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Role of World Organizations in Environment Protection

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Environment Protection is a practice of protecting the nature environment on individual organization controlled or governmental levels, for the benefit of both the environment and humans due to the pressures of over consumption, population and technology, the biophysical environment is being degraded, sometimes permanently. This has been recognized and governments have begun placing restraints on activities that cause environmental degradation. Since the 1960s, activity of environmental movements has created awareness of the various environmental issues.

An environmental organization is an organization coming out of the conservation or environmental movements that seeks to protect, analyse or monitor the environment against misuse or degradation from human focus. The organization may be a charity a trust, a non governmental organization or government organization.

Noble global environmental organization are the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) World Wide Fund for Nature, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), World Nature Organization (WHO), Greenpeace and Friends on Earth.

The organization has four areas in which it operates : Government Policy, Field Work, Partnerships and science. Partnerships are made with the US government, the European Union and other foreign governments to preserve and conserve natural resources.

The conservation fund in Arlington has protected more than 7 million acres of land in all 50 states. With a mission of saving land for future generations, the fund considers its “win-win” philosophy of balancing environmental and economic interests to be what sets it apart from other groups.

Notable Achievements of UNEP

UNEP has registered several successes, such as the 1987 Montreal Protocol for limiting emissions of gases blamed for thinning the planet's protective ozone layer, or the 2012 Minamata Convention, a treaty to limit toxic mercury.

UNEP has sponsored the development of solar loan programs, with attractive return rates, to buffer the initial deployment costs and entice consumers to consider and purchase solar PV systems. The most famous example is the solar loan program sponsored by UNEP helped 100,000 people finance solar power systems in India. Success in India's solar program has led to similar projects in other parts of the developing world like Tunisia, Morocco, Indonesia and Mexico.

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UNEP sponsors the Marshlands project in the Middle East. In 2001, UNEP alerted the international community to the destruction of the Marshlands when it released satellite images showing that 90 percent of the Marshlands had already been lost. The UNEP "support for Environmental Management of the Iraqi Marshland" commenced in August 2004, in order to manage the Marshland area in an environmentally sound manner.

In order to ensure full participation of global communities, UNEP works in an inclusive fashion that brings on board different societal cohorts. UNEP has a programme for young people known as Tunza. Within this program are other projects like the AEO for Youth

"People need nature to thrive," Arlington, Va.-based Conservation International declares. Founded in 1987, the organization states the importance of nature for climate, air, water, food, and resource purposes; however, economic and infrastructure development is also stressed as crucial to what it terms human well-being. Conservation International's work comes in as bridging the gap between these two interests through sustainable development. The organization has four areas in which it operates: government policy, field work, partnerships, and science. Partnerships are made with the US government, the European Union, and other foreign governments to preserve and conserve natural resources. The organization also partners with local communities, scientists, NGOs, and corporations to work in 40-plus countries, especially those it designates as priority areas. In late June, Conservation International earned agency status from the Global Environment Facility, the biggest public funder of environmental projects in the world.

Role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) in Environment Protection

Today we come across various non-governmental organizations whose concerns are focused on various areas such as social issues, health issues, and environmental issues.

There are large number of NGOs in India and other countries that are exclusively working for environmental, protection, conservation, and awareness. The number of these non-governmental organizations which are actively involved in environmental protection in our country is, in fact, more than in any of the developing country. Increasingly, the government is viewing NGOs not only as agencies that will help them to implement their programs, but also as partners shaping policy and programs.

NGOs are now playing an important role in framing the environmental policy, mobilizing public support for environmental conservation, and protecting the endangered species of forests and animals. Environmental organizations such as Earth watch and Sea Shepherd Conservation Society have been successful in creating awareness about the environmental dangers in using drift nets in the commercial fishing industry.

Some of the international environmental organizations are Greenpeace, Worldwide Fund for Nature' (WWF), Earth First, etc. Let us now have a detailed discussion on some of the environmental organizations and their efforts in protecting environment.

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Greenpeace:

Greenpeace is an environment-friendly international organization, which aims at promoting environmental awareness. It is an independent, campaigning organization, addressing the environmental abuse through direct, non-violent confrontations with governments and companies. It exposes the global environmental problems and provides solutions for a healthy environment.

Greenpeace focuses on the most crucial worldwide threats to our planets biodiversity and environment.

It campaigns to:

- 1. Stop Climate Change:**
- 2. Protect Ancient Forests:**
- 3. Save the Oceans:**
- 4. Stop Whaling:**
- 5. Say No to Genetic Engineering:**
- 6. Stop the Nuclear Threat:**
- 7. Eliminate Toxic Chemicals:**
- 8. Encourage Sustainable Trade:**

Greenpeace has played an important role in preserving the environment, which is proved by its successful achievements:

1. A ban on toxic waste exports to less developed countries.
2. A moratorium on commercial whaling.
3. A United Nations convention providing for better management of world fisheries.
4. A Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary.
5. A 50-year moratorium on mineral exploitation in Antarctica.
6. Ban on the dumping at sea of radioactive and industrial waste and disused oil installations.
7. An end to high-sea, large-scale driftnet fishing.
8. A ban on all nuclear weapons testing their first ever campaign.

Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)—India:

WWF is an international organization for wildlife conservation with its focus on protecting particular species of wildlife fauna. As its range of activities broadened, the international organization believed that its name no longer reflected the scope of its activities and became the Worldwide Fund for Nature in 1986. But the affiliated groups in the United States and Canada retained the original name. The organization is now simply, referred to as WWF. WWF-India is committed to protecting and saving the already degraded and threatened natural bounties in the country. The organization is today dedicated to the conservation of natural habitats and ecosystems in India.

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WWF-India was established as a Charitable Trust in 1969. With its network of State/Divisional and Field Offices spread across the country to implement its programs, WWF-India is the largest and one of the most experienced conservation organizations in the country.

Development Alternatives Group:

Development Alternatives Group based in Delhi works in all parts of the country. It was established in 1983 to design options and promote sustainable development through programs of economic efficiency, equity and social justice, resource conservation, and self-reliance. Its activities cover the entire nation: It is working in the field of pollution monitoring and control, waste recycling management, wasteland development, and appropriate technology.

The Energy Research Institute (TERI):

Established in 1974, is a wholly independent, non-profit research institute. Its mission is to develop and promote technologies, policies, and institutions for efficient and sustainable use of natural resources. It has been imparting environmental education through projects, workshops, audio-visual aids, and quiz competitions.

It deals with policy-related works in the energy sector, research on environmental subjects, development of renewable energy technologies and promotion of energy efficiency in the industry and transport sector. TERI also has a major program in biotechnology, the applications of which are oriented toward increased biomass production, conversion of waste into useful products and mitigating the harmful environmental impacts of several economic activities.

Conclusion

Environmental policies will achieve positive results only when they are addressed to local issues and solve the problems of local people. The policymakers should keep in mind the needs of the people while framing the policies and implementing the environment-friendly projects.

Unless the needs of the people are identified and supported, sustainable development cannot be achieved. Policymakers and administrators should take care in selecting, financing, and implementing projects, which are aimed at promoting social welfare. They should not encourage the enterprises that promote private ownership and cooperation.

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