United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) Professor Doctor Shivaji

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SDG 2: Zero Hunger Part 1

Hello everyone. I welcome you all to this module 10. That is SDG 2, Zero Hunger. This is under the course of UN SDGs.

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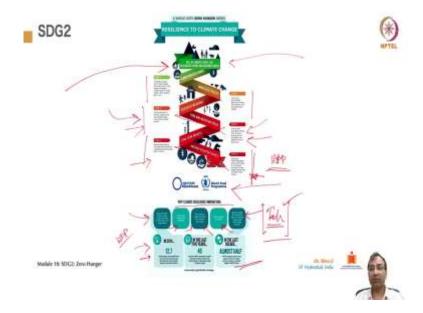
So, we saw in the SDG 1, how the world is faring and with all of this growth and development around us, in most of the countries there are still some countries, some communities in places where there is extreme poverty, poverty and there are still a huge number of people who are deprived of basic necessities in their life. Well a poverty actually

is responsible for not just short of hunger, but many other things also. But inside that also if you see feeling hungry and not able to satisfy that hunger is one of the worst imaginable things.

Perhaps, we are fortunate enough to not have experienced this ourselves. But, I would recommend visiting such places, interacting with them, helping as much as you can do in your own ways, no matter where you are, in what capacity you can do, but you must carry that intent to help because, this is one of the most heart wrenching sights if you go through this. So, the visual is right there on the slide in front of you, kid, how badly in conditions this kid is and perhaps this picture is from Africa, where majority of such things are happening even today, but even in Asia and some other places also, I think similar kinds of stories are still there.

So, factually if you see 1 in 9 people are undernourished globally, think it. 12.9 percent population in developing nations is undernourished. Two third undernourished people are in Asia. So, whether it is Africa or Asia, I think similar kind of stories, similar kind of economic situations are existing, which are of course, not comparable, but these are the two most concentrated places where such things are still existing.

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If we see like, how this whole thing has come through. There is this, slide, which talks about as one phenomena where, well of course, there is one regular happening people are poor, but second thing they are getting even poorer by the forces of climate change. So, first of all, we have to run faster than the horse to catch it from the front. That means, we have to first of all help our societies, help our countries to address this issue. Second, we have to even run little more faster to catch up with the impacts which are caused by climate change, and we have to develop that resilient capacity to deal with even those because, if you see this picture, this picture is getting graver by the impact of climate change. So, we have a double task.

And this one, if you see 80 percent of hungry people live in disaster prone and degraded areas, that is why there is a connection that is why I am putting this slide right next to this next to the first one. Majority of the poor people, majority of the hungry family is hungry households they are living still living in the disaster prone or degraded areas. Where kind of cohesive or respectable or dignified life or living conditions are not there. There are climate disaster strikes natural maybe floods, droughts, cyclones or et cetera which causes immediate effects of various types.

Then there are measures desperate measures taken. There are food and nutrition related crisis, forget nutrition even basic food is also not available. There are impacts of variety of types and there are more disasters falling into that region even aggravating the situation. So, this actually graphic is from World Food Programme, WFP. And this where it becomes relevant and authentic what we are talking about. So, if you see this step vulnerable household live in fragile disaster prone areas and as a limited resource to adapt to climate change climate disaster, flood, drought or storm et cetera.

Step two, loss of lives, loss of livelihoods, destruction of homes, land livestock crops, essential food supplies. Step three, children are taken out of school because of course, if the family is in some kind of emergency, how will they be sending their kids to school, they may not be having enough resources to send the kid to the school. So, the degradation of the whole new generation also begins right there.

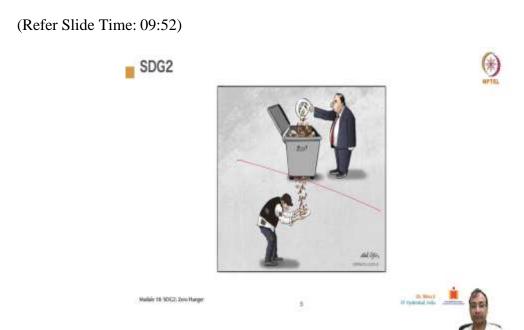
Children are taken out of school, people at less and product, they produce less. They become less productive. They become diseased. They become conditioned. All of those things even their cattle and animals also there sometimes they fall sick or they die. Step four, critical food and nutrition solutions, which have been building up since the disaster now explore into a full blown crisis. So, that becomes kind of very long term crisis often at all scales. Step five, reduced delayed diversity and overall food consumption increased shunting and wasting.

