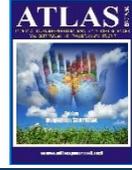




ATLAS INTERNATIONAL REFEREED JOURNAL ON SOCIAL SCIENCES

ISSN:2619-936X



Article Arrival Date:15.09.2018

Published Date:31.10.2018

2018 / October

Vol 4, Issue:13

Pp:1270-1280

Disciplines: Areas of Social Studies Sciences (Economics and Administration, Tourism and Tourism Management, History, Culture, Religion, Psychology, Sociology, Fine Arts, Engineering, Architecture, Language, Literature, Educational Sciences, Pedagogy & Other Disciplines in Social Sciences)

A RESEARCH ON THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF EU IN CREATING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AMONG THE SOCIETY

AB'NİN TOPLUMDA ÇEVRE BİLİNCİ OLUŞTURMASINDAKİ ROLÜ ve ÖNEMİ
ÜZERİNE BİR ARAŞTIRMA

Dr. Abdullah KARATAŞ

Niğde Ömer Halisdemir University, Department of Local Governments, Niğde, Turkey akaratas@ohu.edu.tr

Lecturer Koray ÇELİK

Aksaray University, International Relations Office, Aksaray, Turkey kooraycelik@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Global environmental issues are the major threat for the future of entire earth. Climate change, global warming, desertification, pollution, depletion of natural resources, loss of bio-diversity and natural habitat, ozone layer depletion and other similar issues take away the chances of future generations living in a healthy environment. The anthropogenic view is behind all these issues. There are serious efforts of the EU to address these problems and to create environmental awareness among the society. These efforts developed on a project basis shed light on many environmental issues. In line with such efforts, permanent solutions can be produced for environmental issues. In this study, the role and importance of the EU in creating environmental awareness among the society will be highlighted by giving different projects conducted by the EU.

Keywords: EU, Environmental Awareness, Global Environmental Issues, Environment, Community

ÖZET

Küresel çevre sorunları tüm dünyanın geleceği için büyük tehditler oluşturmaktadır. İklim değişikliği, küresel ısınma, çölleşme, kirlilik, doğal kaynakların yok olması, biyoçeşitliliğin doğal habitatın yok olması, ozon tabakasının delinmesi ve diğer benzer sorunlar gelecek nesillerin sağlıklı bir çevrede yaşama şanslarını elinden almaktadır. Antropojenik görüş ise tüm bu sorunların temelinde yer almaktadır. AB'nin, çevresel sorunlara yönelik toplumda çevre bilincinin oluşturulması bağlamında ciddi çabalar gösterdiği bilinmektedir. Proje tabanlı geliştirilen bu çabalar, birçok çevre sorununa ışık tutmaktadır. Yapılan faaliyetler doğrultusunda, çevre sorunlarına yönelik kalıcı çözümler üretilebilmektedir. Bu çalışma ile, AB'nin yapmış olduğu proje örnekleri çerçevesinde, AB'nin toplumda çevre bilinci oluşturmadaki rolü ve öneminin vurgulanması amaçlanmaktadır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: AB, Çevre Bilinci, Küresel Çevre Sorunları, Çevre, Toplum

1. THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES THREATENING THE FUTURE OF THE EARTH

Today global environmental issues are threatening the future of the earth. This is getting worse and worse. Environmental issues need to be eliminated at their source without further growth because each environmental issue is specific to the place where it emerges. Otherwise they will continue to be a global concern.

There are several issues of global concern, each of which is equally hazardous. More importantly, all these issues are related with each other by some or the other way, and hence, tackling them one by one has just become difficult. Some of the major global environmental issues affecting the future of the earth can be listed as follows (Anand, 2013: 4-5):

