UN SDGs: 17 Goals to Transform Our World Professor Doctor Shiva Ji Department of Design Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad Module 9

SDG-1: No Poverty Part 1

Hello everyone. So, I welcome you all in the module 9 of the NPTEL course of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. So, in this module, we are going to study SDG 1 sustainable development goal that is no poverty.

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So, this is the first of the 17 SDGs. This is here in front of you and why this is kept at the number one, why it comes number one, what is the reason behind it? Well, you can introspect, but I personally feel for any human endeavour for any well-being and education, health consciousness towards environment consciousness towards sustainability, society economic or any other living creature.

It grows from where you are at what kind of footing you are standing at what are the accesses to different resources and things and facilities you have. It begins from there and that is where poverty is one of the most unfortunate conditions for any human being, any family, any individual, any person, any society. It poses tremendous challenges in front of them in any form of growth and development, they can aspire for, it prevents them to fulfilling forget about goals and aims in life, even the basic necessities even feeding them two meals a day, a proper decent cloth on the body and a shelter at their head, a rooftop at the head.

And this is where I feel this has a lot of emotional appeal into this, this has very heart wrenching, examples from around the world in what kind of conditions our some of the

brothers and sisters are living. And this is where this comes as first and foremost SDG that in the name of humanity in the name of growth and development in the name of all of this, what we have, we must aspire to bring those deprived families, individuals and households also into the main fold.

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So, the aim of this SDG is to end poverty in all its forms everywhere you can see it right over here, it aims to end poverty in all its forms, because poverty also can have a different forms, and well in majority of the planet, in many of the continents, it is very, very prevalent and in some places, maybe in developed countries, it is not there so much, but in some form maybe not that much of agony or impoverished, impoverishment, but maybe some lack of resources or some lack of things.

But majorly it is present in the developing countries or underdeveloped countries, majority of human such people households communities are there in the sub Saharan African region, some of them South Asian regions, and some in the South American places also. So, we will see one by one this is one video, I recommend you all to watch. Maybe separately, you can watch this video.

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To give you a glimpse, I have curated some cartoons, some illustrations, which talks about the condition of poverty, because I feel a picture is worth 1000 words. So, just have a look of these illustrations, these visualisations carry a lot of weight and they describe a different situations different context prevalent across different parts of the world and in what forms, in what ways poverty affects society.

So, in this one you can see the huge disparity between one person or maybe a set of people represented by this group we know, it has rich people. So, the resources they have access to the accumulation of resources they have compared to the far greater number of people who are deprived off same set of resources.

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The impact poverty can cause to the human society. It is still humongous, perhaps, we do not usually talk about it in the mainstream well, maybe media or maybe the education system or other places. But I am really happy that UN SDGs they brought this as first SDG and now through the same education system, through this course, through my institute our collective group of institution.

We are talking about it, we are discussing about it, and at least we are thinking about it. We are making you sensitive about it and definitely it is expected that things will improve and we all must put in our efforts together to address the situation. So, it is stated that the mammoth effort, sorry the mammoth impact what poverty can cause is still is not shown in that proportion compared to the impacts by other elements such as recently we have encountered this pandemic the world has faced COVID 19. Because COVID might subside it is kind of subsiding across different places but poverty is still is there in huge numbers mind boggling numbers.

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In this one what I understand a selected few they are the maybe purposefully or maybe, I do not know what to say this illustration actually depicts, they are depriving the majority to access some resources.

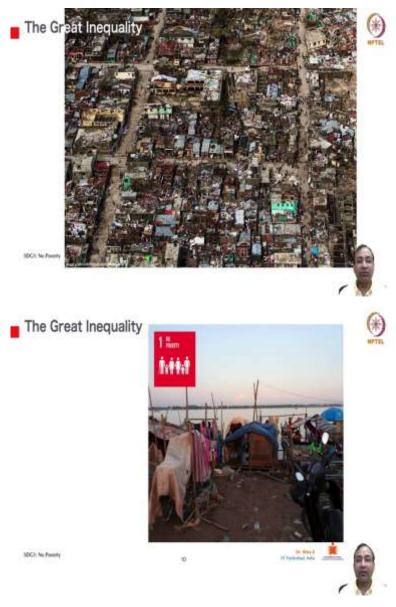
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In this one how do we define who is poor who is not? Well there is a benchmark, that benchmark is also a matter contest a matter of debate, how do you say like, this much is enough, this much is not enough for one family's survival livelihood. So, that itself is a matter of debate and discussion and this has been discussed in our country as well other where also other places also globally also. Like, where do you define that line as BPL in India, we know, it has BPL below poverty line.