Hungry, step six, hungry and malnourished people are less able to adapt to more frequent and extreme climatic conditions or disasters and are more vulnerable. So, if your immunity is weak, if your physical capacity is weak, you are even more prone to falling sick and other extreme conditions which may be happening in that hostile place. So, it kind of aggravates in multiple orders and it kind of becomes a very kind of (())(7:49) kind of situation that sometimes they succumb to this and they may not survive or they become highly vulnerable highly prone to such things.

So, if you see WFP climate resilience innovations, so analysis the links between climate change and hunger for better policy and programming, help people diversify their livelihoods. So, they should not be dependent on just one thing, because in the case of loss of that thing, they should be able to switch to other. Protects assets, incomes and crops with insurance and savings, so institutionalisation, government annual intervention, insurance, all of those things come into the picture here, improve access to markets, they can have a proper reach, help governments and communities make more informed decision with better climate forecast.

So, forecasting, training and all of those simulations and analysis and also should come to the rescue. Because if something is about to happen it should be kind of, people should be pre warned, so the normal use of technology. Some figures in 2014, 12.7 million people receive WFP food as an incentive to build assets that reduce the risk of climate disasters and build resilience, so that is the one number and commendable job WFP is doing across the globe.

In the last 5 years, 40 percent of WFP's operation included activities to reduce disaster risk, build resilience, and help people adapt to climate change. In the last decade, almost half of WFP emergency and recovery operations work for climate disasters and had a combined budget of US dollar 23 billion dollars. So, you can see how WFP is like, trying to help people in such vulnerable regions



As a kind of a background to this SDG, I will show you some illustrations, some cartoons, some satires based on the topic how haves and have nots, there is a difference. So, you can see in this illustration, there is a stark difference between somebody who has things in opulence, things in surplus and somebody who is miserably short of resources.

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Another, so, if you see well, it is a satire, all of these policies and all the things and rules and regulations and guidelines or frameworks they are not going to be a fruit if the last person, if the last needy person is not helped with or supplied with those basic necessities.

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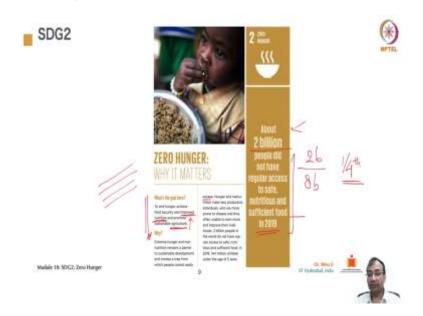
Then we have another, so, even your skills, even your abilities will prove futile if your surrounding is having hostile situations. So, this talks about peace, justice and a cohesive environmental conditions. If those are not there, no matter how skilled or educated you are. It is likely that you may fall prey to the catastrophes of climate change. So, one of the eye opening illustrations I found with the due credit, it is presented here for our academic and research purpose where we can learn from this. Things must materialize on ground, things must materialize in reality, otherwise, no matter, no amount of knowledge is going to help us.

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Well, I do not need to describe it, I think it is quite evident.

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So, now coming to the point, coming to the literature, zero hunger and why it matters? Some number, about 2 billion people did not have regular access to safe nutritious and sufficient food in 2019, 2 billion compared to recently, we have crossed 8 billion population world over that means one fourth. Every fourth person that is unimaginable in today's time, when we call ourselves in an advanced age, when every fourth person on this planet is not having regular access to the nutritious and sufficient food. That means there are challenges at this basic level very very basic, very very primary level, where we are talking about just feeding maybe a sumptuous food and nutritious food 2-3 times a day. That is also not met. Well, so what is the

goal over here? To end hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture. Well food comes from agriculture without this, this whole thing is not possible.

