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# Beyond Lifestyle for Sustainable Development: Learnings from the Dayalbagh Model

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Pami Dua,<sup>1</sup> Arsh Dhir,<sup>2</sup> D. Bhagwan Das,<sup>3</sup> Ashita Allamraju,<sup>4</sup> Prem Sewak Sudhish,<sup>5</sup> Apurva Narayan,<sup>6</sup> Sabyasachi Saha<sup>7</sup> and V.B. Gupta<sup>8</sup>

**Abstract:** The intensifying global environmental crisis—marked by climate change, biodiversity loss, and unsustainable resource consumption—poses significant threats, including heightened global conflicts, deepening inequalities, and more frequent natural disasters. Addressing these challenges requires a fundamental shift in societal functioning and the adoption of a lifestyle that prioritizes sustainable development. This includes promoting sustainable consumption, minimizing waste, and fostering practices that align with environmental and social well-being.

Recognizing this, India introduced the LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) initiative at COP26 in 2021, focusing on sustainable consumption, industry response, and policy influence. Under India’s G20 presidency in 2023, the LiFE initiative gained momentum and expanded to “Lifestyle for Sustainable Development,” leading to the adoption of the G20 High-Level Principles (HLPs) on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development. The principles aim to create a global movement towards sustainable lifestyles that contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement’s climate targets.

The paper introduces a model extending beyond the concept of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development, termed “Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development,” supported by a case study of Dayalbagh, Agra—a community that served as the inspiration for this model. Dayalbagh model aligns with the G20 High level principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development and SDGs and demonstrates how localized, community-driven initiatives can align with and support global sustainability frameworks. The study presents the approach at

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Dayalbagh as a replicable and scientifically grounded model that can inspire and guide other communities globally in their pursuit of sustainable living practices.

**Keywords:** High Level Principles for Sustainable Development, Lifestyle for Environment, Lifestyle for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Holistic Sustainability, Dayalbagh Model.

## Introduction

The world today is facing an unprecedented environmental crisis fuelled by excessive consumption, unequal distribution of resources, and a ‘take-make-waste’ approach to production. Our unsustainable lifestyles are driving climate change, biodiversity loss, and widespread environmental degradation. These issues can exacerbate global conflicts and natural disasters, deepen social inequalities, and perpetuate poverty and hunger. The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP21) in 2015 at Paris<sup>1</sup> and Agenda 2030 presented to the world a unified global framework to tackle environmental challenges. The Paris Agreement aims to limit global warming to 1.5°C, requiring urgent climate action to reduce emissions. Agenda 2030’s 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) envisioned a sustainable future, integrating economic, social, and environmental aspects. However, as per UN Sustainable Development Report (2024), only 16% of SDG targets are on track globally, with significant stagnation and regression since 2020, particularly in goals like SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 15 (Life on Land) and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). Nordic countries lead in SDG achievement, while poor and vulnerable nations lag, widening global disparities. Food and land system targets are notably off-track, with projections indicating 600 million people will face hunger by 2030. The world is thus currently falling short of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

This stark reality necessitates a fundamental re-evaluation of our approach to development. Immediate and profound changes in how we live and consume are needed. Traditional models that emphasize external factors like economic growth, environmental targets, and social indicators, while crucial, seem insufficient. Many scholars have looked at how our ethics, value systems and behaviour form the foundational components

that can drive sustainable development (Satsangi & Dhir, 2024; Dua *et al.* 2024; Dua *et al.* 2023; Chaturvedi, 2023a; Sachs *et al.*, 2022).

Building on the global frameworks of the Paris Agreement and Agenda 2030, India's LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) initiative, presents a practical approach to integrating sustainability into daily life. First introduced at the 2021 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (COP26), the LiFE concept was further solidified with the launch of Mission LiFE in 2022 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MOEFCC) and NITI Aayog (MOEFCC & NITI Aayog, 2022).

During India's G20 presidency, the initiative gained significant traction and was broadened to encompass the "Lifestyle for Sustainable Development" concept (Chaturvedi, 2023b). At the G20 Development Ministers Meeting in Varanasi in June 2023, the G20 2023 Action Plan on Accelerating Progress on the SDGs and the High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (G20-HLP) were adopted (G20 Development Ministers Meeting, 2023). This momentum continued with the G20 New Delhi Leaders Declaration in September 2023 (G20 New Delhi Leaders Declaration, 2023), marking a critical commitment from the world's largest economies to prioritize sustainable development and climate action (PIB, 2023).

In a significant development, the United Nations Environment Assembly adopted a resolution in March 2024, submitted by India, which formally recognized the potential of behavioural changes in promoting sustainable lifestyles. This adoption underscores the global significance of the Mission LiFE principles and their contribution to sustainable development.

This study discusses the G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development and demonstrates how the Dayalbagh community with an environment conscious, community centric lifestyle, fosters sustainability through the Sigma Six Q-V-A model, thereby meeting all the G20 HLPs on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development while further reinforcing the realization of the SDGs. This model integrates Agriculture and Dairy, Education and Healthcare, Water

Quality, Air Quality, Innovation, and Human Values, creating a socio-economic-technological-spiritual-climatic complex system. Dayalbagh has established a sustainable ecosystem that serves as an example for communities worldwide, demonstrating the power of a scientifically grounded systems approach to sustainable living for over a century now. The paper is structured as follows: Section 2 delves into the evolution and detailed concept of “Lifestyle for Environment.” Section 3 examines the G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development. Section 4 introduces a model extending beyond the concept of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development, termed “Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development,” supported by a case study of Dayalbagh, Agra—a community that served as the inspiration for this model. Section 5 outlines key policy recommendations, and Section 6 concludes the discussion.

## **Evolution and Concept of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development**

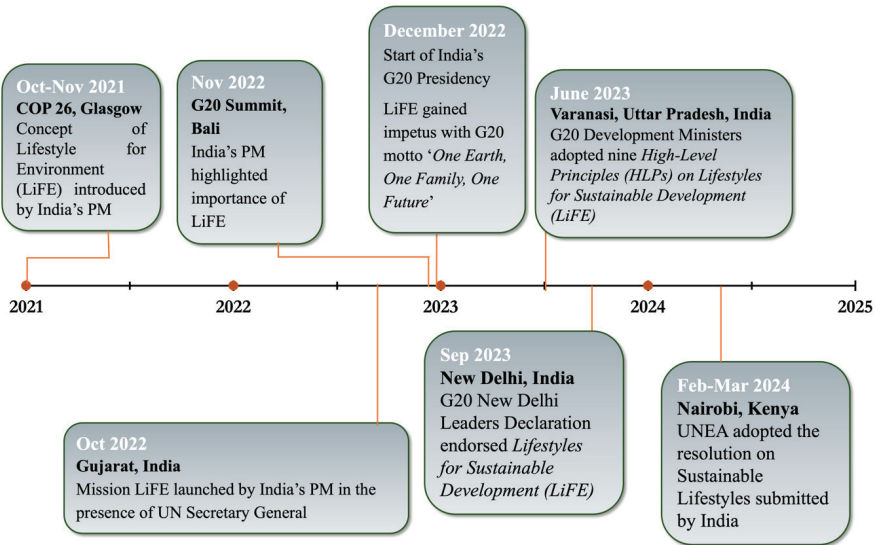
The current model of economic development, primarily driven by GDP growth, has come under increasing scrutiny for its failure to adequately address social and ecological challenges. This has led to a growing consensus on the need for a new development paradigm that prioritizes sustainability and well-being alongside economic growth. The LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) Economy, introduced by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, proposes such a paradigm shift.

