

"Faced with a food and energy crisis, how can society improve its well-being?"

Summary

The exploitation of Earth resources has driven to a consciousness raising among the public opinion about the planet sustainability in the future.

We daily face with the unequal distribution of resources among the different part of the world.

It is our own duty to save all the possible resources avoiding their waste. As we can easily see in our private life there are several strategies that we can adopt to save some resources.

In order to face this, people mindset could be changed, new approaches could be adopted and new technologies should be employed.

The entire world is facing a general crisis in these days. But, what is this crisis about? Where does it come from? What are the causes? What are the consequences?

In addition to the real economic crisis, in these days we are feeling fear which is coming from the unknown. People feels that we cannot go on with our life at the same rate we are all used to (in the rich world). We start noticing the importance of resources when we miss them. By facing this, we start understanding that the way we live is not sustainable in the long period. The market, which is our first global network, is not stable and the balance is not lasting.

The continuous exploitation of Earth resources has driven to a consciousness raising among the public opinion about the real sustainable possibilities for the future of the planet.

There is a continuous and everyday more intense utilization of existing underground raw materials, misuse of energetic resources and a heavy production of rubbish and garbage. Besides there is a consistent generation of waste of resources that could be utilized once more or which could be employed better.

Wrong estimate about the potentialities of our own planet are common. It is because of low awareness among people about the real availability of resources and the unknown limit of them that the developed world, but also the new industrial countries, maintain a high exploitation rate of resources. This rate goes beyond the renewability rate of resources making the consumptions unsustainable.

What we assist daily is the unequal distribution of resources among the different part of the world. This causes a magnet effect that captures the majority of riches in the northern part of the world.

This development doesn't sufficiently consider the non-sustainability that follows it. If the developed countries keep on consuming at the actual rate, we are going to assist to a deeper and heavier impoverishment of those populations that are already struggling everyday against hunger.

Humanity should be looking at the world as a whole because the planet is one, and we are playing with its balances. The risk in the short term is an increase in hunger, in perceptions of needs, all things that lead to conflicts. In the long period our actual behaviour is going to bring the majority of the world population to poverty and to impossibility of satisfy the basic needs, lastly to make collapse the poor countries.

Resources like water, food and energy, which are vital for every living being, should be there in the next future. It is our own duty to save all the possible resources in order to avoid wastes. As we can easily see in our private life there are several strategies that we can adopt to set this goal.

In addition to familiar or private approaches that can be used, I think that something really good can be done by uniting the efforts at national or international level.

At international level there could be mediation among Governments for water preservation by rationing the water supply and distribution; the same could be done with electric energy. Planning a timetable of the supply of water and electric energy can limit the period during the day where these resources are available and therefore families would need to plan their use better. In this way we could save what otherwise would be wasted.

The most important thing is that people mindset can be changed; this is the point where we should start from. Focusing on people's mind is important because once people are aware, it can be easier to work together and to set common interest goals.

By adopting international measures like this, all people could easily notice those situations where they can intervene or where their attitude can be changed to avoid misuses.

When we talk about food production, I think that we need products that can better fit with those areas where the food production becomes difficult. Let's make an example with the so called "developing countries": during my journey among farmers in Kenya, I could observe and study that most of the times people grow what they are used to grow and eat, what it is common for them to eat as a food, instead of what the environment is ready to accept and that could produce better yields. For example in many places the harvest of maize is not good since the rainfall is reducing in the current years. Anyway, still people keep on planting the same seeds without considering that planting something that requires less water, like millet or sorghum, could save the harvest and could give them enough food until the following season. By combining the new technologies with good education plans people could understand the real advantages that implementing one technique instead of another one can bring to their life.

When considering the developed world, there are some inventions and technologies that could be combined to obtain some good results.

Let's think about energy: once I assisted to the presentation of an invention in the Italian television: there was a cyclist, and he was pedalling on his bike, which was connected with a current generator and, by the activity of cycling, the energy produced could enlighten a big Christmas tree (it was Christmas time by then). I was wondering if something similar could be applied to each and every gym, where people devour a lot of physical energy by moving some machines. What if we could utilize that energy, for example, for the electric lighting of the gym in itself or for other purposes? There could be a great energy saving.

What if every family could have one little exercise bicycle to train themselves and to produce some energy for household use too?