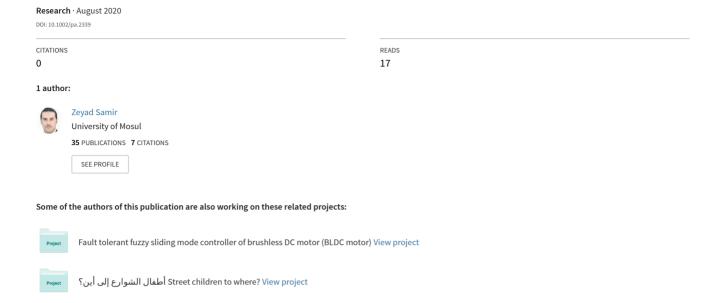
# Sustainable development and its role in containing crises: Corona virus pandemic crisis (COVID-19) in China as a model



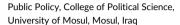
### **ACADEMIC PAPER**





## Sustainable development and its role in containing crises: Corona virus pandemic crisis (COVID-19) in China as a model

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Sustainable development has become an indispensable thing in our current world, as it constitutes a strong support factor for the process of facing crises if they are present properly, and if their aims that were approved by the United Nations are achieved, countries will rise to an advanced level as in China that has turned from a third world country to a major country after its success in achieving sustainable development, which made it able and ready to face crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which has received international and global attention, whether from the United Nations or other countries, organizations and companies interested and donors to reduce the pandemic because of its great dangers In all dimensions, the fact that the virus has troubles that exacerbate the situation in the event that no necessary measures are taken immediately, and indeed the virus has shifted from a local health crisis in Wuhan, China to a global economic, social and environmental crisis that transcends geographical boundaries, but China is linked to the developmental policies and environmental and social policies were able to face the pandemic, and to overcome it and overcome it quickly, as it has real sustainable development.

# 1 | INTRODUCTION AND THEORETICAL BACKGROUND REVIEW

Sustainable development in its contemporary concept is no longer confined to one side but rather extended to include the social, political, economic, cultural and environmental aspects and its various activities, it is an interrelated process of sustainable activities according to an integrated approach based on justice and participation, as the concept of sustainability emerged closely with development in an attempt to expand the dimensions of development.

Therefore, sustainable development is very important requirement to cope the negative effects of COVID-19 pandemic crisis (Al Eid & Arnout, 2020). Sustainable development seeks to achieve the optimal use of resources in a manner that serves the members of society and in a manner that guarantees the rights of future generations and work to address all areas within society (water, health, food, services, education, income, awareness, institutional building, good governance, etc.).

### 1.1 | Historical of sustainable development

As a result of increasing awareness among individuals, governments, institutions and countries in general, a new concept for development emerged taking the name of sustainable development that was the beginning of the crystallization of its lines at the Stockholm Conference in 1972 in Sweden. As it was announced that protecting and improving the human environment represents A fundamental issue related to the welfare of peoples, where discussions took place on the use of natural resources available to any country in order to achieve economic and social development without depleting the natural resources but rather preserving them so that they remain available for use for the future (Abdul Rahman, 2011; Abu Al-Nasr, 2017).

In light of the need to provide a detailed explanation of sustainable development, the report of the Global Committee on Environment and Development called the (Burnland) Committee was published in 1987 (Abdul Rahman, 2011). Where the committee issued its report entitled "Our Common Future" and the report included the definition of sustainable development and developed

proposals on how to implement and define it as a development that ensures responding to the needs of the present generation while not infringing on the rights of future generations to live at a level equivalent to or agreeing to the present generation if possible. The committee's proposals were presented and approved by the United Nations General Assembly and the next step was to adopt the concept of sustainable development as a commitment by all countries (Osmani & El-Ghalia, 2013).

In 1990, the International Labor Conference approved the adoption of the idea of sustainable development as a basis for all the activities of the International Labor Organization and emphasizing the necessity of the proportionality of development policies with the coordinated use of resources. In 1992, a conference was held in Rio de Janeiro known as the "Earth Summit" in which reliance on sustainable development as a policy all countries are committed to it so as not to cause harm to the environment or human health and the economy as a result of non-rational works of natural resources. (Abu Al-Nasr, 2017). Sustainable development seeks to achieve awareness of human life and rational use of natural resources and try to keep them for a long period of time, and ensure the requirements of future generations (Osmani & El-Ghalia, 2013).