The concept of LiFE has significantly evolved and gained momentum in recent years, as illustrated in Figure 1. Initially introduced in 2021, the “Lifestyle for Environment” (LiFE) initiative advocates for a sustainable lifestyle centred around individual behaviour, which has since expanded into a comprehensive economic model. The initiative emphasizes mindful consumption and positions LiFE as a mass movement toward environmental consciousness. It aims to encourage individuals and communities to adopt a lifestyle that is in harmony with nature, minimizing environmental harm.

In October 2022, Mission LiFE was officially launched in Gujarat (MOEFCC & NITI Aayog, 2022), marking a significant step forward in



**Figure 1: Evolution of Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)**

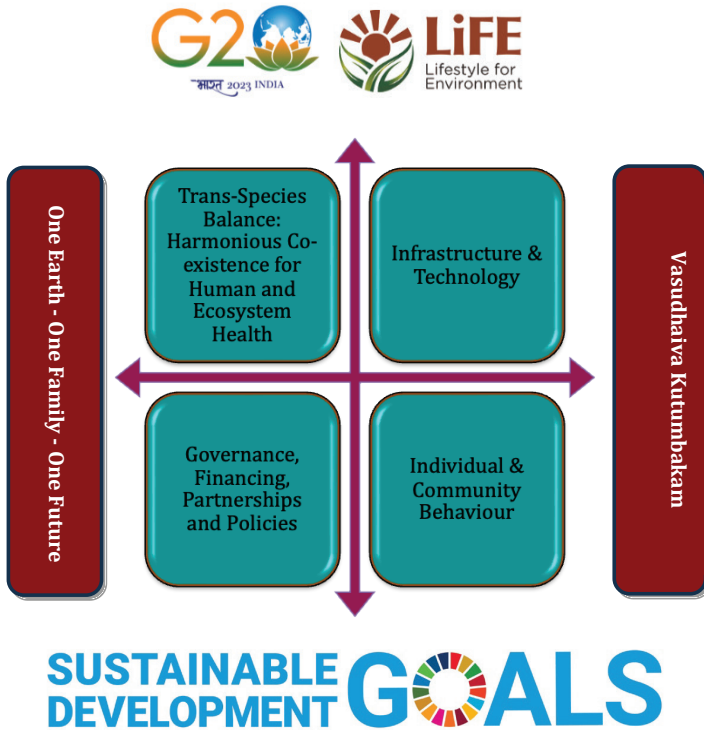


*Source:* Authors' creation.

the pursuit of sustainability. Mission LiFE advocates for a comprehensive strategy centred on three pivotal shifts: transforming demand patterns, reshaping supply chains, and implementing progressive policy measures. This approach is built on a three-pronged strategy: encouraging individuals to adopt simple yet impactful environment-friendly actions in their daily lives (demand); enabling industries and markets to adapt quickly to evolving consumer demands (supply); and shaping government and industrial policies to support sustainable consumption and production (policy). Later that year, at the G20 summit in Bali in November, the Prime Minister underscored the importance of LiFE. Figure 2, adapted from Chaturvedi (2024), outlines the key aspects of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development.

**a. Trans-species Balance, Harmonious Co-existence for Human and Ecosystem Health:** Trans-species balance, as envisioned in the G20 High-Level Principles for Lifestyle for Sustainable Development, underscores the interdependence between human beings and all

**Figure 2: Aspects of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development**



*Source:* Authors' creation.

other living organisms (e.g. mammals, insects, aquatic species, avian species, microbes, etc.). This balance is crucial for fostering biodiversity, maintaining ecosystem services, and ensuring a sustainable and resilient environment for future generations. The G20 principles advocate for harmonious coexistence with nature, where the exploitation of natural resources is minimized, and the welfare of all species is considered in development practices. This approach aligns with global efforts to combat climate change, preserve biodiversity, and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to life on land (SDG 15) and life below water (SDG 14). Ultimately, trans-species balance reflects a commitment to a holistic and inclusive view of sustainability, where the health and well-being

of all species are recognized as integral to the overall well-being of the planet. Some key components of transspecies balance are:

- Sustainable Production and Consumption<sup>2</sup>
- Circular Economy<sup>3</sup>
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Ecosystem Protection and Restoration
- Ethical Treatment of Animals
- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation
- Social Equity and Justice
- Responsible Resource Management
- Environmental Education and Awareness
- Global and Local Cooperation for Conservation
- Integrated Water Resource Management
- Pollution Prevention and Control

***b. Infrastructure & Technology:*** Infrastructure and technology are integral to the G20 High Level Principles, as they form the backbone for achieving sustainable and inclusive development. Modern and resilient infrastructure, supported by cutting-edge technology, enables efficient resource management, enhances connectivity, and drives economic growth while minimizing environmental impacts. The integration of smart technologies in infrastructure supports the transition to green energy, sustainable urban development, and climate resilience. Innovation and digital inclusion, infrastructure and technology contribute to reducing inequalities, ensuring access to essential services, and enhancing the quality of life for all. They also play a crucial role in supporting global cooperation, enabling the seamless exchange of knowledge, data, and best practices necessary to address transnational challenges like climate change, pandemics, and economic instability. Some key components are:

- Climate Resilient Agriculture & Dairy
- Industry

- Services (e.g. transport, trade, community and social services, Education, Healthcare)
- Technology (e.g. Smart Cities and Urban Development, Digital Inclusion and Connectivity)
- Climate-Resilient Infrastructure (e.g. Renewable Energy, Water and Sanitation)
- Waste Management and Recycling Technologies
- Disaster Risk Reduction Technologies
- Security

***c. Individual and Community Behaviour (encompassing Ethics and Values):*** Another key aspect of the G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development is the emphasis on individual and community behaviour which is seen as central to achieving sustainable outcomes. These principles recognize that true sustainability is rooted in the collective actions and values of individuals and communities, which guide their daily choices and interactions with the environment. A shared commitment to sustainable practices, can help communities drive meaningful change that aligns with global goals. Some components are

- Human values, beliefs, attitudes, behaviour
- Ethics
- Environmental Consciousness (Responsibility, awareness to protect and preserve environment, Practice environmentally conscious lifestyle, Pro planet behaviour)
- Preservation of Culture and Traditions
- Innovation

These components work together to create a holistic approach to sustainable living, where both individual actions and community efforts are aligned with the broader goals of sustainability.

