

**United Nations Sustainable Development Goals:
17 Goals to Transform Our World
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Module 16
SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth Part 1**

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UN SDGs
: 17 goals to transform our world

Module 16
• **SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**

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Hello, everyone. So, I welcome you all, to this module 16. In this we are going to cover SDG8, decent work and economic growth. Well, this is under the course of UN SDGs.

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SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

In 2019, 22 per cent of the world's youth were not engaged in either education, employment or training

DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: WHY IT MATTERS

What's the goal here?

To promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.

Why?

Sustained and inclusive economic growth can drive progress, create decent jobs for all and improve living standards.

Even before the outbreak of COVID-19, one in five countries - home to billions of people living in poverty - were likely to

see per capita incomes decline in 2022. Now, the economic and financial shocks associated with the pandemic—such as disruptions to industrial production, financial market volatility, and rising insecurity—are derailing the already tepid economic growth and compounding heightened risks from other factors.

What does "decent work" mean?

Decent work means opportunities for everyone to get

22% (handwritten)

idle, ? (handwritten)



So, let us see some facts and figures in 2019, 22 percent of the world's youth were not engaged in either education, employment or training. 22 percent, well, that is a big number, if you see is more than, one fifth, little lesser than, one fourth. So, it is a huge percentage, these many percentage of, youth, this category of people, they were not either in education or in employment or even in some kind of training, that means, they will live in idle.

And that is the most dangerous situation for any society, because if they are not engaged in some work, where else, they will put up, their brains to and so channeling them into a constructive, ways of, productivity whether, foreign or learning something, or maybe, skilling, or even using, their skills and abilities to some use, if that is not happening, then there is a big problem, it may become problematic for the rest of the, society.

So, a cohesive, environment and a mechanism where, one needs to engage, this fertile, mindset of people, in some productive uses is very essential, first of all, you have to make use of them, so that, they become productive to the society, to their own families to themselves. And secondly, as a kind of like, a responsible, this thing, they should also get, some engagement, individually to fulfill, their own needs of working and online learning, education, or all of those things. So, in both ways, it is essential for the individual also for the household also and for the rest of the society and countries also.

So, decent work and economic growth, this is where this SDG8 comes where, the system is able to engage, its population into constructive engagements, these are the constructive engagements, where everybody should go to, school, college and university, for educating themselves so that they can become ready to understand the world to work with the world to

produce something on their own or with somebody, in any format, whichever they like, whichever it suits to their temperament and aptitude.

So, that is the goal, to promote inclusive and sustainable economy, growth, employment and decent work for all so that everybody is engaged everybody is productive, everybody is kind of busy with their own works. Or, so that is the overall this thing. Well, why is it needed? But little bit we know, but let us see what is the systemic, approach on this thing, sustain an inclusive economy growth, can drive progress, create decent jobs for all and improve living standards.

So, since today's economy, if you see is based on, earning, so, you need to put your, your efforts in some place, so that you can earn, some livelihood out of that, and then you can improve your living standards. You can live nicely, you can eat, good things you can do wear good cloths, you can have a better job habitat, better housing facility.

And even more than that, you can, give, same kind of environment to your, kids and children and other family members. And overall, if you see if it happens with everyone, everyone grows, everyone's living standards improves. So, even, so even before the outbreak of COVID-19, one in five countries home to billions of people living in poverty, who were likely to see per capita incomes decline in 2020.

Because of the pandemic and the huge, losses of the job, and a huge disruption to the regular flow of society, whether it was manufacturing production, services, there was a huge, abrupt disruption. Now the economic and financial shocks associated with the pandemics such as disruptions to the industrial production, financial market volatility and rising insecurity or derailing the already tepid economy growth and compounding heightened risk from other factors.

So, these are the things you can see which become more essential, if this thing comes into being, well, what does decent work means, then. What is work and what is decent work? So, well, where work, we know, like. What is decent work?

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SDG8

work that is productive and delivers a fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for families, better prospects for personal development and social integration. A continued lack of decent work opportunities, insufficient investments and under-consumption lead to an erosion of the basic social contract underlying democratic societies that all must share in progress.

