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ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION EFFORTS

By :

Agussalim M.

Majanemen Studies Program, Faculty of Economics,
Ekasakti University of Padang
Jalan Veteran Dalam No. 26 B Padang (25 113) Indonesia
E-mail: agussikki@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Clearly visible environmental issues are flooding, erosion, large amounts of waste, and water and air pollution. All of these problems reflect dependence of the natural environment function naturally. Deforestation at the upstream of the river reduces the ability to resist the flow of an abundant water into an increasingly shallow river that cause flooding; depleted plants lead to erosion of soil, pile of garbage on the streets and in trash cans; narrowing of forest reduces the area for the endangered animal to live so that the species would be more increasingly scarce, as well as industrials and vehicles fill the air with waste disposal and river pollution can cause damage to human health.

Environmental resources, such as air, water, soil and biota can provide valuable economic goods, either directly or indirectly. From the economic point of view, misuse of resources utilization of common property caused by the lack of balance mechanism of the individual awareness that limit the exploitation, decrease the economic value of environmental resources or even lost.

Participation of the community to be sought to anticipate the impact of the environmental management activities includes: (a) increasing public awareness about the importance of preserving the environment, (b) keeping basic means of environmental management, both natural resources and basic rules of the environment; and (c) solving urgent environmental problems.

The efforts to increase public participation in environmental preservation would be successful, if the involvement of the community in the planning and implementation stages and assessments supported through formal and non-formal education. Consequently, education is the most effective strategy in generating awareness about the importance of preserving the environment.

Keywords: Resources, Environment, Development, and Economic

Introduction

In each country, development activity is an attempt to improve people welfare and quality of life by utilizing the natural resources. Utilization of natural resources is essentially a human intervention toward a reciprocal relationship system that took place in the ecosystem. Resource utilization would mean changing the balance of the ecosystem, which in turn will affect the whole system of life.

Human ability to master science and technology develop continuously, leading to a tendency to use natural resources maximally to the fullest extent ability of the science and technology. However, the reality shows that the human environment haunted by the following conditions:

1. Increasing population pressure.
2. Poverty is not being resolved.
3. Increasingly serious environmental pollution.
4. Political atmosphere of the world is getting hotter.

Those facts indicate that the human welfare can not be achieved simply by relying on science and technology, but also understand the reciprocal relationship between humans and their natural resources completely and thoroughly. Therefore, technological knowledge plays an important role either for saving natural resources and improving economic development.

Moreover, exploitation of the natural resources in relation to the economic development needs a very special attention, because this environment will be inherited to the next generation that must be maintained in its good condition, otherwise it will never be enjoyed if people do not care about their current environment.

Current world economic development has also led to environmentally-sound economy. International trade began to notice environmental preservation aspects of its country, for special reason to anticipate the impact of economic development.

Environmental Issues

From an economic standpoint, the misuse of common property resources such as water, air and the other occurs due to the absence of a balance method that can limit the exploitation. Common property resources are considered as free goods but their scarcity is not reflected in any utilization. To examine whether the development can be carried out without damaging the environment, an overview of the historical development of the world economic paradigm is being important because economic development is essentially determined by development of economic paradigm.

The history of the development of economic thought had been quite long started from Mercantilism paradigm of the Renaissance period, where the first economic theory developed in the mid-18th century in France and the emergence of Invisible Hand theory and Atomistic Individual terms by classical economists Adam Smith. The Atomistic Individual then shifted by neo-classical economists, until the development of Keynesian synthesis, by John Maynard Keynes which is prevailing today and pays attention to macro and micro economic conditions. The development of paradigm occurred during this time showed that the economists ignored the physical dimensions and only focus on value. In fact, the welfare measured by unit values can not be separated from the physical dimension. Economists may be maximizing the value continuously and the value can expand forever, but somehow the physical dimension constraints that also include the value must be considered and taken into account.

Since the late 1970's, public attention to the environmental contamination and damage culminated. Also many economists realized that their indifference toward the pollution problems and environmental destruction affecting the function of the economic system. With the development of environmentally sound economic theories, environmental economics arose.

Principally, economic experts who developed the theory of environmental economics remain committed to the basic principle of classical or neo classical. Basic understanding of environmental economics originated from the recognition that the environment as a common property resource.

Environmental resources such as air, water, soil and biota can provide goods, either directly or indirectly, in order to obtain economic value. The concept of common property resources by Hardin known as *tragedy of the commons* that is used to explain why economic activity can lead to environmental damage.