***d. Governance, Financing, Partnerships and Policies:*** Financing, partnerships, and policies are crucial pillars of the G20 High-Level

Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, driving the successful implementation and scaling of sustainable practices. These elements create the enabling environment needed for individuals and communities to adopt and maintain sustainable lifestyles. Adequate financing ensures that resources are available for both large-scale initiatives and grassroots actions, while strong partnerships foster collaboration across sectors, bringing together diverse expertise and resources. Meanwhile, supportive policies provide the framework within which sustainable practices can thrive, setting standards and incentives that guide behaviour and decision-making at all levels. For these policies to be truly effective, governance must move beyond GDP-centric approaches and integrate well-being as a core objective, ensuring that economic progress translates into social and environmental resilience.

In fact, a central theme in the LiFE discourse is the need to move beyond GDP as the sole measure of progress (Chaturvedi, 2023a; Kedia *et al.*, 2023; Kumar *et al.*, 2023). Empirical observations show that high income levels do not necessarily translate to improved well-being, especially in the face of climate change, biodiversity loss, and persistent social inequities (Chaturvedi, 2023b). The LiFE framework advocates for a holistic approach to well-being measurement, encompassing social, ecological, and human capital. This involves developing new metrics that capture the impact of development on the environment, health, education, and other aspects of human well-being (Kumar *et al.*, 2023). The shift towards well-being measurement is seen as a prerequisite for setting priorities and allocating resources effectively

Sub-components include:

Governance

- Administration

Financing:

- Public and private investment
- Green Finance
- Sustainable financing mechanisms

### Partnerships:

- Public-private collaborations
- International cooperation
- Multi-stakeholder engagement

### Policies:

- Government Policy & Regulatory frameworks
- Incentive structures
- Environmental standards
- Global Digital Governance

Under India's 2023 G20 presidency, the LiFE initiative gained significant momentum, embodying the spirit of "One Earth, One Family, One Future." This approach calls for collective actions from individuals, communities, academia, media, civil society, government, international organizations, the private sector, and industry to combat environmental degradation and achieve global net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by mid-century. During the G20 Development Ministers meeting in Varanasi in June 2023, the G20 2023 Action Plan on Accelerating Progress on the SDGs and the High-level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development was adopted (G20 Development Ministers Meeting, 2023). The G20 New Delhi Leaders Declaration in September 2023 (PIB, 2023) further solidified the world's largest economies' commitment to sustainable development and climate action. Drawing from Mission LiFE, the G20 endorsed the High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (G20-HLP), which emphasize "thoughtful and purposeful consumption" through behaviour change, along with supportive regulatory and legislative actions. These principles aim to foster a global movement towards sustainable lifestyles that contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Agreement's climate targets. We discuss the high-level principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development in the next section.

## High-Level Principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development

The high-level principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development endorsed by the G20 underscore the need for respectful and responsible conservation, sustainable use, and regeneration of natural resources. It guides environmentally conscious lifestyles and consumer choices, calling for collective and coordinated action across all levels of society. A summary of these principles, along with their impact on the SDGs, is presented in Appendix A, with Table 1 providing an overview of the key principles and their focus areas.

**Table 1: High Level Principles on Lifestyle for Sustainable Development**

S. No	Principle	Focus Area	SDGs Impacted
1.	Integrate development, environment, climate goals.	Integrated approach, Synergies, Multi-stakeholder approach,	All SDGs
2.	Meet basic needs inclusively.	Sustainable consumption and production, 2030 Agenda, Equity, Inclusive growth, Poverty reduction, Energy equity, Gender equality, Upliftment of poor and vulnerable, Climate change, Leaving no one behind, Social Equity, Safe and Inclusive Communities,	SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 6, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 10, SDG 12, SDG 13
3.	Promote sustainable individual, community behaviours.	Sustainable consumption, Nudges/ Incentives, Quality education, Training, Public awareness, Green skills development, Policies, Inclusive, affordable, accessible	SDG 4, SDG 11, SDG 12
4.	Support sustainable production, technological innovation.	Inclusive and sustainable ecosystems, Stakeholder engagement, Sustainable economic growth, Technology transfer and Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Circular economy approach, Policies	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 12

*Continued...*

Continued...

5.	Mainstream sustainability in economic policies.	Conservation of natural resources, Sustainable production and consumption, Vocational education and training, Employment generation, Business environment, Low-emission products, Global value chains, Governance & Administration, Innovation	SDG 8, SDG 9, SDG 12
6.	Responsibly leverage data, digital technology.	Data and digital technology for development, environment, climate goals and sustainable lifestyles, AI, Capacity-building	SDG 9, SDG 12
7.	Empower local communities, traditional knowledge.	Empowerment, Inclusion, Respect for nature, Preservation of Culture & Traditions	SDG 5, SDG 10, SDG 11
8.	Facilitate sustainable development financing globally.	Financing for sustainable consumption and production and quality infrastructure –e.g. transport, waste management, sustainable urbanization, energy efficiency, resilient agriculture, Sustainable choices, International support, Partnerships	SDG 17
9.	Strengthen global cooperation, partnerships.	Global movement, Partnerships, Collective action, Technology sharing	SDG 17

**Source:** Authors' compilation.

SDG1: No Poverty; SDG2:Zero Hunger; SDG3: Good Health and Well-being; SDG4: Quality Education; SDG5: Gender equality; SDG6: Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG7: Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth; SDG9: Industry Innovation and Infrastructure; SDG10: Reduced Inequality; SDG11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG12: Responsible Consumption and Production; SDG13: Climate Action; SDG14: Life below Water; SDG15: Life on Land; SDG16: Peace Justice and Strong Institutions; SDG17: Partnerships to achieve Goals.

The G20 High-Level Principles on Sustainable Development highlight the critical role of environmentally conscious lifestyles, responsible consumption, and the integration of development, environment, and climate goals. At their core, these principles emphasize collective action, multi-stakeholder collaboration, and the empowerment of local



communities. However, achieving true sustainability requires a deeper foundation—one rooted in individual and community behaviour, values, and ethical principles.

## **Integrating Inner Dimension and Collective Actions in the LiFE Initiative: Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development: A Case Study**

### **Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development: Theoretical Framework**

At the core, “Lifestyle for Sustainable Development” represents the practical and actionable behaviour that contribute to sustainability. It necessitates a profound reorientation of both individual and collective behaviour. This approach requires us to think beyond the traditional definition of sustainability, which typically focuses on environmental, social, and economic dimensions. However, this lifestyle is not just about external actions; it is deeply rooted in values, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviour. It involves transforming our values, attitudes, and behaviour to create a lifestyle that is not only environmentally sustainable but also socially equitable. This transformation can be described as involving ‘physical and/or qualitative changes in form, structure, or meaning making’ or as ‘the alteration of fundamental attributes of a system, including value systems, regulatory, legislative, or bureaucratic regimes, financial institutions, and technological or biological systems’ (IPCC, 2012).