How many people are unemployed?

The pandemic is expected to have a devastating impact on global unemployment. According to estimates from the International Labour Organization, global working hours could drop by 14 per cent in the second quarter of 2020. This is equivalent to approximately 450 million full-time workers doing a 48-hour work week. The eventual increase in global unemployment over 2020 will depend on how effectively policy measures preserve existing jobs and boost labour demand once the recovery phase begins.

More than one in six young people have stopped working since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic while those who remain employed have seen their working hours cut by 28 per cent. Tourism is one of the economic sectors most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic due to the closure of borders, travel restrictions and lockdown measures. Depending on when travel restrictions are lifted and national borders reopen, international travel arrivals in 2020 may decrease by 60 to 80 per cent compared with 2019.

What can we do to fix these issues?

Providing youth the best opportunity to transition to a decent job calls for investing in education and training of the highest possible quality, providing youth with skills that match labour market demands, giving them access to social protection and basic services regardless of their contract type, as well as leveling the playing field so that all aspiring youth can attain productive employment regardless of their gender, income level or socio-economic background.

Governments can work to build dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people-centred economies, promoting youth employment and women's economic empowerment, in particular, and decent work for all.

Implementing adequate health and safety measures and promoting supportive working environments are fundamental to protecting the safety of workers, especially relevant for health workers and those providing essential services.

To find out more about Goal 8 and other Sustainable Development Goals, visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment>

SDG8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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NPTEL

Tourism
Productive
Sustainable
Risks
Resilience

Decent work means opportunities for everyone to get work that is productive and delivers a fair income. So, two factors being productive, that the work is productive, something, some value is getting generated, and it delivers a fair income. So, fair in that word, if you see is an interesting world over here, which, because in the world, there are a number of disparities in the coming SDGs also, we will, see, when there is an unequal distribution of wealth, unequal distribution of opportunities, resources and stuff. So that is, that is not fair. Everybody should get him fair share of anything and everything.

So, that is why, this, point, mentioned over here is not just what is decent work, where you are productive enough for your employer for the organization for which you are working plus yourself also, even should be productive for you their own growth and development also, plus, they should get a fair income.

Security in the workplace, it is guaranteed, it is not that your job is vulnerable, any moment, you can be fired. And all of this, as we did puts you in a very mental pressured situation. So, that job security and workplace and social production for families, social production includes, healthcare infrastructure, education, such basic things, water supply, electricity supply, and all of those things. So, that is, social production where such things are kind of taken care of.

Better prospects for personal development and social integration. So, it is not just you are working for somebody, you yourself, should also grow and develop, apart from, earning your financial, monetary livelihood, a continued lack of decent work opportunities, insufficient

investments, and under consumption led to an erosion of the basic social contract underlying democratic societies, that all must share in progress.

So, in the absence of, this, a number of things can happen. So, so that is why it is essential, to go for, decent working opportunities, creating decent working opportunity, how many people are unemployed, the pandemic is expected to have a devastating impact on global unemployment, so we saw like, a huge disruption in the society and definitely whence working opportunities were closed, the work opportunities are also closed, for the people and earning opportunities subsequently, were also closed.

So, direct and devastating impact, because if once like, the person is unemployed, is loses his, or hire, employment, opportunity, then where the hell, he or she is going to go, there is a very kind of weird situation, because no other new opportunity is also not coming up in the market, because the whole market in you see is kind of, gets disrupted, and, comes to an abrupt halt and that halt can be more disastrous for the lower income actually, in our growth, because they are earning on a daily basis, they do not have, bar.

For example, or reservoirs of wealth, or maybe a collection of, a huge sum, which, they can keep on spending, even if they are unemployed and all that they may be having a very little, savings. So, how to manage in that kind of situation.

According to estimates from the International Labor Organization, ILO, global working hours could drop by 14 percent. In the second quarter of 2020. This is equivalent to approximately 400 million full time workers during a 48 hour work week. The eventual increase in global unemployment over 2020 will depend on how effectively policy majors deserve existing jobs and boost labor demand once the recovery phase begins.

