

СЕКЦІЯ II. ГЕОЕКОЛОГІЧНІ ПРОБЛЕМИ ТЕРИТОРІАЛЬНИХ ГРОМАД У МІЖДИСЦИПЛІНАРНИХ ВИМІРАХ

INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND GLOBAL COMPETENCE AS CATALYSTS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES

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Sustainable development increasingly depends on the capacity of communities to communicate across cultural, linguistic, and ideological boundaries. This article examines how intercultural communication and global competence function as catalysts for sustainable development in territorial communities-local ecosystems of people, environment, and culture that are embedded in global interconnections. Drawing on frameworks from intercultural communication theory, global competence research, and sustainability studies, the article explores how communicative practices and global awareness enable inclusive participation, conflict resolution, and collective problem solving. It argues that intercultural communication provides the dialogic infrastructure through which global competence is enacted in practice, fostering trust, mutual understanding, and co-creation within diverse communities. Empirical studies and theoretical insights demonstrate that communication and competence together build the relational and cognitive foundations of sustainability.

Key words: *intercultural communication, competence, sustainable development, territorial communities, cultural diversity, dialogue.*

Global challenges such as climate change, migration, and social inequality unfold within specific local and territorial contexts. Addressing these challenges requires more than technical expertise or policy coordination; it demands the ability to engage in dialogue across cultural and disciplinary boundaries. As Appadurai (2013) notes, global interconnectedness has transformed even small localities into nodes in vast cultural and communicative networks. Sustainable development in such contexts depends on how effectively people communicate, negotiate, and cooperate across difference.

Intercultural communication and global competence are thus not peripheral skills but essential components of sustainable human coexistence. Intercultural communication provides the processes and practices that enable mutual understanding, while global competence provides the awareness, values, and analytical skills necessary for engaging with global interdependencies. Together, they cultivate the cultural intelligence and ethical commitment required for inclusive and resilient territorial communities.

Intercultural communication involves the exchange of meaning between people of different cultural backgrounds and is central to building inclusive and participatory communities (Gudykunst, 2004). Effective intercultural communication goes beyond transmitting information; it involves empathy, adaptability, and dialogue that acknowledges cultural differences while seeking shared understanding.

Nikiforova and Skvortsova (2021) argue that intercultural competence, when connected to education for sustainable development, becomes a transformative capacity that facilitates cooperation and peaceful coexistence across cultural boundaries. Similarly, Aririguzoh et al. (2022) emphasize that communicative competence and cultural literacy are essential for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to peace, partnerships, and strong institutions (SDG 16 and 17).

From a systems perspective, sustainability requires feedback, negotiation, and co-creation processes fundamentally communicative in nature. Dialogue between local actors, indigenous knowledge holders, and global experts allows for the integration of diverse epistemologies and promotes context-sensitive solutions (Andersson et al., 2022).

The OECD (2018) defines global competence as the capacity to examine local, global, and intercultural issues, understand different perspectives, communicate across cultures, and take action toward collective well-being. It combines knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values, aligning cognitive understanding with ethical responsibility.

Recent scholarship positions global competence as a driver of sustainability, as it enables citizens to link local actions with global systems, identify interdependencies, and recognize the ethical dimensions of their choices (Costa, Alscher & Thums, 2024). When applied in territorial communities, global competence helps residents interpret global environmental or economic trends within local realities bridging the global and the personal.

Intercultural communication provides the process, while global competence provides the orientation. Communication without competence risks misunderstanding and ethnocentrism; competence without communication risks abstraction and inaction. Together, they foster the dialogic relationships necessary for co-creating sustainable futures. Territorial communities defined by shared geography and identity can use intercultural communication as a tool for deliberation and mediation, translating global sustainability goals into local narratives. Through communication, sustainability becomes a lived, discursive process rather than a top-down mandate.

Deliberative communication enables diverse actors to articulate interests and negotiate common goals. Habermas's (1984) theory of communicative action provides a useful lens: sustainability requires communicative rationality mutual understanding based on argument and respect, not coercion. In territorial communities, such dialogue allows residents to define what sustainability means within their own cultural frameworks.

Airiguzoh et al. (2022) demonstrate that communication networks and dialogue processes enhance trust and participation in local sustainability projects. When citizens perceive communication as inclusive and transparent, they are more likely to participate in co-management of local resources and environmental planning.

Culture shapes how sustainability is imagined and enacted. Intercultural communication enables communities to share and reinterpret cultural narratives around nature, progress, and responsibility. Andersson et al. (2022) argue that sustainability transitions require translation between diverse knowledge systems scientific, indigenous, and local mediated through respectful communication. Storytelling, participatory media, and community dialogue circles can serve as intercultural communicative practices that connect local traditions with global sustainability discourses, generating shared meaning and collective agency. Sustainability processes often involve conflicts over values, resources, or identity. Intercultural communication helps transform these conflicts into opportunities for learning. Bennett (2009) emphasizes that intercultural sensitivity recognizing and managing difference constructively is critical for peacebuilding and social cohesion.

