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Statements submitted by organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council *

The Secretary-General has received the following statements, which are being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

Theme: Building Back Better from the Coronavirus Disease (Covid-19) while Advancing the Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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1. Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP)

Since 2014, The Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) a registered not for profit, is a membership-based organization comprising of professionals engaged in Social Work and Development. The prime focus of APSWDP, is to promote Social Work Education for Sustainable Development (SW -ESD), based on three of the five Priority Action Areas of the UNESCO Goal Action Programme (GAP) on Education for Sustainable Development, which was adopted after participation of Dr. Vivek Trivedi, Founder of APSWDP in UNESCO ESD World Conference in 2014.

Digital technology and virtual mode of communication has propelled a post pandemic sustainable and buoyant retrieval through amalgamating of global, regional and local know -how, expertise, cooperation, transparency and convergence while safeguarding the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs).

During the epochs of COVID-19 lockdown, it was observed that due to absence of convergence amongst the government, hindrance to bring forth appropriate linkages through civil society organizations (CSOs) and institutional support to deal with the pandemic situation, the vulnerability of marginalized increased manifold. The lockdown was imposed more rigorously, the predicament and dilemma of poverty-stricken, impoverished marginalized communities including migrant labour remained unnoticed. Many of them were forced by the prevailing conditions to migrate to their native places situated at a larger distance including men, women, children, and elderly of different age groups.

APSWDP's COVID-19 Solidarity Response Relief Campaign (Report <https://apswdp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Combating-Novel-Corona-e-Report-TCRP.pdf>) put forth various suggestions to be taken by central government and local authorities by involving diverse stakeholders for building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the New Normal (Post Pandemic times); which includes:

Identifying a local team of philanthropists, pro-active members, local Civil Society Organisations (CSO's) and robust network of volunteers, who can deal with different pandemic situations based on their competencies,

Mapping Civil Society Organisations (CSO's) along with their expertise on social surveys, monitoring and evaluation,

Database management system comprising of Local Social Workers having expertise in Planning, management, resource mobilization, community development, etc., Psychiatric Counsellors in various domains including Suicidal Risk, Domestic Violence, Children in Stress, Stress Management, etc.,

Introducing available Information and Communication Technologies (ICT's) based applications to volunteer/ members of CSOs on engagements, mapping, mobilization of resources and monitoring.

Generating and raising funds through virtual fundraising tools.

Capacity-building of Stakeholders for further dissemination of information and awareness on Post COVID-19 pandemic and life in New Normal for reducing risk and thus make communities safer. It can be done by increasing resilience and enhancing coping capacities.

In future, a comprehensive and up-to-date Disaster Management Resource Inventory, Awareness Generation, Education, Research and Development (R&D) should be designed for effective handling of any such crisis. Government must engage Civil societies to ensure the capacity-building activities for local government, nongovernment entities and looking forward to get associated with UN bodies including USESCO, UNDRR, UNITAR, etc., for knowledge and TOT's.

Linking global practices of local governments, CSO's & other agencies with urban learning network for connecting to such platform.

Post COVID-19 pandemic frequent conferences/workshops/ webinars/Trainings may be planned under the patronage UNDESA for future preparedness.

In conclusion, APSWDP advocates for strong integration of CSOs into the framework of SDGs with the local UNDP SDG Coordination Centre, to ensure wider participation of CSO and to make deeper outreach in the communities. For, No One to be Left Behind; to be achieved through convergence, decentralized planning, community driven development and developing advocacy with the potential partners in achieving the sustainable global agenda by 2030.

2. Action pour le Développement du Sahel (ADESA)

D'ici 2030 Mettre en place le plan de contingence et le Plan d'Action Communautaire d'Adaptation (PACA) pour les communautés en matière de la gestion des catastrophes. Les actions prévues permettront aux intervenants d'avoir un cadre adéquat pour intervenir en cas d'urgence et prévoir également les actions de développement en lien avec le plan de développement de chaque pays. Ces plans rentrent dans les actions de durabilité pour atteindre les résultats à court, moyen et long terme.

Chaque communauté constitue une spécificité qui doit être prise en compte dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de cette activité. Huit (8) informants clés seront identifiés dans chaque communauté pour apporter leur appui dans l'organisation des discussions / débats autour l'analyse des contraintes et potentialités existantes, les risques et les stratégies locales utilisées pour faire face au choc. Ce travail requiert la participation active des membres des communautés.

Ils s'agissent pour les communautés de dégager les différents aléas auxquels ils sont exposés, de passer en revue les stratégies locales d'adaptation et de définir les actions à entreprendre en cas d'urgence. Les PACA viennent en renfort du plan de contingence qui suppose un étendu dans l'espace et un ancrage dans le dispositif national de prévention des catastrophes.

3. Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC)

Role of Science & Technology in Building Back Better

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC) has a unique role to play in strengthening the health and educational systems, in rich and poor countries alike. Technology and innovation in learning are creating exciting new opportunities to accelerate progress towards health-for-all in every country. We are in the midst of a digital proliferation around the globe which is allowing us to be more connected and with greater access to data than ever before. As a result, mobile health – the use of mobile and wireless communication and devices for providing healthcare services or achieving health outcomes – is at a significant tipping point.

Imagine students in developing and developed countries simultaneously reviewing the same medical education and learning from each other. That is e-learning at its best in an Internet Classroom, and with this goal WHEC and the Department of Public information of the United Nations (UN) had launched <http://www.WomensHealthSection.com> on 24 October 2002. All over the world we all provide care to a multicultural society.

Government commitment is necessary – long-term government commitment based on a strategic plan is a pre-requisite for the successful implementation, of Internet Classrooms in Health and Education, in every country – rich and poor alike. This commitment may be in form of:

1. A long-term plan that is binding on all parties at all times;
2. Sustainable finance;
3. Support for pilot projects/programs and their conversion to regular programs as soon as they prove successful;
4. Involvement of health authorities at national, state and district levels.

WHEC's strategy on e-Health and e-Government focuses on strengthening health and education system in countries; fostering public-private partnerships in information and communication technologies, research, and development for health and education. With special attention to health and status of women, maternal mortality and morbidity, projects like **LINK** (Learning, Innovating, Networking for Knowledge) encourage national health and educational systems.

WHEC has been a member of PMNCH (Partnership for Maternal, Newborn, Child Health), WHO, Geneva (Switzerland) since 2011 and WHO and the WHO Academy participated in our side event at CSocD (Commission for Social Development) in 2021. We aim to reach millions of people worldwide, offering high-tech learning environments, providing learning opportunities for leaders, educators, researchers, health workers, and the broader public, and will deliver high quality, multilingual learning, both online and in-person, alongside a cutting-edge simulation center for health emergencies.

WHEC also has support of UNDESA DISD and UNESCO for its initiatives to advance Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 5, and achieve 2030 United Nations Agenda.

WHEC supports capacity building for e-Health and e-Governments applications worldwide and look forward to development and the use of norms and standards. Proceeding in this way, strengthens capacity, preserves cultural integrity and increases the access to such technologies, for those who need it most – must remain the goal. We believe, on this path efforts never go to waste, and there is no failure.

4. Israel Trauma Coalition for Response and Preparedness (R.A.)

The impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the health and well-being of medical health teams is devastating. Over two years into an unprecedented pandemic, those working in hospitals and community health care are still exposed to a variety of burdens leading to short- and long-term impacts. Not addressing these can result in arise in burnout, depression, suicidality, or career change. Many are in a state of emotional, physical, and mental exhaustion caused by excessive and prolonged stress. They are overwhelmed, emotionally drained, and unable to meet constant demands. Studies from Spain (Ruiz-Fernandez et al., 2020), Canada (Kershin de Wit et al., 2020) and U.K (Balasubramanian et al, 2020) have studied compassion fatigue, psychological distress and burnout amongst nurses and doctors, each finding high rates of psychological stress.

The experience, of the Israel Trauma Coalition for Response and Preparedness (ITC) derives from years of working with thousands of medical teams before and during the pandemic and our knowledge and experience in working with teams under intense exposure. Although we often conceive of healthcare systems in terms of the physical hospital beds and medical equipment, the system's most fundamental, valuable, and vulnerable assets are, undoubtedly, our medical teams. We need to raise awareness of the risk factors, share findings on best practices and implement an effective global response to create strength and resilience.

ITC has formulated a response, based on the operating concepts and principles of the health system, which will ensure both the personal and team resilience required to reduce psychological risk factors for healthcare workers associated both with work during the COVID-19 crisis and well into the future. As a way forward we recommend and are currently implementing a nationwide hospital program including:

Direct care- provision of trauma care focused on helping individuals and teams identified as experiencing and expressing symptoms of stress.

Psychosocial training for teams -Tools designed to cope with stressful experiences and events. Learning to understand triggers for stress as well as personal coping strategies for managing distress. Identification and use of strategies and positive coping techniques. Tools for identifying distress, processing and self-care (including enhanced self-compassion, mindfulness, grounding and developing a healthy work/home balance).

Resilience Trustees Program – Creation and training of “Resilience Trustees” within each institution whose role will be to preserve resilience amongst the medical staff, provide coping tools, teaching teams to identify burnout and maintain wellbeing. These trustees will check in for any emerging symptoms of PTSD in staff, making sure appropriate referrals are made.

Teamwork and team cohesion -leadership and support for multidisciplinary teams including strengthening team cohesion, coping tools and supporting team members. Medical teams work in emergencies and this is an on-going, foreseeable concern. As part of a sustainable and resilient recovery and building back better from the coronavirus disease, no one should be left behind, particularly our heroes who have fought so bravely and compassionately for all of us.

5. World Organization of the Scout Movement

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) address global issues affecting countries, communities, people, and the environment. In 2015, United Nations Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, detailing 17 Sustainable Development Goals intended to stimulate 15 years of action to end poverty, stop climate change, and build peaceful and prosperous communities. The clock until 2030 is ticking, and the targets are still far from being achieved.

Young people were meaningfully included and consulted throughout the process of creating the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through the My World Survey², which ensured that the SDGs address key issues that matter most to young people: climate-change, conflict, and unemployment among others. However, civil society must hold Governments accountable to make sure that issues facing young people continue to be a priority in SDG implementation. In addition, young people must be included in decision-making, development of solutions, and implementation plans to make this Agenda a success.

On one hand, Member States have established solid processes to discuss the SDGs and integrate them into their National Development Plans, but progress is “not on track.” Noted in the 2019 SDG report, no country is on track to meeting all of the SDGs by 2030.

Even before COVID, we were globally on track to miss the SDGs by a long shot. The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019³ had the headline “Long in words but short on action: UN sustainability goals are threatened to fail.”

The COVID-19 crisis has only made it worse.

The global poverty rate has increased for the first time in 20 years

The global average temperature has reached about 1.2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels

An additional 101 million children globally have fallen below minimum proficient reading levels

Only three countries (Denmark, Sweden, Finland) are on track to meeting more than 75% of the targets. Over 160 countries measured for SDG's and over 157 of them are not even going to get within $\frac{3}{4}$ of the goals. Further progress must be urgently made to ensure that our young generation not only inherits, but also actively contributes to building more prosperous and peaceful communities where no one is left behind.

Scouting's role

Scouting is the world's leading non-formal educational movement. Through its Youth Programme and Scout Method, Scouting inspires and empowers young people to become active citizens. Affecting over 50 million members, each individual experience in Scouting is a step towards achieving SDG 4, and the movement provides a vehicle towards accelerating progress against all SDGs.

² MyWorld Survey <http://myworld2030.org/>

³ The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2019 <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/report/2019/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2019.pdf>

Scouting educates for global citizenship, a comprehensive education that opens people's eyes and minds to the realities of the world and awakens them to achieve a world with more justice, equity and human rights for all. It gives young people the opportunity and skills to reflect and share their own points of view and play an active role within a global and interconnected society, as well as to understand and discuss the complex relationships between social and ecological problems, common political and economic issues and develop new ways of thinking and acting.

Scouts have worked towards the SDGs long before 2015 as part of Scouting's mission and will continue to do so long after 2030. Through its billions of service hours and non-formal educational programs, Scouting at the world, national, and local levels has worked towards the SDGs through programming on peace and community development, environment and sustainability, health and wellbeing, and skills and employability.

World Scouting also provides an opportunity to activate millions of youth around the SDGs. With over 54 million members and a proven record of successful contributions to the SDGs, World Scouting's intention is to be the leading partner organization for implementation of educational programs, mobilization campaigns, and youth voice. Every day, Scouting energizes millions of young people around the world towards community service and "learning by doing" in their local groups. World Scouting also hopes to harness this energy towards being an active participant in the processes that contribute towards the implementation of the SDGs.

Key messages

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the vehicle for aligning global development priorities and spurring progress towards these important issues. The SDGs are ambitious, globally collaborative, and incorporate a multi-stakeholder perspective, which also reflects our values in Scouting.

Awareness and education are necessary to sustainably achieve any of the SDGs. Long-term political change is often "first achieved in the hearts and minds of people." Governments must galvanize communities around this common agenda but also act as coordinators for collective action to ensure that civil society benefits from and is incentivised to take ownership of the agenda and is able to meaningfully contribute to its realization.

Goal 4, Quality Education, is the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In order to build prosperous societies of active citizens, quality education must be made available to all, including heavy investment in comprehensive non-formal educational opportunities for young people.

Non-formal education contributes in the development of key competencies for sustainable development in young people and communities at large, enabling them to contribute in the achievement of SDGs target by acquiring knowledge on issues and best practices, developing empathy and proactive attitudes towards SDG related issues and adopting habits and practices conducive to a sustainable way of living.

Learning through service provides a key avenue to allow young people to meaningfully contribute to the SDGs through community service projects in communities needing

extra support and supporting young people to engage in the development of solutions with the communities as active citizens

Calls to action

We are not on track to achieve the SDGs. To avoid a scenario of “long on words but short on action,” the UN system, member states, NGOs, and the private sector should focus its attention on enabling action and implementation around achieving the SDG indicators. These entities should try, in particular, to partner with organizations that have effective, proven strategies to implement and administer SDG campaigns and programs.

The UN system, member states, NGOs, and the private sector have an added responsibility to deliver on targets facing youth, which will have better long-term results than focusing attention elsewhere. Doing this also delivers on promises made to generations most likely to be impacted by SDGs goals and indicators such as climate and sustainability.

It is important for youth to become not just the recipients of governance but to have a central role in shaping policies and actions. To do so, it should further involve youth and youth organizations, empowering young people to learn by doing and lead projects on the grassroots level. The United Nations holds immense convening power and must streamline its abilities to foster collaboration amongst stakeholders, especially implementers and investors.

Finally, as the UN system considers what frameworks might emerge after 2030, it should continue to maintain a focus on involving youth in both its goals and processes. And it should focus on implementation as a priority.

Policy calls

The UN System should undertake all possible initiatives to maximize civil society’s impact upon the SDGs through partnerships, funding, capacity-development, and coordination between groups.

The UN system should do its utmost to coordinate action-oriented, measurable agendas with a roadmap towards achieving specific targets and indicators within the SDGs. Any new initiatives should include measurable results, an execution plan, and funding.

While reports indicate that “young people have been at the forefront of activities and initiatives aimed at furthering the 2030 Agenda and meeting the Goals” (DESA Youth Report), youth development needs to be seriously addressed at scale if we want to have a viable global economy in the 21st century. Governments must prioritise youth in their national development plans and relevant national policies.

To have a chance at stopping the environment’s alarming deterioration, including sustainability in education to build awareness is critical (Arora and Mishra 2019). Governments must diversify the methods of education and make formal, informal, and non-formal education available to all young people.

Investors must leverage existing solutions to train and educate both adults and youth in becoming leaders in advancing the SDGs.

WOSM's commitment to SDG sustainability

Scouts for SDGs

Over the years, Scouting has made an extraordinary contribution to improve the sustainability of our planet, promote peace, and tackle inequality. In 2018, Scouts for SDGs launched as the world's largest youth contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, including an online SDGs hub and a range of educational tools, training and resources developed to support National Scouting Organisations in aligning their Youth Programmes and other activities with the SDGs. Over 57 million Scouts have engaged so far. Over 3 billion hours of community service by 57 million Scouts, and 2 million local projects and actions so far make Scouts the world's largest coordinated youth contribution towards the SDG's. Young people around the world are transforming their communities by taking action.

Better World Framework

The Better World Framework is a portfolio of world initiatives addressing four thematic areas of education (Environment and Sustainability, Peace and Community Engagement, Health and Wellbeing, Skills for Life) focusing on global issues and trends affecting young people and diverse communities in the next 10 years. Each initiative contains challenges for young people that inspire them to participate in their local communities and become active citizens. The aim is to enable young people to become active citizens by undertaking development actions in their communities. As a result of these actions, local communities develop into more resilient societies through the young people's activation. By aligning community development projects with young people's needs, the purpose of Scouting, and the 17 SDGs, you strengthen the relevance of Scouting as a partner to tackle local issues, offering young people meaningful possibilities to transform their communities.

6. Development Assistance International, Inc.

The covid-19 pandemic has indicated the interdependence among countries and countries are pushed to find a global mechanism to mitigate the frustrations the society and the economy are exposed to, due to the pandemic which has greatly affected the world economy since 2020. Hence businesses among countries are done with careful consideration of Covid-19 pandemic. Based on the identification of the most affected areas by the negative impact of the covid-19 pandemic, and regarding the subject of “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) While advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, we do consider the following to be the main priorities (under sustainable development goals) related to building better from the Covid-19 pandemic:

Ending extreme poverty and hunger. This can be achieved by promoting agriculture in fertile regions across the world, such as in the great lakes’ region of Africa where the seasons are convenient. This will help ending extreme hunger and poverty. This will be possible by enticing governments (local and national), FMI, World Bank, African Development Bank etc. to allocate enough funds in their budgets for the support of Peasants’ organizations and Farmers in targeted areas as mentioned above. Once funding such projects through selected NGOs (e.g., Development Assistance International Inc. And other organizations), the countries in the region will improve the agricultural sector and move from subsistence farming to commercial farming, as the expected food production is estimated to hundred thousands of tones, things which will help ending extreme poverty and hunger (e.g. in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and in the entire region)

Promoting global health and wellbeing for all. It has been noticed that the pandemic exposed implicit and explicit inequalities between developed and developing countries that need urgent address. To get back on track of achieving the SDGs, countries should come up with an all -inclusive economic growth strategy to cushion millions of people who lost their livelihoods and whose health condition is alarming. There should be a strategy to implement Gender-responsive safety programs especially for developing countries during such global pandemics. This is because women and girls are more likely to be overrepresented in informal sector which is usually more affected during economic instability such as the one experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. With school closure during the COVID-19 pandemic there was an exponential rate of child abuse. During the school closure, most girls fell prey to sexual abuse and exploitation due to idleness and hunger experienced in the households. Governments should consider enabling all schools to engage child - protection and social workers to offer support to children in dealing with long term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. To achieve the aforementioned priorities, policies will be required, and guidance from the ECOSOC and its subsidiary machinery, including the functional commissions must also be offered as well, for instance.

Regulatory and facilitation policies are needed so that the process of assessing needs, data analysis, planning and prioritising, tools provision, implementation and activity monitoring are done effectively and achieve the expected outcome e.g. for farming, environmental issues, education etc.

The ECOSOC, in collaboration with governments, should ensure allocations for emergency relief for SMEs as well as steps to speed COVID-19 recovery and develop resilience against future economic and budgetary shocks.

