

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)
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Lecture 6

The Role of UN and the Need for SDGs and Adoption by the World
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UN SDGs
: 17 goals to transform our world

Module 3
The Role of UN and the Need for SDGs and Adoption by the World

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Hello everyone, I welcome you all to the model third of this course, United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. In this, we will study about the topic of the role of United Nations, and the need for the SDGs and adoption by the world.

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UN SDGs - Module 3

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The topic, so let me read this preamble for you. This agenda is a plan of action for people, planet, and prosperity. So, as we have seen earlier, this whole initiative revolves around these three aspects. Which caters to the all the humanity and this planet as a whole. This planet involves its living beings, all sorts of vegetation, flora, fauna, and everything, and even non living beings also, all the nature's elements, rivers, mountains, land, water, all of this combined, and with an intent that there is a prosperity on this whole planet, among all the species. So in a way, if you see, all of these three, actually terms encompass the wellbeing and prosperity of anything and everything.

So if you see in a nutshell, it has this preamble. It actually talks about serving to this huge, huge goal. So in a way this, the set of SDGs have, tremendous gravity and responsibility on his shoulders. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom, universal peace. So, peace, which is there for everybody, and all the countries, and every communities, with

freedom with the larger freedom, that there is liberty, there is this freedom of expression, freedom of accessing opportunities, freedom of sharing with each other, freedom of sharing the resources, and being part of this inclusive growth, and development and everything.

We recognise that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. So, without removing the poverty and the extreme poverty, this cannot be called as their sustainable development. So first and foremost point comes, in order to obtain, this goal is to eradicate poverty completely.

All countries and all stakeholders acting in collaborative partnership will implement this plan, we are resolved to free the human race from the tyranny of poverty, and want to heal and secure our planet. We are determined to take the bold and transformative steps which are urgently needed to shift the world onto a sustainable and resilient path.

As we embark on this collective journey, we pledge that no one will be left behind. So, the inherent, goal of SDGs, that no one is left behind, that no human being, no other species, will give cannot say that they are not part of this inclusive growth and development. So, that is the intent that it becomes inclusive. So, this word actually includes, all of the humanity and every entity into it. That they are part of this similar overall goal of sustainable development, and they get some benefit out of it. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals, and 169 targets, which are the announced, which we are announcing today demonstrate the scale and ambition of this new universal agenda.

They seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve. They seek to realise the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality, and the empowerment of all women and girls. They are integrated and indivisible and balanced the three dimensions of sustainable development, the economic, social, and environment. So, with this preamble, you can understand about the intent and the aim behind these SDGs. That how larger and how inclusive it has become, after it progressed from the MDGs, and how it targets to include all of us.

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People

The Goals and targets will stimulate action over the next fifteen years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet:
We are determined to end poverty and hunger, in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity and equality and in a healthy environment.

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Let me take it one by one. For the people, the goals and targets will stimulate action over the next 15 years in areas of critical importance for humanity and the planet. We are determined to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions, and to ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity, and equality, and in a healthy environment. Ending poverty and hunger, the first two SDGs we all know.

So, those are the first and foremost goals, aims with this set of SDGs related to the aspect of people. Because, this is the set of group of people, for whom all of these efforts are being made. So, the consideration that while maintaining their dignity, irrespective of their social status, economic status, and from where they come from, their background, so, they get their due respect and equality considering them all equal as one, and in an healthy environment.

So, this healthy environment, the moment you call it healthy environment, it takes you to the environmental factors, and all other social factors, all other economic factors, where together it constitutes this healthy environment where one can live peacefully, live with freedom and enjoy their dignity.

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Planet

We are determined to protect the planet from degradation, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, so that it can support the needs of the present and future generations.

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Let me take on to the next one on the planet. We are determined to protect the planet from degradation. Well, this is a call which is underway in the last, one centuries in some form or the other, there is no degradation of some natural elements, some species of flora and fauna, and other elements. So, how we can stop that degradation, rather how we can take this curvature up of the improvement, including through sustainable consumption and production, sustainably managing its natural resources, and taking urgent action on climate change, so, that it can support the needs of the present and future generations. So, if you see very important points for degradation, and then including through sustainable consumption and production.

So, we know, this age of modernity is being driven by immense consumption. Immense consumption of resources, goods, services, anything and everything. So, this has led to the huge volume of resources being exploited, resources being exhumed, resources being used, resources being consumed and discarded and all of that, And this has become actually, this has led become the, first and foremost factor, which has started causing imbalances, the plastic, other such kind of waste pieces in the water bodies even at the bottom of the oceans, in the topsoil, these toxics and hazardous substances and waste, all of this if you see now is becoming ubiquitous presence. So, this is that digression we are talking about we want to actually correct.

And support the needs of the present and future generations. Well, we have studied Brundtland Commission that report, that we have to maintain, that the pace at which you can

call it as sustainable growth and development, so, that it remains there for the future generations also.