More than one in six young people have stopped working since the onset of the COVID 19 pandemic. While those who remain employed have seen their working hours cut by 23 percent so, either the whole job was lost or working hours were also reduced. So, you see 23 percent in all your working hours were cut close to for example, maybe roughly around one by fourth and subsequently translates into the, earning reduction also in the same proportion.

Tourism is one of the economic sectors most affected by the COVID 19 pandemic due to the closure of borders, travel bans locked down miseries, etcetera. So, tourism industry if you see, is very much dependent, industry on others on the influx of, people from around places maybe, national travel intra national travel like, people, from one part of the nerdy country,

traveling to some other part of the country or maybe a place maybe a city or maybe a site of interest.

And in turn, they end up, spending the things and the people who are offering, those, tourism based services, they end up, earning some livelihood out of that and COVID actually caused huge sudden disruption, in this whole activity of tourism, it came to a complete halt, because there was a sudden announcement of closer of borders national borders, travel bans.

Travel bans not just internationally but even intra national also for the first time in the whole history of our country also in Indian railways was stop in all the state transport services were stopped even personal vehicle, transportation, movement was also stopped, nobody was allowed to move on move on the road, bearing, only essential and critical care, the facilities and stuff, the rest of the things work, kind of closed, it the whole country went into the lockdown, lockdown means there is no movement of any sort.

So, tourism was the most badly impacted industry, industrial sector out of COVID-19 and we have some examples, because some few countries whose economy is mostly dependent on tourism, their whole economy actually came to a sudden and abrupt halt if you must know, our very unique nice neighbor, Sri Lanka. They also their country also went into the lockdown, since the closer of international, borders, and travel and their economy has suffered very badly. And till like, few months ago, there was big disruption and government was actually brought down and there was a chaos on the road, extremely short supply of resources and even basic things such as milk and other essentials which puts everybody in danger as a neighbor.

We are also concerned and proud to say the government of India or many other neighboring countries and international governments they came forward to help, country survive catastrophic situation and I wish them like, they required very soon, but if you see as an industry if you are dependent just on one because there are a lot of learnings, from such episodes. So, what if something happens of the sort or maybe some other sort, what happens to your whole economy. So, this is where, it calls for developing this resilience, because in case of any, such risks in future, you can take care of your country, your own economy, your people's, earning abilities and your employment abilities, etcetera.

So, that is a concern depending upon when travel restrictions are lifted and national borders reopen international travel arrivals in 2020, may decrease by 60 to 80 percent compared with

2019. Here is disruption. What can we do to fix these issues? Providing youth the best opportunity to transition to a decent job calls for investing in education and training in higher highest possible quality, providing youth with skills that matched, labor market demands giving them access to social production and basic services, regardless of their contract type, as well as leveling the playing field so that all aspiring youth can attain productive employment regardless of their gender income level or socio economic background.

So, youth, must be engaged in some, opportunities to areas of education or training or skilling, so that they are ready for the market, whatever there is what type of demand in the market they should be able to fulfill that then your value actually increases in the market. So, that is the very simple logic demand and supply and giving them social protection. So, that, they are not vulnerable, that vulnerability one has to address a country has to address for its citizens, because in case something goes wrong.

Right now, also if you see there is a sort of recession going on in the international market and a lot of IT companies, software companies, consultancy companies, they are laying off their employees in thousands of numbers, that is a huge, impacting thing for all of those people who are getting rendered even unemployed and their families. So, this should not happen in such a way because, they are qualified, they are skilled, they have been working for a while, and suddenly they are on the road.