During the national emergency, pass legislation prohibiting employee layoffs and giving paid leave, particularly for vulnerable women.

ECOSOC to assist in ensuring that structural disparities are resolved while protecting citizens (men, women, youth, and children) and the economy as whole.

7. The Society for Upliftment of Masses

For achieving Goal 3 of SDGs (GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING) following issues should get priority attention. The analysis is in Indian context.

According to SDG India Index and Dashboard 2020-21, released by NITI Aayog, India has taken good strides in various health parameters, being monitored closely, being part of Goal 3 of SDGs. Under five mortality rate, for example, has come down from 63 in 2010 to 36 in 2016-18 (SRS Bulletin). Similarly, MMR has come down from 200 in 2010 to 113 in 2019. 94.4% of deliveries are now happening in health institutions. However, India continues to combat serious problems with regard to quality, safety and efficacy of drugs due to increasing prevalence of fake, spurious and counterfeit drugs.

The Covid-19 pandemic brought along with itS immense shortage of prescribed medicines, oxygen cylinders, hospital beds and ventilators. Unscrupulous fraudsters and con artists took advantage of the situation to profiteer from sale of fake products. Fake, spurious, and counterfeit products such as Tocilizumab Injections, Remdesivir Injections, Hydroxychloroquine, Ivermectin, fake oxygen cylinders etc. put the people's life at stake!

'Illegal trade in fake or faulty COVID-19 products booming, new UN research reveals' – was reported by UN News on 8 July 2020. It was mentioned that a surge in demand for medical products to combat COVID-19 has led to a jump in the trafficking of substandard and faulty merchandise. This has highlighted the shortcomings in regulatory and legal frameworks aimed at preventing the manufacturing and selling of these products, points out the UNODC research brief, titled "COVID-19-related Trafficking of Medical Products as a Threat to Public Health".

Even prior to Covid-19 outbreak, concerns had been raised about increasing prevalence of Fake and Counterfeit Drugs.

ASSOCHAM, in its paper on "Fake and Counterfeit Drugs in India -Booming Biz" (Mar 30, 2017), had estimated that around 25% of India's drugs are fake, counterfeit or substandard.

According to WHO, an estimated 1 in 10 medical products circulating in low -and middle-income countries is either substandard or falsified, affecting the most vulnerable communities.

We suggest that following steps be taken by all stakeholders to tackle this menace effectively:

Overhaul Drug Regulatory Framework. With the COVID-19 pandemic putting the spotlight on drug-quality issues, the entire regulatory framework needs to be overhauled and strictly enforced. Patient's interests should be given highest priority.

Take up intensive awareness campaigns about Fake and Counterfeit Drugs with the help of all stakeholders. The studies carried out by our organization reveal that majority of consumers do not know how to distinguish between the fake and genuine drugs. Elected representatives from village level upwards, as also schools, colleges, formal and informal groups all over the country need to be involved with a basket full of activities like 'identity fake' quiz; 'tips for buying safe medicines' etc.

'Whom to Report', just in case you encounter a fake or counterfeit drug? It should be widely publicized. Strict penal action should be taken against those selling, manufacturing or promoting Fake and Counterfeit Drugs.

8. Heavenly Shower of Peace Church of God

There is no doubt that the pandemic has altered and the entire world to a new normal. COVID-19 has changed the ways things are done and has negatively affected every area of life globally. It is no longer news that manufacturing companies, cooperate organizations, industries, multinational corporations including private businesses has reduced and cut down on the number of their staffs and work force. These had ultimately increased the level of unemployment the world over especially in the developing countries of the world. Social life, global tourism and travels had been negatively impacted. We can now acknowledge that travel has become more complicated with travellers grappling with extortion by corrupt immigration officials with particular reference to sub-Saharan region of Africa. Educational sectors is not spared. Social and international organizations and the religious organizations that depend on meetings and conferences are the worst hit as been experienced by the United Nations. With these unexpected changes, the world must look for ways to restore normalcy and build back better while ensuring the sustainability of the sustainable development goals of the United Nations to improve life and make the world a better place.

One of the ways to build back better and to ensure the sustainability of the sustainable development goals is through **TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATIONS**. Governments of nations must invest on technological innovations that will help the world to return to normalcy and build back better.

Another way that helps nations to build back better with hope of keeping the sustainable development goals is through the **Development of Critical Infrastructures**. No nation can develop without adequate accessible road infrastructures, portable water and supplies, and distribution, rail, water transportation, good health care system and adequate housing system and many other basic and primary services that will Help drive recovery. **Creating Enabling Environments** for investments. Government should come out with policies that will attract investors into their countries to help restore normalcy and build back their economic better.

Stability of Democratic Government. This is particularly important to the West Africa sub region where regime change has become very rampant. Destroying an established democratic structure will impact negatively on nations especially now.

Deescalation of Crisis. When there is crisis there can never be development. To be able to recover and build back better from the pandemic governments must focus on the business of governance of making the people welfare and structural development a priority. The world must help nations that grappling are with insurgencies and terrorism as this will not help the building back process. Today in Nigeria farmers especially in the northern part can no longer go to farms and more.

Effective Response Systems: Governments must be prepared to deal with any outbreak that can lead to destruction and loss of lives to avoid any further pandemic or crisis.

With these and many more like putting more funding into the educational system with sound health sector the world will achieve more in building back better with the hope of achieving the sustainable development goals of the United Nations.

9. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

The COVID-19 pandemic has both exposed and exacerbated inequities around the world. Input from the individuals and communities affected by public sector policies that address sustainable development priorities is necessary to ensure that health and related systems are strong, sustainable and accountable to the people they are meant to serve and represent.

Civil society plays an essential role in helping countries develop, deliver and track the progress of public health policies and responses. Their engagement helps to ensure the political will, financing, implementation, and accountability necessary for health systems that reach the whole population.

Greater international coordination is urgently needed to confront international health threats. At the same time, international interventions must also support for local capacity. This would include:

A multisectoral approach to public health. Imbalances in the social determinants of health create a deadly combination: populations with greater rates of underlying health conditions, such as diabetes, hypertension, and lung diseases, are also more likely to be exposed to dangerous pathogens. Chronic illness is also associated with poorer mortality and morbidity outcomes for infectious diseases including COVID-19. Policies that shape national food and nutrition environments are essential to protecting populations and are directly relevant to health outcomes. So are built environments, including those that influence road use and road safety, and policies to address tobacco use, food systems and other risk factors for non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Also critical is a one health approach, harmonizing human, planetary and animal health, to protect against the spread of infectious diseases.

Prioritization of people and communities. Robust health systems break down silos between infectious diseases and NCDs to put people at the center of health policies and responses. This means integrated care at the primary healthcare level, along with public health policies that address the leading causes of death and disease, whether those are infectious diseases, NCDs or injuries. This has been a major lesson from COVID-19, which has been particularly dangerous for people with chronic conditions such as heart disease and hypertension.

Domestic resource mobilization for epidemic prevention, preparedness and response. Global health security depends on every country strengthening its public health system. The key to preventing the spread of diseases is for countries to invest in systems to find, prevent and stop outbreaks before they get out of control. The G20 Independent Panel encourages countries at all income levels to increase domestic health spending even alongside international financing. Sustained, locally-led advocacy for epidemic preparedness is essential to ensure long-term prioritization and investments beyond immediate crises, and to hold governments accountable for delivering on their promises.

10. Adolescent Breast and Pelvic Cancer Awareness Initiative

COVID -19 Pandemic has forced the whole world to confront our broken system. COVID -19 Pandemic has largely affected women more than men. We must advance progress towards gender wellbeing, health, education, empowerment etc.

Gender health- Strong and standard gender specialist hospitals should be built in Enugu State Nigeria. For proper medical diagnoses, treatment and medical care for all classes of women. It is an opportunity for women, children, girls to have access to professional medical care on time. During the COVID -19 Pandemic lock down, many women loss their loved ones, some women loss their jobs, some women loss their lives, some women quit their jobs to care for their family. Women, children, girls should be in frontline for professional medical cares.

The gender (women, children and girls) are fast growing population. Children in Nigeria are like social security. Some class of women cannot afford to pay for good medical care in and outside Nigeria. While some girls and children depend on their parents and the society for survival. It is an opportunity to support women in their efforts in saving lives. COVID -19 Pandemic may not be the last pandemic, Preventative education on gender disease Surveillance is important and necessary for gender well being. It is collective responsibility to find lasting solutions on gender health and wellbeing.

The reasons gender should have access to good health in Nigeria.

1. To have access to good medical care on time through professional care in partnership with United Nations Entity and International health care delivery original equipment manufacturers and international health care project financiers to participate in development, ownership and operation of gender specialist hospitals in Enugu State Nigeria through Public Private Partnership (PPP).
2. To encourage\ support women in saving lives.
3. To ensure every women receive standard medical care in Nigeria without travelling outside Nigeria.
4. Employment opportunity the gender specialist hospitals shall offer employment to women and young girls to care for themselves and their family.
5. The Research institute shall be built in the hospital for continuous education of specialized persons in medicine, oncology, gynaecology, obstetric, nursing, paediatric, pharmacology etc.
6. Children that grow up in lovely environment have great return of achievements to the nation that show them love and care.
7. It is an eye sore to see cancer patients especially women, children, girls under the heat of the sun begging.
8. The gender specialist hospitals shall serve as medical tourist centre for west Africa states. We call on the United Nations to further fast track our prevention and care of gender ailments, to ensure gender specialist hospital is built.

11. Association for Rural Area Social Modification, Improvement and Nestling

The COVID-19 pandemic situation tortured millions and millions of people relentlessly all over the Globe. The economic break down, massive loss of employment and return of the migrant workers would further stress the limited welfare and livelihood resources in the rural areas having direct impact on welfare access of the poor and taking the poverty back to decades-old level.

All the Countries have witnessed the harshest imposition of the lockdown, shut down and quarantine to protect the virus enforced for too long with a very chaotic widespread humanitarian crisis. The return of the migrants from the industrial cities back to rural area was the cause of the total loss of livelihood in very unsafe and pathetic condition caused the spread of the virus in rural people. Our poor people are the most sufferers and victims of this situation and striving hard.

The collapse of economy under the severe and prolonged lockdown imposition has now forced our governments to further liberalize the welfare laws to attract the 'investors' for 'reviving' the economy. This would inflict the greater vulnerability among the poor community. Hence, to challenge this unprecedented situation, "Nature-based Solution" is the most appropriate technology as mentioned below:

Subsistence agriculture for green economy:

We are promoting the adaptation of subsistence agriculture, a sophisticated and convergence program, having commendable actions to nourish the people and provide enormous support for their food security, health security and financial security. Apparently, this is a regenerating crop that is eco-friendly, climate friendly, climate resilient, carbon smart, water smart and energy smart, needs no more water, no chemical fertilizers and no pesticides. The fertility of soil will never be deteriorated. it has the forbearing capacity for natural calamities and the duration of cropping period is less. This can check the soil erosion, desertification, and work as a carbon sink stabilizer towards the implementation of the Restoration Projects and the Dimensions of Sustainable Development Goals through enhanced collaborative action along with the following activities:

Qualitative Education on advanced science and environmental sustainability to children at schools and colleges through awareness, debate and fares

Organizing strong-educative awareness programs for self-help groups, students, teachers, lecturers, political leaders and the youth mass to save the environment

Prioritizing on women involvement for adaptation of subsistence agricultural farming and different income generating programs like bee keeping, mushroom cultivation, soap making and preparation of organic fertilizers etc.

Intensive training and awareness on aqua-culture, processing seafood, saving the Biodiversity's, mangrove plantation and conservation that provides enormous livelihood support opportunity in the context of corona-virus pandemic situation.

Training opportunity to fisher community and community leaders on conservation, protection, proper management of ocean and sea-food

To achieve the 2030 Agenda of SD Goals we will work in partnership with the UNEP, stakeholder community and the governments.

12. International Public Relations Association (IPRA)

The International Public Relations Association (IPRA), established in 1955, is the leading global network for PR professionals in their personal capacity. IPRA has been a recognized NGO in consultative status on roster A1 with the Economic and Social Council since 1984. IPRA plays a role in the planning of the Department of Global Communication's UN civil society conferences. Our representative, Barbara Burns, formerly served on the Global NGO executive committee.

IPRA applauds the theme of the 2022 session namely, "*Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*"

In this statement IPRA lays out three actions over the last year that helped with communication issues related to COVID-19 and the promotion of the SDGs. We conclude with two policy recommendations.

Overview: three actions that raise awareness of COVID-19 challenges and the SDGs

1. IPRA is the organiser of the annual Golden World Awards recognizing excellence in public relations practice worldwide. Started in 1990 in partnership with the then UN DPI, IPRA put together an award for outstanding achievement to recognize PR programmes that address UN issues. This prize is now known as the *IPRA Global Contribution Award – in support of UN sustainable development goals*. Recent recipients have excelled in communication programmes that help people understand the SDGs. 2021 and 2022 entries had a focus on communication programmes to fight the COVID-19 pandemic.
2. Since February 2021 IPRA has organised a series of monthly Thought Leadership Webinars. These are made available free to anyone in the world. Attendance from Africa and Asia is notable. The webinars inter alia have discussed communication challenges during the pandemic, how to build back better, and issues around sustainability.
3. In 2021, IPRA published a collection of Thought Leadership Essays on COVID-19 communication challenges.

Policy recommendations: a way forward

1: Improved SDG communication strategies

Strong communication strategies are necessary for further dissemination of the Sustainable Development Goals as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. Awareness amongst the global population must be the priority among UN entities and their NGO partners. IPRA recommends the UN, governments and civil society establish strong global communication programmes around the SDGs.

2: An end to fake news

The decline of traditional journalism with editorial oversight, combined with the rise of social media, has changed how the world sends and receives information. Fake news is a main and under-recognized challenge that inhibits achieving the UN sustainability goals. This was a key finding of a global member outreach conducted by IPRA as its contribution to the UN75 dialogue. IPRA recommends UN support to member states which are considering legislation to remove the legal indemnity of social media providers for the content they carry, thus recognising them as news providers.

13. Sindhi Adhikar Manch (Association)

Covid has wiped out 20 years of education gains. Now it is time to take steps to ensure inclusive and equitable education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

We need to build update basic infrastructure in schools to achieve the targets.

Availability of Drinking Water

Electricity

Handwashing facilities

Our priority is to achieve gender equality and empower all women's and girls.

We must assure women equal participation in decision making in crucial for Covid-19 response and recovery.

At Present Women represent only 25.6 in National Parliament, 36.3% in Local Government. 28.2% in Management position. We have to take measure to increase women representation to planet 50-50.

Due to covid-19 violence against women have increased 1 in 3 have subjected to physical and /or sexual violence in their lifetime.

We have to do more to stop child marriage.

The pandemic has added the burden of unpaid domestic and care work and squeezing women out of the labour force.

Due to pandemic the sustainability of our Oceans is under threat. We have to address Plastic /Marine population

Dead zones are rising at alarming rate.

We have to protect marine key biodiversity areas.

We have to support small scale fishers.

We have to increase the research budget for Ocean Science.

We have to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial eco system.

Sustainably manage forest desertification and halt and reverse land, degradation and halt Biodiversity loss.

We have to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global partnership for Sustainable Development.

We have to increase foreign Direct Investment.

We have to increase remittance flows to low- and middle-income countries

Pandemic has showed us immense need for connectivity. We have to connect Global population online.

14. Khmer National Liberation Front

Khmer National Liberation Front is concerned about human rights violations and political crisis in Cambodia.

Many decades, Cambodian people are facing genocide, human rights violation and living with fear and losing their rights and freedom. The Cambodian ruling party led by prime minister Hun Sen continue to violate human rights and crack down democracy that is contrary to the Paris Peace Agreement 1991.

The Cambodian ruling parties continue to restrict freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and political rights and ban opposition political parties and Non-government organizations (NGOs). They continue to crack down on oppositions and human rights defenders activists. Forced eviction and land grabs took place across the country and human trafficking to neighbouring country.

Many members of KNLFF have been arrested and imprisoned and some have fled the country and become refugees and asylum seekers in Thailand. I have been sentenced in absentia to 9 years in jail. Members of KNLFF have been continuously persecuted like the recent case of my colleague Ms. Pov Savan who have been hunted and just fled the countries on March 8,2022. Many members of KNLFF have been hunted in Cambodia.

In this opportunity, I would like to support the statement of Mr. special rapporteur Vitit Muntarbhorn who raise concerned about the repress of human rights in Cambodia, narrow space of political rights and civic space . I would like to thank European Union, United Nations, United States of America and international community that express concerns about human rights and democracy in Cambodia and repress the regime to restore human rights and democracy.

When Cambodia is facing human rights violation and political crisis for the last decades, I would like to suggest that the United Nations and International community to help and support us to solve the political crisis and humanitarian crisis in Cambodia through the full implementation of Paris Peace Agreement 1991 and take a concrete actions to repress the Cambodian ruling party to open space for NGOs, civil society and political rights to everyone and release all political prisoners as said in Paris Peace Agreement 1991.

15. International Paediatric Association

The International Paediatric Association is a global organization of national child health organizations and international child health specialty societies, representing a million paediatricians caring for more than one billion children. IPA is a collaborating organization with WHO and is ECOSOC accredited through endorsement; this statement is submitted on behalf of IPA and the International Association for Adolescent Health (IAAH), an IPA member society.

IPA and IAAH believe that every young person should be accorded the right to the highest attainable standard of health, and the opportunity to grow, develop, and fulfil their potential. The pandemic of COVID-19 disease, and the risks it poses to families, communities and nations threaten global goals. Support for child and adolescent health and health care systems are needed, from all sectors and all member states.

Before COVID, more than a million adolescents were dying annually from preventable causes. To build back better from COVID-19 while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires urgent action for youth. Access to care and essential preventive services are threatened, vaccination programs and sexual and reproductive health services continue to be disrupted, and there is a mental health crisis. Many families struggle to obtain needed resources, including adequate food, and children's social development and educational opportunities are similarly disrupted. The pandemic, and the related economic and social impact threaten adolescents health and well-being, their current educational programs, and their future educational and vocational opportunities.

We strongly support and call on all nations to make commitments to the Call to Action for Adolescent Health and Well-being (<https://www.adolescents2030.org/>). We invite you to join PMNCH, WHO, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNAIDS, and other UN agencies, member states, and civil society groups that have made commitments to developing and implementing strong, multisectoral whole-of-government approaches that truly address adolescent health and wellbeing.

In collaboration with WHO and UNICEF, IPA is working to bring available technical guidance to child health care workers, and to bring evidence on school safety and gender equity to all communities. IAAH has strong and vibrant involvement of clinicians and scientists, young professionals, and with youth. We urge member states to partner with our national and regional societies to ensure accurate information is available to the public and essential, universal primary care services are available and accessible to all. This needs multisector commitments, and funding, to ensure that care systems truly meet adolescents' needs. We call for multi-sector commitments, to ensure that care systems truly meet adolescents' needs. Member states and civil society partners across the life-course are invited to join our networking, and help lead the way to stronger national partnerships, to stronger community services, and stronger and healthier societies.

16. CIBJO – The World Jewellery Confederation

For the international jewellery and gemstone sector, the period beginning in February 2020 with the onset of the coronavirus pandemic has been transformational. COVID-19 and its aftermath exposed the substantial developmental and economic gaps that still exist among stakeholders within the industry's supply chains, underscoring the imperative need to build back better while advancing full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as expressed in the theme of the 2022 ECOSOC HLS.

