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.

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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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