To truly embrace a “Lifestyle for Sustainable Development,” it is essential to recognize that sustainability transcends external dimensions and is deeply intertwined with inner transformation. While reorienting individual and collective behaviour toward environmental, social, and economic sustainability is critical, the foundation of this transformation lies in cultivating core values, beliefs, and attitudes that drive meaningful change. Satsangi & Dhir (2024), Dua *et al.* (2024) and Dua *et al.* (2023) have expanded this understanding of sustainability, known as Holistic Sustainability, to include spiritual and intuitive consciousness, and a

conscientiousness. They define inner dimension, as values, beliefs, attitudes, spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness. This inner dimension which includes spiritual and intuitive consciousness can foster a more profound and lasting commitment to sustainability, leading to a harmonious balance between human needs and the health of our planet. It can drive sustainable actions by influencing how individuals perceive and interact with the world around them. Integrating inner dimension such as spiritual consciousness, can deepen our commitment to sustainability, ensuring that actions for the common good are guided by compassion, mindfulness, and responsibility. This holistic perspective not only amplifies the effectiveness of sustainable practices but also nurtures a lifestyle that harmonizes external impact with inner growth, reinforcing the interconnectedness of humanity and the planet.

Spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness plays a vital role in promoting sustainable development by fostering a holistic perspective that recognizes the interconnectedness of all life forms. This awareness can inspire individuals and communities to adopt sustainable practices that protect the environment, support social and economic stability, and promote long-term well-being. Spiritual values emphasize compassion, respect for nature, and responsibility toward future generations, aligning with sustainable development principles such as reducing consumption, promoting social justice, and protecting biodiversity.

It encourages mindful living, leading to conscious consumption and waste reduction. Spiritually conscious individuals tend to simplify their lives, focusing on essentials and minimizing their ecological footprint. Furthermore, community cooperation, driven by shared spiritual values, is essential for collective efforts toward sustainability. It can unite people to work together on issues like environmental conservation and social equality. Beyond external changes, sustainable development requires inner transformation, and spiritual consciousness can shift individuals from self-centred behaviour toward actions that serve the common good. Expanding the model to include Spiritual Consciousness highlights the profound impact of inner transformation on individuals.

This transformation fosters values such as compassion, respect, responsibility, and mindfulness, which drive actions for the common good—prioritizing people and the planet—and thus actively supporting sustainable development.

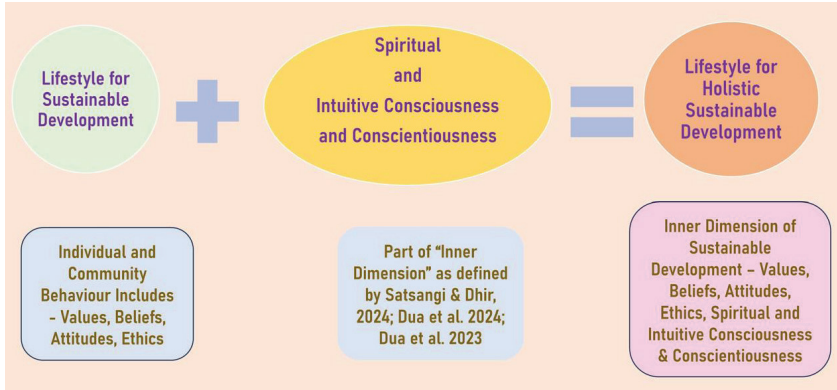
Spiritual Consciousness also enhances Community Engagement by reinforcing shared spiritual values, fostering collaboration and collective responsibility. Community engagement serves as a powerful tool for advancing a lifestyle for holistic sustainable development. This approach emphasizes that individual actions, when amplified through collective efforts, can have a far-reaching impact on fostering sustainable practices. Engaging communities not only brings together diverse stakeholders but also builds a shared commitment to sustainable development. As Dua *et al.* (2024) suggest, community engagement creates a ripple effect, scaling individual efforts and enhancing the effectiveness of sustainability initiatives.

Therefore, we extend the model for a Lifestyle for Sustainable Development to include spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness and propose a model for Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development. This expanded model incorporates the inner dimension of sustainability, encompassing values, beliefs, attitudes, and spiritual and intuitive consciousness, as well as conscientiousness. This concept goes beyond mere sustainable actions; it encapsulates a comprehensive approach where internal values, communal efforts, and sustainable practices are integrated to achieve a balanced and enduring form of development that aligns with the G20 High-Level Principles. Figure 3 illustrates this proposed conceptual framework. While the framework aligns closely with the G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, it goes beyond.

### **Case of Dayalbagh, Agra**

A practical example of this Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development is the community of Dayalbagh, in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. The synergies between spiritual consciousness, inner transformation, sustainable development, and community engagement beautifully

**Figure 3: Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development**



*Source:* Authors' creation.

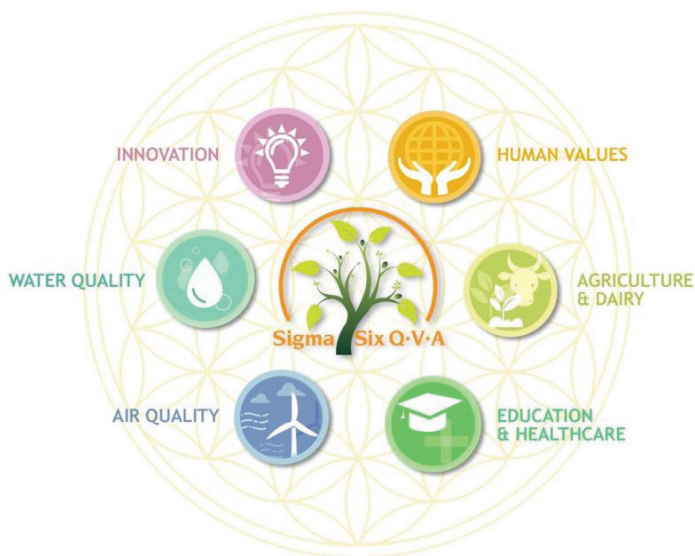
encapsulate the philosophy of the Dayalbagh Way of Life. Dayalbagh has established a sustainable ecosystem that serves as an example for communities worldwide, demonstrating the power of a scientifically grounded systems approach to sustainable living for over a century now (Brunton, 1934; Yeats-Brown, 1936; Satsangi *et al.*, 2024).

At Dayalbagh, spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness are at the heart of its sustainable practices, driving a lifestyle that harmonizes individual actions with broader environmental and societal goals. This approach nurtures an inner dimension which shapes behaviour towards sustainability. Community engagement serves as a cornerstone, uniting individuals in collective efforts to address shared challenges. Through practices like participatory decision-making, community-driven conservation initiatives, and inclusive platforms for dialogue, Dayalbagh exemplifies holistic sustainable development. This synergy creates a lifestyle that is both transformative and replicable, aligning with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and SDG 13 (Climate Action).

## ***Sigma Six Qualities-Values-Attributes (Q-V-A) Model of Dayalbagh Way of Life***

The lifestyle of residents of Dayalbagh in India based on the Sigma Six Qualities-Values-Attributes (Q-V-A) model (Figure 4) is a blueprint for Lifestyle for Sustainable Development. This model integrates Agriculture and Dairy, Education and Healthcare, Water Quality, Air Quality, Innovation, and Human Values, creating a socio-economic-technological-spiritual-climatic complex system that aligns with multiple High-Level Principles (HLPs) and SDGs.

**Figure 4: Sigma Six Q-V-A Model of Dayalbagh Way of Life**



*Source:* Radhasoami Satsang Sabha, 2009.