The necessity to narrow and ultimately eliminate these gaps is a key component of the mission of CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, in special consultative status in ECOSOC since 2006.

For more than 150 years, the jewellery and gemstone industry has been structured in a way that its raw materials, including precious metals and gemstones, have been sourced predominantly under-developed regions of Africa, South America and Asia, while gem processing and jewellery manufacturing, representing most of the added value, have been concentrated in the developed economies of Europe and North America, and recently India and China.

A consequence of these historic processes is that income gaps between the upstream and downstream sections of the distribution chain remain substantial, affecting the relative capacities of societies and communities to cope with generational threats like COVID-19. From early 2020 the social repercussions of the COVID lockdowns in the mining regions were more substantial than elsewhere, lower vaccination rates and economic displacement hindered their recovery.

Soon after the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, in April 2020, CIBJO created a global forum called Jewellery Industry Voices to discuss impacts and remedial strategies across the value chain. This was in accordance with SDG 17, revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development.

In September 2020, a special hybrid workshop was conducted in Vicenza, Italy, entitled "Africa is rising: A new generation finds its voice." It focused on young members of the industry from Africa, who are intent on changing the paradigm by which almost all raw materials mined on the continent are exported and processed elsewhere.

Following the workshop, a special working group was set up in CIBJO, which included members of the industry from seven sub-Saharan African countries, to plan the establishment of a Pan-African body and national associations. This will be done with the assistance of CIBJO, to aid the grassroots development of the jewellery industry as a means of economic and social empowerment, in accordance with SDG 9 – building resilient infrastructure and promoting sustainable industrialization and fostering innovation, and SDG 10 reducing inequality within and among countries. Among the numerous projects planned was a gem-cutting training programme for refugees living in Zambia.

"Building back better" also requires putting gender consideration at the heart of Social Protection and promoting effective participation of civil society and the private sector in the decision-making process are essential.

Certainly, more can be done to engage the private sector to make a greater contribution to funding, especially for sustainable infrastructure and technology. Then we will have "a true year of recovery."

17. Aalem for Orphan and Vulnerable Children, Inc.

Coming together to discuss, learn and make plans to Building back better from the coronavirus disease while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development is worth welcoming idea.

From general perspective, we know that the outbreak has led to significant impact on the mental and social health of children around the world. In addition, the experience of loss and fear, many people have been exposed to distressing situations and images, potentially leading to stress, anxiety and mood disorders. Social problems continue to emerge within world, including challenges faced by survivors of Coronavirus disease, health care workers and other support workers who are experiencing stigma and discrimination from their within their own families and communities. In addition, due to travel and work restrictions put in place during the outbreak as well as loss of community members, there has also been a drastic decline of income generation.

There is an obvious need to learn and document the experiences of addressing mental and social health of children and youths needs and for countries to make plans on how they will strengthen their mental health systems to best meet the needs of their residents.

These three objectives should be addressed in any forum:

To identify achievements, challenges and lessons learned in relation to the COVID-19 related mental health and psychosocial emergency response in countries around the world

To produce a roadmap of mental health system recovery/development.

Identification of a minimum response framework for mental health and psychosocial support that can be rolled out in case of similar future outbreaks in other countries based on the experience of COVID-19 mental health and psychosocial response.

As for the advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should be to lay the foundation for universal health coverage whereby everybody receives the health services they need without suffering financial hardship. In moving in this direction, immediate objectives will include reducing mortality from diseases that have gone unmitigated during the epidemic, establishing surveillance mechanisms to address future outbreaks, and building trust with countries who already disaffected from health care before coronavirus, have been further alienated.

18. Afrique Esperance

The achievement of these different objectives will not be without having satisfied or even given strong and courageous responses to the place of the female gender who suffer the most from both the effects of climate change and the setbacks of covid-19.

SDG #4: The Ghanaian intellectual James Emman Aggrey was not mistaken when he asserted as early as the 1920s: “To educate a man is to educate an individual. Educating a woman is educating a whole nation”. -Connected women leaders who return must be constantly trained and/or benefit from capacity building (education) in order to serve as a springboard for other women; -developing the assiduous and continuous system of learning in the mother tongue for women and girls, especially in the least developed countries; -benefiting from capacity building to accelerate their rural and peasant economy, especially y in their income-generating activities; -A hopeful look at the renewed opportunity to improve the lives of women and girls and their livelihoods;

SDG #5 : “Countries with more gender equality have better economic growth. Companies with more female leaders perform better. Peace agreements that include women are more durable. Parliaments with more women pass more legislation on key social issues such as health, education, anti-discrimination and child support. The proof is clear: equality for women means progress for all”. Ban Ki Moon Diplomat, Former Secretary General of United Nations, Statesman, Politician. -We urgently need a gender fund (to build a healthier, safer and more prosperous future for women and girls; -Building a green and gender-equitable economy; -Empowerment of women in the development of actions with economic opportunities and rehabilitated electricity; Call for a global economic recovery cantered on equity for energy-poor countries; SDG #14 :” A bet way to observe the fish is to become a fish” Jacques Cousteau. Protect aquatic life; it means preserving life, biodiversity, the environment and the species that make it up. It is also to ensure the follow-up of the man for his subsistence. By strengthening international laws and measures for the safety and conservation of marine and coastal areas. SDG #15 : “Woman without male, land without seed.” proverb amharique. Our planet, our heritage, our life. Depending on the effects of climate change and while the UNCCD COP15 is being prepared, the evocative theme of 'Land. Life. Legacy: From scarcity to prosperity', appropriate measures must be taken to avoid the planet's inability to feed itself. We should resort to innovative and smart solutions related to agriculture in order to expand productions while keeping our planet intact for future generations. SDG #17: “Talents win games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships” Michael Jordan, Former NBA Basketball player. There is no success without partnership, so to attend the SDG, we must all whatever our activity and hobbies, work together, with on spirit, bring a better life for today and tomorrow for our future generation.

19. KARP

KARP (Korea Association of Retired Persons) propose improvement measures to address some social problem as follows.

Support underdeveloped countries led by the developed in post-corona era

World Bank has warned that the virus could push between 40 and 60 million into extreme poverty this year, with sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia hardest hit. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that half of working people could lose their jobs within the next few months, and the virus could cost the global economy US\$10 trillion. Likewise The World Food Programme says 265 million people will face crisis levels of hunger unless direct action is taken.

The whole world has suffered a great deal of damage from the Corona Pandemic. However, these epidemics are highly likely to reappear at any time, and greater catastrophes may come back periodically.

Underdeveloped countries cannot timely cope with this challenging situation due to the lack of technology and financial resources in the process of overcoming such a disastrous corona pandemic.

We believe it is time for developed countries to help underdeveloped countries in such a difficult situation.

Recognize the repetitive pandemic seriously and take proactive actions to prevent from it.

Governments ensure urgent recovery measures and longer-term social protection, especially for the disadvantaged and marginalized.

Advanced countries should take lead to support underdeveloped ones for the era of post-Corona.

Establish systematic mechanism to support underdeveloped countries to overcome the damage caused by the corona pandemic

Creation of jobs for the elderly and provision of work opportunities

The number of people over the age of 55 who are participating in the workforce is on downward globally compared to pre-pandemic levels. The Great Recession of 2008 didn't even result in this huge of a loss of senior, experienced workers.

Corona pandemic caused much damage to vulnerable people especially for the elderly and has taken away their job opportunity.

What's worse is many older workers that lost jobs during the pandemic won't be back and older workers are pushed out of the job market due to lack of opportunities.

KARP urges the following;

Government to take effort to promote initiatives to create new jobs and promote employment of the elderly

Given that the health condition of the elderly has improved significantly, it is required to gradually raise the retirement age, presently at 60, up to 65.

20. Fondation Ostad Elahi – Ethique et Solidarite Humaine

Le développement d'une éducation pour tous - objectif n°4 de l'agenda 2030 du développement durable - est tributaire notamment de la considération équitable portée aux jeunes filles et aux jeunes garçons, quelle que soit leur culture ou leur religion. Cette considération est le fruit d'une éducation à l'éthique qui a également pour effet de favoriser le sous-objectif 4.7 de l'agenda, à savoir, la promotion des droits humains, d'une culture de paix et de non-violence, de la citoyenneté et de l'appréciation de la diversité culturelle. Car éduquer à l'éthique, donc à la considération et au respect d'autrui, c'est fondamentalement éduquer à l'humanité.

Or, toutes les écoles philosophiques ont depuis toujours affirmé que ce sont les passions égotiques et préjugés - issus notamment des multiples formes de la volonté de puissance - qui constituent la principale cause de souffrance et de désordre pour l'homme et son environnement. C'est pourquoi il est fondamental, et de nos jours urgent, d'insister sur l'importance d'une éducation permettant d'apprendre aux enfants et aux jeunes adultes, d'une part, à identifier en eux les traits de caractère susceptibles de provoquer de la souffrance ou du désordre, et, d'autre part, à maîtriser par un travail approprié ces traits de caractère tout en développant les qualités opposées : bienveillance, empathie, courage, etc. Il s'agit d'apprendre à vivre une vie humaine, visée même d'un travail d'ordre éthique passant par le perfectionnement de soi.

Si la dimension culturelle et religieuse a longtemps été un facteur déterminant de l'éducation à l'humanité, l'expérience d'enseignement développée par la Fondation Ostad Elahi montre que la pratique de l'éthique peut s'apparenter aux démarches d'une science expérimentale et s'inscrire ainsi dans une perspective universelle de la participation à la vie sociale.

Cette démarche peut être déployée à partir de deux exercices complémentaires, accessibles quotidiennement à tout un chacun, pouvant faire l'objet d'une proposition de pratique systématique et d'analyse. Le premier, qui a pour objectif l'identification en soi des tendances égoïstes nuisibles, s'appuie sur la fonction de miroir de soi qu'est susceptible de remplir autrui. Le second a pour objectif de permettre la maîtrise progressive de ces tendances égoïstes et passions nuisibles et leur "transformation" en qualités éthiques. Sa formulation est une expression de la règle d'or de l'éthique, à savoir : en toutes circonstances, se mettre à la place de l'autre. Derrière la simplicité apparente de ces exercices se cachent les ressorts de ce qui s'avère être, à l'épreuve de l'expérience, un moyen profond et opératoire de connaissance et de transformation de soi dans le sens du développement de sa propre humanité et dont les effets positifs impactent l'environnement de chacun.

Cette approche est un facteur puissant et efficace d'éducation pour tous. Qui plus est, elle ne nécessite pratiquement aucun moyen autre que l'apprentissage et la mise en œuvre d'une méthodologie d'enseignement, et pour les publics de jeunes concernés, la présence des « autres » dans leur environnement leur permettant une expérimentation quotidienne et progressive.

21. Divine Act Charitable Trust

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has caused an unprecedented crisis in all areas. As of February 26, 2020, COVID-19 has been recognized in 34 countries, with a total of 80,239 laboratory-confirmed cases and 2,700 deaths, there was a sudden shoot up of confirmed cases of 4.9 million in at least 188 countries with 323,300 deaths and nearly 1.7 million recoveries as at 20th of May 2020. In the field of education, this emergency has led to the massive closure of face-to-face activities of educational institutions in more than 190 countries. Based on UNESCO estimates, about 35.9 million primary and secondary school learners are out-of-school as a result of the school closures in the time of COVID-19. For primary schools, this number totals approximately 25.6 million students, of which about 87 percent (23.5 million) are students enrolled in public schools. The numbers are just as stark for secondary school learners. Of the roughly 10.3 million secondary school students who are out-of-school as a result of the closures, approximately 81 percent (8.4 million) of them are public school students. There is no assurance that all the learners who left the school will be back in school after the pandemic lockdown.

The coronavirus pandemic has exposed the socio-economic inequalities of the Nigeria education system; many wealthy families in Nigeria send their children to private schools, leaving the poor resources and facilities in public schools all because of the increase in mismanagement of resources allocated to the education system. The children in private schools might experience little disruption in their learning, because the authorities of most standardized private schools do ensure their schools are well equipped with the ICT infrastructures and they can afford remote learning. Learners from vulnerable and disadvantaged communities without access to computers and other devices outside school however left struggling. In many cases, these children live in communities with poor or non-existent internet connectivity and epileptic power supply. Inevitably, if this digital innovative is the only alternative to switch to during the lockdown it will make worse learning disparities among these children because not many parents can afford an android phone talk less of other sophisticated ICT tools used in aiding learning.

Another possible recommendation option after the effect of the COVID-19, is that local schools/governments outsource for some opportunities. For instance, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) has recently announced to provide “US\$250 million to help developing countries mitigate both the immediate and long-term disruptions to education being caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.” The GPE aims to support for the children’s education who are affected by school closures. Similarly, UNESCO has established a task force to support governments from low- and middle-income countries to combat the crisis. Thus, schools or the local governments may request GPE, UNESCO and other organisations such as Global Action, and Room to Read (to name a few) for their support to mitigate the crisis created by the pandemic and to prepare for the future.

22. Convention of Independent Financial Advisors

A recent cartoon in the French daily Le Monde featured a bedraggled man arriving at a doctor's office for a Covid-19 vaccine. «I am here for the fifth shot because of the third wave», he says. «Or maybe, it's the third shot because of the fifth wave».

His bewilderment captured the mood of exhaustion and simmering anger across the world two years after the deadly virus first began spreading around the world. Companies and organizations have been unable to plan for return to normal operations because just when they think the virus is abating, a new variant emerges, like Delta and now Omicron.

Up to this day, no official agency has been able or willing to testify if the original and the subsequent variations of the COVID-19 virus are natural or of manmade origin.

There have been 271 million cases of Covid-19 across the world with 5.3 million deaths. The economic and financial impacts of the virus have been substantial but varied. The result of closing many sectors of the economy saw a significant decline in GDP growth, “as large as 8.7 percent for middle-income countries. Wealthier countries suffered a bit less, with a median of 6.4 percent, because they began to recover before the end of 2020. The impact of COVID19 was less in poorer countries because many did not have the resources to implement strict lockdowns. However, even in this group of countries, median GDP growth was 5.2 percent lower than expected.”

From the start of the pandemic to the present, public officials and corporate officers have often found themselves on the backfoot trying to figure out how to respond to each new manifestation of the virus. Caught between the need to save lives and the necessity to keep the pharmacological industry satisfied, officials have often politicized the public health measures, including lockdowns, restrictions in personal freedom, wearing masks, control of media, and vaccine mandates, decisions that are overtly at odds with:

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media, and regardless of frontiers.

A major lesson learned from an attempt to have a collective response to coronavirus is the difficulty in working across national boundaries to address a global threat. The Director-General of WHO, as well as the UN Secretary General, warned about vaccine inequality. They emphasized that the basic problem was a nationalist approach that ignored sharing financial resources to fully fund access to vaccines, sharing doses with COVAX, and sharing technology to scale up the manufacturing of vaccines at the national level. It is normal to have most countries put their populations first, any politician not following that rule would automatically be not re-elected. In Nigeria, one of Africa's richest countries and Africa's most populous nation with more than 200 million people, fewer than 4% of adults have been fully vaccinated, according to WHO. The official figures published by Nigeria show 6100 new cases on December 22, 2021 and 3000 death since the start of the pandemic. It seems questionable to infer that vaccinating a greater share of the population would significantly improve these figures.

The problem of international cooperation on issues of global impact was also recently demonstrated when some members of the UN Security Council wisely blocked an effort to include climate change as a factor affecting international peace and security.

So, our call to action must not just be, “Building Back Better,” but “Building Back Better – together.” Without strengthening bottom-up cooperation and involvement at all levels, which includes local authorities, local civil society, NGO action groups, provincial and national government as well as international organizations, efforts will be in vain. This particularly applies to achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

As an NGO in General Consultative Status with ECOSOC, CIFA is a high-level international center in the field of finance, asset management, and global financial counselling, able to work with groups, companies, and international organizations to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We are particularly interested in advising investors and pensioners on socially responsible investing in many of the activities included in the 2030 Agenda. Socially responsible investment is relatively new to many investors and pension funds. The individual, socially responsible investor asks: how do I make money and feel good about doing it? Institutions ask a different question: how to promote the basic values, goals and objectives of the institution with our investment decisions? The UN system has a wide range of policies, programs and activities it seeks to advance, everything from eradicating poverty in developing countries to promoting public health, gender equality, disarmament, environmental protection, education, decent housing, and a host of others, all incorporated into sustainable development goals and the Agenda for 2030.

From our studies and analysis, we conclude that investors and pensioners worldwide are more inclined than ever to seek out socially responsible investment opportunities that can help finance the goals and objectives of the 2030 Agenda. There is no doubt, however, that the pandemic has had a negative impact on the world’s developed and emerging countries that have entered a cycle of heavy borrowing, indebtedness, historical budget deficits, and supply chain problems. This raises serious questions about their capacity to foster economic growth, create new jobs, and increase fiscal revenue and ODA.

Currently, many pension funds worldwide, which are potential sources of finance for the 2030 Agenda, are now facing actuarial shortfalls and their main concern is to avoid risky investments and reduce their losses. We believe, however, that carefully considered socially responsible investments are as sound as any other if all the normal investment criteria are considered. In this context, we believe that the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions should provide potential investors with a clear, objective, and regularly updated outlook on the various types of investments proposed in relation to the 2030 Agenda.

23. Al-Shafa'a Humanitarian Organization

The urgent health crisis represented by the novel coronavirus has created a historic recession and led to record levels of poverty and unemployment, causing an unprecedented human crisis with the most devastating effects on the most disadvantaged groups, especially the poor, women, children and minorities. The health crisis resulting from covid is a humanitarian crisis and a development crisis. It's not just about the most vulnerable people. This pandemic shows us that we are all at risk, because our collective resistance depends on the resistance of our weakest health systems. My recommendations on rebuilding better from coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while promoting the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

1. protect existing health services and strengthen the capacity of health systems to respond to the covid-19 crisis.
2. help people cope with difficult situations through social protection programs and the provision of basic services.
3. maintain jobs, support small and medium enterprises and assist workers in the informal sector through economic stimulus programs.
4. support governments to help them strengthen fiscal stimulus measures so that existing macroeconomic policies benefit the most vulnerable, as well as support the implementation of strengthened regional and multilateral responses.
5. promote social cohesion and invest in community-managed intervention and resilience-building mechanisms.

All of the above five components aim to respond to countries ' need for a sustainable environment that enables them to recover, "rebuild themselves better" and better prepare for future shocks, especially new pandemics.

24. World Organization for Early Childhood Education

Do not leave early childhood behind while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the recovery plans.

Young children (0-8) are citizens and governments, families, and communities must protect children's specific rights to holistic development, education, care, health, participation, economic and social support. However, because of the Covid-19 pandemic their situation is more critical than ever before. Access to high quality education and care services and primary health care are widely diminished. The situation is worse for those living in migration and poverty where inequalities, exclusion and violence are often prevalent.

Most public policies do not address young children and their families. However, there is a need to protect these foundational developmental years, placing early childhood in the center of the recovery plans and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, fulfilling children's human rights and holistic development, by assuring access to quality early childhood education and care services and programmes.

Great inequalities and injustices persist within and across countries. This is starkly evident in data on availability, accessibility and quality of early childhood education and care policies. More than 175 million children – around 50 percent of pre-primary age children globally - continue to be denied their right to have an early education (UNICEF, 2020). States are not fulfilling their commitment on providing at least one year of pre-primary education before primary school (UNESCO, 2021).