### 1.2 | The concept of sustainable development

Sustainable development refereed to the development that not only leads to economic growth but also the necessity of a fair distribution of its fruits, which renews and does not destroy the environment. This type of development is of great importance to the poor, as it guarantees them a role in decision making and in the areas that affect their lives, it is for people and nature, the advancement of the position of women in society, and sustainability in its broadest sense is an issue of a fair distribution of development opportunities between the present and future generations, and if sustainable development is the process of expanding the group of people's choices, then sustainability is the development of a person and his capabilities, whether man or woman (Ashami & Nuri, 2019).

Sustainable development as not harming the productive energy of future generations and delivering them to them in the same situation that the present generation inherited and pointed out that sustainable development is not limited to the resources consumed and inherited only for future generations; rather, through adequate guidance to the quality of the environment and the total production capacity of the economy, including technical equipment, factories, and the knowledge structure (Al-Jawarain, 2016). Sustainable development is also defined as "a pattern of progress and progress whereby the needs of the present are met without being at the expense of future generations or weakening their ability to meet their basic needs" (Salem, 2008).

Sustainable development in the general and comprehensive concept is a comprehensive activity for all sectors regardless of whether it is in the state or in organizations or in the public or private sectors, as it works to develop and improve the conditions of reality through a set of processes that depend on the study of past experiences and

scientific developments in this regard from in order to change reality and understand it to make it better, and set a set of plans and strategies for future planning, and work to exploit human and material resources and energies (see Table 1)

Al-Azzawi (2016) and Supreme Education Council (2002) indicated that the sustainable development are characterized by the following:

- The comprehensiveness of the sustainable development aims, as they are not limited to raise the level of national income, but progress in all areas of life, whether education, health, environmental balance or improving services.
- Sustainable development depends on its basic components of man and the environment, which gives it the characteristic and continuity, as it is concerned with providing the needs of the current generation without harming the needs of subsequent generations.
- 3. It is long-term because the temporal dimension is the basis, as well as the qualitative and quantitative dimension.
- 4. It cares about the human and humanitarian aspects and works for eradicating poverty and protecting cultural, religious and civilization diversity within society.
- It works to achieve international integration in the use of resources and to rearrange and organize the relationship between the poor and rich countries.

### 1.2.1 Dimensions of sustainable development

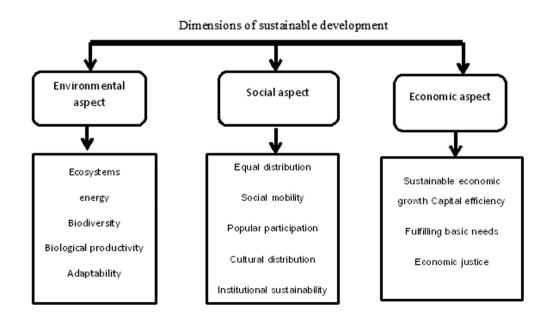
Salem (2008); Abdul Rahman (2011); Mohammed (2013) and Hamdaoui (2017) refereed that Sustainable development has several dimensions (see Figure 1) in our time, as it is no longer limited to one side or dimension, but has extended to include multiple aspects and dimensions, the most important of which are:

- The economic dimension: Sustainable development aims to achieve economic development by seeking to increase exports and reduce imports.
- The social dimension: The key to crises lies in establishing security and human rights within the country, as the United Nations Economic and Social Council, as well as international organizations specialized in fostering international cooperation in the economic and social aspects.
- 3. The social issue is closely related to economic development and growth, and that sustainable development can only be achieved through addressing social issues, among which the most important are the problems of unemployment and poverty, as they are factors that can be considered a missing link in the treatment of poverty and growth, as they are linked with social stability and security.
- 4. The environmental dimension: The industrial expansion in the world and its dependence on oil, coal, and natural gas as energy sources. This caused damage to the environment due to the gas, solid and liquid waste it left behind that harms the environment.