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Prosperity

We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

humanity → longevity

UN SDG - Goal 11

Coming down to the third and last one, prosperity. We are determined to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives, and that economic, social, and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature. So, all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives. So, prosperous and fulfilling lives, every needs are fulfilled, every requirement is taken care of, well, of course, one can improve, one can actually rectify, one can actually correct the luxuries, because this is where, things go out of hand. And consumerism starts taking negative route, that economic, social, and technology progress occurs in harmony with nature, this is another important point, how to establish this harmony with nature.

Well, we know humanity is there on this planet for a long, long time. And all this while it has been able to live in the sync with the nature, you take example of any vernacular or any local, traditional value systems or look at cultures and styles. So, they are actually have or, they have been evolving over a long, long period of time with the contribution of the local, humans, their knowledge, resource, their interpretations of those local contextual situations, and making use, making best use of the things and resources which are available evidently around. So, this is the, inherent philosophy you can call it as harmony with nature, this humanity has lived with that, but, what happened when this turning point, came off modernisation and, fast industrialisation and all of that, it took a wrong detour. And now, it is

going into the not so appreciable direction, that is what we need to correct. So, that course correction will help us again, going back to live with the harmony with the nature.

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■ Peace

We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence. There can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development.

SDG Peace

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Next point comes of peace, we are determined to foster a peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, which are free from fear and violence, peaceful, just, and inclusive societies. Well peaceful, we know there is no any form of disturbance or chaos in the society, there is justice, justice as a system is very essential to safeguard against, infringing on someone else's rights and needs, and things, and then inclusive society means, which includes anyone and everyone, which is only a part of our society with the equal rights and equality. So, that becomes inclusive, we just saw in the previous slide, which are free from fear and violence. So, there is no such elements, presence in the social structure, which hinders with the peaceful living of the people, there can be no sustainable development without peace, and no peace without sustainable developments.

So, both, if you see, they lead to one another, so, if this is peace, peace leads to the sustainable development, and in turn sustainable development leads to the peace. So, both if you see are complementary to each other, both need each other, both actually nourish each other.

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The slide features a red square icon followed by the word "Partnership". To its right, handwritten text in red ink reads "Tech → greener solutions" and "Ozone hole". Further right is the logo of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Below the title, there are two paragraphs of text. At the bottom left, there is a URL: <https://sdgs.un.org/2016agenda> and the text "UN SDGs - Header 1". At the bottom right, there is a small video inset showing a man speaking, with the text "Dr. Shree K" and "11:58:00 AM" above him.

Partnership → Tech → greener solutions "Ozone hole"

We are determined to mobilize the means required to implement this Agenda through a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focussed in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders and all people.

The interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals are of crucial importance in ensuring that the purpose of the new Agenda is realised. If we realize our ambitions across the full extent of the Agenda, the lives of all will be profoundly improved and our world will be transformed for the better.

<https://sdgs.un.org/2016agenda>
UN SDGs - Header 1

Dr. Shree K
11:58:00 AM

Then we come to the point of partnerships, we are determined to mobilise the means required to implement this agenda through a revitalised Global Partnership for Sustainable Development based on a spirit of strengthen global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, and with the participation of all countries, all stakeholders, and all people. The interlinkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals are of crucial importance to ensuring that the purpose of the new agenda is realised, if we realised our ambitions across the full extent of the agenda, the lives of all will be profoundly improved, and our world will be transformed for the better.

So, partnership is essential, well partnership is needed for multiple things, partnership is needed for sharing technologies, which lead to the greener solutions. One of the best examples of success stories we have is plugging the ozone hole, ozone hole was not a problem of one country, or one place, or one community, it was a global problem, it was going to hit hard, eveny and every human being, any and every other living being whether it is any form animal world, plant world, or birds, or aquatic life any other things. So, the moment it was going to hit Earth with this impact, it was going to hit us hard, and to everyone.

So, there was this collective effort to find greener solutions, and this was facilitated by greener technologies, which provided greener solutions to the people, across different countries, which was shared by the countries which had this technology. So, you see, this is the best example of success stories of partnership and collective, achievement on the sustainable development fronts. Well, there are many more challenges actually, world is

facing, different countries are facing, and there are solutions existing in different parts of the world. Why cannot this be shared with the help of this partnership, this global mutual partnership, and the people from all other places can get the benefit.

With this intent actually, United Nations has framed this SDGs because these SDGs if you see are common for each and every human being, it is not a country specific edition, there is no community or, any individual specific edition of it. This is a collective, approach needed to be put up by entire humanity for the sake of the humanity.

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Declaration

Introduction

1. We, the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25-27 September 2015 as the Organization celebrates its seventieth anniversary, have decided today on new global Sustainable Development Goals.
- 2.
- 3.
- ...

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17 Sustainable Goals

Then we have declaration. We the heads of the state and government and higher representatives meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25th to 27th, September 2015, as the organisation celebrates its 70th anniversary have decided today on new global sustainable development goals. Well, with this declaration, this the set of 17 SDGs were adopted, there are many more points, maybe you can search to get all of those details.

