

Small - Report into:

Can, Australian, Sustainable Consumption, Eliminate Climate Change?

Aim:

The aim of this small report is to endeavour to indicate that Australia can enhance environmental, social and economical sustainability concepts. By highlighting the fact that Australia needs to engage with the sustainable development goals of: Sustainable consumption / production strategies, so that it can eliminate anthropogenic climate change scenarios from evolving.

Introduction:

Why then is it important to have sustainable development goals with an Australian context? It has been implied by some, that as Australia is developed country, it is / has to be more accountable for in acting many of the sustainable development goals (United Nations - General Assembly, 2015, pp. 1-35). For Australia, as a developed nation, has been historical responsible, for the implementation of some of the goals, at present (Thiele, 2013, pp.7, 24-25,142 -148, 190, 196). How do then do sustainable development goals, specifically the goals of, combating climate change and ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, impact within an Australian context? What 1st then is Sustainable Consumption? “It has been defined by, the sustainable consumption and production, Oslo Symposium in 1994, as the use of services and related products, which respond to basic needs and bring a better quality of life while minimizing the use of natural resources and toxic materials, as well as the emissions of waste and pollutants over the life cycle of the service or product so as not to jeopardize the needs of further generations.” p.1 (United Nations - Sustainable Development.un.org, 2016, p.1). While anthropogenic climate change, (global Warming), has been defined by the UK Met Office. “As man-made greenhouse gases, which are causing climate change scenarios.”p.1 (Free critical thinking.org, 2016, p.1). In fact it has been indicated, that as Australia is a developed nation, with an environmental, social and economical driver, of using consumer consumption concepts, so as to enhance economic growth processes, this in turn, has enhanced anthropogenic climate change scenarios to evolve within an Australian context. Which in turn, creates unsustainable, evolutionary processes (Gibson, Head, Gill, Waitt, 2011, pp.3-4). Consequently it can be assumed, that as the sustainable development goals of: Combating climate change and ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns, are not engaged within Australian, then there are many negative impacts, because of this. In fact it has been indicated by some, that Australia is not

really serious about combating climate change and that this is obvious in that there seems to be no real human / institutional capacity engagement, in regards to mitigation and adaptation processes, of anthropogenic climate change scenarios. Indeed I would suggest that if Australia can incorporate technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process, then it can go some way to alleviating, some anthropogenic climate change scenarios. Thus attaining a positive outcome in regards to above sustainable development goals and enhancing sustainability processes. I will investigate the above claims within a report format, by analysing the above claims within an environmental, social and economical context, by incorporating case studies, and discussing the issues involved with the above claims. But 1st let's have a look at some case studies that are within this area of interest.

Case Study: - 1

In fact some may find it hard to envisage how technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process, can have an impact upon anthropogenic climate change scenarios. However there are some technological / human capacities / tools, which are of interest in this regard, such as a Strvii - Mobil device - pedometer application. What then does a strvii pedometer concept do? In essence it's a Mobil device pedometer, which keeps tracks of an individual's physical activity and rewards physical activity, goal achieved, with points / codes, which in turn are converted to benefits for a specific business / community / NGO agencies, etc (Honan, 2011, pp. 1-2). Though the question has to be asked, is a strvii pedometer concept an ideal sustainable consumption candidate, to alleviate anthropogenic climate change scenarios? For instance, within an environmental, context the strvii pedometer concept may create a significant detrimental ecological footprint, in its production and design etc. Indeed in regards a strvii pedometer concept enhancing any social sustainability claims, it may not be relevant, as it can enhance individual technological alienation concepts. While within an economical / exchange context, a strvii pedometer concept, benefits only specific business / community / NGO agencies, etc. In fact taking the above implications into consideration, it tends to imply, that strvii pedometer concept may be fraught with inconstancies, as a sustainable consumption concept and thus not really alleviate any climate change scenarios.