- ✓ Climate Change: Climate change has become more than obvious over the past decade, with nine years of the decade making it to the list of hottest years the planet has ever witnessed. The rise in temperature has also ensured that the equations on the planet have gone for a toss. Some of the most obvious signs of this include irregularities in weather, frequent storms, melting glaciers, rising levels of sea etc. Going by the prevailing conditions, it is not difficult to anticipate that the planet is heading for a dramatic climate change, some wherein, near, future.
- ✓ Conservation of Species: Yet another global environmental issue, species conservation basically deals with conservation of flora and fauna, in order to curb the extinction of species. Extinction of a single species of plant or animal results in a dramatic imbalance in the ecosystem, as a number of other species dependent on it directly or indirectly are also affected. Over the last century or so, several plants and animal species have become extinct thus resulting in a major loss for the biodiversity of the planet.
- ✓ Energy Crisis: The fact that we are largely dependent on fossil fuels for our energy requirements has made us significantly vulnerable to severe energy crisis. Though, quite a few renewable energy sources have been identified, none of them have been promising enough when it comes to replacement of fossil fuels as the major source of energy for mankind. Attempts to tap the full potential of these sources are in progress, and our future by and large depends on these attempts, as fossil fuels are on the verge of exhaustion.
- ✓ Exploitation of Natural Resources: Our greed for more has left us empty handed in terms of natural resources in several parts of the world. Several human activities, including the likes of mining, agriculture, fishing etc., has resulted in drastic degradation of our natural resources. While mining and agriculture have triggered large-scale deforestation, over fishing has only resulted in the reduction of population of marine creatures inhabiting the planet. If the trends continue, we are bound to exhaust those natural resources on which we are dependent, and thus dig our own graves.
- ✓ Land Degradation: Land pollution, owing to human activities, and desertification, due to loss of vegetation has left the surface of the planet unsuitable for human use. Land degradation can be attributed to the fact that we have become too laid-back in terms of preservation of the nature. Improper soil use, haphazard waste disposal, large-scale deforestation and other such human activities harmful for nature are on the rise, something which is invariably taking a toll on our natural surroundings.
- ✓ Land Use: Global environmental problems pertaining to the land are not just restricted to haphazard waste disposal or large-scale deforestation, but also to improper use of land. Natural environment is being destructed to make way for urban sprawl, which is indirectly resulting in loss of habitat for several species. Fragmentation of land owing to construction is also a major factor when it comes to improper land use. All these factors together result in several problems, including soil erosion, degradation of land and desertification.
- ✓ Nuclear Issues: Nuclear power does have high potential, but the problems associated with it are no less. Radioactive waste from nuclear power plants is one of the major problems we are likely to face, especially if safety regulations are not followed properly. Chernobyl tragedy has set an example of how nuclear waste can lead to disaster for mankind, and no one would like to see another Chernobyl happening. It doesn't end here as the threat of some nation diverting its nuclear power to produce nuclear arsenal is always looming over the mankind.

- ✓ **Overpopulation:** Yet another major global environmental issue is overpopulation. As the population of world continues to soar at an alarming rate, the pressure on the resources of the planet is increasing. These problems associated with overpopulation range from food and water crisis to lack of space for natural burial. Overpopulation also results in various other demographic hazards. Incessant population growth will not just result in depletion of natural resources, but will also put more pressure on the economy. After all sustaining a huge population requires quite a mammoth effort for a nation, as far as finance is concerned.
- ✓ **Pollution:** This is perhaps the most obvious, yet most ignored global environmental issue in this list of environmental problems. The term 'pollution' in itself have several other aspects, prominent ones among which include air pollution, water pollution and land pollution. On one hand air pollution can be attributed to the large amount of carbon dioxide pumped into the atmosphere by industries and vehicles, water pollution and land pollution is caused as a result of waste disposal from factories, oil-carrying vessels etc. Basically, mankind is to be blamed for this issue as our activities tend to hamper the environment at an alarming rate. If this trend continues, we will be very soon left without any fresh air to breathe, and clean water to drink.
- ✓ **Waste Management:** As population increases, human activities increase, which eventually increases the amount of waste produced. This waste doesn't just include those harmful gases let out in the atmosphere or toxic waste released in water bodies, but also includes nuclear waste, e-waste, medical waste and even the waste from our homes. With limited area available on the planet, and most of it being inhabited by us, we are left with no space to dispose this waste. The rate at which this waste is produced is far more than the rate at which it is being treated, and this just results in piling up of waste, which eventually pollutes the environment (Anand, 2013: 4-5).

All these environmental issues clearly show the anthropogenic impact on the environment. On the basis of these problems, there are unconscious behaviors of people towards the environment. However people need the environment to live and adequate attention to the environment requires environmental awareness.