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***The UN's formal roles on sustainable development**

UNEP
The United Nations Environment Programme
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Knowledge and data-gathering

- It fits in to the UN's so-called "normative" mandate on global issues. It is also an area where the UN can point to many successes. At global level, the jewel in its crown is the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, co- 'owned' in the UN system by UNEP and WMO. On top of this, the UN can point to key global outlook reports such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook, and others besides.

IPCC →

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Knowledge and data-gathering

- It provides deliberative platforms for strategic conversations, as well as the data itself. The story of the IPCC provides an especially good example of this, in that the IPCC has provided an 'anchor' for global understanding of the issue and perceptions of its seriousness. As historian of the IPCC Shardul Agrawala has put it, "The more credible experts there were already in the IPCC, the more attractive it was for other established experts to join, [and] the more internal strength the institution had to defend its scientific integrity against political pressures."

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So, from here, I am moving on to the next topic, the UN's formal rules on the sustainable development. For knowledge and data gathering. It fits into the UN's so called normative mandate on global issues. It is also an area where the UN can point to many successes. At global level, the jewel in its crown is the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Co-owned in the UN system by UNEP, United Nations Environmental Program, and WMO on top of this, the UN can point to key global output reports such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, UNEP's global environmental outlook and other besides.

Further, exploring possibility of the UN building up a comprehensive system for monitoring the planetary boundaries identified by the Stockholm Resilience Centre. UN is defending the principles of sound science and evidence based policymaking at a time when they face significant challenge. This is most evident in the case of IPCC and climate policy, but also relevant in other areas.

Well, if you see how IPCC has contributed over last few decades is really a menace, this scientific investigation scientific, analysis and data collection and evaluation and processing, pin pointedly off in different locations, different places, different phenomena, different species related issues, different country related issues, and overall producing a global report, as such a detailed report, where one can go for action based, policymaking and implementation strategies.

So, these are the one of the advantages of such initiative, where you can see, how the knowledge base can be generated, how the database can be generated, and how it can be processed for the benefit of the planet. IPCC is one of the wonderful examples of that. Further, it provides deliberative platforms for strategic conversations, where one can have dialogue with each other, one can share issues, one can share solutions, one can discuss about, one can formulate common solutions, as well as the data itself.

Well, sharing the data itself is also one of the most important things because with this data, you can make, some sense out of this data, and you can go for planning your strategies, planning your implementation and etcetera. The story of the IPCC provides an especially good example of this, in that the IPCC has provided an anchor for global understanding of the issue, and perceptions of its seriousness. As historian of IPCC Shardul Agrawala has put it the more credible experts, there were already in the IPCC, the more attractive it was for other established experts to join, and the more internal strength the institution had to defend its scientific integrity against political prisoners.

Well, you may be aware, there were, instances where some political pressures were exerted on such initiatives, but this collective effort and validation, provided by IPCC on climate change, impact climate change, as a phenomena, and repercussions of it, gave such a counter, arguments to prevail over those in political pressure, and continue with the aims and objectives of the sustainable development.

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■ **Supporting intergovernmental decision-making**

- Facilitating collective action by its member states – from organising summit meetings and other decision-making forums, to supporting treaty frameworks.

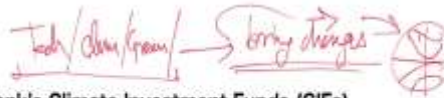
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■ **Financing**

- At present, the most important financing window for sustainability is the Global Environmental Facility, which was founded in 1991 and has since then disbursed \$10.5 billion in grants as well as a further \$51 billion in leveraged co-financing. The GEF is overseen by a governing Council of 32 constituencies (split more or less evenly between developed and developing countries), and funds agencies including the World Bank, UNDP, and UNEP, as well as national governments and civil society organisations. The GEF also acts as the financing mechanism for various multilateral environmental agreements.
- Where things get more complicated, however, is the extraordinary recent proliferation of financing windows on climate change. Among the most important are:

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Financing



1. The World Bank's Climate Investment Funds (CIFs).

These include the Clean Technology Fund (CTF) on low carbon development – so far the biggest climate fund, with nearly \$5 billion pledged and \$1.9 billion already approved – and the smaller Strategic Climate Fund (SCF - \$1.3 billion pledged), which in turn includes the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR - \$1.2 billion pledged), Forest Investment Program (FIP - \$650 million pledged) and Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program (SREP - \$400 million pledged). Much of this money is in the form of loans rather than grants.



Financing



2. GEF money earmarked for climate change.

The GEF Trust Fund's 'focal area' on climate change already has just over \$1.1 billion approved under the GEF's fourth replenishment round, with a further \$1.1 billion pledged under GEF 5. The GEF also administers the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF - \$400 million pledged) and the Special Climate Change Fund on long-term adaptation measures (SCCF - \$200 million pledged).