TABLE 1 Evolution of the concept and content of development since the end of World War II

Stages	The concept of development	Time period/ approximate	Development content and concentration degree	Processing method	The general principle of person's development
Stage 1	Development = economic growth	End of World War II	Great interest and main economic aspects Poor attention With social aspects Neglecting the environmental aspects Great attention to aspects Economic	Address every aspect Independent treatment of other aspects (assuming there are no mutual effects between all aspects)	Human is the aim of development (development for a person)
Stage 2	Development = Economic growth + Normal distribution	Mid-sixties Mid-seventies of twentieth century	Average interest with social aspects Poor attention environmental aspects Great attention to rconomic aspects	Address every aspect Independent processing of other aspects (assuming there are no mutual effects between all aspects)	A human being is a target Development/ development for man Human development means/human development
Stage 3	Comprehensive development = Interest in all economic and social aspects at the same level	Mid-seventies The mid-eighties Twentieth century	Great interest in the aspects Social Average interest environmental aspects	Address every aspect Independent processing of other aspects (assuming there are no mutual effects between all aspects)	A human being is a target Development/ development for human being is a means of development/human development Man is the maker of development/human mediated development
Stage 4	Sustainable development = attention In all economic, social environmental aspects at the same level	The second half of the eighties of the twentieth century until the present	Great attention to aspects Economic Great interest in the social aspects Great interest in the environmental aspects Great interest in the spiritual and cultural aspects	Address every aspect Independent treatment of other aspects (assuming there are no mutual effects between the between all aspects)	A human being is a target Development/ development for man Human development means/human development Human development maker/human mediated development

Source: Ghoneim & Abu Zant, Sustainable Development: Its Philosophy, Planning methods and measurement tools, Dar Safaa, Amman, Jordan, 2006, p. 34, in: Abdel Rahman, Control of the overall performance of the economic establishment in Algeria in light of development challenges. Sustainable, Master Thesis, Farhat-Abbas University, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Commercial Sciences and Management Sciences, 2011, 15.



**FIGURE 1** Dimensions of sustainable development

### 1.3 | Sustainable development principles and aims

According to Salem (2008) sustainable development is based on a set of principles, as following:

- Equity: Distributing wealth to members of society in a fair and balanced way so that each person's share is equal to other members of society.
- Empowerment: It is to increase the sense of belonging among members of society by giving them the possibility to participate actively in decision-making and mechanisms or exercise influence over them.
- Good sound management and accountability: In order to avoid corruption and favoritism, which is an obstacle in the way of the sustainable development process, through invoking the principles of transparency, accountability, oversight and responsibility, and the rulers and administrators are subject to that.
- 4. Solidarity: The process of preserving natural resources and the environment for future generations, avoiding the accumulations of debt on the shoulders of these generations and securing equitable shares of growth for all groups within society, all of which lead to the solidarity of generations and groups of all kinds within society and among other societies for sustainable development.

Preserving the ecological and biological system is one of the most important aims (see Figure 2) of the sustainable development process, because the continuity of the human presence depends on this and this requires large efforts and high expenditures for the integrity of the ecosystem for future generations. As for the technological environment, sustainable development aims to resort to the use of

technologies with limited environmental damage, and directing to recycle and utilize waste and materials in industrial energy fields (Ismail. 2015).

# 1.4 | Variables and factors affecting sustainable development

Ashami and Nuri (2019) indicated that there are a set of variables and factors that have a direct impact on protecting sustainable development, the most important of which, as following

- The nature and ideology of the existing political system, that sustainable development in any society is not independent of the aspects of conflict within society, as it takes a form that achieves the interests of social forces with political power.
- The prevailing pattern of production and social formation, as the mode of production includes production forces, manpower, production relations and machinery.
- The available human, material and financial capabilities, because this process of determining these capabilities and their role in development is one of the fundamental issues.
- The challenges and obstacles of planning and development, as many countries still face difficulties and challenges in the developmental aspects.
- The low rate of savings, accumulation, and production, the limited markets and resources.
- The absence of the real motivation for development and the lack of elements of organization are social obstacles facing the development process.