Early Childhood Education and Care programs and services are central for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development connecting target of the SDG 4 (education), as catalyst for many other Goals, as nutrition (SDG 2), health (SDG 3), peace and inclusion (SDG 16), etc.

Given States obligation is to promote, protect and restore rights violated, OMEP wants to highlight some recommendations:

1. Apply the principle of “the best interests of the child” from the CRC, as the primary consideration in public policies, designing rights-based decisions.
2. Include children's perspectives in all matters that affect them by amplifying children's and families voices, overcoming traditional views which focused more attention on the needs of adults.
3. Promote the participation of diverse stakeholders in investment decision-making and monitoring processes. This includes the involvement of professional educators, caregivers, families, as well as the members of the Civil Society Organizations.
4. Provide reliable, meaningful, and disaggregated information about the situation of early childhood, to define knowledge-based public policies, overcoming fragmentation between various global and national bodies.
5. Prioritize investments based on a right's approach and protect budgets committed to inclusive societies and the protection of children and families.
6. Guarantee a comprehensive protection of the rights of the most vulnerable, addressing special measures to provide equity from birth.

25. BPW Spain (Federación Internacional De Empresarias BPW Spain)

The Covid-19 pandemic was an asymmetric shock, reinforced by existing vulnerabilities linked to uneven progress on the SDGs. This could lead to further widening the gaps between countries. However, with digitalization, including digital finance, we would be able to transform societies and economies in a equitable way. Renewed regional cooperation with a focus on people and planet can create the foundation for inclusive, resilient and sustainable development, and ensure no country is left behind. We have to design economic recovery packages to “build back better”.

This means doing more than getting economies and livelihoods quickly back on their feet. After COVID-19 we need recovery policies to trigger investment and behavioural changes that will reduce the likelihood of future shocks and increase society’s resilience to them when they do occur. Central to this approach is a focus on well-being and inclusiveness. We have to align with long-term emission reduction goals, factoring in resilience to climate impacts, slowing biodiversity loss and increasing circularity of supply chains. In practice, well-designed recovery policies can cover several of these dimensions at once, such as catalysing the shift towards accessibility-based mobility systems and investing in low-carbon and decentralised electricity systems.

We want to propose the implementation of a new sustainable development goal, SDG18 sky quality and access to starlight, to promote the protection of the sky and access to starlight. The advance of light pollution is erasing the stars from our skies, causing the deterioration of a legacy with profound cultural, scientific, environmental and aesthetic repercussions. Over lighting has become a global phenomenon that affects our cities.

The inefficiency in lighting causes an unjustified excess of energy consumption and increases the level of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. It is important to promote technological innovation to have intelligent lighting, without wasting energy, compatible with our sense of security, avoid radioelectric pollution and regulate the use of outdoor space, making available to society all the resources and knowledge that heaven offers us. <https://ods18.org/en/>

We have to be more aware that resources are finite, and that circular economy must be implemented in our lives and companies. There is a unyielding need to conserve our planet's resources by adopting a zero tolerance attitude towards waste. We have to change our mentality.

26. India Water Foundation

In the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic, Governments need to focus not only the economic but also the social and environmental aspects. Civil society organisations can play an important role in building back better from the Covid-19 pandemic and towards a just transition. India Water Foundation has been working to create public outreach by generating awareness about the various SDG's. Recognizing water as a connector to all sectors- energy, food, education and health, India Water Foundation has utilized policy advocacy and dissemination of information, best practices and technology to engage various stakeholders, inclusive of vulnerable, marginalized and local communities. The Covid-19 pandemic disrupted the progress in achieving the SDGs especially in South Asia.

The Covid 19 pandemic had huge impacts on health care systems. Strengthen the health care systems of developing nations should be a focus of the High-Level Political Forum. There should be discussions on how to improve current health and WASH infrastructure. There have to be more inclusive healthcare policies that will benefit the youth and the marginalised and vulnerable sections of society. The pandemic resulted in the use of huge amounts of single use plastics in the form of masks, PPE kits, testing kits, etc. All of the plastics ended up in landfills or enter our water bodies which causes more pollution. IWF celebrates the UNEP historic resolution to end plastic pollution and urge the governments to align their policies in line with this new resolution and ban the use of single use plastics in their economies.

The pandemic had also disrupted education systems. As schools were forced to conduct classes online, the digital divide posed huge challenges for poorer sections of society hampering education of millions of children around the world. As we return to normal as schools reopening, there is a need to prioritize the access of education for all especially for girls. Partnerships between governments and local organisations like civil societies can help to bridge the digital divide gap and to also encourage children to re-join schools.

There needs to be a bottom up and whole of society approach in which government efforts should benefit all especially the marginalised sections of society. India Water Foundation as members of SANS network of the SSWA office of UNESCAP has been pushing for partnerships at local, regional and global levels for coordinated and comprehensive regional and international cooperation, response and recovery efforts guided by the Sustainable Development Goals in furtherance of SDG 17.

It is critically important to move towards sustainable development by promoting low-carbon development. This can be done by promoting, resurrecting and greening MSME sector which leads to creating of greens jobs and generating employment. This can ensure a lasting economic recovery, increased community resilience and will ensure a long term pathway towards sustainable development. We have to promote cooperation and move away from the traditional thinking of working in silos. The Covid-19 pandemic exposed a lot of fragilities in our economies and this is the optimum time to align our actions towards the 2030 agenda.

27. Hrvatska udruga za promicanje prava pacijenata

The impact of the hospital lockdown and limited access to healthcare in Health Diplomacy operations around the world

The most common patient right across the globe is the right to access to health care. As the COVID- 19 pandemic increases the numbers of patients flowing into the hospitals with respiratory symptoms, health professionals are being extra careful about medical consultation for „outpatients “. Many inpatients are released from the hospital, as well, in order to protect them from infection. This can present an ethical and moral dilemma to health professionals who must choose between providing care or postponing already scheduled diagnostic and therapy processes. Obviously, for some patients that can be very dangerous. They may be chronic patients with unrecognized complications or acute conditions, for whom delayed reaction and emergency response will not be adequate.

We definitely deal with a world crisis, where everybody has a fear to become a regular, non- COVID-19 patient. However, we need to keep in mind that patients have their rights and that they must get full respect of their human right to health care even in the situation of COVID-19 or any other pandemic. We also have to keep in mind that this is a very difficult time for health professionals, who have to balance the fear about their own safety with providing full care to their patients. The COVID-19 pandemic has also shown the importance of global health. The responsibility for communicating COVID -19 is relying on Health Diplomacy (HD). COVID- 19 transcends national boundaries and governments and calls for global action to determine the health of people. However, understanding the needs of each individual patient locally brings together the best outcome of treatment and establishes a stronger relationship of trust between patients and health workers. Now, we can see how Public health is important: as an answer to the high-level question in health diplomacy. Also, it is not negligible that the private health system can bring an apprehension that even contagious, patients without insurance can be ignored. We need a more systematic and proactive approach to identify and understand key current and future changes that impact patient rights and to build capacity among the Member States to support the necessary collective action to take advantage of all opportunities in ensuring that these rights are fully observed.

We need to understand better the tracking statistics so that we clearly see how patients we affected in relation to their non COVID-19 health problems. Responding to emergencies, whatever the cause presents a very big challenge for successful world health management. Diplomatic rule of control emergency operation is unique and only when politics admits mistakes could learn from them. As a result, when it comes to planning for positive outcomes, we should be ready to face the new threats and sustain public confidence.

Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the organization, we would like to convey sincere thanks to Professor Marianna Arvanitakis, MD, Ph.D., the Winner of the European Award for the Best Medical Practice in the COVID-19 pandemic for writing this statement.

28. Motus Health Initiative

In order to build back better from the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19), there is need for repositioning local, regional and global responsiveness to Invasive Alien Species (IAS) with the aim of achieving effective early containment, because this action will certainly retard and eventually halt the epidemic dynamics. That's why our statement focuses on Sustainable Development Goal 15 (Life of Land) with emphasis on preventing or controlling Invasive Alien Species.

Presentation of issue:

Events have shown without doubt, there should be practicable standards for feasible responsiveness to invasive epidemiological issues. The absence of this aided, facilitated and boosted the rapidity and severity of the attendant spread of COVID-19. The timeline of the pandemic proved that early containment was not achieved due to several factors including lack of commitment from Government institutions, lacklustre approach to critical health issues, unwholesome assumptions, erroneous downgrades of the public health problem, and failure of local response pattern.

A Way Forward:

Our recommendation pinpoints that the right response strategy for combating epidemics should be put in place after being developed, tested and approved. Thereafter it will be championed by Governments and Institutions as a blueprint for stamping out epidemics. In so doing it can be adopted and adapted in various localities.

29. Women's Centers International

The Women's Center Model, developed by Women's Centers International (WCI), retrieves a millennia-old tradition of women gathering for mutual support and elevates it to innovation through delivery of key resources, in a safe environment, in five core areas: Education, Livelihoods, Health, Housing, and Violence Prevention.

This Model honors the interrelatedness of women's needs as well as the empowering effect of sisterhood. The Model provides a framework for both individual and group healing from the multiple traumas inherent in marginalized environments. That healing is the foundation of individual progress and agency. It enables groups of women to emerge as critical influencers of local development.

The Model is encoded in a comprehensive Guide and has been successfully adapted in Darfur, Kenya, and the United States. It is adaptable in any culture and in urban, suburban, and rural locations. It is particularly effective in refugee/IDP encampments. Each Center is governed and managed by local women. Each is affiliated with a global network through WCI for knowledge and data sharing. This expanding network will have the power to transform the lives of millions of poor women, enabling them finally to deploy their unique talents to build prosperous lives for themselves and their children.

Scaling up begins with twelve community-based organizations identified in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. INGOs may integrate the Model in their global operations to improve and streamline their gender-based programming.

If the international relief and development community is truly committed to improving the lives of women, then light years of progress are obtainable by assisting, politically and financially, in the creation of a network of Women's Centers.

30. Odisha

The spread of Covid-19 was gruesome to say the least but building back better from this disease should be our goal now. The full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can significantly contribute to building better for future. In this era of COVID -19, Globalisation will play a huge role in making the world work more efficiently and here comes the role of Goal 17 of SDGs- Partnerships for the Goals. According to the Sustainable Development Goals Report 2021, foreign investment, which has previously been a huge asset for the global economy, has decreased by 40%. Foreign investment in developing nations increase employment opportunities and strengthen the skills of the workers and offer technological flourishment. While this can be beneficial for both parties, it has led to the exploitation of the labour class and created the New International Division of Labour. There should be international regulations to protect the rights of the labour class.

Life has changed drastically after the Pandemic. Achieving Goal 15 of SDGs- Life on Land, has a vital role in building back better from the Pandemic. Life on land has been adversely affected due to poor waste management, which has attained dangerous proportion post Pandemic. The Global plastic waste was approximately 1.6 million tonnes a day in 2021. Plastic products were used extensively for containing the spread of the virus and as a result there was an exponential amount of plastic waste during the pandemic. This is the time to get innovative in our lifestyle and reduce the use of plastic and thereby the amount of plastic waste. Single use face masks/ shields produced globally are in the millions. Fear, rumours and lack of awareness have prompted a large population to do double-masking for health safety purposes, but they have not thought about the long term adverse effects of this waste being generated. Many companies have made reusable Masks and PP kits, however, due to the cost factor, single use Masks and PP kits are more popular choice. The amount of waste generated by single use products is much more than the re-usable products.

As the coronavirus situation gets better, the solution to this worldwide problem must include strict regulations at household and community levels, such as regulating the thickness of plastic bags. Removing plastic bags from stores altogether could be another measure, which will force shoppers to carry reusable bags. To discard the existing waste, the Governments should take steps for providing more and more landfills as they keep cities clean, maintain hygiene and segregate hazardous waste from other types of wastes. Moreover, this is a cost-effective method of plastic waste management. If the existing system of waste disposal continues, there will be personal landfills in every backyard of every house, which will increase the risk of a disease outbreak, from the decomposition of waste and generation of harmful toxins.

Strict measures are required because it is our responsibility to leave a sustainable world for the future generations.

31. Global Institute for Water, Environment and Health

River water quality is very important for aquatic ecosystem and riparian organisms. Various numbers of zooplankton, phytoplankton, bacteria, fishes, mollusc types living components build their habitat in aquatic environments. Biologically it is a very sensitive and diversified area that maintains the natural cycle of ecosystem.

Plant species could get hampered by ecological deterioration of water quality. Toxic heavy metals are one of the main causes of environmental hazards to aquatic ecosystem. The unsustainable use and inefficient protection of the quality of water have economic, social and public health impacts that constitute potential sources of conflict.

The Okhchuchay River:

The Okhchuchay River, heading from Armenia to flow through Azerbaijan, got polluted with industrial wastes which become unsuitable for irrigation purposes; moreover, all fish in the river have gone extinct. Excessive release of heavy metals into the river ruins not only the fluvial fauna, but is also extremely dangerous for the human health. Pollution of Okhchuchay has a negative impact on life below water of Araz river - the second largest river in the South Caucasus.

According to the report by the Ministry of Ecology of Azerbaijan, the content of copper-molybdenum compound - 2 times, iron - 4 times and nickel - even 7 times was higher than the norm. Periodically a color of the Okhchuchay River was changing either to a white or to an acid-yellow one. A mass trout mortality in the river was recorded in March 2021.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

GIWEH draws the attention of the international organizations on the environmental hazards and critical situation of Okhchuchay River and its ecosystem due to continuous pollution and calling for;

- Transboundary water resources workable monitoring provisions, enforcement mechanisms, and specific aquatic ecosystem protection provisions that address safety and changing needs. The main thrust of the management of shared river basins is to find ways of turning potential conflicts into constructive co-operation.

- Facilitating funding and financing of transboundary water cooperation and basin development, as a tool for peace.

- UN technical support at the riparian countries to build a new projects partnerships to move forward to protect the natural resources and life below water.

- Support national authorities and joint bodies in shaping their strategies and plans for aquatic ecosystem protection for transboundary water cooperation processes.

- Contribution to relevant global discussions and processes to raise awareness on the importance of sustaining financing for technical transboundary water cooperation and basin development;

- Exchange of experiences at global and regional levels to facilitate peer-learning and knowledge sharing for impacts on life below water transboundary water cooperation processes and basin development.

32. Pompiers humanitaires

La société civile est un pilier vital dans tous les domaines des Nations Unies et particulièrement pour atteindre l'objectif de l'Agenda 2030 après cette période difficile du post Covid-19. Pour cela, cette relation de consultation et de partenariat doivent être inclusive et cela dans tous les domaines, tout en mettant en place de divers mécanismes en particulier, dans le domaine de développement durable 4 sur une éducation de qualité, 5 sur l'égalité des sexes, 14 sur la vie sous l'eau, 15 sur la vie sur terre et 17 sur les partenariats pour les objectifs.

En effet, Tout au long de la crise sanitaire liée au Covid-19, la communauté internationale à maintenir fermement le cap sur les objectifs du Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030, tout en continuant à affronter les sérieuses difficultés apportées par la pandémie ainsi que de nombreuses organisations locales ont investis diverses ressources pour la sécurisation des populations les plus vulnérable dans divers domaines comme le cas de Pompiers Humanitaires en Afrique qui a favoriser la création d'emplois, l'innovation dans le domaine de l'éducation et la mise au point de nouvelles techniques de production plus écologiques dans le domaine de l'eau et de l'environnement pour contribuer directement et indirectement à la réalisation des cibles socioéconomiques et environnementales associées aux objectifs de l'agenda 2030.

En outre, Se transformer grâce à la pandémie du Covid-19 nécessite à faire de la connectivité numérique une priorité. Pour cela, la communauté internationale doit mettre en place une politiques de partenariat dans des pays en développement pour trouver le juste équilibre entre les retombées positives d'investissements au niveau de la société civile dans la connectivité numérique et les besoins urgents dans des secteurs comme l'éducation, l'eau, l'environnement, les soins de santé et cela de manière inclusive sans oublier de mettre en place un mécanisme d'appui aux sociétés civiles pour la mise en œuvre du Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030.

En fin, il est temps de savoir vivre avec les catastrophes sanitaires et naturelles qui se succèdent au fil du temps, car la force de l'humain réside dans ses capacités de reconstruction après les désastres. Pour y arriver, tous doivent mettre la main à la pâte, notamment la communauté internationale qui a une grande responsabilité et la société civile qui est en contacte directe avec la population.

33. Escuela del Estudio de la Intuición Enseñanza de Valores, Asociación Civil Sin Fines De Lucro

Physics shows us that the universe is a sum of complexities of very difficult resolution, but human beings through their inquisitions have managed to unravel some of them allowing scientific, cultural and social development. We live in a technological world that prevents us from finding a better destiny than the one we have today as a society. Based on these complexities we observe the existence of laws that allow the movement of this vast universe, and that they encompass each and every part, being the human being one of these minimal particles.

We, EDEI, have created a method with which it is developed what the Universe-Nature gives us innately: a prevention mechanism, which is the instinct or intuition. This is the way out of the world problems of not being able to live together in peace, of not being able to take care of the planet and not being able to banish inequalities. Since 1990 we have developed our theoretical-practical method which will allow society to integrate Moral Values through the Mechanism of Intuition in a fast and accurate way.

We are asking for 20 minutes to show you the method we are teaching to thousands of students from 5 continents.

Our teaching has always been, is and will always be free.

We do not exchange moral goods for material goods.

34. Coordination africaine des droits de l'homme pour les armées (CADHA)

La Coordination Africaine des Droits de l'Homme pour les Armées (CADHA) est une organisation non gouvernementale ivoirienne avec une présence dans 17 pays africains et possédant des collaborations et partenariats avec différentes parties prenantes notamment avec l'Etat-major des forces armées et de sécurité ivoirienne. Ainsi, la CADHA promeut les droits de l'homme, le droit international humanitaire au sein des forces armées et de sécurité. Dans ce sens, la mission et l'œuvre de la CADHA se conjuguent parfaitement avec deux des objectifs de développement durables phares de ce Segment de Haut Niveau, à savoir les objectifs de développement durable 5 (égalité entre les sexes et autonomisation des femmes) et 17 (partenariats pour la réalisation des objectifs).

En effet, les formations dispensées ainsi que les activités de sensibilisation organisées par la CADHA outillent et sensibilisent les forces armées et de sécurité à la thématique sur les violences sexuelles et à caractère sexiste liées conflits, renforçant ainsi les capacités techniques sur les questions des violences sexuelles et à caractère sexiste liées conflits. La protection des femmes, des filles contre les violences sexuelles et à caractère sexiste est par conséquent améliorée.

En outre, la Coordination Africaine des Droits de l'Homme pour les Armées organise des ateliers de sensibilisation en faveur de la promotion de la participation des femmes dans les forces armées et de sécurité. Cet objectif vise à accroître l'égalité entre les femmes-hommes et de façon indirecte à l'égalité des filles face à l'éducation.

Forte de son bilan, en dix ans, la CADHA a formé et sensibilisé plus de 21 000 personnels des Forces Armées et de Sécurité, du Corps Préfectoral ainsi comme de nombreux leaders communautaires. Le résultat obtenu de ces efforts est un changement de mentalité et de comportement au sein des forces armées et de sécurité ce qui a permis le retrait de la Côte d'Ivoire de la liste de la « honte » et renforce ainsi les efforts de lutte contre l'impunité pour les violations des droits de l'homme et les crimes sexuels et à caractère sexiste.