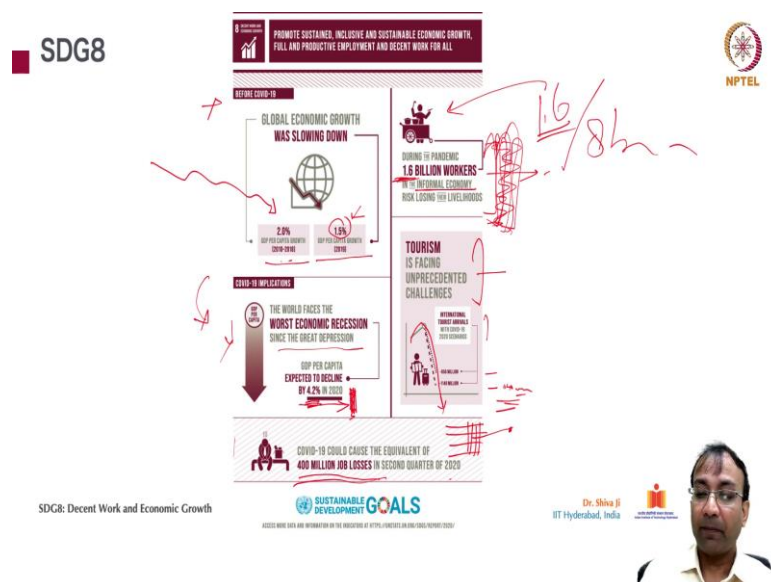
So, that puts them into a very much vulnerable situation, where they will find it very hard to accommodate and continue with their everyday life, it puts them in the even the future of their kids and other family members at stake. So, there should be policies to protect, they are in their interests, this is what you social protection actually means, because your well being your sustenance should not be actually market dependent when your earning can be, but your survival should not be market dependent, because if your survival is market dependent, nobody is going to survive.

It is very catastrophic situation, if somebody is not able to, fulfill very basic necessities of life and survival. So, that is the point we are talking about with these goals, that must be taken care of governments can work to build dynamic, sustainable, innovative and people centered economies. So, currently actually, if you see the economic model is profit centric. So, it ends up compromising on any other concern for example, environment, why the environment, got so much disturbed, why it has come to, such a catastrophic situation and situation of imbalance, where, we are looking at kind of a collapse of the whole economic climate as a

like, a continuing phenomena is because for the profit making things, they did not care much to safeguard the environment. And same goes for the human society as well, some people, some entities they prefer profit above the human wellbeing, the moment it goes, it is no, definitely not a people centered economy. So, the people, the economy should be must be people centered, that is what, SDGs actually propose, promoting youth employment and women's economic empowerment in particular decent work for all.

So, this is what, I perhaps, now you are you have understood, this is what, precisely it means, what is decent work. Implementing adequate health and safety measures and promoting supportive working environments are fundamental to protecting the safety of workers, especially relevant for health workers and those providing essential services. For more details here.

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Let us see some facts and figures before COVID-19 global economy growth was slowing down already 2 percent GDP per capita growth between 2010 to 18, and in 19, it was registered as 1.5 percent. That means it was gradually coming down. Slowly, but yes, it was coming down. But COVID-19 accelerated, that downfall. Let us see, GDP per capita is going down the world faces the worst economy recession since the Great Depression, GDP per capita expected to decline by 4.2 percent in 2020, decline that rate is at 4.2 percent.

During the pandemic, 1.6 billion workers in the informal economy risk losing their livelihoods. So, this is that informal economy. Well, software industry and even service sector, so they are still, formal economy sectors but there are no not so much organized or

well formatted or well structured, sectors also or group of people also who are entering their services or working for earning some livelihood, in an informal, setting.

So, they end up for example, you see this illustration, the person who is selling, some kind of snack on the street, that person definitely is represents part of informal economy, because he or she may not be resistant to some organization, he does not gets perks and benefits and all of those kinds of things, perhaps, in the same proportion, what and formal sectors employee a formal employee actually receives, so that kind of person is going to get impacted and system would not even come to know.

So, that is a very disastrous situation like. How to take call, how to take those numbers, how many people are, impacted? And what is the extent of the impact, what nature of work they have been doing? All of those details, so it is another catastrophic situation to go behind for fact finding of such representation of the community, these people group of people and 1.6 billion often are such people if you see, see the number, out of 8 billion total, population 1.6, it is a huge number close to it is around 20 percent, one fifth of the whole tourism is facing unprecedented challenges one of the most, worst hit.