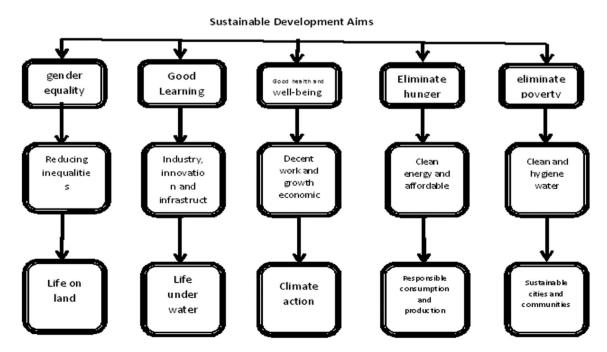


FIGURE 2 Shows sustainable development aims

- The constraints and obstacles imposed by developed countries on the world market constitute international obstacles facing development.
- 8. The absence of political stability and the lack of political independence experienced by most developing countries.

# 1.5 | Sustainable development and crisis containment

The world received a strong shock due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, and a major question arose about its impact on sustainable development and its aims. Should the virus slow the sustainability process or could it give it a push forward?. In this context, a UN report entitled "Joint responsibility and global solidarity." This question is in addition to how to contain this crisis and what role can decision makers, companies and donors play to contain the crisis and maintain the march toward the sustainable development aims, and work to overcome the virus crisis that had multiple social and economic impacts, The report illustrated the impact of the COVOID-19 pandemic on nearly 13 of the 17 sustainable development aims, and tragically risked this pandemic with decades of progress in fighting poverty, exacerbating high levels of inequality within and between countries, as well as societal fluctuations in some countries (Al-Ghobashi, 2020).

From a local health crisis in the Chinese city of Wuhan to a global economic, social and environmental crisis, which exceeded in record time all geographical boundaries, that is what quickly and widely produced COVID-19 pandemic has spread to all the inhabitants of the earth, this pandemic that showed the value of the close relationship that connects the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental, as well as the need to produce a new global development model that aims to change the lifestyles of individuals and society during the period after the time of COVID-19.

It is a multifaceted crisis that requires working for a more sustainable future, so there can be no sustainable economy without protection Social and health for people and the environment, and this is the basic principle of sustainable development that was embodied in the 17 sustainable development aims adopted by the United Nations (Benabo, 2020). As a result, the necessity of reconciling developmental issues with environmental and social issues has become a concern that haunts all of humanity, for example, how to achieve economic development with minimal pollution and environmental damage and with minimal consumption of natural resources and achieving social justice has become one of the requirements that must be taken into account when designing the development policies of countries and has become thinking about the necessary solutions to environmental and social problems (Abdul Rahman, 2011).

Based on the foregoing, we find that there are several means and requirements for containing crises (see Al-Ghobashi, 2020; Ashami & Nuri, 2019; Benabo, 2020; Hussain, 2018) including the global pandemic crisis of COVID-19, through activating sustainable development, among the most important of which are:

- 1. Every country must move toward cooperation with the public, private and civil sectors from the beginning.
- Employ the world's most unprecedented health and collaborative response, especially in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, where spending on the health system must be increased immediately to meet urgent needs and increase demand.
- 3. Stronger support must be provided to multilateral efforts to suppress transmission of COVID-19virus and emerging diseases under the leadership and supervision of the World Health Organization (WHO) whose calls must be fully met, and scientific cooperation in the search for vaccine and effective treatments must be strengthened through initiatives.
- 4. Doing whatever is possible to mitigate the negative effects on the lives of millions of people, their livelihoods and the real economy, and this means providing resources directly to support workers and families, providing health and unemployment insurance, increasing social protection, and supporting companies to prevent bankruptcies and job losses.
- 5. There is now a need for a wide-ranging, coordinated, and comprehensive response by monitoring at least 10% of global gross domestic product or more than ever before. The COVID-19 pandemic crisis is global and it is in everyone's interest to ensure that developing countries have the best opportunity to manage this crisis.
- 6. It is necessary to learn and benefit from the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and to rebuild better. If the world were more advanced in achieving the sustainable development aims and the Paris agreement on climate change, it would have faced this challenge better with stronger health systems.
- 7. The United Nations must be committed to supporting all governments and working with its partners to ensure that lives are saved first and foremost, that livelihoods are restored, and the global economy and the people it serves out of crises they suffer from, such as the COVID-19 crisis, this is the logic of the employment contract to achieve aims.
- 8. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary to help large companies and institutions to enhance the health system response, such as pharmaceutical companies work with governments.
- Charities around the world have a unique ability to quickly put research resources and capabilities beyond the most challenging aspects of crisis management, including the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, challenging.
- 10. The implementation of new development policies should not negatively affect the implementation of the policies that preceded it, or withdraw affiliation and support from them, or change attitudes toward them, and when any differences in policies or methods emerge, it must be stopped and dealt with before the problem and harm occurs.
- 11. Harnessing the enormous potentials provided by information technology in order to bring about sustainable development including comprehensive economic, social and environmental, through the promotion of research and development activities to enhance the technology of new materials and information and communications technology.

- 12. Educating and sensitizing society through seminars, conferences, and all media with a culture of fighting all kinds of corruption as one of the important reasons behind the waste and waste of resources and financial allocations that can be used to finance development channels.
- 13. Promoting the education sector while conducting radical treatments for the institutional framework, which includes the necessity of renewing the educational system to reach the stage of widening the scope of educational education that will support and develop those institutions and focus on achieving economic and social aims for education, training teachers, and adapting school curricula in a manner compatible with reform. Achieve rational use of natural resources and reclaim agricultural lands by allocating the necessary resources for that, and involve the private sector in this task through specialized companies that are required in their work to comply with health environmental requirements, and provide continuous monitoring of air quality, in order to conduct a continuous assessment of the conditions of air pollution.
- 14. Drawing a socio-economic-environmental strategy for the community through which knowledge of the economic, social and environmental reality, and the extent of its impact on the process of community development supported by data in helping researchers to carry out their studies tasks and put forward their future perceptions of community development.
- 15. Combating crises in general, and the COVID-19 pandemic crisis in particular, requires effective partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society at the global, regional, national and local levels, which is what the United Nations seeks to achieve by activating the seventeenth development aim of the sustainable development aims.
- 16. The world must seize the opportunity of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis to reinforce its commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda and the 17 sustainable development aims by making progress on the global roadmap for a more inclusive and sustainable future, enabling the world to respond better to future crises.

### 1.6 | China as a model

Ali (2016) mentioned that after the announcement of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949, the Chinese government or the Communist Party of China received a worn out and worn out country suffering from many problems and crises, especially at the economic level, which made China occupy the last seats globally. For example, the economic level per capita Of the national income at the time, it did not exceed 66 Chinese yuan, or the equivalent of 44 US dollars, while the American per capita income at the time was about 1,510 dollars, and the main reason for this economic backwardness was the amount of internal turmoil, wars and foreign invasions that China suffered a lot, for more than more A 100 years (from 1840 to 1945) China went through 12 major wars and revolutions in what was known as the First and Second Opium Wars, the

French War, the Japanese War, and the Second World War in addition to internal wars (such as the Heavenly Taiping Kingdom Movement, the Beetuan Movement, the War of the Northern Princes, the War of the Central Plains, etc.).

How did China achieve progress and development in all fields?, and how did the Chinese economy occupy the second place in terms of GDP after the American economy in recent years?, and how did the average per capita income rise to many times in recent years compared to previous years? (Ali, 2016). And the answer, in fact, is that the strength of the state lies with the resources it has within its territory and outside it, and with what can be invested and developed in a sustainable manner; This reflects the strength and influence of the state in the political and economic fields at the international level, and this is what applies to China (Al-Ma'ini, 2017).