So, the people who are living below this line, this carries some earning per day per year and if the income is below this, they qualify under here and if it is above they go above this. But the point of contention is whether it this much of this wealth is enough for access to the majority of the things what one would strive for. So, that also keeps on changing here and there and sometimes it becomes a game of statistics. So how do we define that parameter that also requires equal attention.

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And if you see the visuals of poverty from places it is really heart wrenching. I have just compiled one or two, to give a glimpse in what kind of conditions people are living in.

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So, coming to the main content well United Nations they suggest by 2030 167 million children will live in extreme poverty because in poverty also there are several layers. So extreme perhaps comes even far below in the world if the world does not take action to improve health and education.

So, how these two health and education if you see they are themselves different SDGs. If these are not taken care of this will push 167 million children below extreme poverty. How it is related, I will give you some instances with the proper health and nutrition. Of course, we do not feel any shortcoming or any health related condition in our body and we are typically fit and fine to perform our duties perform our work wherever we are.

But if that is not the case by the shortage of the nutritional values in the body by not supplementing body with the enough energy and other things. One's body is going to be diseased and will definitely fall short of required stamina and will render one conditioned or maybe diseased.

And that will prevent you from performing your day to day activities and your duties at your work that will fetch you less money less wages and that will lead you to extreme poverty. Education, if you are not educated enough or if your children, if your (())(12:07) are not educated enough today. Definitely, they may not have access to the jobs and employment abilities, empowerment or opportunities available in the surrounding or skill sets, which are desired for performing certain types of works and that may again lead them to impoverished conditions.

So, these are in like, some direct conditions where, which contribute to the numbers of poverty. So, overall with the SDGs, this SDG 1, what is the goal over here, why we are discussing it? Well, very simple straight line one sentence goal, to end poverty in all its forms everywhere by 2030. It is a very simple one line statement, but it is equally hard, and a treacherous path for the world to achieve that. From several decades, and perhaps in the last century, this focus has been there in all the countries by all the governments to eradicate poverty.

But unfortunately, still there, perhaps the efforts being put up they are not enough or not at the right place, not at the right time. We need to correct that and bring it to the proper results. Why? Why is it needed? Why this goal is needed more than 700 million people or 11 percent of world population still live in extreme poverty, extreme poverty. Please note that and is struggling to fulfil the most basic needs health, education and access to water and sanitation to name a few.

There are a few more, yes, the overwhelming majority of people living on less than 1.9 dollars US dollars a day live in Southern Asia and Sub Saharan Africa. And they account for about 70 percent of the global total of extreme poor people. So now which place which part of the world to focus on. In 2017 economic losses, attributed to natural disasters were estimated worth over 300 billion dollars among the highest losses in recent years. However, this issue also affects developed countries. Right now there are 30 million children growing up poor in the world's richest countries.

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Why there is so much poverty in the world? Poverty has many dimensions, but its causes include unemployment. What causes poverty? Social exclusion and high vulnerability of certain population to disasters diseases and other phenomena. So, you can see these keywords where one needs to put in their aim.

Because if you improve these conditions this will contribute to improving the poverty line. I am not poor. Why should I care about other people's economic situation? There can be several reasons even if you are not poor, why you should work for this? Why you should work for the improving the situation? There are many reasons, but in short because all human beings our well-being is linked to each other. We have seen it beforehand how it is interconnected how human society actually works.

And we are all in connected at many places maybe cyclically, maybe directly, maybe indirectly. Growing inequality is determined to economic growth and undermine social cohesion, increasing political and social tensions, and in some circumstances driving instability and conflicts. Can we actually achieve this goal? Yes, there are many success stories we have seen previously. And this also can be done.

