


EKU EASTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
Living with Animals

Session: Caring for Animals I
Thursday
March 21, 2019
3:50pm - 4:10pm
Room AB



THE ANIMAL IN THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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Living with Animals
some we love, some we hate, some we eat, some we need

"The first principle of conservation is sustainable development, the use of the natural resources now existing on this continent for the benefit of the people who live here now."

Gifford Pinchot, The Fight for Conservation. 1910
(New York: Doubleday, Page & Company), 43.

and the current SDGs are no exception to this.

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United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Conference)
Stockholm, Sweden
June 5-16, 1972

Principle 2
"The **natural resources of the earth**, including the air, water, land, flora and fauna and especially representative samples of natural ecosystems, **must be safeguarded for the benefit of present and future generations** through careful planning or management, as appropriate."

http://www.un.org/en/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/CONF.48/14/REV.1

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UN environment

United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (Stockholm Conference)
Stockholm, Sweden
June 5-16, 1972

Principle 2

"In the developing countries most of the environmental problems are caused by under-development...
Therefore developed countries must direct their efforts to development, bearing in mind their priorities and the need to safeguard and improve the development."

management, as appropriate.

http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/CONF.48/14/REV.1

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Our_Common_Future#/media/File:Our_Common_Future_book_cover.gif

UN environment

1987 Brundtland Commission Report

OUR COMMON FUTURE
THE WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

"The loss of plant and animal species can greatly limit the options of future generations; so sustainable development requires the conservation of plant and animal species."

<http://www.un-documents.net/our-common-future.pdf>

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Summit#/media/File:Flag_of_the_United_Nations.svg

Principle 7

States shall cooperate in a spirit of global partnership to conserve, protect and restore the health and integrity of the Earth's ecosystem. In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have different responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.


The Rio Declaration
Principles

UN Conference on Environment & Development
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
3 to 14 June 1992

[http://www.un.org/documents/esa/esaconf151/aconf15126.1annex1.htm](http://www.un.org/documents/esa/esaconf/151/aconf15126.1annex1.htm)

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth_Summit#/media/File:Flag_of_the_United_Nations.svg



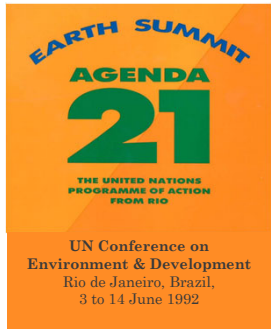
Principle 1

Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development.
They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature.

UN Conference on Environment & Development
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
3 to 14 June 1992

<http://www.un.org/documents/ga/conf/151/aconf15126.1annex1.htm>

SECTION II. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENT



Agenda 21 – Chapter 15
CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

"Biological resources constitute a **capital asset** with great potential for yielding sustainable benefits"

UN Conference on Environment & Development
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil,
3 to 14 June 1992

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf>

WE CAN END POVERTY
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND BEYOND 2015



2015 MDGs

"We reaffirm our support for the principles of sustainable development, including those set out in Agenda 21, agreed upon at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development."

<http://www.un.org/millennium/declaration/ares552e.htm>

WE CAN END POVERTY
MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS AND BEYOND 2015

Target 7.A:
Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and development and reverse the loss of species and natural resources. Prudence must be shown in the management of all living species and natural resources. Only in this way can the immeasurable riches provided to us by nature be preserved and passed on to our descendants. The current unsustainable patterns of production and consumption must be changed in the interest of our future welfare and that of our descendants.

Target 7.C:
Halve, by 2015, the proportion of the population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

Target 7.D:
Achieve, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

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Sustainable Development Goals

Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

https://pba.twimg.com/profile/images/061541041875739326/KcrowdChill_000x400.jpg

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Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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The Animal in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Session: Caring for Animals I Thursday March 21, 2019 3:50pm - 4:10pm Room AB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet in room at 3:15pm 	3:30 – 3:50 (3:45) Linda Brant: Monument or Anti-Monument? Reflections the Creation of a Monument for Animals We Do Not Mourn 3:50 – 4:10 (4:05) Bob Sandmeyer: The Animal in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 4:10 – 4:30 (4:25) Samantha Hunter: The Surfacing of the Absent Referents of Meat in NC after Hurricane Florence
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1. Cover

- Thank you.
- Introduction
 - Bob Sandmeyer
 - Department of Philosophy
 - University of Kentucky
 - Love this conference
 - Very happy to be here to discuss the place of the animal or of animal life in sustainability development goals

2. *Living with Animals – Thesis*

- I work in Sustainability Studies
 - Particularly concerned with the coherence **sustainability understood as sustainable development**
- **THESIS**
 There is a **consistent and almost unvarying valuation** of the animal or animal life in the history of global sustainable development documentation
 - Sustainable development explicitly values:
 - Nature as resource
 - Animal life as resource
 - **Resourcism**
 - Instrumental valuation
 - **Means to an end**
 - Nature
 - Animal life
 - If nature / animal life is a means to an end, what is this end?
 - Animal life doesn't have value in itself
 - What is that for the sake of which nature / animal life finds it value