So, we need to go for food security, every human being, every person should have the security that they are guaranteed for a sumptuous food per day and their families with improved nutrition. Because we have seen the importance of nutrition. If it is not nutritious, again, they are going to be in some medical and health situation and there are further complications of that.

Well, why is it needed, extreme hunger and malnutrition remains a barrier to SD and creates a trap from which people cannot easily escape. Hunger and malnutrition mean less productive individuals who are more prone to disease and thus often unable to earn more and improve their livelihoods. 2 billion people in the world do not have regular access to safe nutritious and sufficient food.

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In 2019, 144 million children under the age of five were stunted and 47 million were affected by this thing. So, this is the number, this is the sheer size we are talking about over here, 144 million children under the age of 5 were stunted, their growth and the bodily development got stunted got retarded in the absence of lack of proper nutrition. And 47 million were affected by wasting, there is a food wastage also. There is another ironical situation where on the one hand there is scarcity of food and on the other hand there is a wastage of food also.

How many people go hungry? More than 690 million people were undernourished in 2019 mainly in Asia and Africa. People experience in moderate food insecurity are typically unable to eat a healthy balanced diet on a regular basis, because of income or other resource constraints, see the region.

If these trends continue and estimated 814 million people will go hungry by 2030. That projection is also there. The situation is likely to deteriorate even further owing to COVID-19. So, we saw how this global pandemic has brought additional havoc on such vulnerable groups. Why there are so many hungry people, then the question arises. Why still there are so many hungry people, undernourished people?

Along with conflict, climate shocks, local conflicts, climate shocks and locust crisis, the pandemic COVID-19 poses an additional threat to food systems. These are the collective regions well there are even more. Civil insecurity and declining food production, civil insecurity and declining food production have all contributed to food scarcity and high food prices that perhaps majority of people cannot afford. Investment in agriculture sector is

critical for reducing hunger and poverty improving food security, creating employment and building resilience for to disasters and shocks.

Well, why should I care? We all want our families to have enough food to eat, what is safe and nutritious. A world with Zero Hunger can positively impact our economies, health, education quality and social development. It is a key piece of building a better future for everyone.

Additionally, with hunger, limiting human development, we will not be able to achieve the other system development goals such as education, health and gender equality. Because first of all, anybody's need, it is a kind of a matter of survival, is the food, so there is no graver situation than food because all of the rest of the things comes later that is why SDG 1 and 2 they come right at the beginning.

How can we achieve zero hunger? Food security requires multi-dimensional approach from social protection to safeguard, safe and nutritious foods especially for children, to transforming food systems to achieve a more inclusive and sustainable world there will need be investments in rural and urban areas and in social protection. So, poor people have access to food and can improve their livelihoods, what can we do? What can we do to help?

You can make changes in your own life because we spoke about there is scarcity on the other hand there is wastage of food. So, how is it possible that both of these two things are existing simultaneously? It is so paradoxical. This wastage must go to this place otherwise what is the point, it is a kind of very disastrous situation that there is somebody in the scarcity and there is somewhere getting wasted.

So, at your own level also, you must think in what ways you can do and definitely it comes, begins with an improving your own uses and not allowing any wastage that is also a saving definitely a saving. So, at home, at work and in the community by supporting local farmers, markets and making sustainable food choices, supporting good nutrition for all and fighting food waste. You can also use your power as a consumer and voter, demanding businesses and government to make choices and changes that will make Zero Hunger a reality. Join the conversation whether on social media platforms or in local communities. Be vocal about it, participate in this. More, you can search over here of course.

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So, you can watch this video separately. This is available on YouTube. This is about fighting hunger in Ethiopia. So, how conventionally there have been, some mall practices, some ill practices and how they improved on this, and at least some degree of food security was achieved, so, this is one of the good stories coming from this land.

