SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF LEATHER VALUE CHAIN

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - DEFINITION

• ‘SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS SUCH DEVELOPMENT THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE PRESENT WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR OWN DEMANDS’

• UN IN 2015 ADOPTED SDG AS

• ‘A CALL TO ITS MEMBERS TO TAKE ACTION TO END POVERTY, PROTECT THE PLANET AND ENSURE PEOPLE ENJOYING PEACE AND PROSPERITY BY 2030’
KEY CHALLENGES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

• GLOBAL POPULATION GROWTH
• GROWING INEQUALITY IN BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
• STRONG ARM LEADERS – INCREASING SOCIAL STRIFE
• UNBRIDLED ECONOMIC GROWTH – SERIOUS THREAT TO PLANET – CLIMATE CHANGE
LEATHER VALUE CHAIN (LVC)

• HIDES AND SKINS / BOVINE AND OVINE
• TANNING
• DOWNSTREAM PRODUCTS- FOOTWEAR, GARMENTS, LEATHER GOODS, ETC
• SUSTAINABILITY TO BE EXAMINED W.R.T. MATERIALS / PRODUCTION PROCESS /HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT/ ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION / SOCIETAL ADVANCEMENT
RAW MATERIALS

• HIDES AND SKINS / BOVINE AND OVINE
• PRIMITIVE METHODS OF SLAUGHTER
• INHUMAN TREATMENT OF ANIMALS IN TRANSPORT
• UNHYGIENIC AND BARBARIC SLAUGHTER IN CITIES
• UNCLEAN ENVIRONMENT, HAPHAZARD DISPOSAL OF BYPRODUCTS SUCH AS BLOOD, TAILS, HEAD AND ENTRAILS
RAW MATERIALS (CONTD)

• UNSAFE MEAT PACKAGING
• NON UTILISATION OF GOVERNMENT SCHEMES FOR MODERNISATION OF S.H.s
• SUSTAINABILITY THREATENED BY – PETA AND SIMILAR NGOs / FOREIGN BUYERS SEEKING CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN
• SOME INITIATIVES TAKEN, NOT PURSUED
PRESERVATION OF HIDES AND SKINS

• SODIUM CHLORIDE – COMMON PRACTICE
• DISCHARGED WITH SOAK LIQUOR – HIGH TDS
• TECHNOLOGY FOR TDS REMOVAL IN EFFLUENT QUITE EXPENSIVE
• RESULTANT MIXED SALT – DISPOSAL ISSUE
• SMALL TANNERS FIND O&M PROHIBITIVE
• IS THIS A SUSTAINABLE PRACTICE?
• CLRI DEMONSTRATION OF ALTERNATIVES
• UNLESS TANNERS ARE DETERMINED, NO ALTERNATIVES WILL EMERGE
TANNING- SOME FEATURES

• DOMINANCE OF SMALL & MEDIUM TANNERS
• LOW LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY – LOW PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY – LOW UNIT VALUE REALISATION
• 65% BY WEIGHT OF RAW MATERIAL IS GENERATED AS SOLID WASTE- HAPHAZARD DISPOSAL
• HIGH WATER USAGE – 25-40 L/KG
TANNING - CONTINUED

• POOR QUALITY CHEMICALS – 85% DISCHARGED WITH EFFLUENT
• SEMI LITERATE WORKERS – POOR OSH
• RESISTANCE TO CHANGE
• POLLUTION INTENSITY GOING UP

ABOUT 45% LEATHER PRODUCED IN MODERN TANNERIES RIVALLING BEST IN THE WORLD
TANNING - SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES

- LOSS OF CHEMICALS – INCREASING TDS
- QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVITY
- WATER SCARCITY
- ENERGY EFFICIENCY
- SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
- LIQUID WASTE MANAGEMENT – ZLD
- OSH OF WORKERS
- LWG – GRADATION OF TANNERIES
- CLRI – TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES
DOWNSTREAM PRODUCTS

• GENERALLY MODERN FACTORIES, COMPLIANT WORK PLACES – KEY CHALLENGES ARE:
  • MATERIAL – AVAILABILITY LIKELY TO BE STATIC
  • HUMAN RIGHTS
  • OSH OF WORKERS – DUST/FUMES/M/C SAFETY
  • SOLID WASTE – USE/ SAFE DISPOSAL
  • DESIGN AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
  • QUALITY AND PRICE
  • ENERGY EFFICIENCY
HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

- MEETING GLOBAL TRADE REQUIREMENTS
- INCREASED LEVEL OF WORKER EDUCATION
- EXPOSURE TO SOCIAL MEDIA
- RISE IN EXPECTATIONS
- NEED TO TAKE ONE STEP MORE THAN LEGAL PROVISIONS – MAKE WORKERS FEEL INVOLVED
- GREATER EMPATHY – RUSSY MODY
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION

• LOT DONE, ESPECIALLY IN TAMIL NADU
• FOCUS IS ON END OF PIPE TREATMENT
• INTENSITY OF POLLUTION INCREASING, AS ALSO COST OF TREATMENT
• MANY PROVEN TECHNOLOGIES AVAILABLE (CLRI/ OTHER SOURCES)
• TANNERS SHOULD EMBRACE THESE WITH CONFIDENCE FOR LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY
SOCIETAL IMPROVEMENT

• LVC HAS CONTRIBUTED A LOT FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN TAMIL NADU
• SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS EDUCATION AND HEALTH BY LEADING MEMBERS
• SOCIETY AROUND MAINLY OF FACTORY HANDS
• DUE EXPOSURE TO HAPPENINGS AROUND WORLD, EXPECTATIONS HAVE INCREASED
• BIG INDUSTRIES COULD USE CSR / OTHERS CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR ASSOCIATIONS FOR:
SOCIETAL IMPROVEMENT (CONTD)

- ASSIST HIGHER EDUCATION OF BRIGHT KIDS
- REGULAR MEDICAL CAMPS; MOHALLA CLINIC IN COOOPERATION WITH HEALTH DEPTT
- OPENING OF A LIBRARY
- SPORTS EVENTS FROM TIME TO TIME
- ENTERTAINMENT DURING MAJOR FESTIVALS
- A CONTENTED SOCIETY WILL LEAD TO PEACE AND PROSPERITY OF THE SURROUNDING POPULATION
LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY

• VARIOUS MEASURES IDENTIFIED

• OWNERS TO THINK BEYOND FACTORIES

• AIM TO CREATE PEACE AND PROSPERITY IN YOUR SURROUNDINGS
• THANK YOU