Industrial line sectors as one sector tourism sector international tourist arrivals with COVID-19 2020 scenario minus 850 million minus 1140 million less travels less than people, traveling, so it was a sudden drop to minimal figures, well of course, not for tourism, but for essential human services only travel was allowed. And unfortunately, this sector got worst hit COVID-19 could cause the equivalent of 400 million job losses in second quarter of 2020. So, even if like, the person is skill is skilled educated and all of that, there is a chance that such catastrophes disasters may pose a threat to their job security.

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So, what it says promote sustain inclusive and sustainable economy growth full and productive employment and decent work for all. 7 percent sustained per capita economy growth in particular at least 7 percent gross domestic product per year in least developed countries achieve higher level of economy productivity through diversification, best way this term account side explained technological upgrading and innovation. Well, what is diversification? So, if you see some small countries I will take again, the name of our friendly neighbor Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is a relatively, smaller in size country compared to a country India and I know the others. It has a limited number of resources which are generally available. And the possibilities what can be done because in respect to the population, what industry may actually approve sustainable over time for example, if I take the name of automobile, sector, so, fabrication and manufacturing facilities for automobiles, it requires constant market where you can sell your vehicles.

And if those many people are not available in the country that you can maintain a sustained, an continuous demand of automobile in the market, how are you going to have automobile manufacturing, units in your country this is one of them driving reasons that, Sri Lanka majorly imports automobile from other countries, including India, and many others. So, by importing actually, for taxes, international duty, and the an indirect route transportation charge. There is a lot going on secondary transportation charges and all of those if you keep adding keep adding keep adding there are a lot of things which come in between before the

product reaches to the end customer in in Sri Lanka and the cost of per vehicle actually becomes very high.

So, I am not going into the into pricing of those vehicles maybe you can check separately but the vehicles available in India and vehicles similar type of vehicle available in Sri Lanka, I know there is a huge, price gap and was stolen cars and other vehicles are highly priced and so on. So, diversification actually is a tool through which you can make yourself less dependent on just one sector.

Well, we know tourism is one of the, very strong, sectors, for Sri Lanka are highly dependent it earned through the largest share of GDP actually comes from this and all, but in the event of COVID, it was one of the worst impacted. So, when this got actually impacted, the whole country's economy got impacted. So, you would not definitely not want that, to repeat again and that is where, you need to keep your dependents in check on just one sector. So, that is diversification if you have many other sectors also. So, your dependents actually gets in shared on these, in some minimal proportions.

And depending upon if for example, a few comes into the vulnerability catch, rest, are still there standing, to safeguard the, the remainder of the economy. So, it does not, creates kind of a collapsing situation where the whole country actually becomes a vulnerable. So, that is diversification.

It applies in the event of an individual also, mostly people are either employed or in business or in the agriculture, farming or other sort of things. So, relying on just one event of any, such, eventuality, puts you in a vulnerable situation. So, one should have, the thinking for diversification like how diversification can be done and what can be done to safeguard the overall interests of the entity.

Protect labor rights, promote safe and secure working environment, eradicate forced labor. Earlier it used to be well, gradually it is declining. Modern slavery and human trafficking, but still, these things are very much prevalent, very prevalent, and I think in the recent decades, this has increased this has gone up. So, there should be a very strict, check on these because the direct impacting thing is the, women and children and it is it is a case of severe situations in the human rights, promote development-oriented policies and encourage the formalization of growth of micro small and medium size enterprises and SMEs.

So, encourage them because these actually bulk if you see is the master constituent of the even industrial sector, a huge number of companies, they belong to this sector, except a few which are in a top tier, companies and they are in categorized as large-scale companies or very large-scale companies and automation or enterprises.

By 2030, achieve full productive and more employment for all women, men, young people, and person with disabilities. So, that every category is people, their interests are taken care of, by 2030 reduce the proportion of youth, not in employment, education or training. So, we saw initially this number must go down, people should be brought to their proper places where they can engage themselves.

Aid for trade, increased aid for trade support in developing countries. They need the more help. And their help, must be diverted to those countries. By 2020 develop and operationalize the global strategy for youth employment implement global job pact for the International level organization. So, in the event of job losses, for some reason, these interest, the people, interests must be taken care of.