

## Week 12: Sustainability and Social Innovation

We will look in detail about the seventeen sustainable development goals.

### Goal no. 1: No Poverty

This goal has seven targets. 53 events have been organized until now and 37 publications are published. Globally 1175 actions have taken place. Due to COVID 19 four years or more of progress against poverty has erased. Currently, rising inflation and impacts of war in Ukraine has further slowed down the progress. As of 2020, additional 8 million workers are pushed into poverty.

### Goal no. 2: Zero Hunger

This goal has eight targets to achieve by 2030 and includes 43 events. Fourteen publications have been published and 1074 actions has taken place already. Status shows that about one in ten people still suffer from hunger and nearly one in three people lack regular access to adequate food. It is also noteworthy that soaring food prices affects a little less than half of the countries globally.

### Goal no. 3: Good health and well being

This goal includes thirteen targets and eighteen events organized as of date. 35 publications have been published and 980 actions has taken place till date. The progress in global health is threatened by COVID 19 pandemic. It is because 500 million and more people were infected and led to 15 million plus deaths.

The pandemic also decreased global life expectancy and 92% of the health services was disrupted as well as took lives of 100,000 plus front – line workers.

### Goal no. 4: Quality education

With 10 targets to achieve by the end of 2030, 1520 actions are already organized till date. Eight publications have been published and 21 events organized till date as well. Current progress in achieving the target shows that 147 million children missed over half of in person instruction. This meant inequality in education further worsened during the pandemic. However, it is noteworthy that it led to improvement in school infrastructure after classrooms reopened.

### Goal no. 5: Gender equality

There are nine targets to achieve by 2030 and 32 events has been organized till date. 34 publications are also published till date and 1285 actions has taken place already. Although the target is to reach equal representation of women in national political leadership, at the current pace it will take forty more years.

It is also tragic that 43% of the women aged 15 – 49 years do not make own informed decision when it comes to sex and reproductive health care. Further, 1 in 4 women aged 15 and above are subject to intimate partner violence at least once in their lifetime.

### Goal no. 6: Clean water and sanitation

This goal has eight targets and 18 events. 32 publications have been published till date and 920 actions has taken place already. Over the past 300 years, over 85% of the planet's wetlands are lost due to several human activities. Three billion or more people do not even know if the water they drink is drinkable or not and to meet the target set to achieve this goal four times pace of progress is required.

### Goal no. 7: Affordable and clean energy

With five targets to achieve and 12 events organized till date there are thirty-two publications and 845 actions as well. Although progress in electrification was smooth gradually it slowed down due to the challenge of reaching those hardest to reach. Now there are still 2.4 billion people that use inefficient and polluting cooking systems. Only 17.7% of the final energy consumption is renewable energy which means a lot of work needs to be done to achieve the target set by 2030.

### Goal no. 8: Decent work and economic growth

There are 12 targets to achieve, and 54 events organized already. 36 publications are published till date and 1588 actions up till now. However, in regard to achieve these targets global economic recovery is hampered by

- New waves of COVID 19
- Rising inflation
- Supply chain disruptions

- Policy uncertainties
- Labor market challenges

It is also noteworthy that even to this date one in ten children are engaged in child labor worldwide and the progress towards achieving the targets under this goal is further set back by Ukraine crisis.

#### Goal no. 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

With eight targets, 40 events, 14 publications and 779 actions the status in terms of meeting the targets shows that

- Least developed countries are behind in manufacturing post pandemic
- Small scale industry lack access to financial support for recovery
- 2.3 billion passengers in 2021 compared to 4.5 billion in 2019
- One in three manufacturing jobs impacted negatively by the crisis.

#### Goal no. 10: Reduced inequalities

This goal has 10 targets to achieve by the end of 2030. 34 events, 11 publications and 775 actions are also a part of it. The pandemic caused rise in income inequality. As of today one in five people have faced discrimination at work for various reasons and the global refugee figure is at record high after Ukraine crisis.

#### Goal no. 11: Sustainable cities and communities

This goal is set to achieve 10 targets by the end of 2030 and has 37 events, 16 publications and 936 actions as well. One of the major concerns under this goal is management of municipal solid waste as cities grow and urbanization increases. Another major challenge is that 99% of urban dwellers to this date breathe polluted air whereas, less than one third of the Sub – Saharan people lack access to public transportation. Further, there are over billion people who are slum dwellers globally.

### Goal no. 12: Responsible consumption and production

There are eleven targets to achieve as per this goal. The goal has set 11 targets, 10 events, 13 publications and 1264 actions. To achieve this target, it is necessary to consider that consumption and production is the root cause of

- Climate change
- Biodiversity loss and
- Pollution

Majority of the electronic waste is not safely managed, and this is another concern along with 17% of the total food wasted at consumer level.

### Goal no. 13: Climate action

The goals set to achieve 13 targets, 16 events, 33 publications and 1520 actions. Its target focuses on issues related to climate and issues around it. The drought is estimated to displace 700 million people by 2030 but climate finance has fall short of \$100 Billion yearly commitment. Rising global temperature has also lad to more extreme weather and by 2100, sea level will rise by 30 cm to 60 cm.

### Goal no. 14: Life below water

With 10 targets, 61 events, 38 publications and 2586 actions its focus is ocean. Ocean is the planet's largest ecosystem, and it is in danger. It is in danger mainly because of

- Plastic/ marine pollution
- Over – fishing
- Acidification
- Ocean warming

### Goal no. 15: Life on land

It is inclusive of twelve targets, fifteen events, 31 publications and 935 actions. Almost 90% of the global deforestation is due to agricultural expansion. This has led to 10 million hectares of forests destroyed every year and 40, 000 species are approximately at risk of extinction in the decades to follow.

### Goal no. 16: Peace, justice, and strong institutions

## References

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