To end extreme poverty worldwide in 20 years, economist Jeffrey Sachs calculated that the total cost per year would be about 175 billion dollars, this represents less than 1 percent of the combined income of the richest countries in the world. So, if you see this figure alone is a very big amount, but the world's richest countries this is less than 1 percent of combined income.

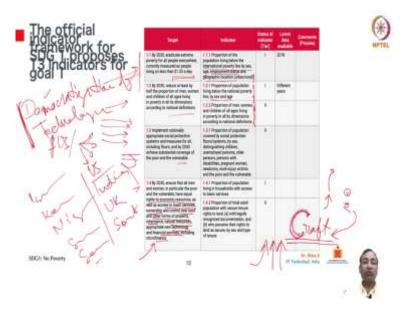
So, even if a handful of contribute, handful of countries contribute less than 1 percent of their combined income this can be done. But sorry to say the this is not happening. So, this is where efforts are needed combined efforts are needed.

So, what can I do about it, if you are a young person well, there are depending upon your profile, your capacity in which you are you can contribute differs definitely, in this particular class through this course we are learning what is it and how this can be done. Definitely tomorrow at your workplace, you will be holding some responsibility you will be undertaking some activities, whether you are an engineer, you are an architect, you are an artist, you are an entrepreneur, you are a house person who is taking care of your household irrespective of your gender.

You are an elderly, you are child maybe an adult, you are a government employee, you are maybe a private entrepreneur or maybe an employee. Irrespective of all of this we all have certain role to play beginning from this first normal one where at least sensitising our society about this whole thing.

Then preparing the action plan based on particular place, particular community, particular maybe a set of people particular country in that particular context with the means definitely you can work towards this okay, to improve it.

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Let us, quickly see what are the targets under this SDG 1. So, the official indicator framework for SDG 1 proposes 13 indicators for goal one, those are listed over here we will see them in one by one. So the first target is by 2030 eradicate extreme poverty of all people everywhere currently measured at people living on less than 1.25 US dollars a day.

So that is that benchmark and very simple, straightforward target. Indicators for this proportion of the population living below the international poverty line by sex, age, employment status and geographic location (())(19:45). 1.2 by 2030 reduce at least by half. The proposal of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.

Indicators there are two proportion of population living below the national poverty line every nation also has this line compared to this international poverty line and proportion of men, women and children of all is living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definition.

So, how do you define locally in your own country that also might differ US has certain some other definition India has something else, UK has something else, perhaps South America has something else. And if I go by maybe Brazil has something else, maybe Kenya has something else, maybe Nigeria has something else maybe Sudan has something else, Syria has something else.

What do they define at their own administrative level. Because if you see US dollars they have global this recognition compared to any other countries value where it stands. And based on that purchasing power parity is defined based on the liveability index is defined based on that the cost of goods and services also gets defined.

So, what is the cost of goods and services one needs to have access to the basic commodities or what we call it as commodities. That set of things in any country. So perhaps based on that you will be take, undertaking your own BPL that line, that poverty line, and undertaking your own action from your own policies. Maybe implementing your own schemes.

1.3 implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including four floors and by 2030 achieved substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable. 1.4 by 2030 ensured that all men and women in particular, the poor and the vulnerable have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property. Inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services including microfinance.

So if you see this covers majority of the things one can actually ask for in their life. And we know, people coming from the lower strata, usually, they do not have access to these things, and that is why they are poor. Because if you have land, you can make use of that land to perhaps agriculture, you can grow your own produce, first of all, you can feed on that yourself or your family. If you have surplus you can sell. But since you do not own a piece of land, you are definitely deprived of that opportunity that you cannot put your own physical labour and do something.

So one must actually have land access to the land, first of all, that is why it is talking about control over land, and other forms of property, like, at least a house other forms of property means like, maybe a house where you can take your own shelter in your own house.