Trust emerges through sustained communicative engagement. When actors listen, acknowledge difference, and seek reciprocity, communication becomes a foundation for long-term cooperation, essential for environmental stewardship and social sustainability.

Strategies for Strengthening Intercultural and Global Communicative Capacity are:

1. Community Dialogues for Sustainability: Establish participatory forums where diverse community members deliberate sustainability challenges and share perspectives.
2. Intercultural Mediation Training: Develop programs that train local facilitators in intercultural communication, negotiation, and conflict resolution.
3. Narrative and Media Initiatives: Support storytelling, digital media, and arts projects that give voice to different cultural perspectives on sustainability.

4. Cross-Regional Partnerships: Create global-local exchange programs linking territorial communities with similar challenges, fostering translocal learning.

5. Policy Integration: Include intercultural communication and global competence in local sustainable development plans and regional governance strategies.

These strategies align with the UN's emphasis on participatory governance (UNESCO, 2017) and highlight the communicative dimension of the SDGs as a condition for collective action.

Despite growing recognition, several challenges persist:

✓ Power Asymmetries: not all voices are equally heard; communicative spaces may reproduce social hierarchies;

✓ Linguistic Barriers: multilingual contexts can complicate participation without appropriate facilitation;

✓ Digital Divide: unequal access to communication technologies limits global connectivity;

✓ Superficial Engagement: “dialogue” may be tokenistic without long-term commitment and trust.

Future research should examine how intercultural communicative competence operates in real sustainability projects, using ethnographic or participatory methodologies to trace how dialogue shapes decision-making.

Conclusions. Sustainable development in territorial communities is not solely a technical or economic enterprise it is fundamentally a communicative and cultural process. The success of sustainability initiatives depends on how communities communicate about their shared challenges, negotiate differences, and construct visions of a common future. Without open, respectful, and interculturally competent communication, efforts toward sustainability risk exclusion, misunderstanding, or conflict. Global competence complements communication by providing awareness of interdependence, empathy for others, and an ethical compass for collective action.

Intercultural communication provides the dialogic foundation for inclusive participation, enabling people to articulate diverse values and priorities, while global competence supplies the cognitive and ethical framework that situates local actions within global systems of interdependence. Together, they form the human infrastructure of sustainability: a web of relationships, understandings, and moral commitments that allow communities to adapt, innovate, and thrive amid complexity. By embedding intercultural communication and global competence into local governance, civic engagement, and education for sustainability, communities can build inclusive networks of dialogue and cooperation turning diversity into a source of resilience and innovation. In a world marked by complexity and plurality, communication and competence together form the connective tissue of sustainable living.

Moreover, the integration of these capacities can transform territorial communities into living laboratories of global citizenship. Through meaningful dialogue, communities can connect indigenous knowledge, scientific understanding, and civic responsibility, generating solutions that are both locally grounded and globally relevant. Ultimately, cultivating intercultural communication and global competence is a pathway to resilient, peaceful, and just society's communities capable of turning cultural diversity into a source of creativity and shared sustainability. In this sense, communication is not merely a tool for sustainable development it is its very heartbeat.

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СПЕЦИФІЧНІ ПІДХОДИ ДО ПІЗНАННЯ АНТРОПОГЕННИХ ЛАНДШАФТІВ ТЕРИТОРІАЛЬНИХ ГРОМАД

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One of the pressing issues regarding the application and use of geoinformation technologies and electronic geodetic equipment for research and monitoring of the spread of invasive plants in modern, predominantly anthropogenic landscapes of the Haivoron territorial community is considered. The results obtained contribute to a deeper understanding of the interaction of invasive plants with the surrounding anthropogenic environment. Attention is drawn to the application of modern remote sensing methods, which are widely used to assess changes in the spread of invasive flora. The use of these technologies makes it possible to analyze the spectral characteristics of plants in detail, which significantly increases the accuracy of detecting invasive species in the structure of anthropogenic landscapes of territorial communities.

Key words: territorial communities, invasive plants, anthropogenic landscapes.

Сучасна ландшафтна структура будь-якої територіальної громади України, якщо не всі сто відсотків, то здебільшого на 85-95 % представлена давно сформованими антропогенними ландшафтами. Детальне їх пізнання у межах територіальних громад лише розпочинається. У межах цього пізнання актуальним є використання специфічних підходів до контролю за розвитком окремих типів антропогенних ландшафтів територіальних громад.