Case Study: - 2

However I would suggest that a Calico Mobil device pedometer application is a good case study, which indicates a positive outcome in alleviating anthropogenic climate change scenarios, via a technological / human concept within a sustainable consumption and production processes. What then does the calico pedometer concept do? It's a Mobil device pedometer application, wherby an individual does some form of physical activity and thus gains points or code for those physical activity actions and thus in turn, an individual can then exchange / transact their points / codes for some form of reward within a business / community context (Calico, 2016, pp.1-2) (Evans, 2012, pp.1-2). Indeed, within an

environmental, context as a Calico pedometer is used in the outdoors, it engages individuals to appreciate their local environments and enhances less, fossil fuel dependence travel. While in regards a Calico pedometer concept engaging social sustainability claims, it does this by enhancing a sense of place for individuals and thus in turn engages community concerns, for local citizens. (Neighbourhood watch – etc). Lastly within an economical context, as a Calico pedometer concept, indirectly rewards individuals, in monetary values for their exercise, an individual in turn, *can* spend their reward points upon green consumerable products. Thus the above investigations tend to suggest, that a Calico Mobil device pedometer concept can go some way to alleviating anthropogenic climate change scenarios, via technological / human capabilities within a sustainable consumption and production processes.

The Issues:

Yet it has been implied by some that within an Australian context, endeavouring to incorporate technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process, to thus alleviate anthropogenic climate change scenarios is not really possible. For example, within an economical context, at present in Australia, there is seems to be no reliable physical activity / economical exchange data, measurement checks, so as to stop any technological / human (physical) activity, measurement data corruption processes. While within a social context, putting all the onus upon individual responsibility, in regards to individual consumer actions, attaining sustainable consumption process, can tend to disengage Australian individuals, as they may feel their small individual consumer actions, will not make a difference to *global* climate change scenarios. Also within an environmental context, if technological / human capacities are not able to participate within a sustainable consumption strategy. Whereby individuals purchase environmental friendly products, (as in Australia this is still a limited market area), then a conventional consumer, economical / exchange system operates, thus not really effecting climate change scenarios.

Though I would suggest that incorporating technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process, can alleviate anthropogenic climate change scenarios. For instance, within an economical context, at present in Australia, there are some business, which are in the process of initiating reliable physical activity / economical exchange data, measurement checks, so as to stop any technological / human (physical) activity, measurement data corruption processes. In addition within a social context, empowering individual responsibly, via an individual's *self-interest* consumer actions, is probably the best driver there is, in attaining a sustainable consumption processes. This is because, it encourages an Australian individual to feel that their own consumer actions, can really make a difference, in regards to alleviating climate change scenarios. Indeed within an environmental context, there are some Australian business, (e.g. – Echo Credits), that are encouraging technological / human capacities, to participate within a sustainable consumption strategies. Whereby individuals purchase only environmental friendly products. Consequently these individuals, in turn, feel that they are having an impact upon alleviating climate change scenarios

Further Research:

In fact with further research and investigations it is possible to indicate how and why incorporating technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process would benefit society. For example, within a social context there needs to be research into the demographic and design of places, so as to understand how, why and what is consumed within a place. There also need to be further research into what and why individuals consume and how this effects their behaviour and into how / why shared responsibility, both from individuals business, ngo and governments, etc, can alleviate climate change scenarios. In addition from an economical context there seems to be barriers for an individual to engage within sustainable consumption practices, due to present conventional policy / institutional / economical consumption strategies enacted, which needs to be further researched. There is also a need for more research into physical activity / economical exchange data, measurement tools, processes and cheeks and how these processes can benefit ongoing data, measurement research processes. Indeed with further research and investigations, it is possible to envision that sustainable consumption processes can eliminate anthropogenic climate change scenarios. For instance, from an environmental context, there needs to be further research into why there are barriers to awareness / educational processes, in regards to informing consumers what are sustainable products. There also needs to be ongoing research into why there are denials, from individuals, in regards to weather of climate change is really happening.

Conclusion:

As I have stated at the outset of this small report its aim was to indicate that Australia can enhance sustainability concepts. By highlighting the fact that Australia needs to engage with the sustainable development goals of: Sustainable consumption / production strategies, so that it can eliminate anthropogenic combat climate change scenarios from evolving. Indeed I have suggested that if Australia can incorporate technological / human capacities within a sustainable consumption and production process, then it can go some way to alleviating, some anthropogenic climate change scenarios. I endeavoured to investigate and analyse the above claim within an environmental, social and economical context, by incorporating case studies, and discussing some issues involved with the above claims.

References:

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