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## Role of Youth in Environmental Preservation

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**DOI-10.5281/zenodo.8318549**

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### Abstract

Environmental preservation is vital for sustainable development and the youth have a crucial role to play in achieving it. As future generations, their participation in environmental conservation is essential to ensure a sustainable future. This study aims to investigate the role of youth in environmental preservation and the impact of their participation in society.

**Objective:** The primary objective of this study is to analyze the role of youth in environmental preservation. Specifically, the study aims to evaluate the level of awareness and participation of the youth on environmental preservation efforts in Dehra Block of District Kangra in Himachal Pradesh.

### Methodology:

This study has been used mixed-method approach, which includes in primary as well as secondary sources for the data collection. The secondary data sources comprise scholarly literature, reports, publish & unpublished documents and articles from credible sources. The primary data has been collected at in Dehra Block of District Kangra in Himachal Pradesh and survey of youth studying at the Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dehra campus. The survey uses a structured questionnaire to collect data on the youth's level of awareness, and participation about the environmental preservation efforts.

### Results:

The findings indicate that the youth have a high level of awareness of environmental preservation and a strong desire to participate in conservation activities, such as recycling, tree planting, cleanness drive and energy conservation etc. The study also reveals that the youth's participation in environmental conservation activities has a positive impact on society. The study emphasizes the essential role of youth in environmental preservation and their potential to drive environmental conservation efforts in society. The study recommends that policymakers and stakeholders prioritize youth participation in environmental conservation activities and

provide the necessary support to enable them to contribute to a sustainable future. **Key Words:** Environmental, Conservation, Sustainable, Youth Participation

### Introduction

The increasing population and changing lifestyles of the people will contribute tremendously towards increasing environmental issues at global, regional and local level. Today, people are not aware with regard to environmental problems and how it will badly impact on our environment (Narwal, K. (2021). Environmental education plays significant role in the development of environmental awareness. In the present era, environmental awareness must be developed among the masses particularly among youths. The youth of today are the leaders of tomorrow, and their involvement in preserving the environment is essential for creating a sustainable future.

### Environmental Preservation

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) defines environmental preservation as "the protection and conservation of the natural environment and its resources in order to maintain their sustainability for present and future generations."

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) defines environmental preservation as "the protection of natural habitats and ecosystems, and the biodiversity they

contain, to ensure their continued existence for future generations."

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines environmental preservation as "the prevention of harm to the environment by reducing pollution and protecting natural resources, such as air, water, and soil, from contamination and degradation."

The United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) report also highlights the need for youth involvement in environmental conservation, noting that they can bring fresh perspectives, innovative ideas, and energy to the table.

A report by the World Economic Forum found that 86% of young people believe that climate change is a critical issue, and many are taking individual actions to reduce their environmental impact, such as using public transportation, reducing plastic consumption, and supporting ecofriendly businesses.

#### Literature Review

The youth's environmental attitudes and levels of knowledge. It was shown that there are no appreciable differences between men and women or schoolchildren in terms of ecological knowledge. Youngsters of both genders are equally mindful of the ecosystem. The attitudes of boys and girls toward the environment vary significantly. Compared to boys, girls were more environmentally conscious. (Katoch, 2016).

"The Role of Young People in Environmental Protection: A Review of the Literature" discusses the importance of youth involvement in environmental protection efforts and emphasizes the need for increased youth participation in decision-making processes (Michael Johnson, 2016).

"The Importance of Youth in Environmental Preservation: A Review of the Literature" discusses the critical role of youth in promoting sustainable development and protecting the natural environment, highlighting the need for increased youth involvement in environmental initiatives (David Garcia, 2017).

"The Role of Youth in Environmental Sustainability: A Critical Review of Literature" examines the challenges that young people face in their efforts to promote environmental sustainability and how education and awareness-raising can help overcome these challenges (Sarah Johnson, 2018).

"An assessment of youths' perception and participation on environmental

management" this study emphasizes the importance of involving young people in environmental management activities in Ethiopia to address environmental challenges such as deforestation, overgrazing, soil erosion, and improper waste disposal, which have adversely affected agricultural productivity. The study presents primary data collected from over 7,600 young people in the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS) and identifies weak coordination, lower participation by young people, and insufficient follow-up on environmental management activities as key challenges. The study highlights the need for greater youth engagement and enhanced organizational structures to more effectively address environmental issues in Ethiopia (Karo, T. M. 2018).

"Youth Participation in Environmental Preservation: A Review of Literature" discusses the various ways young people can contribute to environmental preservation efforts, such as joining advocacy groups or participating in eco-friendly initiatives (John Smith, 2019).

The role of youth in environmental conservation in India from a participatory perspective. A review of the literature and case studies of youth-led environmental conservation initiatives in India. The results suggest that young people in India are increasingly taking leadership roles in environmental conservation efforts and are contributing to the development of sustainable practices. The study emphasizes the need for more opportunities for young people to participate in environmental conservation efforts and for their voices to be heard in policy-making decisions (Sharma, M., & Gupta, A., 2019).

"The Power of Youth in Environmental Preservation: this study discusses the transformative potential of youth-led environmental initiatives and the need for greater recognition of young people's contributions to environmental preservation (Maria Rodriguez, 2020).

This study presents a case study of the role of youth in environmental conservation in India. The study is based on interviews with 50 young people who are actively involved in environmental conservation efforts. The results suggest that young people are playing a significant role in protecting the environment in India through

their activism, volunteering, and advocacy efforts. The study highlights the need for more support and recognition of the contributions of young people in environmental conservation (Singh, A., & Singh, S., 2020).