This, on the one hand, on the other hand, has enabled China to follow an appropriate economic model that enables the Chinese government to transform the massive population problem into a competitive and economic advantage. This model is founded by the famous British economist "Sir Arthur Lewis" in his article on "economic development using the unlimited supply of labor" published in 1954 and won the Nobel Prize in economics in 1979. The Lewis model assumes that the economy is divided into two sectors: one is traditional It is backward (usually the agricultural sector) where the productivity of the worker is negative or zero and the wage is determined socially regardless of productivity, the other sector is more modern (usually the industrial sector) and the productivity of the worker is positive and his wage is determined by his productivity, and development begins in this model when the workers are transferred from the traditional sector (Agricultural) to the modern (industrial) sector after a simple training, which leads to higher productivity in the two sectors (the traditional to reduce accumulation and get rid of disguised unemployment) and (the modern) to increase the productivity of workers, Louis requires that there be a demand for the products produced by the modern sector so that employment continues workers, productivity increases, and hence profitability, are reinvested in the same sector until development takes place and there is equal or equitable balance between wages in both sectors. (Ali, 2016).

The biggest challenge facing China after the end of the "Cultural Revolution" in the 1970s and 1980s was to change the situation in China and realize the four updates in: industry, agriculture, national defense, science and technology, where the late Chinese leader "Deng Xiaoping" said: "Development is the last word, It is not important for a cat to be black or white as long as it hunts mice." Encouraged by these words, China has experienced rapid development, achieving a double-digit economic growth rate (Ping, 2017).

Although China is the first country affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and then the countries of the world followed in sharing the damage, it is noted that China has been able to contain the pandemic significantly compared to many countries in the world, and the main reason is because China has many elements of development Sustainable... (as it made impressive efforts to combat the epidemic, and its detection and testing procedures as well as movement restrictions

succeeded in stopping the spread of the COVID-19 successfully; Benabo, 2020).

In this regard, the United Nations indicated that since the beginning of the outbreak of the COVID-19 in China, the Chinese government has taken measures to try to reduce the transmission of the disease and reduce its risks to public health, and the World Health Organization has called more than once to draw lessons from the experience of China and apply it to the rest of Countries of the world in order to limit the spread of the disease (United Nations News, 2020). In the same context, "Bruce Aylord, a doctor at the World Health Organization, told the American Business Insider after his recent visit to China at the head of a delegation of 25 doctors from different countries... that the world is" not ready "to confront the virus with the seriousness and speed with which China faced And... thanks to a group of measures taken by Beijing to counter the threat of the virus" (Al-Ain News, 2020).

Among the most prominent measures taken by China (Al-Ain News, 2020, and Mahdi, 2020) to confront the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Making medical examinations for the injured free of charge, and the Chinese government has pledged to pay any treatment cost that is not borne by the citizens' health insurance.
- 2. Building new qualitative hospitals, each of which can accommodate about 1,000–1,300 patients, one of which was built in 6 days, and the second in 15 days, and it transformed a number of buildings into hospitals, and its hospitals in the endemic areas were completely devoted to treating those infected with the virus, isolating them completely from the rest of the patients.
- 3. China has turned many medical examinations into online counseling.
- 4. China has published many medical clinics almost everywhere in the country, these clinics known as "fever clinics" were approved during the spread of the SARS virus in the country in 2002.
- China dealt very quickly to contain the virus, as it issued firm decisions and implemented them within days. It was also accelerated to discover new cases and track its communication path with others.
- 6. China uses advanced technology to follow up and diagnose cases of COVID-19virus infection, such as monitoring methods and means of communication between patients and doctors, as well as allocating Chinese social media to spread awareness and monitor the spread of the virus.
- 7. Facilitating the delivery of food and all supplies to the citizens during the epidemic period, as the Chinese authorities imposed a complete closure of all countries, and ordered people to stay in their homes. In Wuhan, for example, 15 million people were ordering food online only.
- Chinese provinces have sent about 40,000 medical workers to the endemic Hubei Province in China, many of whom are volunteers, and thousands have volunteered in the transport and agricultural sectors.
- Management and sales, to maintain the continued arrival of key commodities and follow-up to patients. This indicates the awareness, behavior and cooperation of the Chinese people during the crises.

