



Strategies of Development

Catch-up strategy

This development strategy belongs to the modernization theories and is based on "development through growth". Growth centers are to be created specifically to serve as growth engines for the entire country. It is assumed that the prosperity created in these centers will eventually **trickle down** to the surrounding areas and reach the poor groups and rural areas. The cause of underdevelopment, namely the economic backwardness and the traditional society, is to be eliminated by quickly catching up with the industrialized countries, e.g. through agricultural reforms, investments in infrastructure and the expansion of trade relations on the world market. Financial and technical assistance is intended to trigger a **"big push"**, i.e., a leap in development.

Satisfying basic needs

This strategy assumes that the basic material and immaterial needs of the population should be satisfied first before focussing on economic growth. The main aim is to combat mass poverty, achieve a fairer distribution of national income and increase the participation of the population.

This strategy assumes that there is a connection between the population's food and health care and their motivation to work. Basic needs include sufficient food, housing and clothing, as well as the provision of sanitary facilities and clean drinking water. At the same time, food production should be increased, and labor-intensive jobs created.

The comprehensive supply of vitamin A and zinc to children, slum rehabilitation and investment in traditional agriculture are examples of the implementation of the basic needs strategy.

Dissociation strategy

The dissociation strategy demands the economic isolation (dissociation) of a country to achieve development independently of the global market. This is intended to minimize the negative consequences of world market integration. The economy is only oriented towards the domestic market and independent of the global market. This can be achieved, for example, through high protective tariffs and the use of domestic resources. The model for this strategy is the Chinese development path under Mao Zedong. This includes, above all, the establishment of a basic materials industry and the further development of the manufacturing industry. Other examples of the application of the dissociation strategy can be found in North Korea, Cuba and Albania.

Strategy of adapted development

The strategy of adapted development assumes that development aid can only be successful if it is adapted to the country-specific and local conditions. This includes, above all, the identification of the population with the measures. This should lead to a strengthening of personal initiative and self-confidence. For this reason, capital-saving and labor-intensive, simple technologies are used, which should be in line with traditional values. For example, wood-saving cooking stoves were introduced in Burkina Faso and Guatemala in order to curb families' increasing demand for wood.

Help for self-help

The basic principle of this strategy is to focus on the problems of a lack of capital, high unemployment, a lack of know-how for the use of state-of-the-art technologies and cultural barriers and to initiate development from the population (bottom-up effect). Ultimately, the aim is to enable the population to help themselves.

Sustainable development strategy

The global responsibility of all people for the earth is at the heart of this development strategy. For this reason, all measures should focus on creating a humane basis for life and securing the foundations for future generations. For this reason, all projects are organized according to the criteria of social justice, ecological compatibility and economic prosperity. For example, the production principles of fair trade are approaches to sustainable development. The support of small farms and the establishment of small farmers' cooperatives are measures of socially sustainable development. The use of chemicals is avoided in cultivation and cultivation methods are based on ecological conditions. For example, spices are grown by traditional Indian tribes in the rainforest and large-scale plantations and monocultures are avoided.

The economic goal is not purely to maximize profits, but primarily to achieve self-sufficiency. Intermediary trade should be avoided as far as possible and the buyers guarantee minimum prices, which should be independent of the world market price.