Furthermore, millions of people have the same right to use common property resources such as water, air, forests, oceans, and so on. Hence, there is no single rule that restricts the use of common property resources which resulting an over-exploitation of the resource. Any utilization attempted as much as possible on the assumption that others will take advantages if it does not utilize maximally.

From an economic perspective, the misuse of common property resources occurs in the absence of the balance mechanism of individual awareness which can limit the exploitation. The common resources are free to be used, so that their scarcity is not reflected in the cost for each of utilization.

External Factors Impact On The Environment

Theory of external factors (externality) offers an alternative exploitation of the causes of environmental destruction. In many countries, both developed and developing countries, the environmental issues are not taken into account in development planning which causing damage for short and long term. Cement factory; for example, ignore the air pollution because its function is only to produce the cements. Fishermen in the ocean only care about how to get fish as much as possible regardless the reducing of the fish stock. In addition, farmers only think about how to increase their rice production without considering soil erosion in the future. Those examples can be referred as "the effect of external factors." The effects of external factors arise when the utility of the production function used by someone depends on the activity of another one, so that the external factors can be beneficial and also detrimental.

External factor of multiple environmental arise when its dependence factors is a form of physical and its relationship created through natural systems. Air pollution is a real example that emerging the effect. Textile mills, for example, minimizing cost by removing waste to the rivers or on the ground without a processing system. Consequently, it pollutes the river and the cost for its cleaning to be suffered by community. In many underdeveloped and developing countries, ignorance may be the cause of external factors of the environment quality. For instance, farmers still do not understand the dangers of pesticide use.

Institutional system in many countries have not yet support the prevention of environmental destruction even though the effects of such damage has been realized by the community. This fact is a general failure of a market system that has been uncontrolled or imperfect. Even this failure occurs in centralized-economic systems countries (China, for example, adopts no external factor). Fundamentally, the failure is considered as institutional rigidity that must maintain the objectives of environmental quality from absorption of economic development decisions and deviation between the social benefits and cost with personal (private). The damages described above are problems of the external effects of economic activity, such as soil erosion will reduce an agricultural productivity. Significant long-term effects are usually ignored by landowners who have social horizons will lead to an inter-temporal external factors (inter-temporal externality).

Environment And Sustainable Development

Environmental quality degradation explained above as a result of the impact of industry and other activities by human itself has greatly affected human health and welfare, although value-added economy obtained by industrial activities developed more.

Heavily contaminated environment is very difficult to be restored. Thus, we are demanded to constantly strive to find harmony between development and environment in order to gain sustainable development. The pattern of sustainable development highlights the following:

1. Utilization of natural resources in sustainable development is done by maintaining the integrity of ecosystem function.
2. The impact of development toward the environment is actively taken into account
3. The interests of future generations is considered.
4. The insights must reach the future, due to changes of the environment takes place in a long period.
5. Public participation is encouraged through the planning process and implementation of the development.

Environmentally- Sound Economic Development

Continuity of economic and social development requires an appropriate level of threshold value of environmental quality and not functioning market mechanism which led the government has to take an active role in environmental management. The implementation of

detailed sustainable planning concept (sustainable development) is absolutely necessary. Avoiding any form of policy or rules with personality scale only should not be maintained due to the development impact on the environment will not be seen quickly, but proceeds to reach the future generations. Thus, the rules, obeying the law, consequences and all devices require mental discipline and strong human resources.

Some of the strategies that can be done for sustainable economic development mechanism are as follows:

1. Internalization of external economic factors

In the economic decision making, the damage impact of external factors should be included in economic calculations (internalized). Any costs incurred in an effort to minimize the environmental impact should be included in economic activity that is not detrimental to the community.

2. Retribution for the social costs

Government intervention can be done through: valley retribution on any activities that cause environmental pollution. The retribution can be determined based on an estimated marginal, controlling cost at the desired level with the aim to encourage emissions reductions at the desired level using a controlling technology.

3. Government regulation of environmental quality standards.

To control pollution and environmental destruction and to protect certain resources, then in the case of certain waste disposal, concentration waste limits being disposed must be specified.

4. An analysis of economic benefits and costs

The analysis determines how far maintenance and improvement of environmental quality should be done. This analysis can be a guide to design a project to be carried out by providing alternative modifications that protect the environment from fatal damage so that the project can be economically efficient.