Dayalbagh's lifestyle is deeply rooted in **human values** such as humility, equality, and selfless service, which underpin its practices and foster a culture of minimalism and zero waste. Residents emphasize voluntary service (seva) and cooperative living, which strengthen social cohesion and reduce inequalities (Radhasoami Satsang Sabha, 2019). These values align with HLP 1 (inclusivity), HLP 3 (lifelong learning), and HLP 5 (resource conservation) and all SDGs.

The principle of the “Golden Mean Path” balances material needs with spiritual growth, guiding residents toward a harmonious and fulfilling life. Community practices such as shared kitchens and fair-price shops ensure equitable access to essential goods while promoting sustainable consumption. These efforts align with SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and HLP 4. Voluntary service in agriculture, healthcare, and education further reinforces a sense of shared responsibility and purpose (HLP 6).

Innovation is a cornerstone of the Dayalbagh model, driving sustainable practices across various domains. The community’s frugal innovations—such as misting irrigation, renewable energy systems, and IoT-enabled dairy monitoring—enhance productivity and reduce environmental impact (HLP 3, HLP 5). The “Superman Evolutionary Scheme”<sup>4</sup> integrates education, nutrition, and physical fitness for children, promoting their intellectual and emotional development (Bhatnagar & Kumar, 2019).

Dayalbagh’s decentralized cottage industries, producing daily necessities at minimal costs, empower residents while fostering a spirit of self-reliance and service. Women’s empowerment initiatives, supported by the Dayalbagh Mahila Cooperative Bank, ensure financial independence and social equity, reflecting HLP 4 (gender equality) and HLP 6 (community cooperation) (Radhasoami Satsang Sabha, 2009). Renewable energy innovations, including solar thermal cooking and distributed rooftop systems, have made Dayalbagh a Green Campus, providing a replicable model for sustainable living (DEI, 2022).

The residential accommodations are surrounded by nature and incorporate natural ventilation systems, passive cooling techniques, and renewable energy sources like solar panels. Locally sourced sustainable materials are used to reduce the carbon footprint and ensure harmony with the surrounding environment. This approach supports SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), showcasing a model of sustainable living that aligns with Dayalbagh’s holistic development framework.

Agriculture and Dairy are at the heart of Dayalbagh’s sustainability framework. Precision farming techniques, including IoT-enabled monitoring and renewable energy-powered irrigation, optimize resource use while reducing environmental impact. Practices like organic farming, livestock integration, and bio-waste recycling exemplify a circular economy (HLP 1, 2, 3, 4). Innovations such as misting irrigation and combining solar energy farms with agriculture enhance efficiency and productivity (Radhasoami Satsang Sabha, 2009). These efforts address SDGs such as Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Climate Action (SDG 13), and Life on Land (SDG 15) while reflecting the principles of resource optimization and sustainable consumption (HLP 3, 4).

Education and Healthcare systems at Dayalbagh prioritize inclusivity and holistic well-being. Dayalbagh’s pioneering approach to formal education began with the establishment of a co-educational middle school in 1915 immediately following the foundation of the Headquarters, embodying a distinctive “middle-out” methodology that balanced the strengths of bottom-up and top-down approaches. The middle school’s co-educational framework from the outset reflects the foresight and progressive values of the leadership and laid the foundation for a unique, holistic educational model. Over the years, this framework has organically evolved into a global system of education at all levels, spanning “maternity to eternity”<sup>5</sup> and implemented across centres worldwide, with a modular approach to cater to diverse communities while maintaining a unified emphasis on value-based education. The far-reaching vision of Dayalbagh is reflected in its Total Quality Management approach to education, which integrates academic rigour with practical skills, ethical grounding, and sustainability. The Dayalbagh Education Policy of 1975 which aims to evolve a complete person, exemplifies this foresight, anticipating principles and reforms later formalized in India’s National Policy on Education, 1986, and the New Education Policy, 2020. The Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI) fosters values-based learning through vocational training and frugal innovation, aligning with HLP 1 (inclusive education) and HLP 3 (lifelong learning). Initiatives such as “Quantum Jugaad” encourage entrepreneurship, while global

collaborations with institutions like Stanford University, University of Waterloo and the University of Edinburgh expand research opportunities (DEI, 2020a).

Healthcare integrates modern and traditional medicine, offering free services through the Saran Ashram Hospital and community outreach camps. Preventive care measures like community exercise, organic diets, and regular health camps improve well-being (SDG 3), gender equality (SDG 5), and reduced inequalities (SDG 10), adhering to HLP 1 and HLP 2.

Environmental initiatives including, but not limited to, air and water quality reflect Dayalbagh's deep commitment to sustainability. Solar energy powers homes and community facilities, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and aligning with HLP 5 (renewable energy adoption). Practices such as water recycling, air quality monitoring, and tree planting maintain ecological balance while addressing Climate Action (SDG 13). Walking, cycling, and the use of electric vehicles further contribute to HLP 4 (reduced carbon footprint) and HLP 6 (community cooperation).

At Dayalbagh, the generalized concept of Blue Ocean Strategy (Kim and Mauborgne, 2017) manifests in its pioneering, community-driven economic framework, which transcends competition through collective guardianship of resources, industries, and infrastructure. The seamless integration of renewable energy systems with precision agriculture showcases this ingenuity, addressing energy needs while boosting agricultural productivity. Cooperative cottage enterprises prioritize the production of sustainable, eco-conscious goods, cultivating resilience and ecological harmony. This holistic approach permeates all facets of life - habitat design, water resource management, and education - ensuring inclusive access and shared prosperity for community members and beyond. By redefining conventional models, Dayalbagh paves an unparalleled route toward sustainability, blending environmental stewardship with social justice and transformative innovation. This approach contributes to SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure) and SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production).



Table 2 below illustrates how the Dayalbagh Way of Life aligns with the G20 High-Level Principles for Lifestyle for Sustainable Development and contributes to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

**Table 2: Selected features of Dayalbagh Way of Life**

Features of Dayalbagh Way of Life	G20 High Level Principles for Lifestyle for Sustainable Development	UN SDGs Impacted
<b>Agriculture &amp; Dairy</b>		
Agroecology-cum-precision-farming integrating bio-ecosystems.	HLP 1,2,4,5	SDG 1,2,3,4,5,10, 13,16
Zero-waste practices and crop-livestock integration.	HLP 1,2,3,4	
Solar agricultural farms with resource optimization.	HLP 1,2,4,5,6,7	
IoT with sensors for soil and climate monitoring.		
Multi-land use with biodiversity parks and medicinal herb gardens.		
<b>Education &amp; Healthcare</b>		
<b>Education</b>		
Complete education from "maternity to eternity." <sup>6</sup>	HLP 1,2,3	SDG 1,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, 11,12,13,16,17
Inclusive, affordable, values-based education.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,7	
Skill-based learning with vocational training and entrepreneurship.		
ICT-driven education models with global collaborations.	HLP 3,5,6,8,9	
Empowerment programs for the last, the least, the lowest and the lost.	HLP 1,2,3	

*Continued...*

Continued...