2. THE CONCEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Modern environmental awareness as we know it arose following the Industrial Revolution, a period of rapid technological and industrial advances between the mid-18th century and the mid-19th century. In particular, air pollution in the form of smoke from coal began to be a concern for many Britons, especially in large cities like London. This prompted Parliament to pass a series of laws throughout the 19th century aimed at reducing air-borne pollutants. The greatest thrust for environmental awareness came with the Romantic Movement in the first half of the 19th Century. An intellectual and artistic movement that rejected urbanization and industrialization, Romanticism stressed emotion, mysticism, and spirituality, but also nature. The movement prompted and artists to return their attention to the beauty and value of nature. With this came early conservation movements. In Great Britain, organizations such as the Commons Preservation Society were formed to protect rural areas from the effects of industrialization (Sullivan, 2003). At this point, the Stockholm Conference held under the auspices of UN is of great importance on environmental awareness.

The role of the UN Stockholm Conference on Human Environment (1972) in furthering public awareness for the protection of environment has been of great importance. Some of the proposals adopted in the Conference are indicative of the increased concern for environment among nations; for instance, the fact that the protection and the improvement of the environment is the responsibility of humanity, that the real protection necessitates careful planning and management, that the capacity for recycling the existing world resources should

be increased, that a decreased use of non-renewable resources is required, that the natural environment should be carefully utilized, and that the air, water and sea resources should be protected. The Conference also drew attention to the possibility of using regional planning as a tool in alleviating the environmental problems. And it insisted that countries should not attempt to use their efforts concerning the environment as an excuse for the implementation of discrimination foreign trade policies or for the limitation of other countries' possibilities to compete in international markets, and they should not transfer the economic burden of their environmental policies, directly or indirectly, to developing countries. As a general rule no country can solve its own environmental problems or neglect their solutions at the expense of other countries (Keleş, 2013).

Environmental awareness is to understand the fragility of our environment and the importance of its protection. Promoting environmental awareness is an easy way to become an environmental steward and participate in creating a brighter future for our children (Pachamama Alliance Official Website, 2018). It is the sensitivity to the total environment and its allied problems. The development of environmental awareness means to understand the environmental problems and to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skill in the people (Sengupta, Das & Maji, 2010). According to European Environment Information and Observation Network environmental awareness is expressed as a concept as follows (EIONET, 2018): The growth and development of awareness, understanding and consciousness toward the biophysical environment and its problems, including human interactions and effects. Thinking "ecologically" or in terms of an ecological consciousness. The term means being aware of the natural environment and making choices that benefit rather than hurt the earth we all live on. It means being mindful of the natural environment and making economic choices that aren't harmful to the physical earth. For example, this might mean purchasing a glass or ceramic water bottle instead of using disposable plastic water bottles: plastic takes an incredibly long time to break down, and a significant percentage of plastic makes it to the oceans, where it kills plant and animal life. It might also involve using an all-natural hair-care product, instead of a can of aerosol spray containing toxic chemicals (Sullivan, 2003).

Environmental awareness proves important functions for several reasons; it fosters a sense of connection to the natural world, promotes sustainable development, encourages conservation of irreplaceable natural resources and vulnerable plant and animal species. Environmental awareness essentially serves as an educational tool, helping people around the world understand the economic, aesthetic and biological importance of preserving resources and reducing or eliminating the harmful impacts of man-made alterations. Environmental awareness helps people understand the consequences of human activities on various lands and identifies remedial solutions (Moss, 2016).

Environmental awareness is a key concept to preventing environmental issues. Environmentally conscious individuals will not be the cause of environmental issues but will be a part of their solution because they will protect the environment and will give their best efforts to leave a safer world for future generations.

3. EU AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN EUROPEAN UNION TREATIES

The European Union, which was established with the aim of ending bloody wars between European countries, aims to provide basic values and principles for its member countries and citizens. These values and principles are states as below (citizensinformation.ie);

- ✓ Protecting the human rights and freedom,
- ✓ Maintaining equality and solidarity,

- ✓ Providing justice and security,
- ✓ Maintaining the prosperity and quality of life,
- ✓ Providing competitive economy and social progress,

It seems that the aims of EU are mostly depend on the well-being of countries and its citizens within the Union. Well-structured law, competitive economy and the policies to ensure prosperity of life are essential to provide the suitable conditions for the aims stated above. It is a well known fact that almost all of these aims can be fulfilled thanks to a clean and healthy environment.