Financing



The Green Climate Fund (GCF),

which was agreed on at the Copenhagen Summit in 2009 as an 'operating entity of the financial mechanism of the [Climate] Convention', which is expected to mobilise \$100 billion a year by 2020, from a mixture of public and private sources (although there is so far little clarity on the ratio of the two).



■ Financing



- **The Green Climate Fund (GCF),**
- which was agreed on at the Copenhagen Summit in 2009 as an "operating entity of the financial mechanism of the [Climate] Convention", which is expected to mobilise \$100 billion a year by 2020, from a mixture of public and private sources (although there is so far little clarity on the ratio of the two).

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■ Financing



- In addition, a number of bilateral climate financing windows have been set up by individual governments (with Japan pledging \$11 billion from public sources and \$4 billion from private sources, the UK pledging \$4.6 billion, Germany pledging \$850 million and Norway pledging \$500 million). In the future, it is also possible that financing arrangements on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) and Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) could emerge to become highly significant.

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Further, it helps in supporting intergovernmental decision making, facilitating collective action by its member states, from organising summit meetings, and other decision making forums to supporting treaty frameworks. Further, very important part, financing. Any effort, any initiative needs financing. Where is that come from? Let us see. At present the most important financing window for sustainability is the Global Environmental Facility, which was founded in 1991, and has since then disturb 10.5 billion dollars in grants, as well as a further 51 billion dollars in leveraged co-financing. The GEF, Global Environment Facility is overseen by a government, governing council of 32 constituencies, split more or less evenly between developed and developing country, and funds agencies including the World Bank, UNDP, and UNEP as well as national governments and civic society organisations.

The GEF also acts as the financial mechanism for various multilateral environmental agreements, where things get more complicated. However, is the extraordinary recent

proliferation of financing windows on the climate change among the most important are, the first one, the World Bank's climate investment fund, CIFs. These include the Clean Technology Fund, the technology, we were just speaking of in the previous slides, how this clean and green technology can become useful for some country, which does not have this as their own asset, how this technology can go there and get implemented, and bring some change. Because all of these corrective changes are going to help the whole, world corrective. So, any such technology which can be used for improvement of the global good is always welcome.

So, there are these financing mechanisms in place by United Nations in multiple platforms and places, which actually carry out such initiatives. On low carbon development so far the biggest Climate Fund, with nearly 5 billion pledged, and 1.9 billion already approved, and the smallest Strategy Climate Fund, SCF 1.3 billion dollar pledged, which in turn includes the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience, PPCR, 1.2 billion pledged, Forest Investment Program, FIP, 650 million dollars pledged, and Scaling Up Renewable Energy Program, SREP, 400 million pledged much of this money is in the form of loans rather than grants. So that is also another point to note over here.

Further, the GEF money earmarked for climate change, the GEF trust funds local focal area on climate change already has just over 1.1 billion dollars, approved under the GEFs fourth replenishment round. With a further 1.1 billion pledged under GEF 5. The GEF also administers the Least Developed Countries Fund, LDCF 400 million dollars pledged, and the Special Climate Change Fund on long term adaptation measures SCCF, 200 millions fund pledged.

Third, we have the Adaptation Fund. The AF Adaptation Fund is a financial instrument of the UNF triple C, and is financed through a 2 percent share of emissions reductions certified under the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism. So if you see from where it is coming from, the AF has its own governing board, the World Bank as trustee, and is administered by the GEF. Over the past two years, the fund has spent 115 million dollars on climate resilience.

Then we have Green Climate Fund GCF, which was agreed on at the Copenhagen Summit in 2009 as an operating entity of the financial mechanism of the climate convention, which is expected to mobilise 100 billion dollars a year by 2020. Well, this is the data I know from a

few years before, from a mixture of public and private sources, although there is so far little clarity on the ratio of the two.

Further in addition, a number of bilateral climate financing windows have been set up by the individual governments, with Japan pledging 11 billion dollars from public sources, and 4 billion dollars for private sources. The UK pledging 4.6 billion dollars, Germany placing 850 million, and Norway pledging 500 million. In the future, it is also possible that financing arrangements on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and payments for ecosystem services could emerge to become highly significant.

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■ Country level implementation



- Finally, there is the role of the UN system in helping to make sustainable development a reality at country level. It is 'on the ground' that it becomes clearest why sustainability fundamentally needs to be understood as a mainstreaming issue, not as a separate, stand-alone area of activity – and still less as a synonym for environment.

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■ Country level implementation



- In broad terms, the sustainability agenda has two main dimensions at country level. First, there is the need to move towards economies and policies that are sustainable for the long term. Second, there is the corresponding need to build resilience to the consequences of current unsustainability – whether this is local, national or international.

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Well points about climate country level implementation. Finally, there is a role of the UN system in helping to make sustainable development a reality at country level. It is on the

ground that becomes clearest why sustainability fundamentally needs to be understood as a manifest, mainstreaming issue not as a separate standalone area of activity, and still less as a synonym for the environment.

