

## **TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:**

### **A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development is a continuous process that considers all human and natural resource as a means to achieve certain goals or objectives. This development process should not be contradictory with nature. So, sustainable development should be ecologically comfortable, economically viable and socially acceptable. Sustainable development refers to the process of development, through the judicious utilization of the natural resources, keeping in mind the needs of the future generations. Traditional or community knowledge refers to the knowledge possessed by different communities and societies all over the world. Traditional knowledge is empirical, is acquired through practice and experience and is therefore related to cultural and physical resources of the location. Community knowledge includes scientific knowledge that is the basis of industrial development and traditional knowledge and both have separately contributed in their own way towards the process of development of mankind. Industrialized societies rely mainly on scientific knowledge whereas others are rich in traditional knowledge. But, there is a need of integration of traditional knowledge and scientific knowledge of societies for sustainable development. To formulate policies for sustainable development will require a closer cooperation between scientists and the holders of traditional knowledge which include local people in general and indigenous people in particular. Now efforts are going on to collect local and indigenous knowledge with local problems and upgrading this knowledge for local use. This has resulted in the generation of employment and an overall elevation in the socio-economic status in selected areas.

**KEYWORDS:** Community Knowledge, Sustainable Development