En 2020, au plus fort de la pandémie de COVID-19, ONU Femmes a qualifié la violence contre les femmes de « pandémie de l'ombre ». Et pourtant, deux ans après, nous continuons d'être témoins de la prévalence de ces actes odieux et nous devons y remédier si nous voulons atteindre l'objectif de développement durable 5. À cet égard, cette année la CADHA continue d'accorder la priorité aux formations et aux ateliers sur les violences sexuelles et à caractère sexiste pour les forces de police afin de mieux les équiper pour faire face à ce fléau.

En guise de conclusion, la Coordination Africaine des Droits de l'Homme pour les Armées entend renforcer sa bonne collaboration avec la communauté internationale, l'ONU et dans ce cas le Conseil Economique et Social. La CADHA reste à votre entière disposition pour partager son expérience et expertise afin d'explorer d'avantage les synergies qui existent entre la paix et le développement durable.

35. Raad Al-Ghadir Charity Institute

Raad Al-Ghadir charity is a non-governmental organization established in 2001 in a deprived area in Tehran, to promote the abilities of people with physical disabilities. The purpose of this institute is to support the inclusive education and sustainable employment of people with physical disabilities. The charity has succeeded in the mental, physical, professional, and social empowerment of above 3,200 people with disabilities and creating jobs for above 850 of them. The institute obtained a legal establishment license from the Technical and Vocational Training Organization of the country and provided its educational services under the standards of the international community.

Training courses

Raad Al-Ghadir offers free of charge technical and vocational training courses, under the obtained licenses, in six areas of Information Technology, painting, sewing, handicrafts, life skills, and entrepreneurship.

Purpose of Educational Courses

Since the lack of required skills for the market is among the most important issues for people with disability, offering skill-based training can lead to a reduction in their rate of unemployment.

After attainment of knowledge and technical skills, they will have the ability to seize employment opportunities or create job opportunities. Children with disabilities can also benefit from additional training support such as literacy and remedial classes.

Job-Oriented Training

The job-oriented nature of technical and vocational training at Raad Al-Ghadir, facilitates the learning process of trainees and creates job opportunities for them at home.

Decreasing the rate of unemployment, international credibility of technical and vocational certificates, reducing social issues, enhancing physical and mental health, increasing life expectancy, improving social relations, and conveying social values, and social acceptability are some of the outcomes of this training.

According to the physical condition of the target group, this institute conducted research about employment-based training. Eventually identifying suitable jobs for the disabled, could take an operative step in creating jobs for them.

Successful experiences:

Solving the unemployment problem for people with disabilities is one of the priorities of this institute, and the most appropriate way to answer this problem is social entrepreneurship. Achieving the best ranking in OCIRP 2016 international competitions in France, from among 250 non-governmental organizations around the world dealing with social entrepreneurship is an honor for every Iranian, Raad Al-Ghadir has achieved this by applying new methods in social entrepreneurship, social responsibility, and providing honest services.

1. Raad Al-Ghadir contact center
2. Sewing workshop
3. Employment in handicraft production
4. Employment Agency
5. self-employment

By using above mentioned processes Raad Al-Ghadir could create above 850 jobs for people with disabilities.

Suggestions:

Regarding the limitations of the people with disabilities, and considering their high mental ability in information technology, and due to their great patience in telephone conversations, Jobs such as telemarketing, content production, site management, and computer work are among the most suitable jobs for them.

Hence, the Raad Al-Ghadir team is ready to share their 20 years of successful experiences in developing job-oriented educational platforms and achieving global educational justice for all, including persons with disabilities, with other respected members of the ECOSOC.

36. Krityanand UNESCO Club Jamshedpur

Human rights-based approaches to development are powerful tools that make us safer and more resilient. They place our emphasis on the people most at risk of discrimination. They are the best way to reduce inequalities and resume our path towards realising the 2030 Agenda.

The High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF) is the central global platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As reaffirmed by the UN Secretary-General in his 2020 Call to Action for Human Rights and the 2021 Common Agenda report, human rights permeate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the vast majority of its goals and targets correspond to legally binding human rights commitments made by every Member State. Therefore, discussions at the HLPF and its preparatory processes need to be likewise anchored within a human rights-based discourse.

The SDGs “seek to realize the and are universally applicable to all people in all countries, including both developed and developing countries. Importantly, the 2030 Agenda is to be implemented in a manner consistent with international law. The draft recognizes that the status quo is not enough, that more must be done to identify innovative sources of “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

States have committed to international cooperation for the realization for proper advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” We wish that the greatest success in ensuring an outcome that results and is accountable to the need and demands for “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

37. Creators Union of Arab

Within the framework of the United Nations plan for implementing 2030 agenda to achieving the SDGs, education was among the most important goals that had a clear impact on society, reflecting the extent of its awareness and progress. Under these circumstances, it became necessary to find alternative solutions to completing the sustainable development process for 2030.

In this statement, we will highlight the fourth goal with regard to the quality of education and the seventeenth goal, partnerships in order to create alternatives in light of the pandemic for continued access to education with the best quality through partnerships.

The first of these alternatives can be considered digital transformation and its application as an effective mechanism to ensure the quality of education, but to ensure the effectiveness of this solution, the following must be ensured:

- Building a stable technological infrastructure.
- Building a huge educational database and platforms according to the different school stages.
- Comprehensive awareness of the importance of digital transformation and its effectiveness in achieving sustainability.
- Qualifying communities to use digital transformation in an optimal way that achieves the desired goal.
- Developing terrestrial communications networks and the Internet by raising the efficiency of the Internet and doubling the speeds
- Enhancing investment in people and building their creative capabilities by urging increased knowledge, innovation and scientific research in all fields.
- Restructuring educational buildings to be smart buildings that keep pace with future visions.
- Supporting the teaching profession, preparing teachers and all kinds of education and training.
- Coordination and planning with bodies with experience in developing the educational system through partnerships.

Taking into account the problem of illiteracy and the areas of war and conflict and trying to reach them through voluntary educational convoys.

Allocating budgets for the development of education from governments and concerned authorities.

Improved user-friendly features for people with disability, such as audio and video narration in sign language and simplified text, in addition to providing auxiliary devices, and reasonable facilities in some cases.

Education is the real development and the way to achieve a sustainable future, and everyone must consider it the first building priority and the main pillar of recovery from the Covid 19 pandemic and the first line of defence against any crisis.

Due to the limited display space, we would like to shed light on the experience of the Arab Republic of Egypt to achieve digital transformation in most services, including education through the Knowledge Bank platform, which has become a distinguished scientific platform for all academic levels.

38. First Modern Agro. Tools – Common Initiative Group (FI.MO.AT. C.I. G)

We are left with just eight (08) years to go before the deadline (2030) for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The challenges for their implementation in Africa and Cameroon, remain and are increasing in a more demanding and uncertain context resulting from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the Anglophone crises in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon. The COVID-19 crises have not only slowed down the economy and political issues in the world, it also led to unprecedented crises on international migration which hinders all forms of sustainable development. Africa and Cameroon in particular has been well hit by the pandemic, both in terms of the percentage of infections and deaths from the disease and the magnitude of the deterioration in economic and social conditions faced is great especially in employment rates.

The recovery that began in 2021 has not yet restored the number of jobs lost. In light of this circumstances the First Modern Argo. Tools Common Initiative Group (FI.MO.AT.C.I.G) together with Solidarity health foundation (HSF). Both are NGOs in special consultative status with ECOSOC and working in the Anglophone regions of Cameroon noted the necessity to connect the emergency with the recovery. COVID-19 recovery challenges include scepticism of taking the vaccine, wearing of masks, new life styles of not shaking hands increases death rates and reduces employment rate hindering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development especially goals 1, 2 and 3 of no poverty, zero hunger and good health and wellbeing respectively.

Our organizations incessantly work on sensitization and assistance through providing of renewable energy and water for irrigation to smallholder farmers as well as donating face masks, soap and COVID-19 buckets to institutions. 3/3 To conclude as part of its follow-up it is necessary to conduct periodic and inclusive reviews (in relation with the COVID-19 pandemic) of progress and challenges in achieving the 17 SDGs at both the subnational and National levels. Concerning COVID19 and its effects on international migration, the world needs to look into that with a more holistic approach. The world needs to reduce or ease sanctions on non-criminal international migrants.

39. Pax Christi International, International Catholic Peace Movement

Just and Effective Governance

COVID-19 has placed tremendous stress on societies around the world, generating significant insecurity and creating the potential for deepening violence that threatens the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A global course correction to authentic, inclusive security is urgent.

Global partnerships (SDG17) that cooperate on a spectrum of nonviolent actions are urgently needed to establish just and effective institutions with the authority and capacity to govern an increasingly complex world. At the international level, this will require strengthening an overlapping web of intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, treaty regimes, faith communities and civil society groups.

Such institutions can cultivate interdependence and cooperation, norms against war, alternative dispute resolution mechanisms and sustained diplomacy. Their influence helps build more effective global governance; they have mediated armed conflicts and helped to administer post-conflict agreements toward enduring peace.

Nationally and locally, just governance includes responsive, accountable and fair public officials and political institutions that uphold the rule of law, provide space for a vibrant, multicultural civil society and protect basic human rights, especially for women, girls (SDG 5) and those with special needs. Sustainable and equitable economic development, along with preventing corruption and ending the influence of powerful special interests who benefit from violence and war, can also contribute to just peace and inclusive security.

The global community should make an immediate commitment to developing multilateral governance structures empowered to *sustain* peace. This includes preventative measures that address the root causes of conflict, support for those who challenge injustices non-violently and active approaches for de-escalating destructive conflict, cultivating reconciliation and transforming patterns of behaviour.

Many nonviolent practices for preventing and interrupting violence have been well tested. For example,

alternative policing, such as the mostly unarmed policing units now deployed in several countries (England, Norway, Ireland, New Zealand, Iceland and most of the Pacific Island nations) which can build trust, empower the community and reduce crime; unarmed civilian protection (UCP) initiatives that have protected people and saved lives in war zones and large-scale conflicts;

sanctuary provided by faith communities and others;

unarmed civilian programs in local communities that use a public health approach, deploying “credible messengers” to prevent violence and its contagion;

traditional ways to maintain order – elders, women, clan members, age sets, spiritual leaders – that have now exist only in very traditional areas. Modern adaptations include *Nyumba kumi* (“10 households”) in Tanzania and Kenya.

Collaboration across divisions at every level - from the United Nations to local communities - to address the challenges caused or exposed by the pandemic should be guided by a just peace ethical framework, which would contribute to a post pandemic future defined by good governance, just peace, inclusive human security and integral ecology. Such an ethic includes a set of norms with contextually relevant practices for preventing destructive conflict and violence, protecting vulnerable people and promoting sustainable peace founded on equal dignity, respect for life and nature,

universal human rights, economic justice and a culture of peace and reconciliation
rooted in active nonviolence.

40. Coptic Orphans Support Association

With the onset of the global pandemic, it was predicted that there would be immediate and long-term adverse consequences for children, particularly those in the early childhood stages. With the closure of schools and educational facilities worldwide, children would miss out on the necessary cognitive stimulation that is required for their growth and development, in addition to meals and other resources that may have been accessible to them. It was also forecasted that the global recession would extend beyond 2021, and for many children this would mean that the duration of childhood poverty would span their early childhood years.

Coptic Orphans was quick to respond to these early predictions by deploying an adaptive Social Protection strategy. This strategy is designed to build the resilience of poor and vulnerable households in preparing for, coping with, and adapting to the shocks they face – before, during, and after these shocks occur.

Before the spread of the virus across Egypt, Coptic Orphans introduced measures that reduced the impact of the pandemic among field staff, community-based volunteers, and beneficiaries. This began with the decision to suspend all in-person gatherings immediately and indefinitely, which involved the cancellation of home visits to beneficiaries and development trainings and workshops. Instead, the monitoring of beneficiaries continued through regular phone calls to ensure that their immediate needs were met. Advanced cash transfers were made to the mothers so that they can be covered for three months and beyond. Funds that were previously allocated towards non-urgent needs were redirected for the use of urgent medical requests related to COVID-19, including the distribution of hygiene kits to all households. Importantly, any program expansion initiatives that involved the enrolment of new beneficiaries or the launch of any new projects were placed on a hiatus.

During the pandemic, Coptic Orphans focussed on providing support in the areas of health; psychology, nutrition, education, and technical support to local volunteers. Psychological support meant that training topics that were designed for beneficiaries before the pandemic were replaced with trainings on building psychological resilience and protection from social media risks while under lockdown. Educational support involved the provision of internet connections and laptops for students to continue with their online education. Administrative support was geared towards the streamlining of paper-based processes to digitalised processes. Improvements that were made during the pandemic also worked in favour of preparation for future shocks.

While Coptic Orphans was successful in deploying adaptive social protection measures, it was only able to serve its existing pool of beneficiaries by reallocating resources and halting new initiatives. According to the National Council of Non-profits, out of 2,237 charitable non-profits (501(c)(3)) across the United States, more than 75 percent reported that the demand on their services increased, and almost 45 percent noted a decrease in their ability to meet those demands. Therefore, policy recommendations involve the provision of government resources that would allow non-profits not only to stay afloat, but to enable them to expand their services amid crisis.

41. Ecoforum of NGOs of Uzbekistan

Existing economic, social and environmental problems are compounded by climate variability which is one among many stresses faced by local communities. It is a common fact that national strategies and norms, implemented by Governments in order to adapt to climate change, eventually assume changing practices and ways of using natural resources at the local level. At the same time, such reforms, especially in the conditions of developing countries, often remain incomplete - in the form of intentions and concepts. Even where government actions focus on sectors that are particularly important to the poor, such as agriculture and water and energy supply often fails to meet the needs of the most vulnerable groups. This is due to many factors, including the lack of participation of civil society and local communities in determining priorities and needs for adaptational technologies that correspond to local specifics.

To implement a bottom-up community-based adaptation approach, local communities are not provided with sufficient information on growing processes of climate change, its negative consequences, as well as possible adaptation actions. There is a lack of information about successful practices of applying affordable technologies related to safer and sustainable water and power supply, as well as food.

Affordable green technologies will make it possible to switch over from expensive centralized energy and water supply systems, especially in rural and remote areas, to less expensive methods, i.e. significantly simplify and reduce the cost of programs for sustainable power and water resources use, reduce nature ecosystem loads and enhance the quality of life of the local communities.

Promotion of green technologies could be considered as a basis for strategic development of rural areas. The question is what strategy can be used to make such technologies and best practices available to farmers, households, and SMEs in the field.

In a situation where emerging economies have limited resources for environment protection, especially from the COVID-19, NGOs can play a meaningful role in supporting government efforts related to climate change. In particular, it is difficult to find an alternative to NGO for local communities' mobilization to address issues related to climate change mitigation and adaptation and access to water resources at the local level, including participation in decision-making processes, implementation of affordable green technologies and conservation practices.

NGO relevant projects implemented in 2018-2021 in Central Asian countries have shown that this approach is efficient.

NGOs' practices in training local communities to use and self-production of structures results in the understanding that implementation of green technologies does not necessarily have to involve heavy financial expenses and many months of hard work, but ensuring an acceptable water supply, conservation of water, land and energy resources is quite possible on their own, which also contributes to the climate sustainability, as well as reduces the carbon footprint.

Based on evaluation of the projects implemented by NGOs at the local level, it is possible to add more insight to the concerns and possible approaches to climate change adaptation at the country and regional level.

42. Women's Spirit (Ruach Nashit) Financial Independence for Women Survivors of Violence

Women's Spirit is a non-profit which seeks to promote economic independence of women survivors of abuse in Israel. We help women to rewrite their life story, by offering various, individually-tailored, tools for achieving professional development, employment and financial empowerment. In addition, we work on the policy level to promote social justice and gender equality, and to end gender-based violence in Israel, with a focus on Economic Abuse of women. We do so by introducing changes to laws, policies and awareness raising activities.

Much of our work is done through collaborations with partners with other organizations in Israel and abroad, government, private and philanthropic sector.

The COVID/19 pandemic has emphasized the importance of partnerships.

COVID/19 has affected many aspects of our work, because of the increase in domestic violence, as well as the fact that many women became unemployed and financially insecure. Hence, during the pandemic, we formed even more partnerships, which enabled us to reach significant achievements during a very challenging period for women.

Women's Spirit has experienced almost 40% increase in referrals, compared to the year prior the pandemic. Thanks to partnerships, we managed to assist more women, due to our ability to quickly move to virtual work, and by providing on line training and computers to women.

Thanks to partnerships with the private sector, Women's Spirit has also managed to expand the circles of awareness to Economic Abuse, by providing 100's of lectures and workshops in 2021 to over 6,000 people. These workshops presented knowledge about identification and prevention of Economic Abuse.

On the policy level, Women's Spirit has worked closely with decision makers in the government and the parliament. Observing the urgent needs of women during the pandemic, we demanded that needs would be addressed. For example, with partner organizations we argued, that specific obstacles faced by women who own businesses, with young children at home, must be removed.

Furthermore, we presented to the government, with partner organizations, the issue of child support payments. Many of the women that Women's Spirit assist are single mothers whose former partners do not pay child support, and they depend on funds from the Israeli National Social Insurance. According to law, it is impossible to receive both child support funds and unemployment payments. During the pandemic, in which many women were fired, we argued that this law must be changed, as at that time of crisis, more than ever, single mothers who have been fired need both payments. Our efforts, within the Coalition for Child Support Payments, was successful and the National Social Insurance has changed its policy. Until the end of 2022, these women will be entitled to both funds.

Without working with partners that represent a diversity of outlooks, we would not have been able to assist women survivors of abuse and to promote gender equality. As we look into the future, we realize that inter-sectoral partnerships, represented by Goal 17 of the SDGs, are the way to overcome major crises that especially affect women.

43. Global Network of Sex Work Projects Limited

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on sex workers

Including sex workers in building back better after the pandemic is essential to fulfilling Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality. As a criminalised population, sex workers have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, often living in precarious economic situations and excluded from social protection systems.

Sex workers faced significant disadvantages and increased challenges, and the pandemic further exposed the harmful impact of the criminalisation and stigmatisation of sex work and sex workers.

Governments around the world imposed public health measures, social distancing orders and restrictions preventing many people, including sex workers, from working. Responses to NSWP's global COVID-19 Impact Survey revealed that in many countries, as governments closed brothels, bars, and massage parlours, they also failed to provide sufficient support to sex workers. Some have introduced additional repressive measures aimed directly at sex workers. The government in Bangladesh shut down brothels all over the country, resulting in an estimated 140,000 female sex workers losing their incomes and being unable to finance their basic needs, including food. Countries including Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, and El Salvador also reported that closure of brothels, bars, massage parlours was accompanied by crackdowns in areas known for street-based sex work. These repressive measures and the failure of governments to provide any financial relief for sex workers have left them with nowhere safe to work and / or no way of earning money to survive.

While many governments implemented emergency relief funds for people unable to work, these schemes largely excluded sex workers. NSWP member organisations repeatedly emphasised that sex work not being recognised as work was the main barrier to security and protection for sex workers. Criminalisation of sex work means many sex workers cannot access government support, as these schemes generally require proof of loss of income, unemployment or hardship. When sex workers are denied financial aid during the pandemic, they are forced to continue working illegally to survive. As a result, sex work is driven more underground, with higher risks to health and safety.