In broad terms, the sustainability agenda has two main dimensions at country level. First, there is the need to move towards economies and policies that are sustainable for the long term. Second, there is the corresponding need to build resilience to the consequences of current unsustainability whether this is local, national or international.

So, if you see, this agenda has two main dimensions at country level. First, there is a need to move towards economies and policies, that are sustainable for the long term. So, there is this time factor. Second there is corresponding need to build resilience to the consequences of current unsustainability, where this is local, national, or international. Build resilience, because there are several economic downturns also observed in the recent past. And there are disturbances at the social level, at the cultural level, and at the ethnic level also in some parts of the world. So how those can be rectified can be taken care of that is what we are discussing over here under country level implementation.

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Resilience

- Resilience is defined by DFID as "the ability of countries, communities and households to manage change by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of shocks or stresses", or (more technically) by four of the leading theorists in the field as "the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity and feedbacks".

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■ Resilience



- In practice, a focus on resilience implies two key areas of work. First, it is clear that a number of specific areas of policy are especially relevant to resilience. Among the most important are social protection, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, agriculture (given that three quarters of poor people are rural) and employment / livelihoods.

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■ Resilience



- The second key area of work implied in a resilience agenda relates less to specific policy areas and more to a government's overall strategic capacity for managing risk and reducing vulnerability. This is partly a technical question: whether the government is able to undertake early warning, whether it has the capacity to innovate under pressure, and whether it has the capacity to work systematically with other governments to reduce risk.

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And about resilience, resilience is defined by DFID as the ability of countries, communities, and household to manage change by maintaining or transforming living standards in the face of shocks or stresses, or more technically, by four of the leading theories, theorists in the field as the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance while undergoing change, so as to still retain essentially, the same function, structure, identity and feedbacks.

So, if you see, with this resilience, what do we want to maintain are four things mentioned over here, the function, structure, identity, and feedbacks. So, these are the four things we want to maintain. We do not want it to experience the negative sides of the jerk, but we want it to survive, and pass to the next generation, and to the next generation and so on. So for that resilience is one of the very important strategies which targets specific communities, places and their livelihoods, and it rectifies, any ill practices or irresponsible situations.

Further, in practice, a focus on resilience implies two key areas of work. First, it is clear that a number of specific areas of policy are especially relevant to resilience, among the most important are social protection, disaster risk reduction, climate adaptation, agriculture, given that three quarters of poor people are rural, and employment, livelihood. So, in a way it hits to those who are at higher risk, and the generally people from the lower strata, they are at the higher risk. So how this risk can be minimised. And that set of people can be brought to the mainstream society, mainstream economic and social fabric, and their employment and livelihoods can be taken care of. That is the purpose.

The second key area of work implied in a resilience's agenda relates less to specific policy areas and more to a government's overall strategic capacity for managing risk and reducing vulnerability. This is partly a technical question whether the government is able to undertake early warning, whether it has the capacity to innovate under pressure, and whether it has the capacity to work systematically with other governments to reduce risk. So, you see collaboration, engagement, working with each other, sharing our own finances, and even different staff and other things, talks about the maturity or maybe the common fate of this planet.

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■ Long term sustainability in economics and policy



- The second key dimension of sustainability at the country level centres on the need to move towards economies and policies that are sustainable for the long term. Two of the most important aspects of this long-term sustainability, clearly, are the need for low carbon development, and for green growth more broadly.



Then we have long term sustainability in economics and policy. The second key dimension of sustainability at the country level centres on the need to move towards economy, and policies that are sustainable to for the long term. Two of the most important aspects of this long term sustainability, clearly are the need for low carbon development, and for green growth more broadly. So, both you can see are complementary to each other.

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***The UN's catalytic role on sustainable development**

UNEP
UNEP/WHO/UNEP/WHO/UNEP/WHO
The UN's role in Sustainable Development
2015

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■ UN's catalytic role on SD

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- Finally, there is perhaps the UN's most important role in sustainable development – not its formal mandate on data-gathering, supporting intergovernmental decision-making, coordinating finance or even implementing programs on the ground, but its 'soft' role in areas like leadership, agenda-setting and bringing moral pressure to bear on member states.



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■ The political context for SD & the space for UN leadership

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- The political context for sustainable development has often been extremely dispiriting over the past several years, which have seen numerous disappointments –most obviously in the case of the Copenhagen climate summit, but also including the very weak outcome of Rio+20 and the break-up without any outcome of the 2011 Commission on Sustainable Development.



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■ The political context for SD & the space for UN leadership



· These disappointments have been in keeping with the wider trend in intergovernmental negotiations, with other summit processes – the WTO, the G20 and the G8 – also failing to agree much action despite a period of pronounced international turbulence. These so-called “G Zero” dynamics may persist for some time, given the backdrop of an increasingly multipolar world, although it is also possible that more frequent and severe shocks (economic, environmental, social) might galvanise governments to recognise and act on global interdependence through more ambitious collective action.