<b>Healthcare</b>		
Free healthcare with allopathy and AYUSH.	HLP 1,2	SDG 1,2,3,10,13
Preventive care through organic food and physical training.	HLP 1,2,3,4	
Weekly medical and nutrition camps in underserved areas.	HLP 1,2	
Telemedicine initiatives for remote diagnosis and consultation.	HLP 2,6,7,8	
Comprehensive preventive, curative, and rehabilitative care.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7	
<b>Air Quality</b>		
Electric vehicles for intra-colony travel.	HLP 3,4,5	SDG 7,11,12,13
Solar thermal cooking in community kitchens.		
Misting and WAYU for air pollution control.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6	
Tree planting and air quality monitoring.		
Green spaces for carbon sequestration and ecological balance.		
<b>Water Quality</b>		
Monitoring Water Quality and Clean and safe drinking water access.	HLP 1,3, HLP	SDG 3,5,6,10
Sewage treatment and water reuse.	1,2,3,4,5,6	
Groundwater recharge through old wells.	HLP 1,2,4	
Yamuna River restoration and clean-up initiatives. <sup>7</sup>	HLP 1,2,3,4,5	
Rainwater harvesting and sustainable water management.		
<b>Innovation</b>		
Frugal solutions in education, healthcare, etc.	HLP 1,3	All SDGs
Renewable energy for community and residences.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5	
Cottage industries for economic sustainability.		
Smart Irrigation Systems and drone-assisted farming.	HLP 3,4,6	
Model sustainable eco-village blending technology with tradition.	HLP 7	
Superman Evolutionary Scheme <sup>8</sup>	HLP 3	

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*Continued...*

Human Values		
Zero-waste and moderate living.	HLP 1,2,3,5	All SDGs
Golden Mean Path for sustainability.		
Selfless service and shared responsibility.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5	
Equality through inclusive community practices.	HLP 1,2	
Conscious and conscientious environmental stewardship.	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	

*Source:* Authors' compilation.

While its peripheral activities—spanning agriculture, education, healthcare, environmental conservation, and governance—enhance the external dimensions individually, their collective synergy fosters the emergence of a holistic, spiritual consciousness.

This systems-based lifestyle exemplifies the Aristotelian principle that “the whole is more than the sum of its parts,” as the interaction between external dimensions leads to the emergence of inner dimension that inspire ethical decision-making and long-term sustainability. Through this lens, Dayalbagh operationalizes the G20 High-Level Principles, offering a blueprint for communities to foster behavioural and systemic change for sustainable development.

### **Mapping Dayalbagh Way of Life to the Aspects of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development and Beyond**

Dayalbagh serves as a living example of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development and beyond, integrating sustainability into everyday life through agriculture, dairy, healthcare, education, and community initiatives. The philosophy of Trans-Species Balance is evident in its commitment to regenerative agriculture, organic dairy practices, and biodiversity conservation. The community follows cruelty-free dairy farming, with cows treated as part of the ecosystem rather than as mere producers. Sustainable farming techniques, such as crop rotation, organic composting, and water conservation, ensure long-term soil health and ecological harmony. Similarly, healthcare in Dayalbagh embraces the

One Health approach, recognizing the interconnection between human, animal, and environmental well-being by minimizing antibiotic overuse in livestock and promoting herbal and natural medicine.

Infrastructure, and technology play a crucial role in maintaining sustainability. Dayalbagh has pioneered solar-powered irrigation, biogas plants, and smart farming techniques to reduce environmental impact while maximizing efficiency. The community's residential buildings, community halls and educational institutions are models of green campuses, incorporating energy-efficient buildings, digital learning, and sustainability-focused curricula. Healthcare infrastructure is also built with sustainability in mind, integrating renewable energy and eco-friendly hospital management practices.

Governance in Dayalbagh is deeply aligned with partnerships, policies, and collective decision-making to foster a sustainable society. The community-led model ensures responsible land use, promotes agroecology, and encourages policy-driven sustainability education. Strong collaboration between institutions, industries, and research bodies enables the adoption of best practices in sustainability. For example, policies promote farm-to-table food systems, reducing food miles and ensuring access to fresh, organic produce. The education system integrates values-based learning with skill-building in sustainability, fostering an environmentally conscious generation. The local and global initiatives of Dayalbagh towards creating robust partnerships, and policies align with HLPs 7 through 9 by supporting sustainable development financing, fostering global partnerships, and implementing effective policies. These initiatives contribute to SDGs 16 and 17, focusing on building strong institutions and revitalizing global partnerships for sustainable development.

The decentralized approach of Dayalbagh is supported by its 11 regional associations across India and 5 regional associations globally, including regions such as Asia Pacific, Australasia, Europe, and North America. These associations actively promote and embody a way of life that is in harmony with nature while advancing the ultimate goal of “Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man”, thus demonstrating

and sharing Dayalbagh's philosophy and values around the world. Dayalbagh, Dayalbagh Educational Institute (DEI) and its affiliated institutions have been focussed on research across multiple domains, including science and technology, consciousness studies, agricultural science, with frugal innovation at the core. These research efforts are supported by the Sponsoring Body of DEI- Radhasoami Satsang Sabha (Dayalbagh), and two alumni association, one at the national level and one at the international level. Further, international collaborations with some of the world's most prestigious educational institutions fosters an environment where innovation and intellectual growth can flourish.

At the heart of this sustainable framework lies individual and community behaviour, where citizens actively contribute to environmental conservation. The residents practice minimal waste lifestyles, local food consumption, and responsible water and energy use. Preventive healthcare is emphasized, with holistic wellness approaches like yoga, Ayurveda, and naturopathy playing a vital role in community well-being. Sustainability is deeply embedded in education, with students engaging in environmental conservation projects, skill development in renewable energy, and community-driven research on sustainable agriculture.

A unique and integral aspect of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development in Dayalbagh is its emphasis on spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness as guiding principles for sustainable living. Rooted in a philosophy of seva (selfless service) and holistic well-being, the community cultivates an ethos of mindfulness, ethical responsibility, and harmony with nature. Spiritual practices, such as daily meditation/prayers and value-based education, reinforce an inner awareness of interconnectedness—between humans, animals, and the environment. This deep-seated consciousness fosters conscientious decision-making, ensuring that every action aligns with principles of sustainability. Dayalbagh exemplifies how higher consciousness can drive meaningful, sustainable change at both individual and collective levels by integrating spiritual wisdom with scientific innovation.

Dayalbagh thus embodies a Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development, where approach to sustainability extends beyond

conventional frameworks by integrating Spiritual and Intuitive Consciousness and Conscientiousness into its Lifestyle for Sustainable Development. This inner dimension, rooted in values, beliefs, attitudes, and ethics, strengthens individual and community behaviour, fostering a way of life that aligns material progress with ethical responsibility. As emphasized in contemporary research (Satsangi & Dhir, 2024; Dua *et al.*, 2023, 2024), sustainable development is incomplete without acknowledging the spiritual and ethical foundations that guide human actions.