Recommendations

As the world emerges from the pandemic, crucial steps must be taken to mitigate the harms experienced by sex workers and ensure sex workers are not forced into greater insecurity in future crises:

Sex work must be recognised as work to ensure that sex workers can access the same social protections, emergency financial support, and labour rights as other workers

Governments and policymakers must actively pursue the full decriminalisation of sex work, including sex workers, clients and third parties

Sex worker-led organisations must be meaningfully involved in responses to COVID-19 and emergency public health planning.

44. Indian Dreams Foundation

COVID-19 has wreaked havoc resulting in more than 0.5 million deaths across India till April 2022. It has created medical emergencies and affected the livelihood opportunities of millions, negatively impacting education, especially for girls, and gender equality. This circumstance has shaken the ongoing efforts of all Developing Economies, including India, toward achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 on Quality Education and SDG 5 on Gender Equality.

Due to the local industries coming to a standstill in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, several slum dweller families and daily wage workers were affected. As the medical emergency and food became priorities, children's education, especially girl children, took a backseat. Adding to it, gender disparities and gender-based violence were quite rampant. For years, the Indian Dreams Foundation has been working with slum-dwelling communities of Agra and had its ears close to the ground and was swift to respond to this humanitarian crisis. The Indian Dreams Foundation reached over 3,500 families across three districts in Uttar Pradesh and ensured dry ration, nutrition, and sanitation kits through its outreach programs. Through other ongoing programs like "Honhar Ladki", "Smiley Days", and "Ready to school", the Indian Dreams Foundation ensured supporting these J&J communities in Agra with the continuation of education, especially for girls and improving their overall health and well-being. The Indian Dreams Foundation has got Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC (United Nations) since 2013.

During the COVID 19 pandemic, the Indian Dreams Foundation received over 200 inquiries for Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) related issues through its helpline. IDF also conducted workshops for information dissemination on SRHR and MHM. IDF distributed over 5,000 hygiene kits and 40,000 sanitary napkins to adolescent girls and underserved women. The IDF team's efforts also saved the future of 10 young girls who were being forced into early child marriage. The team efforts via the "Smiley days" and "Honhar Ladki" (an education sponsorship and mentoring program to support adolescent girls) programs continue to impact the lives of many young women and girls from the underserved communities by reducing school dropouts and enabling young girls to continue their education. "I feel proud that I have become the first person in my family to complete 12th standard, and I have a dream to become a teacher. Thanks, IDF, for helping me to see my dreams and sponsoring my education," says Sangeeta (one of the beneficiaries of Honhar Ladki).

It is essential to lay utmost importance on the issue of education (especially girls' education), health, and gender equality in the post-COVID-19 recovery scenario in India, to which IDF is truly committed and has the requisite capacities for effectively advancing the full implementation of SDG 4 and SDG 5 in Agra (Uttar Pradesh) aligning to its vision of "A healthy, educated and developed society".

45. Joint Statement submitted by Congregation of the Mission, Salesians Missions Inc., Sisters of Charity Federation, and VIVAT International

Education is the key to sustainable development, improving the overall quality of life, and securing a sustainable future. As Covid-19 infected millions of people, schools closed worldwide, affecting approximately 1.6 billion students. Educators now face two key challenges: providing access to digital learning and utilizing new teaching methodologies that capture the interest of the digital generation.

The **Sandiwaan Center for Learning (SCL)** in the Philippines provides learning opportunities for disadvantaged children and out-of-school youth. It harnessed the use of affordable computer tablets for transformative learning.

The SCL uses cutting-edge technologies to provide accessible and comprehensive online education for school dropouts through hybrid-flexible learning. This learner-centered pedagogy uses delivery methods that can integrate in-class instruction, online synchronous video sessions, or asynchronous content delivery using a learning management system. The learning experience design structure is based on the Convergence Theory of Learning to raise critical, collaborative, and creative thinkers for the 21st Century.

From 2000 to 2022, the SCL has offered a completely online learning program for thousands of school dropouts and trained hundreds of teachers in digital pedagogy. The SCL has also offered alternative learning programs through its Early Childhood Care and Development program for pre-school-age children aged 3-5 years old. It also provides alternative learning services for out-of-school youth, including the production of modules in social and emotional learning using video games, training in online marketing and entrepreneurship, and skills training for vocational courses.

When the pandemic struck, the SCL trained 200 teachers using the Convergence Theory of Learning to structure their learning experience design, and digitize the Alternative Learning Systems (ALS) curriculum modules. These teachers had more than 21,000 school dropouts enrolled in the ALS program of the Department of Education.

In 2021, the Department of Education provided the SCL with a grant to digitize 140 modules in the ALS curriculum so that lessons in English, Science, Technology, and Mathematics can be personalized and adaptive. These modules, accessible online, are now being used by 500 ALS learners in the poorer areas of Manila as a pilot project. Later, it will be made accessible to ALS learners throughout the country.

We, therefore, recommend to the national governments:

Facilitate the provision of access to WIFI and digital devices to prepare young people to become global citizens in a digital political economy.

Train teachers to use new pedagogies to help them engage students through educational technologies using digital tools to prepare the young to thrive in a digital world.

Increase the education budget for transforming the entire education system to prepare kids for the digital future.

46. China Association for International Science and Technology Cooperation

We call for and expect that:

1, With the support of the United Nations, we expect non-governmental organizations to promote capacity building through global partnership. The establishment of a platform which is based on global non-governmental multilateral science and technology cooperation is crucial. We call for the relevant international science and technology groups to establish communication channels and cooperation mechanisms in order to share information and experiences, to discuss case-studies, to enhance capacity building especially for less developed and poorer regions, to provide science and technology services and support, and to establish a more extensive and in-depth global partnership.

2、 With the support of the United Nations, we expect that developed countries will share more experiences on sustainable development with developing countries. In regards to the UN Millennium Development Goals, we are highly focused on climate change, green economy, energy saving and sustainable development. In doing so, we hope to foster a community where all are empowered to actively work towards a better future for mankind. The UN has issued an initiative to encourage multilateral cooperation through working with less developed countries. This will involve sharing the measures taken and results achieved by developed countries (such as the EU) in addressing global challenges. Our association would like to actively participate and contribute to this mechanism based on achieving the "carbon peaking and carbon neutrality goals".

3. With the support of the United Nations, we expect to increase the number of arising young, upcoming talent in this sector. In order to establish a solid and long-lasting partnership in the field of science and technology, it is proposed that regular exchanges and networking opportunities be established for young professionals from various countries to seek support and donations from relevant governments, international organizations, foundations, etc., as well as to receive honorary recognition from the relevant UN agencies. It is critical to cultivate qualified young talents and young leaders who can actively guide future decisions and address arising challenges. Our association is willing to participate in this initiative and will provide Chinese local solutions.

47. Women Economic and Leadership Transformation Initiatives

The world has experienced a significant rise in the number of gender-based violence as a consequence of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Women and girls have been the worst hit as different regions across Nigeria keep bringing breaking news of either homicide, kidnapping, rape or intimate partner brutality.

These women and girls are either related to us, friends or could be our neighbors so, its no ordinary incident or fluke that you see on the critical networks or social media space. The despondency on the faces of the Nigerian woman when such news breaks, calls for decisive and combative efforts to put a stop to this hydra-headed monster called Gender based violence.

It is estimated globally that about 736 million women, about one in three women have been either physically abused, suffered sexual or intimate partner abuse or both even. The statistics would be about 30% of women from age 15 and above. Most of these cases are grossly under reported, not wanting to be seen as a failure and become irrelevant by societal standards amongst other. We have held a couple of empowerment workshops and it is clear that more work has to be done.

On the 8th of April 2022, Nigeria witnessed the sad and untimely passing of one of the rare Angelic voices the nation is blessed with- Osinachi Nwachukwu who was allegedly murdered by her husband Peter Nwachukwu. According to reports, he(Peter) had also forced the children to step on the deceased after her hands been bound by him and teaching them that it was okay to be violent.

The deceased had confided in friends about her experiences in the hands of her husband while she was alive but made them swear never to reveal this as she wanted to protect her husband who was a leader in the church. This has been quite traumatizing for us as a nation having heard all she went through before her death. Now, people are beginning to speak up but we need more women to be fearless and bold to say enough is enough as we don't want to experience any more deaths.

We believe that more sensitization and advocacy should be carried out from the grassroots, create safe spaces for victims to speak up and not be afraid of any form of descrimination or victimization when they do so.

Finally, the Nigerian Law prohibits Gender based violence as the Violence Against Person's Prohibition Law (VAPP) was inaugurated.to address all forms of violence against persons. This law has been passed at the federal level but only about half(18) of the 36 states in Nigeria have made this law statutory. We would expect going forward that, these laws should be made mandatory in every state and giving ultimatum as to its implementation.

The idea of having such deadlines and placing stiff sanctions on states who fail to meet them would go in a long way in helping us build back better from the corona virus disease which more or less has amplified gender based violence due to the lockdowns families experienced. The Law enforcement agencies must be well trained to know when to step in and what to do after stepping in and not believe that it's a civil case and treat it with levity. These stiff sanctions would help us advance the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda on gender equality for sustainable development.

48. Restoration World Outreach Ministries

Restoration World Outreach Ministries Incorporated (RWOMI), is an organization dedicated to the social development of all, particularly the most vulnerable and the poor among us.

We make this statement confident in the belief that the strategies we outline will help nations to rebuild better while advancing the full implementation of the SDG 2030 Agenda and accelerate achievements in this Decade of Actions.

There must be a unified effort to reaffirm commitment on a global level concerning cooperation and the principle of participation of all countries to rebuild better beyond COVID-19, and any ulterior political, scientific and economic agendas will need to be side-lined, and a genuine, concerted effort to sustain life.

The UNDP has reported that by 2030 approximately eight out of ten people pushed into poverty as a result of COVID-19 will live in countries on the lower end of human development, with the heaviest burden falling on Africa. Our actions now have the potential to change that.

RWOMI recommends:

1. A call for global solidarity in response to and recovery from the pandemic, ensuring equal access and distribution of **safe vaccines** and other health tools and to allocate financial resources for recovery, including the manufacturing and production of safe vaccines, technology transfer, multi-stakeholder partnerships and financing.
2. That all necessary steps, strategies, including the SDG push policies be fast-tracked urgently to reduce all goals which impact the lives of the poor globally, as well as families, and the youth achieving their full potential and so increasing the HDI of poor and middle-income countries.
3. Alternative, plant-based vaccines should be explored, and research for such solutions for both humans and animals should be funded, as that impacts food security and in the event of future pandemics or other similar issues that will impact globally.
4. Active support of an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient economic recovery that advances the SDGs in all its 3 dimensions, while ensuring policy coherence at all levels. This with an effort to invest in the development of our youth globally, and extract solutions from their fresh perspective.
5. Accelerating action regarding the environment at large: biodiversity, and pollution crises, with particular focus on water and the protection of marine life, in relation to world food supply.
6. Tangibly addressing the needs of countries in special situations including LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS as well as African countries and the specific challenges of middle-income nation.
7. Calling for support of multilateral mechanisms to address all the impacts of the pandemic starting from ACT-A and the COVAX Facility; and the key findings and evidence extracted from the VNRs and other countries' experiences shared for the benefit of all nations.
8. Reaffirm the critical importance of the 5 "Ps" of the 2030 Agenda, and the principle to leave no one behind.

49. Graduate Women International (GWI)

Graduate Women International (GWI) research identifies six critical need areas for the successful implementation of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4

The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be devastating for the education of women and girls, setting back women's and girls' education by twenty years in many countries. To regain momentum, the United Nations (UN) has urgently called for an acceleration in implementing the 17 SDGs. Especially relevant is the 2022 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) theme, "Building back better from COVID-19 while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", which notably amalgamates with recent GWI research that identified six critical need areas for the successful implementation of SDG 4, quality education and lifelong learning.

In response to the UN's call for help to renew the acceleration of the SDGs by adding capacities to UN agencies, GWI affiliates in 48 countries researched the SDG progress in their respective countries. With a focus on SDG 4, the research, conducted during the fall of 2021, identified six categories of action needed to implement the SDGs, irrespective of the country's demographics and economic level:

- Building Awareness about the SDGs
- Outreach to Communities and Vulnerable Populations
- Conducting Community Dialogues
- Providing Training and Support Based on Existing Programmes
- Policy Review and Development
- Data Collection

Applying research findings, GWI will contribute to the implementation of SDG 4 by adding capacity to the UN agencies. This goal is based on GWI's understanding that graduate women have the competencies to respond to capacity needs identified by the UN and that Institutes of Higher Learning (IHL) can share responsibility in this effort.

As graduate women, GWI values the transformative, unique position of IHL to influence the implementation of SDG 4. Furthermore, given their access to large numbers of young people, IHL can work alongside GWI to contribute to the six actionable categories.

IHL create future SDG implementers. Recognizing that research cooperation contributes to the implementation of all 17 SDGs, GWI calls for a continued, global, and concerted effort to cultivate partnerships and collaboration that provide a unique interface between IHL, the six action items, policymakers, and the success of SDG 4. GWI suggests that the HLPF uptake the GWI research data and create strong alliances with IHL and nongovernmental organizations to achieve SDG 4 successfully.

Certainly not exhaustive, GWI recommends that the 2022 HLPF elevate its commitment to the achievement of the SDG 4 with emphasis on activities to carry out the six need categories defined in the GWI research and continue to encourage collaboration between IHL at the global level as a means of achieving SDG 4.

50. Collectif des Associations Contre l'Impunité au Togo (C.A.C.I.T.)

La crise sanitaire à COVID-19 a donné un coup d'arrêt au processus de développement et de mise en œuvre des programmes de développement notamment l'agenda 2030 et les ODD dans le monde entier. Elle a révélé ainsi les faiblesses structurelles et organisationnelles dans tous les secteurs au sein des Etats, y compris le Togo. La réalisation de l'ODD 4 sur l'éducation de qualité et l'ODD 17 sur les partenariats, connaissent aussi de réels défis de mise en œuvre.

Tout en reconnaissant les efforts du gouvernement togolais pour une éducation de qualité dans ce contexte particulier, le CACIT estime que la crise actuelle entre les acteurs du monde éducatif portent manifestement atteinte à la réalisation de l'ODD 4. En effet, les contestations des mouvements comme le syndicat des enseignants du Togo (SET), non reconnu comme tel par le gouvernement, conduisent à des perturbations des cours et à des manifestations soldées par des arrestations et détention d'élèves et d'enseignants.

Les défis liés à la réalisation de l'ODD 17 avant la crise sanitaire se sont exacerbés. Les ONG et les Etats, notamment les pays en voie de développement ont eu du mal à trouver des financements en vue de la réalisation des ODD et de l'agenda 2030. Cette situation a menacé l'existence même de certaines ONG et la réalisation des plans de développement de plusieurs pays.

Nous exhortons :

Le gouvernement togolais à :

1. Créer un environnement plus favorable à la résolution pérenne de la crise dans le monde éducatif en renforçant le cadre de dialogue existant dans une approche plus inclusive ;
2. Oeuvrer pour garantir un climat de confiance propice à un dialogue inclusif en procédant à la libération des enseignants et des élèves placés en détention.

Les Etats et les partenaires en développement à :

1. Renforcer les stratégies devant permettre de soutenir les acteurs sociaux et les Etats, en vue de la réalisation complète des ODD et de l'agenda 2030 ;
2. Renforcer la coopération et la solidarité internationale entre les Etats et les institutions internationales, en vue de plus favorablement aux défis liés à la gestion de la crise sanitaire et dans le contexte post-crise.

51. FEMM Foundation

The FEMM Foundation is a knowledge-based health program for women inspired by women's right to be informed participants in their own healthcare and to make voluntary decisions based on options, information, and understanding. The FEMM Foundation is dedicated to health education, medical research, and improving health care programs targeting reproductive health to advance women's health.

Building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic requires a renewed and serious look at women's health care, while also fully implementing the 2030 Agenda. Holistic women's health care which seeks to address women's real health concerns is invaluable to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality. Poor health fosters inequality by undermining women and girls' ability to realize their potential and their capacity to drive development in their communities.

Only about 3% of women and girls understand how to identify the time of their ovulation, an essential sign of their health. Few can detect abnormalities in their menstrual cycles. Women have also become resigned to the fact that irregular bleeding, period cramps, migraines, depression, mood swings, acne, and weight gain are the normal "struggles" of a woman. They have not been told that these can be signs of underlying hormonal imbalances which can affect their long-term overall health, sometimes irreversibly. The process of building back better must include tackling these challenges that women face daily and which modern science is more than capable of addressing.

FEMM researchers are at the forefront of re-examining women's health systems. They have developed better diagnostic criteria so that medical conditions that are currently treated at the symptomatic level can be treated at the root. They are discovering that coronary heart disease and Type 2 diabetes in women have links to abnormal ovulation followed by irregular cycles. FEMM's Medical Management program is training doctors to diagnose and treat reproductive health problems with a holistic view of a woman's body. FEMM has even developed a free app to allow women to track their observations and symptoms each month to better understand their bodies and health. The app provides insights into women's unique menstrual cycles, can flag potential health concerns, and can connect women with medical professionals. Additionally, the information in the app is a tool women can use to make decisions about naturally achieving or avoiding pregnancy.

The FEMM Foundation seeks to empower every 21st century woman with the knowledge that ovulation is an essential sign of health. Looking to implement Sustainable Development Goal 17, FEMM is prepared to partner with Member States to bring its accessible educational programs and cutting-edge medical support to women all over the world.

52. Asociación Cultural Nueva Acrópolis de El Salvador

In the educational field, the post-pandemic phase opens new opportunities to provide access to non-formal educational programs that can generate resilience and creativity for sustainable development. This document will summarize the current situation of formal education after COVID 19 and recommend some initiatives to mitigate this crisis.

Presentation of the issue

On average, children in the Latin American region have interrupted 79% of their face-to-face classes. This caused that 74% of second graders are barely pre-readers and that school-age children lack skills in the field of mental calculation of basic operations. School dropouts more than tripled. According to the World Bank and Unicef, this generation of students globally is at risk of losing nearly US\$17 trillion of the total income they will receive throughout their lives. An average student would lose US\$25,000 in income over their lifetime.

UNICEF speaks of an educational tragedy like no other, from which the region will take years to recover. “It is a disaster for them, for their families and for their countries”.

However, the problem dates back to long before the pandemic because there is sufficient evidence that technological progress has limited the development of the capacity for abstraction in human beings and with it the deterioration of everything that comes from it, such as: ideals, the perception of values, the aesthetic sense, the expectations about oneself, understanding the motives of the other, creativity, entrepreneurship, etc. All these essential capacities to be resilient and engage constructively in sustainable practices.

A way forward

Given that it is necessary to develop essential human qualities in the new generations, including abstraction, and we need to do it in a sustainable manner, we recommend:

- (1) Promoting alliances between civil society and formal educational systems to develop initiatives at community level to grant access to youth and children deprived from educational opportunities.

- (2) Disseminating methodologies that are not only informative, but develop human capacities and abstract thinking: philosophy, mathematics and the arts have proven to be effective ways to develop these capacities.

- (3) To develop educational opportunities both for children and the elders facilitating inter-generational activities to exchange of values and experiences.

- (4) To take advantage of global initiatives such as World Philosophy Day promoted by UNESCO and encourage those kinds of activities in schools and universities.

New Acropolis has organized both locally and internationally multiple alliances and creative means to do so for over 15 years and offers to share best practices and lessons learned to enhance sustainable development.