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■ The political context for SD & the space for UN leadership



· At present, the ‘ecological footprint’ of high income countries is three times as high as that of middle income countries, and five times as high as that of low income countries*. Accordingly, if total resource consumption is to be brought within sustainable limits, and low income countries are to grow their economies and improve their material standards of living, then the growing ‘global middle class’ (primarily in developed countries, but increasingly in emerging economies as well) will need to drastically reduce its ecological footprint in order to provide a ‘fair share’ of limited environmental and resource space for the world’s poor*.

* R. Alan Eason, ‘Resource Scarcity, Fair Shares and Development,’ World Wildlife Fund and Oxfam Discussion Paper, 15 July 2011.

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Then we have UN's catalytic role on sustainable development. So let us see this. Finally, there is perhaps the UN's most important role in sustainable development, not its formal mandate on data gathering, supporting intergovernmental decision making, coordinating finance, or even implementing programs on the ground, but its soft role in areas like leadership, agenda setting, and bringing moral pressure to bear on member states.

So, this is the most important catalytic role to lead this sustainable development, and play its soft role in areas like leadership, taking the lead at global level, and moving things on the track, agenda setting, targeting aims and objectives, what needs to be achieved in what timeframe, and how, and bringing moral pressure to bear on the member states? Well, of course, this will be done by the member states. So, this is where this complementary role of United Nations actually comes into the understanding.

The political context for sustainable development in this space for UN leadership. The political context for sustainable development has often been extremely dispiriting over the past several years, which have seen numerous disappointments, most obviously in the case of the Copenhagen Climate Summit, but also including the very weak outcome of Rio plus 20. And the breakup without any outcomes of the 2011 Commission on the Sustainable Development. Well, these summits have definitely bear the success stories, these are the platforms which have brought up a lot of success stories, but sometimes the desired goals, desired aims and objectives are not achieved in their entirety in the given timeframe, that becomes point to look at, ponder and discuss and rectify.

Further, these disappointments have been in keeping with the wider trend in intergovernmental negotiations with other summit processes, the WTO, the G20, and the G8. Also failing to agree much action despite a period of pronounced international turbulence. These so called G Zero dynamics may persist for some time, given the backdrop of an increasingly multipolar world.

So if you see a very interesting word over here, multipolar world, although it is also possible that more frequent and severe shocks, economic, environmental, social might galvanise governments to recognise them and act on global interdependence through more ambitious collective action. Well, how United Nation envisions this for implementation, using this multipolar world's structure where any and every country has, equal rights and equals say in the frame working in implementation of such a strategies.

At present, the ecological footprint of high income countries is three times as high as that of middle income countries and five times as high as that of low income countries. So, if you see the ecological footprint of world's highest impacting country, like Qatar is extremely high, then there are countries, from North America, Europe, some countries from now from Asia, but majority of Asia, India and, African region, actually, majorly fall under the very low impacting category, where the individual countries share in the ecological footprint is very small, so, the domain where huge correction, and rectification needed are the ones which fall under this category.

Accordingly, if total resource consumption is to be brought within sustainable limits, and low income countries are to grow their economies and improve their material standards of living, then the growing global middle class, primarily in developed countries, but increasingly in emerging economies as well will need to drastically reduce its ecological footprint in order to

provide a fair share of limited environmental and resource space for the world's poor. So, the planet has a very, very finite set of resources, which are definitely going to get exhausted if we continue consumption of those resources at the same pace. So of course, it requires a collective effort.

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*Some facts and hard questions!

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■ **Role of UN and the Need for SDGs and Adoption by the World**

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.
- At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.
- They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests.

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■ Role of UN



- The United Nations (UN) is an international organization that was founded in 1945 with the goal of promoting international cooperation and addressing global issues.
- One of the main ways that the UN works to achieve these goals is through the development and promotion of sustainable development goals (SDGs).
- The SDGs are a set of 17 goals that were adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The SDGs aim to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people have the opportunity to live peaceful, healthy, and prosperous lives.
- The SDGs are relevant to all countries and are intended to be a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people have the opportunity to live peaceful and prosperous lives.

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■ Need for SDGs and Adoption by the World



- The adoption of the SDGs by the world is important because it helps to set a common framework for addressing global challenges and achieving a more sustainable future.
- The SDGs provide a roadmap for countries to follow in order to achieve the goals and make progress towards a more sustainable future.
- The UN works to promote the adoption and implementation of the SDGs by providing guidance, support, and resources to countries and organizations around the world.
- Overall, the role of the UN in promoting the SDGs and their adoption by the world is crucial in helping to address global challenges and work towards a more sustainable future for all.