**Table 3: Summary of Dayalbagh’s Contribution to G20 High Level Principles and Sustainable Development Goals**

<b>Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development</b>		
<b>Elements of Sigma Six Q-V-A</b>	<b>Contributes to</b>	
	<b>HLPs</b>	<b>SDGs</b>
Agriculture & Dairy	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7	SDG 1,2,3,4,5,10,13,16
Education & Healthcare	All HLPs	All SDGs
Air Quality	HLP 1,2, 3,4, 5,6	SDG 7,11,12,13
Water Quality	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6	SDG 3,5,6,10
Innovation	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7	All SDGs
Human Values	HLP 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,9	All SDGs
<b><i>Driver: Governance, Financing, Partnerships &amp; Policies</i></b>		
<b><i>Enabler: Community Engagement</i></b>		
<b><i>Foundation:</i></b>		
<b><i>Values, Beliefs, Attitudes, Behaviour, Ethics</i></b>		
+		
<b><i>Spiritual and Intuitive Consciousness and Conscientiousness</i></b>		
=		
<b><i>Inner Dimension</i></b>		

*Source:* Authors’ compilation.

Table 3 above summarises the alignment of Dayalbagh’s initiatives with G20 High-Level Principles (HLPs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through its Sigma Six Quality, Value, and Attributes (Q-V-A) framework. Agriculture & Dairy initiatives focus on sustainable practices that promote food security, environmental stewardship, and rural

development, aligning with HLPs 1 through 7 and contributing to multiple SDGs, such as poverty reduction (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2), good health (SDG 3), and climate action (SDG 13). Education & Healthcare efforts in Dayalbagh emphasize inclusivity, equity, and lifelong learning, thereby supporting all HLPs and contributing to all SDGs by fostering well-being, reducing inequalities, and building sustainable communities through quality education (SDG 4) and health services (SDG 3).

Dayalbagh's initiatives to improve Air Quality align with HLPs 1 through 6 by promoting clean energy, reducing pollution, and supporting public health, contributing to SDGs focused on sustainable cities (SDG 11), climate action (SDG 13), and life on land (SDG 15). The Water Quality initiatives ensure access to clean water, promote sanitation, and protect aquatic ecosystems, aligning with HLPs 1 through 6 and contributing to SDGs related to health (SDG 3), clean water and sanitation (SDG 6), and responsible consumption and production (SDG 12). In the realm of Innovation, Dayalbagh fosters sustainable technologies and community-driven solutions that align with HLPs 1 through 6, supporting all SDGs, particularly those related to industry, innovation, and infrastructure (SDG 9). The emphasis on Human Values in Dayalbagh aligns with HLPs 1 through 5 by promoting ethical behaviour, social justice, and community cohesion, contributing to all SDGs by fostering a culture of peace, equity, and sustainable living.

Overall, Dayalbagh demonstrates that a harmonious, self-sustaining society is possible through the integration of sustainable practices in daily life and provides a replicable model for achieving ecological balance, technological advancement, good governance, and responsible community behaviour in pursuit of a sustainable future.

## **Policy Recommendations**

Achieving sustainable development requires a transformative shift in lifestyles, emphasizing harmony between human behaviour, ecosystem health, and social equity. Policymakers play a critical role in fostering this change by designing and implementing comprehensive strategies that integrate community engagement, innovative infrastructure, inclusive

governance, and behaviour-driven solutions to promote holistic and sustainable living practices. Using the aspects of lifestyle for sustainable development, discussed in section 1, and recommend the following

#### **A. Trans-Species Balance: Harmonious Co-existence for Human and Ecosystem Health**

- Promote local food production and strengthen community ties by establishing and supporting community agricultural farms to foster biodiversity and enhance social cohesion.
- Foster civic responsibility and environmental stewardship through community-driven efforts, such as clean-up programs for water bodies and other natural resources.
- Promote health equity through community-based interventions by organizing medical camps or health fairs to provide free or low-cost health services and education, ensuring access to quality healthcare for all.

#### **B. Infrastructure & Technology**

- Integrate holistic education practices into mainstream curricula, focusing on spiritual, moral, and intellectual development alongside environmental consciousness.
- Support community-driven clean energy infrastructure and sustainable transport systems to reduce carbon footprints and encourage environmental stewardship.
- Develop monitoring and evaluation mechanisms with community involvement to assess progress toward holistic sustainability goals.
- Enhance community safety and resilience by improving disaster response capabilities and strengthening preparedness.
- Leverage technology for inclusive community engagement through data-driven platforms for knowledge sharing and collaboration.



### **C. Governance, Financing, Partnerships, and Policies**

- Promote circular economy principles to minimize waste, promote resource efficiency, and create sustainable business models with long-term societal and environmental benefits.
- Provide financial support through dedicated funding, international grants, and recognitions for community-led sustainability projects in member countries.
- Establish community-led triangular cooperation platforms to facilitate dialogue, collaboration, and knowledge exchange among community members, local governments, and external partners.
- Support research into effective community engagement strategies for sustainable development to inform evidence-based policy-making.

Shift economic evaluation beyond GDP by integrating multi-dimensional well-being indicators encompassing social, environmental, and human development aspects to ensure economic progress aligns with sustainability, equity, and overall societal welfare.

### **D. Individual & Community Behaviour**

- Foster equality, respect, inclusivity, and fairness through community engagement initiatives that promote gender equality and social justice.
- Build community capacity through training sessions and conferences to share best practices in sustainable development.
- Engage communities in planning, implementation, and maintenance of projects to ensure local relevance and ownership.

## **Conclusions**

This paper explored the evolution of the concept of Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) as a global movement centred on promoting sustainable living through individual and collective action. The G20 principles on lifestyle for sustainable development provide a robust

framework for embedding sustainability into everyday life, emphasizing sustainable production, behavioural science for fostering green lifestyles, responsible use of data and technology, and the crucial roles of local communities. Financing, inclusive growth, poverty reduction, and ensuring no one is left behind remain central to achieving these goals.

LiFE incorporates values, behaviour, and attitudes, broadening the scope of sustainable action. However, the challenge lies in operationalizing these principles effectively. In this paper, we explore the Dayalbagh model, where, alongside LiFE principles, spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness are deeply integrated. This synergy—LiFE combined with spiritual and intuitive dimensions—offers a framework for a “Lifestyle for Holistic Sustainable Development,” addressing sustainability comprehensively through inner transformation and external action.

The paper mapped the Dayalbagh way of life to the G20 High-Level Principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), highlighting their alignment and potential synergy. Dayalbagh offers a compelling example of how integrating spiritual and intuitive consciousness and conscientiousness can expand the scope of LiFE principles. It underscores the transformative power of inner dimension in advancing sustainable development. While rooted in its unique context, the Dayalbagh model demonstrates the transformative potential of inner dimension in addressing global challenges. Its emphasis on community engagement, biodiversity preservation, and sustainable practices serves as an inspiring framework for achieving holistic and inclusive solutions in alignment with LiFE principles.

In conclusion, achieving sustainable development requires a holistic approach that bridges the external and internal dimensions of human existence. Models like Dayalbagh show how localized, collective efforts, guided by shared values and a commitment to environmental stewardship, can contribute to a sustainable and resilient future.