53. Women Graduates – USA, Inc.

Women Graduates-USA is a member organization based in the United States with a focus on national issues having international implications. Our main areas of programme and advocacy are Education, Violence Against Women with an emphasis on Human Trafficking in all its forms, Women's Global Health, Education including equal and safe access to education for refugees especially women and girls and support for the UN 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals 3, 4, 5, 10, 16 and 17.

Women Graduates-USA supports the efforts of the United Nations to accomplish the goal of building back better as the world recovers from the effects of COVID-19 while fully implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Our statement will focus on Goal 4, Quality Education, and Goal 5, Gender Equity. The pandemic affected the achievement of both goals. According to reports from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) the education of more than 1.6 billion students worldwide was impacted. Problems that may continue after the end of the pandemic include many older students dropping out for employment or early marriage, dealing with learning losses incurred and adverse mental health effects.

Women were also impacted in various ways: caregiving responsibilities increased as they needed to manage the remote education of their children, increased domestic violence, job loss, and the risk of infection from COVID-19 if they continued their occupations.

The challenges presented will require expanded efforts on the part of the members and organizations of the United Nations to amplify existing programs and develop new ones to improve the education of the world's children before the losses become permanent. This requires improved data collection to assess the impacts of COVID-19 on learning, support for teachers as they return to classrooms that have changed dramatically in the last two years, and widened internet access. UNESCO's Global Education Coalition has implemented strategies which aid educational systems throughout the world to fill gaps and can also perform an ongoing service to improve outcomes in the future.

According to UN Women, emerging data and reports since the outbreak of COVID-19 have shown that all types of violence against women and girls, referred to as the Shadow Pandemic, have intensified, especially as COVID-19 cases continue to strain health services. Essential services such as domestic violence shelters and helplines, have reached capacity. Women Graduates-USA believes that more needs to be done to prioritize addressing violence against women in COVID-19 response and recovery, requiring efforts at all levels of government, civil society, academia, and the private sector.

However, efforts to build education back better after COVID-19 depends on successful management of the threats of climate change. Women Graduates-USA urges the United Nations, the leader in climate policy to continue to provide and publicize existing climate information and planning documents with a modest list of steps and principles to inform villages, towns, and cities on coalescing their activities toward prevention and preparedness related to the climate crisis.

54. International Human Rights Internship Program

Improving the principles that guide investment – especially of public assets – is a critical dimension of the efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and to advance transformative recovery efforts out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

According to the United States Sustainable Investing Report 2021, the United States ranks 32nd globally in terms of meeting SDGs, and “most [U.S.] states are far off the mark in achieving the SDGs.” Minnesota, for example, is on track toward achieving only three of the SDGs. We must prioritize investments that facilitate an economy that respects human rights and promotes the implementation of the SDGs.

Sub-national investment bodies and public pension funds have an important impact in realizing SDGs. For example, the Minnesota State Board of Investment (MSBI) invests over \$135 billion in state assets, including statewide public employee retirement systems. Building on efforts to localize the SDGs, we call on sub-national bodies charged with investing state assets to ensure adherence to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) principles that respect and advance human rights and further the SDGs.

With the Minnesota Alliance for Sustainable Pension Investment (MASPI) we have surveyed all 50 states in the United States to identify the best ESG investing practices of state public employee pension bodies. The state of Illinois emerged as exemplary because of its recently passed Sustainable Investment Act.

Advocates in Minnesota, including the Divestment Coalition, have successfully joined with public employee unions to urge the MSBI to divest from thermal coal...

On February 26, 2020, the MSBI passed a resolution on ESG initiatives incorporating United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment. It updated its website in 2021 to expand the portion dedicated to ESG. It issues quarterly ESG reports focusing on environmental and governance issues...

Moving forward, we call for increased emphasis on the relevant human rights indicators and guidance that inform and supplement environmental measures. Public investment bodies need sufficient staff to ensure monitoring and compliance with their espoused principles. Additional and stronger legislative measures should be advanced to make compliance with clear ESG principles, including mandatory compliance and full disclosure related to the impact of investments -especially state ones- to climate, labor, and equality in corporate governance.

55. Joint Statement submitted by Christian Blind Mission, Disabled Peoples' International and International Disability Alliance

The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities, including CBM, Disabled Peoples' International, and the International Disability Alliance are pleased to deliver this statement at this ECOSOC High-level Segment.

We are sharing here our assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind” in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

First, data on persons with disabilities for the SDG's and in the context of the pandemic is sparse. The availability of disaggregated and reliable data on how many persons with disabilities have been affected by Covid-19 at all levels will support inclusive policies and programs responding to Covid-19.

Education is a human right and an essential condition for individual development as well as for full and effective inclusion in society. Children with disabilities are 45 percent more likely to be out of primary school, according to a new study from UNICEF.

There has been a lack of access to information for persons with disabilities related to Covid-19. This included lack of information in native sign languages, Braille, easy-to-read and other alternative formats. In some places, information did not reach communities in rural and remote settings, indigenous peoples, refugees, and persons in institutions, impacting older persons and persons with disabilities in these communities.

In line with Goal 10 to reduce inequalities, as the world continues its efforts to vaccination campaigns, Covid-19 vaccine distribution must ensure that “no person, no country should be left behind.” Persons with disabilities should be prioritized to receive vaccinations because they have faced increased risks in the pandemic, and been left behind both before and during the COVID-19 response.

Public resources should be progressively increased to support the full inclusion of persons with disabilities and their families in decision making.

We highlight just a few recommendations:

1. Involve persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in decision-making processes at all levels when discussing policies and programs on Covid-19 response, including involving them in monitoring and evaluation of Covid-19 programs, including social safety nets, and food aid, to align with CRPD articles 4 and 29 and to meet Goal 16 indicator 6.
2. Collect and disaggregate Covid-19 data by disability, age, and other factors to learn about barriers and to measure disability-inclusive response and recovery actions and to adequately assess the impact of programs and projects. Data collection and disaggregation on persons with disabilities should be increased and include the Washington Group short set of questions in all household surveys and censuses to ensure that policymakers address gaps.
3. Persons with disabilities should be prioritized to receive Covid-19 vaccinations.
4. Information related to Covid-19 should be provided in native sign languages, Braille, easy-to-read and other alternative formats.
5. Progressively increase dedicated public resources to support the full inclusion of persons with disabilities and their families in Covid-19 response and recovery, prohibiting discrimination.

56. National Ocean Policy Coalition

The National Ocean Policy Coalition is pleased to provide input on the theme for the 2022 Economic and Social Council's High-level Segment: "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

While the worst of the COVID-19 virus is hopefully behind us in terms of physical impacts, every day people are reminded of the virus's continued economic effects as a result of ongoing supply chain bottlenecks and constrained labour markets. Recent geopolitical developments in Ukraine have only added to the economic pain being felt across the globe.

From food and clothing to energy and beyond, individuals around the world are facing skyrocketing prices for life's daily essentials, with those who can least afford it affected the most. The World Bank recently noted that every 1% increase in food prices sends an additional 10 million people into extreme poverty.

As the United Nations and its member states consider actions to help the world recover from COVID-19 while meeting the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, better realizing the full potential of the Blue Economy presents an opportunity to create jobs, grow economies, enhance quality of life, and reduce global poverty. According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the world's ocean economy could double in value added from \$1.5 trillion in 2010 to \$3 trillion in 2030.

Now more than ever, it is time to unleash the full economic potential of the Blue Economy in a science-based manner that is consistent with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 on conserving and sustainably using the oceans, sea, and marine resources for sustainable development.

Enabling access for the responsible use, development, and enjoyment of marine resources will improve livelihoods and societal well-being. In turn, in addition to supporting SDG 14, enabling such access and the resulting economic and societal benefits will also support implementation of other SDGs, including those related to poverty; hunger; good health and well-being; affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy; sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all; and resilient infrastructure, inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and innovation.

Additionally, by leveraging the private sector's development and application of innovative marine technologies and best practices, including through the conversion of ocean infrastructure to artificial reefs, sustainable ocean use can result in environmental benefits that can mitigate the effects of and resiliency to climate change, in support of SDG 13.

By ensuring that ocean policies and management decisions are guided by the best available science and promote the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development, the United Nations and its member states can help bring relief to the billions of people and countless communities around

the world that are dependent on a reasonable cost of living and the economic and societal benefits that the oceans can provide.

57. Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd

The Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd is pleased to contribute to the ECOSOC High-level Segment responding to the theme "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development." While the theme is admirable it neglects to recognize the current crises that are being waged on people and planet - war, the persistence of gender-based violence, the imminent disasters of climate change, and pending increased hunger and malnutrition due to the war on Ukrainian soil.

The programme of the United Nations, the Secretary General's Common Agenda, the commitment of governments to submit Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) coupled with the in-depth analysis of SDG 4, SDG 5, SDG 14, SDG 15 and SDG 17 could surely enhance full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development if it was not a parallel process, doomed by the actual reality of the world and its lack of moral compass. One wonders about the genuineness of any commitment to 'building back better' while at the same time the majority of people are experiencing or helplessly witnessing devastation and increasing poverty. We must cease reviewing the goals as individual development projects. We need to adopt sustainable and holistic paradigm shifts.

Human life is cheapened by the multiple global conflicts where traffickers thrive and profit off the vulnerabilities of girls, young women and children. Every SDG promise has been broken as people are pushed to the edge - making a mockery of 'leave no one behind' and reach 'the furthest behind first.' The situation of girls and women in Afghanistan, Syria, Ukraine and in other conflict-ridden areas is dire. Climate displacement is an ever-present reality with rising sea levels and degradation of the land.

In the midst of all this we must try to halt the forces of destruction on all levels. This is the year to look at SDG 16 and seek to address systemic issues and to adopt an alternative rights-based model of economics for sustainability. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides the framework but political will towards implementation is lacking. We must say no to militarization's, financialization of markets and every and all forms of exploitation and hold autocrats accountable for their destruction of democratic values. Creativity, sustainability and abundance should be had for all.

COVID-19 showed us our interconnectedness and pointed to what could be a new way of being with one another: governments implemented social protection measures; people cared for one another; nature started to heal.

The global community faces a critical choice: stay as we are or address the systems and structures that facilitate growing inequality, war and exploitation, marginalizing millions. Now is the critical moment. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), it is a 'NOW or NEVER' moment. It is imperative that member states shift from ideologies that amass and destroy towards ones that foster the wellbeing of people and planet.

58. Bauerliche Erzeugergemeinschaft Schwabisch Hall w.V.

It belongs to the core identity of the NGO as being a self-help based farmers' organization of 1560 family-owned farms within the region of Hohenlohe/Germany to contribute to a sustainable future of the planet. For both propelling and implementing its principles of organic agriculture, the protection of biodiversity, climate friendly food systems, rural culture, local indigenous heritages and global peasants' rights through practical socio-political change. The NGO is operating a sister organization called Stiftung Haus der Bauern (Foundation House of Farmers). The foundation is located at the historic Castle "Schloss Kirchberg/Jagst" and became a nucleus of Agrarian Change. In the castle, the NGO and its foundation annually conduct the World Organic Forum, a conference for global development cooperation with the goal of bringing the Agenda 2030 on the ground.

The V. World Organic Forum "Localizing SDGs. Creating a Global Network of Regions on Organic Soil" from June 27 to June 30 2022 will be the platform for farmers, civil society leaders, activists, members of indigenous communities, experts from think tanks and academia, politicians and all changemakers to discuss SDG-related policies, present best practice cases on localizing the SDGs and to further widen the network of SDG regions.

The NGO is convinced that the theme of the 2022 ECOSOC High-level Segment and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development can be ideal typically realized through "Localizing SDGs" and "personal encounter face-to-face" between people and cultures from all over the world who have the common goal of advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda on the ground. The NGO and its foundation will host around 200 stakeholders from all over the world. The conference will be composed of high-level keynote speeches, panel discussions, presentations, workshops and other formats which help to grow the network of SDG regions in a bottom-up process.

Thanks to its holistic approach all 17 Sustainable Development Goals will play an equally important role. At the same time, SDGs 1 (No Poverty), 2 (Zero Hunger), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action), 15 (Life on Land) and 17 (Partnerships for Goals) will be pre-eminently taken into consideration against the backdrop of the NGO's and its partners' expertise.

The NGO closely collaborates with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, with IFOAM – Organics International, with the Honorary President of the Club of Rome and other institutions of high expertise.

A way forward

The World Organic Forum is the annual platform for meeting, exchanging experience and forwarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda by organizing and maintaining a global network of SDG regions with the aim of Localizing SDGs.

59. Coordinadora Europea de Familias Numerosas

When it comes to sustainability, there is a large share of people who think that not having children is the best thing we can do for our "overcrowded" planet. A child, they say- is producing the largest footprint, bigger than cars and the only way to avoid it is to have less or no children at all.

This statement has raised a new social stigma on large families, households with three or more children, rising elements for measures aimed to contain the number of children in a family, such as the 2 children policy in the UK.

As large families, we strongly reject such an idea, which is endangering the right of each family to decide about the number of children they desire, without any constraint from the State, without any social pressure. Large families are communities where circular economy is the habit, sobriety is a necessity, sharing is the normality. The outcomes in terms of personal wellbeing (SDG3) are relevant (as recorded by OECD) and many social virtues such as brotherhood (SDG 16), empathy, solidarity and strong relational bonds are naturally nourished in large families. More people under the same roof consume less energy per capita, produce less waste, consume less water, contributing to SDG 12 6. Still, it is getting more and more difficult to have more children than the "norm" due to the working habits, low wages and housing problems: unpaid care work (SDG 5.4) is undervalued, social stigmas based on pretextual climate issues are growing.

We believe that it is not the number of children that is harming our climate- about which, a research shows, large families are particularly concerned- but the consuming habits of people. The richest 1% of the world population consume 47% of the Planet's resources; according to World meters, Carbon footprint per capita goes from 15,52 tons emitted in the USA to 0,8 tons emitted in the DR. Congo.

We call for the removal of any measure that penalizes families in their deepest desire of having children, leaving parents the freedom to decide about having (or not having) children, supporting those who actually invest time, energy, money and entire lives giving life to the future population.

Each child matters, no matter the number of siblings it has and every child that is born should be considered a gift for humanity, a common good to take care of.

During the recent ECOSOC Youth Forum, young people from large families called for more education opportunities, which should be given to all (SDG4 and 5). We echo the request of our children: equal opportunities in education, health, housing and social security should guide the approach of Governments to family policies, for the present and the future of the world.

60. Saudi Green Building Forum

Our prosperity and our planet! Depends on our actions... with great concern that the unprecedented and interconnected crises of biodiversity loss, climate change, land degradation, desertification, ocean degradation and pollution increasing human health risks are existential threats to our cities, society and culture for generations to come! We praise the Saudi Green Initiative and Green Middle East Initiative unveiled by the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, describing the program as a major national and regional step towards protecting the environment and facing the challenges of climate change.

Champions are called to discuss the challenges of “**Green Rebuild Better After the Covid-19 Pandemic**”. A construction sector, from strength and resilience to capacity building, where it’s free of emissions and efficient, flexible, integral and connected with nature.

Social inclusion strengthens our community participation and showcases professional best practice of SDGs.

Stepping up ambition by accelerating action through measuring, reporting and verifying the objectives of mapping 1000+ green projects buildings, neighborhoods and cities with technology promoting Green Building concepts, methodologies and applications.

Aligning all actions with integrated SDGs ensures local and national development plans (social, economic and environment) are priorities of Nationally Determined Contributions, long-term net zero emission strategies 2060.

We value the commitments of the national voluntary reviews of goal 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 in addition to the inputs of the Secretary-General's report undertaken by the member states of the United Nations,

Our ambition remains to achieve a sustainable economic, social and environmental balance in line with the slogan "The future we want, the United Nations we need."

We continue to use saaf ® transformational tools: 1/energy 2/water 3/material 4/ infrastructures and 5/human experiences for tracking SDGs progress; One Planet Network, Global Compact Network and the Global Status Report for Buildings and Construction anticipated over the next five years, bringing forward insights and data to help understand efforts that support the transition to a zero emission, energy- efficient and resilient buildings in construction sector.

Moving forward proposing the expectations and policy recommendations:

1. Assist NGOs/ UN Agencies to promote resource efficiency and reporting at the national level through innovative and profitable exchanges.
2. City planning “defaults” community-centric moving from linear to circular models monitored by city planners.
3. Regulate businesses to commit to net-zero emissions by 2050, as part of efforts to lower temperatures by 1.5 degrees Celsius in cities.
4. Support sector-based adaptation strategies for healthier urban environments . Underscored cities should comply with Urban Agenda indicators as a reflection of its existing and future developments toward Green Building systems.
5. Develop zero-slum cities through land-use planning. Integrated urban water policy in support of climate change.
6. Issue design standards/ code regulations that integrate SDGs standards into design; land-use policies; insurance; financial incentives; public education, sustainable urban Green Building policies; regulations; fiscal and financial incentives.

We are encouraged by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia’s interest in environmental issues, and the announcement that the largest oil exporter in the world will reach “zero net carbon” by the year 2060.

61. Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

The Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR) welcomes the High-Level Political Forum's focus on the COVID-19 recovery while advancing the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 4, 5, 14, 15, and 17. The COVID-19 pandemic and States' measures to control it have significantly undermined the enjoyment of economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights, particularly the rights to health, education, social security and to a safe, clean, and healthy environment.

Structural deficiencies in social protection, health, and education systems rarely allow for delivery of an adequate standard of living and resiliency to crises. Long-term investment in public services, including public education, is key to building such systems, in accordance with States' obligations to use their maximum available resources for the realisation of human rights. Application of market models to education provision have raised human rights concerns and are not suited to ensuring universal and equal access to socioeconomic rights. Commercialised education services are also less resistant to shocks, such as the current pandemic. Universal public services are the foundation of fair and just societies. States must prioritise sufficient and adequate resource allocation to funding universal quality public services to fulfil their commitments under the 2030 Agenda.

The pandemic has highlighted our dependency on a safe, clean, and healthy environment, recently recognised as a human right. The COVID-19 recovery offers a unique opportunity for States to protect the environment through significant investments in recovery packages and policy-making. Smart recovery measures will prioritise the protection of the environment, biodiversity, as well as address pollution and climate change, all of which must include the decarbonisation of the economy to ensure long-lasting solutions and the fulfilment of SDGs 14 and 15. This means advancing a just green transition away from fossil fuels towards clean renewable energy sources. This transition must put gender equality at the centre. States should use human rights as a guiding compass to ensure the shift towards sustainability is a just, gender equal and green transformation.

Women and girls have especially faced the brunt of the pandemic, facing systemic discrimination, overrepresentation in economic sectors hit hardest by the pandemic, and being primary caregivers in most communities around the world. Thus, the COVID-19 crisis has widened gender-based inequalities. Therefore, States must take all necessary measures to prevent disastrous setbacks on gender equality and step up to their commitments under Agenda 2030 to leave no one behind. It is crucial to ensure that women and girls, in all their diversity, actively and meaningfully participate and contribute to the design, implementation and monitoring of COVID-19 recovery measures to ensure their needs, experiences and concerns are taken into consideration.

62. Centro UNESCO De Donostia-San Sebastián

Le rôle des technologies numériques dans le développement durable

La technologie numérique, avec son potentiel d'établir des interconnexions mondiales extraordinaires, offre une opportunité d'accélérer le progrès humain. Le Conseil économique et social (ECOSOC) reconnaît que la science, la technologie et l'innovation jouent un "rôle et une contribution cruciale dans la promotion et le maintien de la compétitivité des pays dans l'économie mondiale" ; ainsi que « dans la promotion et l'autonomisation pour le développement » (E/RES/2015/27).