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Then let us have a look of some facts and hard questions related to every SDG goal. The 2030 agenda for sustainable development adopted by all United Nation member states in 2015 provides a shareable proof of peace and prosperity for people in the planet now, earlier. Then we have adopted by all United Nations member states in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet now and into the future. Then at its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which are an urgent call for action by all countries developed and developing in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deep provisions must go hand in hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth.

So, if you see improving health and education scenarios, reducing inequality in all forms, and spur economic growth, because economy growth also is essential for the overall prosperity, all while tackling climate change, and working to preserve our oceans and forests. Further,

the UN is an international organisation that was founded in 1945, with the goal of promoting international cooperation and addressing global issues. Well, these details we have already studied, so I will move on some more points.

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1st priority



What's the goal here?

Why?

Why is there so much poverty in the world?

Why should I care about other people's economic situation?

Why is social protection so important?

So what can I do about it?



UN SDG - Slide 1 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>

Dr. Shree P. J. (Instructor), IITM



The COVID-19 pandemic will push an estimated 71 million additional people into extreme poverty



2nd priority



What's the goal here?

Why?

How many people go hungry?

Why are there so many hungry people?

Why should I care?

How can we achieve zero hunger?

What can we do to help?



UN SDG - Slide 2 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>

Dr. Shree P. J. (Instructor), IITM



About 2 billion people did not have regular access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food in 2019



UN SDG - Module 5 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/health/>

Dr. Shiva B. (11/11/2020/20:30:00)

UN SDG - Module 5 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/education/>

Dr. Shiva B. (11/11/2020/20:30:00)

And then we are here on one by one, these 17 SDGs. To see, some hard hitting questions. So if you see such scenarios into your close to your vicinity, related to poverty and hunger, what do you think, the goal is here, and why? Why is there so much poverty in the world? Why should I care about other people's economic situation? What, so what can I do about it, if I want to? In the zero hunger. Well, what is the goal here? How many people exactly go hungry? Any country specific data, any local, community specific data? And why should I care as an individual? How can we achieve the zero hunger? How this can be eradicated? And what can we do to help the situation?

The third one, good health and wellbeing. What progress have we made so far? Because efforts are being made for quite some time? The medical, care taking and all of these is quite old now. So how is it progressing to include every stakeholder of the society? And how can we achieve these targets? Does everyone have access to health care? And of course, what can

I do to help? In the quality education? Why does education matter? And what are the goals in this SDG? How much progress have we made so far? What challenges remain? Where are people struggling the most to have access to education? Are there groups that have more difficult access to education? And what can we do?

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UN SDGs - Module 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs/>

What's the goal here?
 Why?
 How much progress have we made?
 How does gender inequality affect women?
 Are there any other gender-related challenges?
 Why should gender equality matter to me?
 What can we do to fix these issues?



Dr. Shree B. B. (b) <https://www.nptel.org/>



UN SDGs - Module 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs/>

What's the goal here?
 Why?
 What are the challenges to lack of access to safe water and sanitation?
 Are water and climate change linked?
 What can we do?



Dr. Shree B. B. (b) <https://www.nptel.org/>





UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
Why should I care about this goal?
How many people are living without electricity?
What are the consequences to lack of access to energy?
What can we do to fix these issues?

789 million people around the world lack access to electricity

Dr. Vikas J. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>



Related to fifth gender equality? What is the goal here? And why? How much progress have we made? How does gender equality affect women? Are there any other gender related challenges? Why should gender equality matter to me? What can we do to fix these issues? The sixth one. Well, why do we need this SDG? What are the challenges to lack of access to safe water and sanitation? Are water and climate change linked? What can be done?

Then we have seventh one, affordable and clean energy. You see the picture over here in the bottom. Why do we need these goals? Why is it essential? To address, why should I care about this goal? How many people are living without electricity and such, data? What are the consequences to lack of access to energy? What can we do to fix these issues?

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UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
What does "decent work" mean?
How many people are unemployed?
What can we do to fix these issues?

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

Dr. Vikas J. <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/the-17-goals/>





UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/industry-innovation-and-infrastructure/>

What's the goal here?

Why?

So what's the problem?

How much progress have we made?

Why should I care?

What is the price of inaction?

How can we help?

Cost
Money

Just 54% of the global population use the Internet. In the least developed countries only 19% have online access

Dr. Shrey G.



UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/reduced-inequalities/>

What's the goal here?

Why?

What are some examples of inequality?

How do we tackle discrimination?

Can we achieve equality for everyone?

What can we do?

Almost 2 in 10 people reported having personally experienced discrimination on at least one of the grounds established by international human rights law

Dr. Shrey G.



UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cities/>

What's the goal here?

Why?

What are some of the most pressing challenges that cities face today?

Why should I care?

What happens if cities are just left to grow organically?

Is it expensive to put sustainable practices in place?

What can I do to help achieve this goal?

9 in 10 people living in urban areas worldwide were breathing air that did not meet the World Health Organization's air quality guidelines

Dr. Shrey G.



