Israel. These are radically redefining the social position.

There are innumerable issues which world is facing and going to face in future like wars, environmental degradation, global warming, technology dilemmas etc. so the ultimate effect of these risks is on human beings, therefore need is to an environment in which people can develop full potential and lead productive creative lives in accord with their basic needs and interests. To me human development concept has such potential to improve our lives, therefore we should collectively address these issues and look forward to work for universe as a whole.

Conclusion

The future area should be centred on human development on both end in itself and a means to raising productivity. All events and policies should be judged by their impact on people and vice versa. The human development paradigm should embrace all society– not just the economy. I am working on the formation of human capabilities– such as knowledge and skills and making of their acquired capabilities – for employment productive activities. I hope this programme will enrich my understanding of the subject matter in a more sophisticated manner.

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