

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 COOPERATION 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