During the first sustainable development forum held in China in October 2019, in which more than 160 countries, international bodies and economic companies participated, the United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called in his message to the participants to the necessity of working together, uniting efforts and reorienting the global economy and the financial world for the benefit of all, as well as the achievements of China in the field of sustainable development and the progress made in improving the lives of the Chinese people (Benabo, 2020).

In fact, it can be said that one of the most important features of China's experiences and achieving sustainable development and reaching what they are now is the gradual implementation of reform, that is, defining the relationship between reform, development and stability on the basis of "development concepts" compatible with the requirements of the times, in a developing, transitional state typically, like China, the major changes that reform brings will affect its old social structure and its social stability. Here it must be emphasized that reform is based on stability and its aim is development. The Chinese approach to openness and reform adhered to the principle of establishing stability first, or as the leader said The late Deng Xiaoping: "Stability exceeds everything," and this helps to reduce unrest and maintain social cohesion. On this basis, the Chinese government has endeavored to achieve development and promote stability through reform and sustainable development, which has achieved balance and harmony between stability, development and reform, (Ping. 2017).

Another key to China's experiences is strong government seeking development, and leaders with deep in sight and sound policies. Here, the developing country that needs to transform its development mode should unite its people and focus national power to advance economic, social and political reform on a regular basis, so it needs a strong government In a certain period and in certain areas, it has strong political power and the ability to manage effectively (Ping, 2017).

To this effect, China will transform from a developing country that suffers from many problems and crises to a country that possesses the elements of real sustainable development and is able to solve its problems and crises and contain them, but rather the competition of developed countries in the areas of development and progress and provide support and assistance to the countries of the world that need help and expertise, and the Chinese experience in the field of facing and containing the pandemic of the COVID-19 crisis is a good example of that.

### 2 | CONCLUSION

- At the present time, sustainable development includes all the necessities and necessities of life necessary for the members of society, including health, education, a clean environment, economic prosperity, strong political institutions, good governance, and so on.
- Sustainable development works to guarantee the rights of future generations without compromising or harming the rights and needs of present generations.

- If sustainable development is to be truly achieved within countries, sustainable development will enable it to confront, contain and overcome crises.
- 4. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the urgent need for sustainable development as an effective tool to eradicate that pandemic, as China's containment of the COVID-19 pandemic was not by chance, but rather as a result of the existence of a truly sustainable development that has inclusive all dimensions.
- 5. China has demonstrated the importance of sustainable development in the face of crises during the COVID-19 pandemic, as it managed, in record time, to achieve progress in containing the pandemic by harnessing the elements of its sustainable development to contain and eliminate that pandemic.

### 3 | RECOMENDATION

- All decision makers in the countries of the world must work hard and truly to be able to achieve actual sustainable development as it represents the main key to contain the occurrence and emerging crises.
- The natural use of natural and human resources and energies must be optimized and invested in the optimum way and not to be wasted.
- Sustainable development is an ongoing process, so decisionmakers in the countries of the world must continue this process and not make it a temporary, phased process in a way that guarantees the requirements of future generations.
- 4. Countries that are moving toward achieving sustainable development should avoid harm to the environment or other countries, through their use of clean energies to reduce waste, gases, carbon and pollutants emitted from traditional energy sources such as oil and gas.
- 5. Focusing on the scientific aspect and developing it to serve all segments of society, as education works to strengthen and promote the process of sustainable development, as it makes all individuals and all their specializations able to provide the skills they have acquired in the service of building the sustainable development process.
- 6. The necessity of benefiting from the Chinese development experience, which transferred China to a qualitative shift and transformed it from a developing country that suffers from many problems and crises to a developed country capable of facing and containing crises on the one hand, and providing assistance to other countries of the world in order to rid them of their problems and crises on the other hand, as is the case during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 7. The containment and control of the COVID-19 virus is something that can be achieved if the response plans are followed seriously and precisely, and all of this requires in the end result the availability of the ingredients and requirements for sustainable development.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The author declare no conflict of interest.

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