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## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> On the very first day of COP 21 in Paris, on November 30, 2015, the Financial Times published an opinion article titled “Do Not Let Lifestyles of the Rich World Deny the Dreams of the Rest,” authored by the Prime Minister of India. This article laid the groundwork for the concept of Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), which was introduced at COP 26.
- <sup>2</sup> Refers to creation and use of goods and services in ways that minimize environmental impact, conserve resources, and support economic and social well-being with an aim to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.
- <sup>3</sup> This is an economic system that focuses on minimizing waste and making the most of resources by designing products for reuse, recycling, and regeneration. It contrasts with the traditional linear model of “take, make, dispose,” aiming to create a closed-loop system that reduces environmental impact and fosters sustainability.
- <sup>4</sup> The Superman Evolutionary Scheme engages children aged 3 weeks to 12 years in activities promoting physical, emotional, and spiritual development. The infants, toddlers and pre-teens are introduced to community service, harmony with nature, culture, and heritage through participation in healthcare and self-defence exercises, selfless service in agroecology-cum-precision farming operations fostering their relationship with nature for bio-socio-cognitive development from a very young age. This program has shown measurable improvements in intelligence, emotional maturity, and social skills.
- <sup>5</sup> Dayalbagh adopts an educational philosophy of ‘Maternity to Eternity,’ nurturing individuals from infancy through advanced academic pursuits. The journey begins with early engagement in community service, harmony with nature, and cultural education, progressing to vocational training, higher education, and lifelong learning. This inclusive, values-driven model supports SDG 4 (Quality Education) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).
- <sup>6</sup> See note 5

<sup>7</sup> Dayalbagh demonstrates exemplary efforts in water management, including the Yamuna River Clean-up and Restoration Project. This initiative focuses on restoring the river's natural flow and mitigating pollution caused by industrial and domestic waste. Activities include desilting, afforestation along the banks, and community-driven clean-up programs, contributing to SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 15 (Life on Land). [https://www.dei.ac.in/dei/edei/files/2024/Paritantra%20Jan%202024%20V3\\_1.pdf](https://www.dei.ac.in/dei/edei/files/2024/Paritantra%20Jan%202024%20V3_1.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> See note 4

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## Appendix A

### Summary of High Level Principles of Lifestyle for Sustainable Development<sup>1</sup>

#### **Principle 1: Integrate development, environment, climate goals.**

1. Universal approach for integrated development, environment and climate goals.
2. Enhance synergies, maximize co-benefits, minimize trade-offs.
3. Multi-level, multi-stakeholder integrated sustainable development.

#### **Principle 2: Meet basic needs inclusively.**

1. Sustainable consumption, production for all, particularly the poor and vulnerable.
2. Promote Inclusive growth, focusing on poverty reduction, energy poverty, gender equality, and uplifting the poor and vulnerable
3. Tackle climate change, pursue 1.5°C goal.

#### **Principle 3: Promote sustainable individual, community behaviours.**

1. Encourage sustainable consumption via empirically and scientifically grounded nudges/incentives.
2. Reframe consumption to be sustainable, inclusive, affordable, and accessible, making sustainable lifestyles more aspirational.
3. Highlight the importance of quality education, training, public awareness, and green skills development.
4. Scale up government policies using behavioural science approaches to support sustainable lifestyles.

#### **Principle 4: Support sustainable production, technological innovation.**

1. Engage stakeholders in sustainable production to create inclusive and sustainable ecosystems.

2. Support developing countries in pursuing sustainable economic growth.
3. Enable technology transfer and innovation for resource efficiency and productivity improvements and transitions to sustainable lifestyles.
4. Support entrepreneurship and circular economy approaches through government policies and financing

**Principle 5: Mainstream sustainability in economic policies.**

1. Promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and advance sustainable production and consumption patterns.
2. Promote an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable society to accelerate NDCs and achieve net zero emissions by mid-century.
3. Support SMEs, zero waste initiatives, social entrepreneurship, and innovation.
4. Prioritize labour market-oriented vocational education and training, to significantly enhance opportunities for securing decent employment and promote broader social and economic participation.
5. Expand policy measures for low-emission products, biodiversity-friendly services, and sustainable infrastructure in line with the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.
6. Encourage markets to leverage sustainable consumer choices to create resilient and inclusive infrastructure.
7. Promote research and innovation for sustainable technologies across all sectors of the economy, including green and ocean-based economies.
8. Promote evidence-based policy making to accelerate development, environmental, and climate goals, emphasizing sustainable lifestyles.
9. Foster sustainable global value chains based on internationally accepted standards, for mainstreaming sustainability across sectors.

### **Principle 6: Responsibly leverage data, digital technology.**

1. Highlight the role of data and digital technology in achieving development, environment, and climate goals.
2. Support behaviour change towards sustainable lifestyles through data and incentives.
3. Promote responsible use of AI and digital technologies to minimize environmental impacts.
4. Strengthen evidence-based policymaking through inclusive data collection on SDGs indicators.
5. Minimize digital technology's environmental impact.
6. Local governments use inclusive data collection.
7. Secure, private data for sustainability goals.

### **Principle 7: Empower local communities, traditional knowledge.**

1. Support local, traditional, Indigenous knowledge.
2. Include vulnerable, underrepresented groups' voices.
3. Respect nature for sustainable living.

### **Principle 8: Facilitate sustainable development financing globally.**

1. Acknowledge the critical role of financing, for sustainable consumption and production.
2. Galvanize international efforts and collective actions for financing, to stimulate investments in sustainable, resilient and quality infrastructure. Focus areas include transport, waste management, sustainable urbanization, energy efficiency, and resilient agriculture.
3. Leverage finance from all sources to promote sustainable lifestyles.
4. Highlight the need for increased international financing, especially for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), to complement domestic resources for achieving SDGs and transitioning to sustainable, climate-resilient development pathways towards global net zero emissions by mid-century.



5. Mobilize and align financing from all sources, domestic and international, to support ambitious climate and environmental goals, including those outlined in the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement.

**Principle 9: Strengthen global cooperation, partnerships.**

1. Anchor sustainable lifestyles globally through collaboration with international organizations and stakeholders.
2. Promote partnerships for sustainable lifestyles fostering collective engagement across society for sustainable consumer choices.
3. Enhance global collaboration on sustainable lifestyles and consumer choices through multi-stakeholder partnerships, leveraging technology, knowledge, and financial resources in line with WTO rules to mainstream sustainable development.

**Endnote**

- <sup>1</sup> Excerpted from [https://g7g20-documents.org/fileadmin/G7G20\\_documents/2023/G20/India/Sherpa-Track/Development%20Ministers/1%20Ministers'%20Language/G20%20High%20Level%20Principles%20on%20Lifestyles%20for%20Sustainable%20Development\\_12062023.pdf](https://g7g20-documents.org/fileadmin/G7G20_documents/2023/G20/India/Sherpa-Track/Development%20Ministers/1%20Ministers'%20Language/G20%20High%20Level%20Principles%20on%20Lifestyles%20for%20Sustainable%20Development_12062023.pdf)

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