- **End = Humanity, of course**
 - end, Cf. Kant, 2nd Practical Principle of the Will:
 - "Formula of the End In Itself"
 - Act in such a way that you treat humanity, whether in your own person or in the person of another, always at the same time as an end and never simply as a means. (Ak. 429)
 - Animal life, the environment (generally)
 - Instrumental to the needs of human survival / flourishing
- ***Pinchot quote (1910)***
 - Beyond scope of this analysis
 - Talk focused on UN Sustainable Development Goals
 - Pinchot important to consider
 - Well-known split among conservationist in early 20th century
 - Conservation *qua* sustainable development
 - Note the temporal restriction Pinchot insists upon
 - Conservation *qua* preservation
 - Husbanding of scenic areas of great intrinsic value

3. **Stockholm Conference (1972)**

- Current **SDGs are rooted in work dating back to 1972 Stockholm Conference**
 - Stockholm:
 - UN's first major conference on international environmental issues
- Two things worth note
 - Resourcist conceptualization of flora and fauna
 - Protectionist *qua* preservationist language
 - Temporal dimension
 - Present AND Future generations

4. **Developing countries**

- Sustainability *qua* sustainable development
 - A growth paradigm
 - Development of resources for the sake of eradicating human suffering
 - Sustainability:
 - Maintenance of the resource

- "Poor to poor to be green"

5. 1987 Brundtland Commission Report – Our Common Future

- *THE* definition of sustainable development
 - Clear instrumentalization of animal and plant life
 - For the sake of
 - Present generations
 - **Future** generations
- Implicit Post-materialist Thesis
 - With development, i.e., wealth, a culture **turns attention from basic material needs to environmental deterioration** (amelioration thereof)

6. Rio Earth Summit (1992)

- 20 years after Stockholm Conference; 5 years after Brundtland
 - Principal themes:
 - Environment
 - Sustainable Development
 - Principle outcomes
 - Agenda 21 (Agenda for the 21st century)
 - the Statement of Forest Principles
 - the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
 - the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
 - **the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**
- **Principle 7** (of 27 principles) of Declaration
 - Laid the ground for the future sustainable development goals
 - Resource Management Philosophy
 - Conserve
 - qua develop sustainably
 - Preserve
 - Resource value
 - Restore
 - Explicit post-materialist imperative
 - Development for the sake of sustainability of resource

7. Rio Earth Summit (1992)

- Principle 1
 - Sustainable development is development for the sake of humanity

8. **Agenda 21 – Rio Earth Summit (1992)**

- Concern for the animal / animal life
 - Subordinated to concerns for biodiversity
- Biodiversity
 - A capital asset

9. **2015 Millennium Development Goals**

- An extension of earlier international efforts
 - Rooted in Agenda 21 (1992)
 - Rooted in Brundtland Commission (1987)
 - Rooted in Stockholm Conference (1972)
- The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) include **8 goals, 21 targets and 60 indicators for measuring progress between 1990 and 2015**, when the goals are expected to be met.
 - MDGs: 2000 – 2015
 - SDGs: 2015 – 2030
- Clear hierarchical structure
 - Goals
 - Targets
 - Indicators

10. **Goal 7 – Ensure Environmental Sustainability**

- 4 targets
 - Only 7b deals with animal life in a relatively explicit way
 - Biodiversity
 - "a capital asset" – Agenda 21
- "Respect for Nature"
 - Appearance
 - Inherent worth of nature
 - Consistent Valuation
 - Resourcist conception
 - Value for the sake of
 - Future welfare
 - Future generations

11. **2030 SDGs**

- Currently operating
 - 17 goals

- 169 targets
- A plethora of indicators
- Adopted at United Nations summit in New York
 - 25 - 27 September 2015

12. The 17 goals

- 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets
 - A number of goals indirectly address animal life
 - As was true of earlier goals and agendas

13. Two Directly Relevant to Our Concern

- The Two
 - Life on Land
 - Life below Water
- Examination of Goals & Targets
 - a **consistent and almost unvarying valuation** of the animal or animal life

14. Anthropocentric Valuation of Animal Life

- The animal, i.e., the natural resource
 - For the sake of
 - Needs of the present generation
 - Needs of future generations

14. Thesis / Conclusion

- Clear Line from
 - 1972 Stockholm Conference
 - 2015 SDGs
- Further back, if
 - Pinchot
 - American conservation philosophy emanating from him
- The Animal / Animal life
 - Instrumental valuation:
 - Value for the sake of humanity
 - Existing today
 - Not yet existing