

# WOODSIDE ENERGY

## 1.INTRODUCTION

Woodside Energy is a petroleum exploration and production company based in Australia . It is the country's largest oil and gas production operator and the largest independent dedicated oil and gas company in Australia. As sustainability has become one of the business's most rent and urgent mandates (Carroll & Buchholtz 2012).That has become Woodside's command and development goal. The report related to Woodside's sustainability efforts will analyze the company's critical social and environmental issues, namely the impacts of energy projects on the climate, environment, and human rights. From there, it shows the business behavior of enterprises and the change solutions that can be applied to solve challenges in sustainable development and globalization.

## 2.CONTEXT OF THE CASE STUDY

The climate change becoming a concern, experts believe there is still time to avoid the most negative outcomes by limiting warming offsite links and reducing emissions. The dramatic reduction of emissions from natural infrastructure fossil data is essential (Turner 2022). Woodside Energy has made an environmental statement and is interested in Australia's Paris commitments, which govern trash disposal at sea. However, implementing projects with a financial focus is paramount to Woodside's leaders. One such project is Scarborough, which provides the scale and revenues needed to fund Woodside's next wave of investment as it proceeds in the energy transition (Smith 2021). It has brought many areas for improvement in pursuing accountability and transparency in sustainable development, which has been featured in most business plans and reports for many years.

## 3.ANALYSIS

### 3.1 WOODSIDE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM

#### 3.1.1.Climate Change and Life below water

The Scarborough project has utterly undermined environmental efforts. Adding more gas to the system through Scarborough would increase rather than decrease emissions. Regarded as one of Australia's most polluting fossil fuel projects, Scarborough is described as releasing as many greenhouse gas emissions as 20,000 planes flying around the world dailyfor the next 25

years. This will cause air pollution and seriously affect the habitat of individual species living in the area.

Implementing the Woodside Energy Project in the Western Australian region can be evaluated using normative theories and instruments from stakeholders. The initiative will increase opportunities for local, regional, and Western Australian businesses in the supply chain for Scarborough if based solely on economic growth. However, this gas project has caused a wave of protests among shareholders because of the goals and risks that this business plan brings (Butler 2021). Many policies and actions have been taken to help the world move away from fossil fuels and bring emissions back to zero. Therefore the Scarborough will be almost worthless in the future. It is a risky investment and can leave billions of assets stranded. The project of blasting seabed dredging and constructing infrastructure to extract gas will also destroy the marine environment of Western Australia, which is home to marine animals such as dolphins, sea turtles, and especially sea turtles, the humpback whale.(GOGEL 2022) .Besides, the interdependence between the economy of nations throughout the world is growing in a specific context with the current trend of globalization. Developing partnerships with economic partners to foster profitable business is essential for a corporation with a worldwide orientation like Woodside. Nonetheless, the corporation has had to deal with waves of protests due to the impact from the government and domestic and international organizations due to the implementation of projects that do not meet the common sustainable development goals of the globe and do not fulfill the collective obligations (Greenpeace).

## **3.2.WOODSIDE AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

### **3.2.1.Voices of human rights and cultural values**

Murujuga, also known as the Burrup Peninsula, is one of the richest sites in the world for prehistoric petroglyphs. The implementation of Woodside's project could destroy monuments. Heritage defenders have strongly protested because the company has ignored their voices and measures to protect the heritage that the project may damage.The claims against Woodside about human rights violations are not new. Woodside's involvement in initiatives in international markets is entirely acceptable, given the company's globalization-related mindset. However, the main problem is in the host country. For instance, in 2021, Myanmar had an extremely catastrophic coup, indicating that over 1.5 million people were

displaced, about 3,000 were killed, and about 17,000 were arrested (Blinken 2023 ). Woodside claims to be a global human rights advocate, but instead of condemning atrocities in the military and suspending business activities in Myanmar amid political and human rights. The chief executive of Australian energy company Woodside had ignored the military's grievances over the military coup and said the company would proceed with gas development in Myanmar. As Woodside hesitated to wait for a business opportunity instead of speaking out to defend the stability and human rights values, the uncertain actions of the company raised questions about the company's responsibility of the company to devotion to human rights (Dziedzic 2021).

The media, a secondary but significant participant in human rights issues, has focused on Woodside's dedication to protecting human rights. The media use the company's yearly reports on sustainability development to highlight shortcomings in actual actions. By affecting citizens's opinions on environmental issues, human rights, and corporate perceptions, this incites public protests and rallies. With globalization aiding the transmission of knowledge in the medium and long term, the media's influence will lead consumers to reconsider the values the brand claims to uphold and doubt the sincerity of its future commitments. This will harm reputation significantly and will likely to lead to significant issues when Woodside does not uphold the principle of implementing its investment and partnership relationships.

### **3.3.IS WOODSIDE SUSTAINABLE ?**

Woodside provides an annual climate change report, highlighting its outstanding dedication to sustainability. However, implementing one of the high-risk projects, such as Scarborough, demonstrates that Woodside can only achieve those ambitious goals if the report sets out measures to deal with the effects of contaminated chambers. In addition, Woodside management did not have adequate data or explanations for the allegations and questions from environmental organizations and shareholders about their climate plans. (Petrass 2022) shows the neglect of environmental and human protection standards. Woodside is misleading the public with its lack of openness in normative reporting and agreements between these claimants. Therefore, Woodside does not meet the 3Ps factor in sustainable development (Simon 2022).



Woodside's approach to climate change issues points to a rising trend of "greenwashing," a byproduct of "bleaching," as businesses try to project an image of environmental friendliness as the key concern in the industry. Woodside has engaged in "greenwashing" to mislead the public about their environmental efforts by asserting things without providing proof to support them in creating a sustainable world. High-profile corporations accused of greenwashing include Coca-Cola, which commits to "neutralize the water." This was perceived as boasting, and Coca-Cola appears to have fallen short of its promise because the actual increase only considers the creation of bottles, not the whole supply chain. Due to the protests that followed, Coca-Cola had to deal with accusations of greenwashing (Pearce 2008)

#### **4.RECOMENDATION**

Regarding combating climate change, Scottish Power, one of the UK's six largest energy suppliers has a promising strategy. Scottish Power has partnered with the renowned NGO WWF to implement projects that promote climate action and emphasize decarbonizing homes and project energy to speed up the UK's transition to net zero (WWF). Because few firms understand how to profit from nature sustainably, NGOs can assist them in learning how to lessen their adverse environmental effects. (Brouwer 2013). The strategy used by Scottish Power can be used in a scenario involving Woodside. Furthermore, the business must demonstrate its care for social and political issues in its operational environment if it hopes to be seen by the public as one of the ethical firms.

#### **5.CONCLUSION**

Woodside has encountered many issues challenging the company's sustainability when accused of violating its commitment to climate change and human rights. The implementation of energy projects despite the consequences concerning nature, along with neglect in heritage conservation and human rights issues, have shown that they have been unable to pursue the objectives according to the reporting roadmap. This shows that the trend of "greenwashing" is increasing. In the future, after the merger, Woodside needs to have specific business directions and development plans if it wants to continue with the motto of sustainable development, regain its reputation in the market, and integrate with today's globalized business environment.

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