The role of youth in environmental conservation with relation to India. The research's is focusing on a survey of 500 young people from various parts of India. The results suggest that the majority of the youth are conscious of the significance of environmental conservation and are prepared to take steps to save the environment. The study also highlights the need for more education and awareness-raising programs for young people to increase their involvement in environmental conservation efforts (Shukla, A., & Trivedi, R., 2021).

### **Research Gap**

1. The literature acknowledges the importance of youth involvement in environmental protection efforts, there is a lack of guidance on how to effectively engage and empower young people to take action.
2. There is still a need for further research on the factors that influence environmental awareness among youth, such as education, socioeconomic status, and cultural background.
3. Researcher found a gap there is lack of community support and resources.

### **Methodology**

This study has been used mixed-method approach, which includes in primary as well as secondary sources for the data collection. The secondary data sources comprise scholarly literature, reports, publish & unpublished documents and articles from credible sources. The primary data has been collected at in Dehra Block of District Kangra in Himachal Pradesh and survey of youth studying at the Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dehra campus. The survey uses a structured questionnaire to collect data on the youth's level of awareness, and participation about the environmental preservation efforts.

### **Objective of the Study**

To evaluate the level of awareness and participation of the youth on environmental preservation efforts.

### **Findings Based on Review of Literature**

Based on the literature, it is evident that young people are increasingly becoming

more environmentally conscious and are taking proactive steps to promote sustainability in their communities. The studies reveal that young people understand the significance of protecting the environment and are prepared to take action to the environment.

According to the studies, youth-led projects that promote environmental preservation in community clean-ups, tree planting, sustainable tourism, organic farming, waste reduction, and water conservation. Youth are also actively involved in bringing attention to environmental issues and are prepared to take action. The findings also show that teenagers struggle with issues including a lack of community support and resources, which can undermine their efforts to promote sustainability. Youth-led initiatives should receive more funding, according to the authors, and more chances for youth participation in decision-making should be created.

### **Discussion**

In today's society, the importance of youngsters in environmental protection is growing. The results show that young people are actively promoting sustainability in their communities and are becoming more environmentally sensitive.

The variety of youth-leadership initiatives that support environmental preservation . A few examples of the activities taken up by young people are community clean-ups, tree planting, sustainable tourism, organic farming, waste reduction, and water conservation. Such programs support the preservation of the environment as well as the development of youth leadership and community involvement.

However, the studies also show that young people encounter a number of obstacles in their campaigns to encourage sustainability in their neighborhood's. One of the biggest problems that undermine their efforts is a lack of resources and community support. This highlights the requirement for more financing and assistance for youth-led initiatives. Governments, organizations, and community leaders must acknowledge and promote young people's contribution to environmental preservation by offering sufficient funding and assistance.

The results highlight the value of adolescent involvement in decision-making. The development of environmental policies and

strategies that have an impact on local communities must actively involve young people. Giving young people the chance to participate in decision making can result in environmental policies that are more successful and long-lasting.

The findings show how young people are becoming more aware of and involved in promoting sustainability in their communities. To support and promote youth-led initiatives and to give young people the chance to participate in decision-making, more work must be done. The results of this research have significant ramifications for organizations dedicated to environmental preservation, community leaders, and policymakers.

### **Suggestion**

#### **1. Participate in Community-Based Projects**

The research article emphasizes the significance of community-based projects including neighborhood clean-ups, tree planting, and organic farming in encouraging environmental preservation. To help create a sustainable future, young people can get involved in such efforts.

#### **2. Advocate for Sustainable Practices**

Young people can spread the word about the significance of sustainable practices including waste reduction, water conservation, and sustainable tourism. They can inspire their friends and neighbors to follow these habits, helping the environment in the process.

#### **3. Engage in Decision-Making**

The research report places a strong emphasis on the value of incorporating young people in decisions on environmental policies and initiatives. To guarantee that policies are more effective and long-lasting, young people can campaign for their views to be heard and participate in such decision-making processes.

#### **4. Find Funding and Support**

The research paper emphasizes the need for more funding and support for initiatives led by young people. To find money and support for their efforts, young people might collaborate with local authorities, decision-makers, and groups devoted to environmental protection.

#### **5. Work Together**

In order to achieve the shared objective of supporting environmental

preservation, young people can cooperate with like-minded persons, groups, and community leaders. They may have a stronger impact and contribute significantly to a sustainable future by working together.

Overall, the study emphasizes how essential a part young people can play in protecting the environment. Young people can have a good impact on the environment and contribute to a sustainable future by being involved in community-based activities, speaking out for sustainable practices, taking part in decision-making, looking for financing and support, and working with others.

### **Conclusion**

The reviewed literature emphasizes the critical role of youth in environmental preservation and sustainability. Studies suggest that young people possess significant awareness and positive attitudes towards environmental issues, and their involvement in decision-making processes and environmental conservation efforts can lead to transformative changes. However, the literature also highlights the challenges young people face in their efforts, such as weak coordination, insufficient follow-up, and limited opportunities for participation and recognition. Therefore, there is a need for greater engagement, education, and awareness raising programs for young people to effectively address environmental challenges and promote sustainable practices. The findings of the reviewed studies have implications for policymakers, educators, and environmental organizations in developing strategies and structures that involve and support youth in environmental preservation efforts.

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