5. Develop, enhance and maintain commitment among decision-makers to avoid conflict of interests between parties, while increasing community participation actively.

Preparation of the measures that can encourage the observance of the policy and the government's efforts to improve a better quality of the environment through the mechanism of admonition, action by applying sanctions or penalties, and law enforcement or application of incentives.

Environmental issues covering all aspects of society, covering a very broad area and involves all aspects of disciplines. Even in this era of globalization, environmental pollution is not only a local problem, but it is a cross-regional and international issue. For example, Chernobyl reactor leaks in Russia gave a large impact to neighboring countries in Europe. Nuclear waste disposal by Russia to the seas around Japan, industrial waste the disposal from Singapore to one of the Riau Islands a few years ago was an evidence of how the impact of environmental pollution has been extended and expanded the area of cross-regional and cross-country.

Besides, environmental problems emerge are complex covering a wide area and usually give prolonged impact which can not be handled by the Government alone. The participation of the community, entrepreneurs, non-government institutions and Agencies Law are absolutely necessary in environmental management.

Especially in Indonesia, the rights and obligations of the public to participate in environmental management included in the Environment Act (UULH), they are:

1. Article 5 verse (1) reads: "Every person has the right for a good and healthy environment "
2. Article 5 verse (2) reads: "Every person is obliged to preserve the environment and to prevent damage and pollution".
3. Article 6 verse (1) reads: "Every person has the right and obligation to participate in the management of the environment".

4. Article 7 verse (1) reads: "Any person who operates a business field required to maintain harmonious and balanced environmental capabilities sustainability to support sustainable development."
5. Article 9 reads: "The government is obliged to encourage and develop public awareness about the responsibility in managing the environmental through counseling, guidance, education and research on the environment"

Based on the provisions contained in the articles above, it is clear that the participation of the public has the right and obligation to preserve the environment by involving communities start from the planning, implementation until assessment phase. Thus, people are not only encouraged to participate in the implementation phase only, but the public should be given the opportunity to develop and express their opinions.

Environmental Preservation Through Education

Institutions

As explained above, the government efforts were devoted more to the environment correctional through educational institutions where the result showed the growth of public awareness for the environment is high enough. The emergence of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) work in environmental area engaged public participation in various environmental activities and providing information about environmental damage, either caused by natural or man-made disasters is a very high public concern for the environment.

Various government initiatives have been undertaken to increase public participation, for example by KALPATARU award each year to the person who contributed in saving the environment and give ADIPURA for cities that successfully manage Cleanliness and so on.

In addition, counseling and guidance are implemented in an integrated manner through educational institutions, such as:

- **Out-of School Education**
Counseling and education through a non-formal way is important in encouraging environmental awareness, improving behavior and responsibility and taking role in environmental management. This is implemented in an integrated manner on certain occasions or events such as "EARTH'S DAY", "ENVIRONMENT DAY", "WOMEN'S DAY", "KIDS' DAY", "INDEPENDENCE DAY" and others which are implemented through audio-visual, Radio, Television, Singing, Drama, Film, Paintings, and other social activities including political campaigns play an important role in environmental education, such as the Kali Bersih (Program (PROKASIH).
- **Education in Schools**
Government policy does not specify the formal education curriculum on environmental education from elementary schools to high schools, but inserting lessons of environment on subjects such as Biology, Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics, History and Social Sciences. This method shows an intensive result of growing awareness through continuous education.
- **Education and Non-Degree Training**
Non-Degree Education is mostly done by various Institutes, Departments, Private Institutions, and independent private sector organizations, through Seminars and Workshops training courses. Many universities carry out the AMDAL lessons for beginners, and advanced level even Assessment AMDAL courses. Such courses are conducted in collaboration with the Environmental Impact Management Agency (BAPEDAL).
- **Degree education**
Environmental special education for postgraduate and doctor has been held by several universities, and even recently there anyway of Environmental Education with Bachelor degree.
Thus, Environmental Education is a part of counseling and guidance to the people/students who carried out early in the growing concern for the environment.

Conclusion

1. To anticipate the impact emerged by environmental management activities, the strategy can be done for economic development, are:
 - a. Raising environmental awareness among the general public.
 - b. Fostering a basic services of environmental management such as human resources, basic rules, and
 - c. Resolving urgent problems
2. Efforts to increase public participation in environmental preservation will be more successful if community participation involved both in the planning, implementation and assessment stages,
3. Education, both formal and non-formal is the most effective way in growing environmental awareness and community participation.

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