It is known that today's EU is based on founding treaties. These treaties negotiated and ratified by the member states. Treaty of Paris (1951) and Treaty of Rome (1957) were the founding treaties. These founding treaties didn't have any regulations on environmental issues. EU left environmental issues on member states' own authority, however the principle of "free competition" among EU member states was affected by environmental problems that's the reason why EU recognized the necessity of dealing with environmental issues as an Union policy. The problems regarding environmental issues in EU seems to affect Union on political and social aspects. These problems and actions taken by EU against these problems are stated as below (European Commission, Environment);

- Different environmental policies among member states leads to deterioration of environmental problems. EU supports diversity within the Union, such as linguistic diversity, cultural diversity, but the diversity of policies for controlling environmental problems make the process gradually worsen.
- Inadequate and irregular investments against environmental pollutions among member states do not support the activities to control environmental problems. EU tries to control the process so; adequate and regular investments among EU member states is necessary.
- Improving the quality of life and living standards is the fundamental function of EU so it is necessary to take the environmental issues under control. EU, with Single European Act, put the environmental issues on treaty.

The "environment" as a policy space didn't take place within the framework of EU treaties until the entry into force of the Single European Act in 1986. The Single European Act's 25th article has a title "Environment" under this article the following objectives are stated (Single European Act);

- Preserving, protecting and improving the quality of environment,
- Contributing to protect human health,
- Ensuring prudent and rational utilization of natural resources,
- Preventive actions should be taken to control environmental problems,
- Scientific and technical data should be use to control the environmental controls,
- EU should cooperate with third countries and relevant international organizations.

The Maastricht Treaty, signed in 1992, introduced a new stage on European integration. European Economic Community transformed into European Union with Maastricht Treaty. It can be understood that economy is no longer the leading interest of the Union. The objectives of the EU extended, environment is became one of the interest of EU. Environmental issues in Maastricht Treaty, like The Single European Act, aims to provide respectable and sustainable environmental protection (Spießhofer, 2: 27). Maastricht Treaty strengthened EU's commitment to environmental protection and also reinforced the process of environmental protection to integrated into EU policies (Wilkinson, 1992). Article 2 in Maastricht Treaty

explicitly highlight the fact that EU should pay attention to balanced harmonious development of economy together with sustainable environment and employment. These are necessary for raising the standard of living within the Union. Another significant point regarding Maastricht Treaty's effect on environmental issues is stated in Article 130d. This article emphasizes that before 31 December 1993 European Council should set up a Cohesion Fund to provide financial contribution for the projects in the field of environment (Maastricht Treaty, 1992).

Country's economic and environmental objectives always seen contradictory to each other but in fact these two fields complement each other. As globalization process started to show itself in many fields of the society, such as; politics, economy, environment, education, culture, and social life, EU started to transform its policies from regional to global level. It is known that many job sectors in EU, such as; forestry, animal husbandry, agriculture, tourism depend in a way on environment. According to a research titled "EU environment policy supporting jobs and growth" made by European Commission environment has a broader concept including; economy, politics, education, health, etc. The investments and environmental activities such as; funding environmental projects, supporting environmental non-governmental organisations are significant and meaningful policies towards raising environmental awareness (EU Commission, 2011).

3.1. The Structure of EU Dealing with Environmental Issues

Environment Directorate General of the European Commission ('DG Environment') was established in 1973 within the structure of EU. The primary functions of the Commission are to protect and improve environment for the present and future generations. From the beginning of its establishment the Commission has been dealing with legislations and policies to improve knowledge on environmental pollutions, as well as to provide sustainable production and consumption for sustainable environmental policies (Environment Directorate of EU Commission).

Since 1972, after Stockholm Conference, EU set seven Environmental Action Programmes. Although each Action Programme has some priority areas all have common objectives. These objectives can be summarized as (Halmaghi, 2016: 87-90);

- prevent and reduce environmental problems for maintaining quality and healthy life,
- provide balance in ecological life,
- efficient and rational use of non-renewable natural resources,
- implementation of innovative technology in environmental protection,
- provide sustainable environment for a competitive and sustainable economy,

to achieve all the objectives stated above, public awareness on environmental issues seems the best solution. EU tries to create public awareness by funding environmental projects.