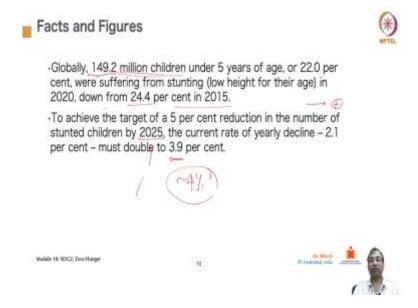
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Let us go for seeing some facts and figures. In 2020 between 720 million and 811 million persons worldwide were suffering from hunger. So, this is the number. Roughly 161 million more than in 2019, so, that number has increased from 2019 to 2020. This has gone upward. Well, mostly owing to the COVID pandemic COVID-19.

Also in 2020, a staggering 2.4 billion people or above 30 percent of the world's population were moderately or severely food insecure, lacking regular access to adequate. So, almost 30 percent above, 30 percent that much of population in the year 2020 was under this range where they are going to get food was not guaranteed. They are going to get food on time with proper and regulated nutrition, this was not guaranteed. So, that much of scale that much of volume we are talking about that much of population is under vulnerable category.

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Globally 149.2 million children under age 5 years or 22 percent one fifth little more than one fifth every fifth child was suffering from stunting low height for the age overall low growth or retarded growth or reduced growth and development of the body, in 2020 down, down from 24.4 percent in 2015.

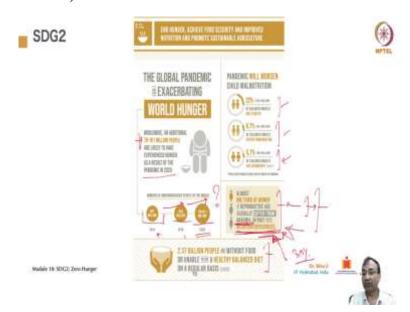
So, well there is some improvement, I think that is good, at least it is improving, but still you can see like, how much of volume is still there for addressing. To achieve the target of a 5 percent reduction in the number of stunted children by 2025, the current rate of yearly decline is minus 2.1 percent must double to 3.9 percent close to 4 percent to achieve this target by year 2025, 5 percent reduction.

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In 2020, wasting low height for height affected low weight for height affected 45.4 million or 6.7 percent of children under 5 years of age. The share of countries burdened by high food prices which had been relatively stable since 2016 rose sharply from 16 percent in 2019 to 47 percent in 2010, so, we know how world came under this pressure of guaranteeing food to the vulnerable. And that number has increased tremendously. Even this ongoing Ukraine-Russia the situation is also has kind of caused this phenomenon to increase some numbers to increase in majority of the countries in African continent.

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Some numbers so, related to pandemic, the global pandemic is accelerating world hunger, worldwide and additional 70 to 161 million people are likely to have experienced hunger as a result of the pandemic in 2020. Number of undernourished people in the world 607 million in 2014, 650 million in 2019 and 720 to 811 million in 2020. So, if you see it is increasing that is not good. Pandemic will worsen child malnutrition, 22 percent as we saw previously of children under 5 are stunted, 6.7 percent of children under age 5 suffer from wasting less weight compared to the height and 5.7 percent of children under age 5 are overweight, that is also there.

So, some kids they are falling prone to stunting or maybe wasting, but some kids they are getting overweight also. Almost one third of women of reproductive age globally suffer from anaemia in part due to nutrition deficiencies. So, this anaemia as a medical condition can prove fatal to that expecting mother because in the event of childbirth if there is excessive loss of blood this anaemia actually makes that situation worse. Anaemia basically is the shortage of iron in the blood. And iron is an important element, important component of the blood human blood and it kind of it leads to fatal situations also causing lot of deaths of such expecting or newly birth giving mothers.

So, another catastrophic situation related to the malnutrition, nutritional deficiencies. Because this can easily be addressed by supplements in their regular meal. And you may be aware anganwadi schemes and several such schemes, the government of India or state government hospitals across our country, they supply these nutritional tablets and meals free of cost to expecting mothers. So, that is an effort which is going on for several decades now to improve on such faculties.

Perhaps rest of the country also needs immediate emergent measures to tackle such situation. 2.37 billion people are without food or unable to eat a healthy balanced diet on a regular basis. So, we saw 2.37 billion over 30 percent that number.