You are not forced to live on the street or live on maybe in the shelter houses or maybe other places. Then coming down to the other things natural resources, maybe access to fresh air,

fresh water, maybe firewood. If you talk about pool people this is what they are looking for. Then coming down to a little more inheritance, inheritance also includes number of things, new technologies, we are easily have access to internet today, but perhaps not to everybody.

So this course, we are conducting online I am preparing this course online, I am distributing it online, I have also prepared using internet and other electronic devices if that is not there how the person whom I intend to deliver this lecture is going to have access to it.

So, technology and democratisation of technology is an essential thing. So I will write this term democratization of technology unless and until technology is kind of thing accessible only to the privileged this democratization is still not addressed. So, we definitely need because whatever humanity is evolving today is for everybody it must be for everybody. And it plays a huge role in controlling it and this is why we need this.

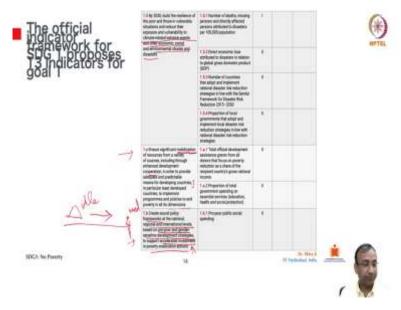
Including microfinance, so, financial services of course, banking is an organised financial service. We can avail we are all availing it also but perhaps not all of us. Microfinance, what is microfinance? Helping an individual or a household or maybe a community in smaller set of financial health so that they can do something with that help micro financial help and standing independently economically.

Maybe they can start producing something maybe start they can start rendering some services and maybe they can become a small part of one maybe supply chain or maybe or something that. In the prevalent in economic terms you can understand. If they are like that, they can grow. One example, I would to give over here from the craft sector, we know crafts are very traditional art forms they have evolved at places rising from the ground, taking cues from your local resources, art form styles, materials somethings that.

But if you connect these craft forms to some economic activity and start selling this to the people who want to buy those definitely those coins, those rupees are going to reach to those people, who are empowered with this craft thing. So, linking these two can definitely carry this potential to help them.

So, this is one example, you can say this craft also bamboo base craft or maybe textile-based craft or maybe blacker based craft or maybe wooden toys based craft or things that. Lot of such examples actually exist from all parts of our country, and it is not that difficult to understand you may be also knowing variety such things, what people do at places maybe in your vicinity, maybe you can focus towards this.

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1.5 by 2030 build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate related extreme events and other economic social and environmental shocks and disasters. Because these actually pose further challenges. Some challenges they are occurring all the time these are in timely maybe once in a while kind of situations. for example, a cyclone, the cyclone and came and maybe broke your house, it kind of tore apart your house, now, you are shelterless.

So, what are you going to do about it maybe. If you have economic power, maybe definitely next day in a month's time you will be able to recover and in a few months time you will be able to build back your own house. But if you do not have access to enough resources or wealth it is definitely a new challenge for you to build your own house again, because even one time was difficult now, again building it is going to take equal resources.

So, how and where are you going to get them other climate related extreme rising temperature something rising levels of water, they are all posing challenges we know are these climate effects which are taking place at global level. Some places are getting excessively floods, some places are getting excessively drought kind of situation.

These are the phenomenon's which are putting challenges to living beings at different places. So, these are the environmental shocks you can say or disasters natural disasters, which are in threatening humanity. Ensures significant mobilisation of resources from a variety of sources. So mobilisation because resources might be existing but if they are not delivered to the needy at different place, at this place, maybe they are lying idle and maybe this place, somebody needs it.

So how this can be, like carried and that need can be met including through enhance development cooperation. First of all, in order to provide adequate and predictable means for developing countries, this happens between countries, maybe some country rich in minerals, ores and things that. Some country does not have that much of land to kind of get those.

So, both can help each other and meet their needs. In particular least developed countries to implement programmes and policies to empower (())(30:30). Create sound policy frameworks and national regional and international levels based on pro poor and gender sensitive development strategies to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication lectures.

So, if you see there is investment and there is an accelerated investment because like, some pockets of countries where there are extreme impoverished conditions are still prevailing. So, there of course, you need to go overdrive, and help preventing these things.