4. LIFE PROGRAMME AND SAMPLE BEST PRACTICE PROJECTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Public consciousness about environmental threats grew rapidly during the late 1980's. It can be understood that the reason of this consciousness is overwhelmingly deal with the effects of large scale environmental disasters. Chernobyl catastrophe focused attention on the need for higher levels of environmental protection. Furthermore, issues such as the holes in the ozone layer and global warming prompted an acceleration in European environmental awareness. EU started to accelerate the policy-making and institution-building activities. Although global awareness to environmental issues started late, EU financial assistance for nature conservation was first made available in the early 1980's. "The Life Programme", managed by European Commission, is the name of the EU's funding programme for environmental actions. These

actions are mostly including; environmental protection and education. The fundamanetal purposes of the Life Programme are; implementation and development of environmental projects. It is highlighted that, 4500 projects within Europe were co-financed since 1992. LIFE Programme has four cycle; LIFE I (1992-1995), LIFE II (1996-1999), LIFE III (2000-2006), LIFE+ (2007-2013). It is stated that €3,4 billion will be contirbute for Life Programme's 2014-2020 period. European Commission announced in 1 June 2018 that for 2021-2027 funding for Life Programme will be increased by almost %60. The Single European Act, adopted in 1986, along with the Fifth Environment Action Programme made environmental issues the agenda of EU. Moreover, after these two process LIFE Programme became EU tool for implementation of environmental policies. (ec.europa.eu).

LIFE Programme has a catalyzator role for the development and implementation of EU environmental law and policies. LIFE Programme has been divided into three thematic parts according to its activity field. These three activity fields are categorized with the following names; LIFE Environment, LIFE-Nature and Biodiversity, LIFE-Third Countries (Batal, 2010).

LIFE+ Environment thematic section offering the funding for the folowing project area; air, water and noise pollution, environmental management, energy related projects, projects reducing the environmental impacts of goods and services, urban design and transport planning, controlling natural risks. The EU Commission's official webpage of LIFE Programme also provide publications and best practises. EU policies for environmental issues seen as EU's success stories in terms of its benefits for nature and citizens. EU's efforts and activities on sustainable environment accepted as soft power. As a sample LIFE Environment project two different sample project will be shared (EU Commission, Life Programme);

4.1.Good Practise Project of LIFE Environment Programme: MAPEC_LIFE-Monitoring air pollution effects on children for supporting Public Health Policy

The environmental issues addressed through this project are; risk management for air pollution and human health protection. The primary purpose of the projects is to monitor the effects of air pollution on children. The duration of the project is: 01 January 2014 to 31 December 2016. Total budget of the project is 2,246,502.00 €. The amount of EU contribution for the project is; 1,112,189.00 €. 26 urban school were identified within the context of the project and total 1149 children were evaluated during the projects. University of Brescia is the coordinator and beneficiary of the project, which specialises in the study of environmental health risks, including the evaluation of genotoxic risks, the development of cancer and cardiovascular diseases. The background description of the project is highlighted that in 2005, an estimated 5 million years of life were lost due to fine particle pollution in 32 European countries. It is added that several epidemiological studies have demonstrated the association between exposure to air pollution and mortality and morbidity in humans. The objectives of the project are stated as below (MAPEC_LIFE Project);

- To assess the concentrations of certain organic compounds in the air in some Italian towns,
- To investigate children's exposure to other indoor and outdoor airborne pollutants, via a questionnaire filled in by the children's parents;
- To study the relationship between the concentration of air pollutants and air mutagenicity and toxicity;
- To assess early effect biomarkers in oral mucosa cells from the children;
- To carry out a risk analysis of carcinogenic effects based on environmental data;

- To compare the results of the risk-analysis model (“expected”) with the early effect biomarkers actually found in the children (“observed”).

Healthy environment is crucial for the well-being of county and its citizens. Environmental legislations of EU safeguards citizens health. It is stated that %99 of drinkable water that supplied in EU is safe and quality with the successful environmental policies of EU (Strategic Plan 2016-2020). According to the EU health policy; EU has role on the protection and improvement of EU citizen’s health. From this perspective, environmental protection has strict ties with human health. Thus, environmental issues not just related with the clean environment for some group of people. Environmental issues must be in the agenda of all country national policies (EU Health Policy).