Then we have eighth one, decent work and economic growth. Well, what do you think are the goals over here and why? What does decent work means? How many people are unemployed, that data which will help you formulate the policies and implementation techniques? What can we do to fix these issues?

Ninth, industry innovation and infrastructure. What are the goals over here, and why do we need them? So, what is the problem? How much progress have we made? Why should I care? What is the price of inaction? How can we help? So, if you see even if you do not do anything, there is a cost to it. Even if to those who are not participating into it.

So, participation and being the part of solution is an essential part, then only this can become a success story. Coming to the next one, reduced inequalities. Well, what do you understand are the goals over here and why? What are some examples of inequality? How do we tackle discrimination? Discrimination can be there in multiple forms based on language, skin colour, ethnicity, culture, religion, maybe language, tone multiple ways or maybe even origin, there are multiple parameters where some form of discrimination can actually happen. So, this must actually get be done away with in all an entirety form. How we can tackle this, how we can achieve equality for everyone, what can we do about it?

Then eleventh one, sustainable cities and communities. What are the goals over here you can have a look, why do we need them? What are some of the most pressing challenges that cities face today? Why should I care as an individual? What happens if cities are just left to grow organically, if you do not plan them if you allow it to grow naturally as an organically by human beings the way they want, if you do not implement such a maybe development planning schemes and things, what is going to happen? Is it expensive to put a sustainable practices in place? What do you know, you can maybe discuss about it in the assignments and projects, what can I do to help achieve this goal?

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12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs/12/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
What needs to change?
How can I help as a business?
How can I help as a consumer?

Electronic waste grew by 38% but less than 20% is recycled

Dr. Shriraj
11 (unacademy) India



13 CLIMATE ACTION



UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs/13/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
How are people being affected by climate change?
What happens if we don't take action?
Can we solve this problem or is it too late to act?
Are we investing enough to tackle climate change?
What can I do to help achieve this goal?

To limit global warming to 1.5C, as called for in the Paris Agreement, greenhouse gas emissions must begin falling by 7.6% each year starting in 2020

Dr. Shriraj
11 (unacademy) India



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



UN SDG - Slide 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdgs/14/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
So what's the problem?
How is the ocean connected to our health?
So what can we do?

Over 3 billion people depend on marine and coastal biodiversity for their livelihood

Dr. Shriraj
11 (unacademy) India





UN SDG - Module 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/15-life-on-land/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
What does loss of forests mean?
How does it affect our health?
What can we do?

Two billion hectares of land on Earth are degraded, affecting some 3.2 billion people, driving societies to extinction and intensifying climate change

Dr. Shiva B. (11 minutes), India



UN SDG - Module 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/16-peace-justice-and-strong-institutions/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
What needs to be done to address this?
How does this goal apply to me, wherever I live?
What would be the cost of not taking action now?
What can we do?

Every day, 100 civilians - including women and children - are killed in armed conflicts despite protections under international law

Dr. Shiva B. (11 minutes), India



UN SDG - Module 3 <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/17-partnerships-for-the-goals/>

What's the goal here?
Why?
Why does this matter to me?
How much progress have we made?
As partners, what would we need to do to achieve the Agenda?
How can we ensure the resources needed are effectively mobilized and monitored?
What can we do to help?

Strong international cooperation is needed now more than ever to ensure that countries have the means to achieve the SDGs

Dr. Shiva B. (11 minutes), India





Then we have twelfth, responsible consumption and production. What are the goals over here? And why do we need them? What needs to change? How can I help as a business? How can I help as a consumer? So, you see, help is possible, irrespective of your position and your capacity, in whatever capacity you are, you can definitely help.

Thirteenth, climate action. How are people being affected by climate change? A study on that is essential, because there are a number of phenomena such examples, case studies coming on these days, where climate action is essential. What happens if we do not take action? What can, can we solve this problem? Or is it too late to act? Are we investing enough to tackle climate change? And what can I do to help achieve this goal?

Fourteenth, life below water. So, what is the problem? Because, anyways, we have not seen there, we have not been there. It is difficult to understand and imagine. So, what do you think could be the problem in this world? How is the ocean connected to our health? So, what can we do? Then we have life on land, the surface of the earth. Well, what do you understand are the goals over here and why? What does loss of forest mean? For facilitating growth and development numerous number of trees are being felled every day across the planet, how this can stop, and more greenery, more vegetation can be actually planted? How does it affect our health? And what can be done now for it?

The second last, peace, justice and strong institutions, what needs to be done to address this, because this is not binding, this is only recommendatory in nature. So how this can be taken forward? How does this goal apply to me? Wherever I live? What would be the cost of not taking.

We come to the seventeenth SDG. And we can discuss, we can see what are the goals over here? And why do we need them? Why does this matter to me? How much progress have been made? How much already is progress made across the world, across the different countries? As partners what would we need to do the, to achieve this agenda? How can we ensure the resources needed are effectively mobilised and monitored, and what can we do to help? With this, we have come to the end of this session. The end of this module. Thank you, everyone.