The project, MAPEC_LIFE, aims at finding solutions for air pollution to stop its effects on human health. Project seems to have a multidimensional objectives. EU funding innovative, dimensional projects that has added value in a global meaning. The expected impact of the study is; possible and potential risks to the health of the population as a result of daily exposure to pollutants. The expected impact of the project is directly dealing with the health of citizens. In this way, it can be seen that the expected impact of the project is compatible with EU Environmental Action Programme, EU legislation on environment and LIFE Programme.

4.2. Good Practise Project of LIFE Environment Programme: “SUN lights the way for community engagement in spatial planning”

The project “SUN lights the way for community engagement in spatial planning” is funded by European Union LIFE Programme. The total budget of the project is: €1.824 000. LIFE Programme contributed €910.000. The primary aim of the project is to help regions and municipalities to tackle environmental challenges. The implementation and expected results of the project creating public awareness. It is a well known fact that green space is an integral and vital element of the urban environment. Many urban areas contain zones such as; parks, wetlands or woodlands. These areas are very important for the people living in urban cities. The management of these zones in the face of conflicting social, economic and environmental needs is one challenge facing local authorities. The LIFE Environment SUN project, run by the London Borough of Sutton, showed how stakeholder participation tools could be used to improve management of urban green spaces and creating tools for developing Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) with community groups and engaging local communities (SUN lights the way for community engagement in spatial planning Project).

At the activity section of the projects it is seen that school students and locals participated to the project. Groups of young people reshaped riverbanks and planted suitable food at the green spaces. The young people received practical training for these activities and also developed their skills and confidence through the activities. School children planted crops at their school garden and later ate a harvest meal with what they had grown. Another micro-project involved schools, local groups and residents in restoring and enhancing the green space around a river. They planted wildflowers and native trees in road verges and grounds and put up boxes for bats, birds and bees. A pack of walk activities was developed to encourage children and families to take greater notice of wildlife along the river. The SUN project demonstrates to other local and regional authorities what can be achieved in terms of coherent strategies and action in support of biodiversity in fragmented urban green spaces (SUN lights the way for community engagement in spatial planning Project).

It can be seen that project has a multidimensional purposes; aims to integrating local people and local authorities for the management of green spaces and also teach them protecting

biodiversity in these green spaces. Students, locals and local authorities work together to create a better environment. It is stated that with regard to integrate locals to the project; conferences, open days, workshops, individual meetings and training events were organized. These activities teach locals how to behave towards environment and the practical activities teach the locals to be friend with the environment.

The funding of these projects help local and regional authorities to create awareness. It just like the famous proverb: “You give a poor man a fish and you feed him for a day. You teach him to fish and you give him an occupation that will feed him for a lifetime.” If government and policy makers teach people how to protect environment it will be more useful than legislations.

5. CONCLUSION

The world population continues to expand in an unpredictable way, global environmental challenges become more pressing so much more action is needed to be taken to control environmental problems. Unless humankind change their arrogant attitudes towards the natural world, humankind and nature will be destroyed. There are many scientific indications and substitutive documents that alarm us for the forthcoming environmental hazards. The key executives, policy makers and administrators have to take required precautions as soon as possible. In today's global world, national and regional efforts towards environmental problems are not enough. As the ecologist Rachel Carson enlightened people many years ago on environmental dangers through her renowned book “Silent Spring” public needs new awakening from the darkness of social blindness. Carson suggested that new strategies should be adopted for the conservation of nature. Instead of chemical tools biological approach to the environmental issues should be adopted. It is a well known fact that consequences spread very quickly. When one part is affected it quickly spread throughout the community. That's why global solutions for the environmental problem is required.

EU plays a key role as a global actor within the world. EU makes policies on environmental issues since 1980's. From the beginning of its establishment EU united countries mainly on economics, trade, education and many other field. EU took environment to its agenda because it is seen as a danger for the Union. Globalization turned the danger into disaster that's why EU urgently adopted Environmental Action Programmes. The latest Action Programme is 7th Environmental Action Programme which will continue till 2020. It is known that nature is not static so when a solution find for an environmental issues it doesn't mean that problem is solved. From this perspective, instead of finding solution for each problem it is important to find a strategy. It will be better for finding permanent solutions for the problems. EU seems to recognize this fact because EU tries to integrate; education, training, economy and technology to compete with environmental issues. European Union projects are one of the tool for this integration processes.

Funding projects is a successful way to designate the problem entirely. Logical framework analysis is a phase of many scientific projects. Funding project has a multidimensional results, thus funding doesn't mean giving money for a scientific process. EU funding LIFE Programme to ensure future generation and its citizens health. There are many benefits of these projects. Primary benefit is the good practises. Thanks to the good practises government and policy makers can see some realities. Another benefit is creating awareness on people. Most of the time creating awareness is very difficult by education, seminars or conferences but projects prepare the most suitable atmosphere for people to aware of the issues.

REFERENCES

Anand, S. V. (2013). Global Environmental Issues. 2 (632): 1-9.

- EIONET-European Environment Information and Observation Network. (2018). Environmental Awareness <https://www.eionet.europa.eu/gemet/en/concept/2778>
- Keleş, R. (2013). Urban Planning and Bio-environmental Policy. <https://biopolitics.gr/biowp/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Keles.pdf>
- Moss, H. (2016). What Is the Importance of Environmental Awareness?. Webpage: <https://www.quora.com/What-is-the-importance-of-environmental-awareness>
- Pachamama Alliance Official Website, (2018). Environmental Awareness. Webpage: <https://www.pachamama.org/environmental-awareness>
- Sengupta, M., Das, J. & Maji, P. M. (2010). Environmental Awareness and Environment Related Behaviour of Twelfth Grade Students in Kolkata: Effects of Stream and Gender. Webpage: <http://rkmbcerahara.org/pdf/1270471914anwesa.pdf>.
- Sullivan, N. (2003). Environmental Awareness: Definition, History & Importance Webpage: <https://study.com/academy/lesson/environmental-awareness-definition-history-importance.html>
- Single European Act. (1987). Official Journal of the European Communities, Webpage:<https://eurlex.europa.eu/legalcontent/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:11986U/TXT&from=EN>, retrieved on 12/9/2018.
- Spießhofer, B. Maastricht and the Environment: German Perspective. Webpage: <https://europainstitut.de/fileadmin/schriften/325.pdf>, retrieved on 12/9/2018.
- Wilkinson, D. (1992). Maastricht and the environment: The implications for the EC's environment policy of the treaty on European Union. *Journal of Environmental Law*, Vol:4, Issue:2, p:221-239, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1093/jel/4.2.221>.
- Maastricht Treaty. (1992). Official Publications of the European Communities. Webpage: https://europa.eu/europeanunion/sites/europa.eu/files/docs/body/treaty_on_european_union_en.pdf, retrieved on 10/9/2018.
- Citizensinformation.Web:http://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government_in_ireland/european_government/european_union.html, retrieved on 10/9/2018.
- European Commission, Environment. Webpage: https://europa.eu/european-union/topics/environment_en,
- EU Commission Publication Office. "EU environment policy supporting jobs and growth" DOI: 10.2779/7532. retrieved on 12/9/2018.
- Environment Directorate General of the European Commission, Webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/basics/home_en.htm, retrieved on 12/9/2018.
- Halmaghi, E. (2016). Environmental Action Programmes of the European Union- Programmes supporting the sustainable development strategy of the European Union. De Gruyter. Web: <https://www.degruyter.com/downloadpdf/j/bsaft.2016.21.issue-2/bsaft-2016-0040/bsaft-2016-0040.pdf>, retrieved on 9/9/2018.
- Batal, S. (2010). Avrupa Birliği çevre politikalarının temel özellikleri. *Mevzuat Dergisi*. Webpage: <https://www.mevzuatdergisi.com/2010/04a/06.htm>, retrieved on 12/9/2018.
- MAPEC_LIFE Project. European Commission LIFE Programme. Webpage: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/project/Projects/index.cfm?fuseaction=search.dspPage&n_proj_id=4512, retrieved on 11/9/2018.

SUN lights the way for community engagement in spatial planning Project. European Commission LIFE Programme. Webpage: [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/lifefocus/documents/local_uthorities.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/life/publications/lifepublications/lifefocus/documents/local_authorities.pdf), retrieved on 10/9/2018.

EU Health Policy. European Commission Official Web page: https://ec.europa.eu/health/policies/overview_en, retrieved on 12/9/2018.

Strategic Plan 2016-2020 DG Environment. (2016). EU Commission Publication Office. Webpage: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/strategic-plan-2016-2020-dg-env_march2016_en.pdf, retrieved on 12/9/2018.