Les nouvelles technologies numériques sont un moyen de mettre en œuvre l'agenda du développement durable. Pour l'ECOSOC, ils exigent que « de nouvelles approches soient adoptées et qu'intègrent les politiques et le renforcement des capacités dans ces matières comme des composantes fondamentales des plans de développement nationaux » et qu'il soit admis qu'elles peuvent « contribuer au bien-être humain, à la prospérité économique et à l'emploi » (E/RES/2015/27).

L'équité suppose le bien-être général de la population, la justice implique une participation générale aux décisions, le développement social progresse avec des actions prospères et les droits de l'homme englobent des alternatives. Dans de telles circonstances, entre autres mesures à adopter, l'ECOSOC propose: de donner «la priorité au renforcement des capacités en technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) et en science, technologie et innovation (STI) dans les plans de développement nationaux» (E/RES/2015/27).

Les mesures importantes nécessitent des instruments d'excellence appropriés pour les mettre en œuvre. Un instrument qualifié est l'UNITAR : pour cette raison, l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies (AG) réitère «que les activités de formation professionnelle doivent se voir attribuer un rôle plus important et plus étendu dans l'appui à la gestion des affaires internationales et dans l'exécution des programmes de développement économique et social des le système des Nations Unies » (A/RES/59/208).

La réalisation de ces objectifs, qui peuvent être considérés comme faisant partie des principes porteurs de l'Agenda 2030 pour le développement durable, implique l'échange entre l'ONU et les communautés universitaires, scientifiques et de recherche de toutes les régions dans le but, entre autres, de « promouvoir la citoyenneté mondiale et combler les lacunes dans les connaissances, tout en reconnaissant le rôle de l'UNESCO et de sa constitution » ; «Atteindre les enseignants et les jeunes du monde entier grâce à diverses plateformes multimédias multilingues, notamment en diffusant le Programme de développement durable à l'horizon 2030 dans le système éducatif, y compris les écoles primaires» (A/RES/72/90).

Tâche à laquelle le réseau UNITWIN des chaires UNESCO est appelé en vertu, aussi, de son lien avec «d'autres réseaux liés à l'environnement, en vue de promouvoir l'éducation au développement durable (EDD) dans les écoles» (36C/33.6). 477Une tâche à laquelle l'UNITAR est également appelé, puisque l'AG "Reconnaît l'importance pour l'Institut de maintenir une collaboration étroite avec le Secrétariat des Nations Unies, avec d'autres organes des Nations Unies et avec les agences spécialisées, ainsi qu'avec les organisations nationales et internationales compétentes" (E/RES/1249 (XLIII)).

63. Joint Statement by Hellenic Association of Political Scientists and Kallipatira

Covid-19 pandemic has triggered a series of severe issues to the society, threatening past achievements and the progress made in various aspects of life. It is essential that measures are taken in order to build a resilient and symmetrical recovery and for future preparedness.

The socioeconomic repercussions of Covid-19 are significant, rendering the transition to a sustainable economy indispensable. Such a transition would be an important step towards balancing the emerging impacts of the virus and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. A global Green New Deal should be designed to restore biodiversity and utilise recovery based on circular economy, while reducing unemployment rates. Renewable resources, such as solar power, wind energy or ocean resources are the main factors for the development of a sustainable future and minimization of human intervention on nature. This is essential, particularly for the preservation of air and water quality, which are key to the quality of life and have been correlated to zoonotic diseases as well.

Gender discrimination against women in the workforce has been ascertained as a result of the pandemic-induced unemployment. Neutral recruitment processes combined with equal payment policies among women and men are needed to decrease the disproportionately large numbers of unemployed females. This has intruded into the daily lives of women, too, as incidents of gender-based violence and domestic violence have been increasingly reported, since 2020. Therefore, it is essential that support services for victims and witness protection programs are fortified, in order to shape a secure environment for societies overall.

Another issue that has emerged due to Covid-19 is the educational disruption. Although much progress has been made in the developing countries in recent years, there is still a large gap regarding education exclusion. The intervention of international organisations in these cases is critical in order to support the efforts of the countries and minimise obstacles regarding access to school. Additionally, they play a huge role in spreading awareness regarding the significance of quality education and encourage more students to complete at least primary education.

The undermining of girls' rights to education is another concerning issue, that ought to be eradicated through civil society's cooperation with policymakers, in order to achieve a universal education and to decrease the number of illiterate persons, overall. Furthermore, it is essential that digital education is integrated in schools. Technology along with proper infrastructure and personalized learning are main components of a contemporary education. On the other hand, developed countries should make use of the digital tools acquired during the pandemic to maximize the possibilities of continuous learning and engage in interactive education.

To make the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development feasible it is critical that governments, local communities and international organizations cooperate on a global level, as it is evident that these issues are interconnected. Transparency, democratic institutions and participation of the civil society in the decision-making process are key for promoting inclusive and sustainable recovery. The Hellenic Association of Political Scientists and Kallipatira are grateful for addressing the ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

64. Joint Statement submitted by The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness and The Fred Hollows Foundation

Today, 90 million children and adolescents are living with sight loss; the majority in low-and-middle-income countries. Children with unaddressed vision impairments have poorer educational outcomes, are more likely to be excluded from schools, and risk future earning potential and well-being. While there are many barriers to education, vision loss should not be one. COVID-19 disruptions have renewed calls to utilize schools as a resource for influencing the health and well-being of students and their communities. Investing in children's access to school eye health programmes will help the world achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and make meaningful strides towards the next global initiative. The adoption and implementation of health promoting policies through school-based health interventions can provide the comprehensive eye health care needed by millions of children and support inclusive and equitable education for all.

Visual impairment is one of the most common yet preventable disabilities for children. Without early intervention, children are at high risk of permanent vision loss. In 2021, the UN General Assembly unanimously adopted UN Resolution Vision for Everyone; accelerating action to achieve the sustainable development goals which enshrines eye health as part of the SDGs and as a vital contributor to the 2030 Agenda. The resolution specifically recognizes the critical link between vision, children and education outcomes, including school enrolment, educational attainment, learning and the achievement of inclusive education systems.

School health programs are a unique opportunity to provide comprehensive eye health services to potentially more than 700 million children throughout the world. A basic eye screening can detect eye conditions requiring attention and ensure that the children affected are referred promptly for treatment. 50 percent of blindness and low vision in children can be prevented or treated, most often with nothing more than a pair of glasses. Glasses are one of the most effective health interventions for children, reducing the odds of failing a class by 44% (The World Bank 2019).

Before COVID-19, the WHO, UNESCO and UNICEF launched the Global School Health Initiative (1995) to address student health in the context of education, which urged every school to become a Health Promoting School. In 2021, the Global Standards for Health-promoting Schools were launched; a resource package for schools to improve the health and well-being of 1.9 billion school-aged children and adolescents with a consistent, sustainable and data-driven approach to health in education. It is critical that school-based eye health interventions be included in all Health Promoting School guidelines and programmes moving forward.

To address critical and current issues impacting child eye health and education, a whole-of-government approach is needed. This includes increasing positive perceptions and awareness of eye health services and garnering multidisciplinary support and cooperation from relevant government ministries to prioritize the inclusion of eye health in relevant development policies. Without action, eye care needs are expected to increase substantially. Supporting child eye health is key to enhancing the next generation's quality of life and life chances.

65. Lifelong Learning Platform

The Lifelong Learning Platform (LLLP) would like to recall the words of United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, addressing the Transforming Education Summit, when he declared that we need “to renew our collective commitment to education and lifelong learning as a pre-eminent public good”. LLLP stands behind those words, but notes that government funds for education are steeply decreasing over time.

Recent trends in the privatisation and marketisation of education tend to favour a vision of education as an individual and consumable good. This process has sought to push education in the direction of human capital formation and job preparation. In this view, education is brashly depicted as an industry, as a source of profits and a zone of competitiveness - between learners, education institutions, education providers, and public authorities. The dichotomy between excellence and inclusion, leaning steeply towards the former, has eroded the space of actions for measures that promote inclusion. This is true for infrastructures, access to quality education, training and lifelong learning opportunities, and much more.

The concept of education as public good marks a disjuncture to this narrative, highlighting the purposes of education as a collective societal endeavour. In this perspective, education can be articulated as the result of a process of co-production among all components of society and not a reflection of private interests. Public funding is the only source of funding for education and training that can fulfil this potential. The scope of public funding for education and training must not be to simply foster learning. Education systems all over the world therefore need to serve the reduction of socio-economic, intergenerational and gender inequalities, the realisation of social rights and the protection of the environment.

However, public funding for education has seen a steep decline over the past years. While the total amount of public resources devoted to education might be increasing in some Member States, the combined share of national budgets devoted to education and training is lower and lower every year.

We, therefore:

1. Call upon UN member states to increase public investment in their education and training systems.
2. Call for public funding devoted to education to fund education and training for its own sake, bearing in mind that labour market rationales are just one of the many outcomes of learning processes.
3. Call for public funds to finance inclusive measures in education and training.
- 4.

We believe that such actions would enable us to build back better and align the recovery to the Sustainable Agenda and to pave the way and meet SDG 4.

66. Make Mothers Matter

Prioritising Target 5.4 to ‘build forward trans formatively’ and advance the 2030 sustainable development agenda

In this written Statement, Make Mothers Matter focuses on target 5.4 of the Sustainable Development Goal on gender equality (SDG 5), which will be among the goals for review this year:

‘Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate’.

We call for greater attention to this target, which is not only vital for progressing on gender equality, but also intersects with many other SDGs, making it key for the realisation of the whole 2030 development agenda. Care and this indicator must be at the centre of the necessary systemic changes to ‘build back better’ – or rather ‘build forward trans formatively’.

The Covid-19 crisis has shown us what really matters. It has spotlighted the critical role and importance of Care work, whether paid or unpaid.

This crisis therefore gave visibility and a start to recognizing this essential yet undervalued and mostly invisible work - and the people behind it: care workers, most of whom being women, and mothers, who were juggling increased unpaid family care work, home schooling and paid work.

Target 5.4 – a neglected target?

With Target 5.4, the recognition of unpaid care work is already part of the 2030 sustainable development Agenda which was adopted in 2015.

This was an important step as this target recognizes that the inequitable distribution of unpaid care work (the gender care gap) is a cause of economic injustice and hardship for women, and a major obstacle to gender equality. Unpaid care work remains a barrier for many women to access the labour force, make a career and earn a decent wage. Mothers in particular have been pushed to join the ‘productive’ labour force, but remain responsible for the bulk of care activities: more than three-quarters of all unpaid family care work is done by women, and when both paid work and unpaid work are combined, women work more than men. They are heavily economically penalized for it, especially when they have children – and suffer specific discrimination in relation to maternity – the ‘motherhood penalty’.

Target 5.4 also recognizes the critical importance of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies to address the issue – to reduce the time that women spend on unpaid domestic and care work to compensate for the lack of essential services and infrastructure like water and sanitation, electricity, energy, telecommunication, transportation, health, etc.

Still, this target has not yet received the attention and traction it deserves.

Target 5.4 is associated with a single indicator, 5.4.1 – *Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location*, which is also among the *Global Minimum Set of Gender Indicators*. The problem is that this data can only be obtained by carrying out Time-Use Surveys (TUS), which are complex and expensive to carry out.

According to a 2018 ILO Report, only 72 countries have conducted such surveys at least once, with only 27 of those countries having done so at least twice. Very few countries carry out TUS on a regular basis, which would be necessary to monitor progress in reduction and redistribution of unpaid domestic and care work: the United States is the only country which has done so on a yearly basis since 2003; Switzerland has conducted TUS every three or four years since 1997, and Norway every ten years since 1970.

As a result, target 5.4 is usually left out of the *Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals* reports and their statistical annex, and it remain largely out of the limelight.

The grim reality also is that there is no or very little progress in the reduction of the time women spend on unpaid domestic and care work and its redistribution between men and women: according to the ILO, women's share of unpaid care work only decreased by 0.2 % over 15 years (between 1997 and 2012).

Recognizing and addressing the limitations of Target 5.4 and its single indicator

It is also important to recognize and address the weaknesses and limitations of this target as it is formulated:

It fails to recognise that unpaid care work IS work, valuable work, which is essential to educate the next generation of citizens and workers, and which sustains our economy
It fails to capture the huge contributions of unpaid work to our economies – e.g. in a country like Switzerland, unpaid work accounts for more than half of the total hours worked in the country

It fails to frame spending on social protection and public services and infrastructure that support the unpaid work of caring as investments, that will have high return in the long term – Austerity is not an option

It fails to explicitly recognize the importance of sharing this work more equitably between men and women within the household/family

It fails to recognize cognitive and emotional work - and the resulting mental load - which usually goes with care work and can affect mental health

It fails to envision unpaid care work also positively as a learning experience which provides parents and other caregivers with valuable soft skills contributing to social inclusion, personal development, empowerment, and employability

It fails to recognise the link between the gender care gap, the lack of adequate infrastructures and affordable quality care services and the poverty affecting many women, mothers in particular

It fails to make it clear that unpaid care work should be a collective responsibility – i.e. other stakeholders beyond the households/family should also take their share of responsibility to support this work, beginning with governments at every levels but also employers in both the public and private sectors

Looking at its indicator(s):

It would be useful that time-use data be also disaggregated along socio-economic status or educational attainment, as well as the number of dependent persons in the household – the number (and age) of children

A second indicator could be the number of TUS conducted so far

The case for Time-Use Surveys – to be used across most SDGs

Despite the weaknesses of target 5.4 and its indicator, the relevance and value of the underlying time-use data must be stressed: it goes well beyond gender equality and SDG 5 – in particular because of the links that the issue of unpaid care work has with other SDGs.

As documented in a background report of the 2020 UN Statistical Commission, time-use data can inform and guide policies in a wide range of sectors. covering many if not all the SDGs:

- To analyse the links between monetary poverty and time poverty, how time poverty is distributed, and how in a vicious circle economic poverty reinforces time poverty (SDG 1)
- To apprehend and support health care services provided for free by households, usually by women; and to understand engagement in activities that can affect health, such as eating, drinking, sleeping and sports (SDG 3)
- To address the issue of girls dropping out from school because they are needed for domestic work (SDG 4)
- To show and support parents' involvement in the formal education of their children, e.g. through overseeing homework, participating in school activities, etc. (SDG 4)
- To plan for the provision of quality early childhood care and education services, which not only prepare children for primary education (SDG 4) - but also free up time for mothers and other caregivers to do paid work, participate in public life and engage in politics (SDG 5 and 8)
- To understand the connections between paid and unpaid work and support better work-life balance, for parents, which would in turn increase women's labour force participation or income generating activities (SDG 8)
- To develop public infrastructure and services such as clean water and sanitation, electricity and energy, telecommunications or transport in order to reduce the unpaid work and time needed to palliate the absence of these infrastructure and services, which disproportionately affects women (SDG 6, 7, 9 and 11)
- To understand and address the disproportionate impact of Climate Change on women – the increase of unpaid work (SDG 13)
- To further progress on the 2030 development agenda, it is therefore crucial to understand the interlinkages between Target 5.4 and other SDGs, and that this target, its indicator and the statistical tool behind it, be given more visibility and importance.

Existing commitments for governments to conduct Time-Use Surveys

The 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which was adopted at the end of the 4th World Conference, already called for 'conducting regular time-use studies to measure, in quantitative terms, unremunerated work, including recording those activities that are performed simultaneously with remunerated or other unremunerated

activities. With ICATUS, the UN developed an international classification of activities to make time-use surveys comparable. The UNECE has also been very active in promoting time-use surveys.

The 2013 resolution of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians on *Statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization* introduced a new statistical definition of work, effectively recognizing unpaid domestic and care work as a new ‘work’ category to be measured like the other work categories which are already part of Labour Force Surveys. The resolution therefore provides another impetus to measure unpaid care work, and therefore carry out time-use surveys.

Building on the momentum of the Covid-19 crisis to transition to wellbeing economies
As stated above, the Covid-19 crisis has put the spotlight on Care and how central it is to our lives and our wellbeing, an important step towards recognition.

The notion of Care can also be extended to the environment: the Human Rights Council has recently recognized the human right to a clean healthy and sustainable environment, which is also key for our wellbeing. Our environment, our ‘commons’, need to be cared for.

The crisis now provides a unique opportunity for systemic change, for ‘building forward trans formatively’: it is time to move beyond a narrow and short-term focus on GDP growth and profit making, and to repurpose our economy to a caring economy, one that is human-centred and serves the wellbeing of both people and our planet – one that recognizes, values and supports the unpaid work of caring – one that supports the realisation of the 2030 agenda.

A 2021 joint report of the European Environmental Bureau and Oxfam Germany makes it clear: “*The economy is far more than what can be bought and sold in shops: [...] it is also about the vital care work done within households, about the joint management of common resources such as lakes and forests, about having access to well-run schools and hospitals provided by the state or by communities. It is about having a roof over your head, having enough healthy food to eat, being safe and being looked after when you need help. Care and community are all a part of this.*”

A number of countries and cities are showing us the way. The governments of Finland, Iceland, New Zealand, Scotland and Wales are committed to moving to “wellbeing economies”. Cities like Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, and Sydney have adopted the doughnut economic model, which provides a useful framework to build a solid social foundation, while ensuring that economic activities are sustainable and stay within environmental boundaries.

In the current context of the multiple crises we must face, it is absolutely urgent and essential that at every level, we endeavour to change the course of our economy, which has been exploitative and destructive. Whether we call it a wellbeing economy, a caring economy or a doughnut economy, it is high time that we prioritize care and wellbeing, the essential needs of people and our planet – and it begins by prioritizing and revisiting Target 5.4.

67. FPI Fair Pay Innovation Lab gGmbH

The pandemic has a huge backlash effect on gender equality. Old stereotypes are gaining weight again. To build back better from the coronavirus pandemic means we must put even more effort into achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls thus advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Gender Equality has been acknowledged as the most important cross-cutting issue among the Sustainable Development Goals. This means that only when we succeed in placing women and men on an equal footing other injustices can be addressed in a targeted manner.

To build back and come out stronger than before from the covid-crisis we have to achieve equality, the very first step being economic independence for women. And to reach this goal, the first step is equal pay, as set out in Goal 8.5 of the 2030 Agenda. The Commission on the Status of Women has underlined the importance of fair pay and set out a comprehensive catalogue of measure to decrease and eliminate pay gaps. Among these measures are "laws and regulations that uphold the principle of equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, ..., pay transparency and gender pay audits, as well as certification and review of pay practices and increased availability of data and analysis on the gender pay gap" (Art. 40(f) E/CN.6/2017/L.5). All the demanded measures on fair pay are known or already in place, yet pay gaps remain high. Various countries across the world currently adapt and strengthen their legislation. Consistent and coordinated action is required combined with a clear set of sanctions in case of noncompliance to drive pay gaps down and keep them closed.

The Fair Pay Matrix of the FPI Fair Pay Innovation Lab lists key performance indicators for fair pay and bundles discriminatory factors, which can be used to calculate the implementation progress in terms of fair pay and to measure the success of equality measures. The Matrix can be used as a basis for auditing procedures that show organizations where action is needed and where levers can be tightened to implement equality and fair pay.

Reporting requirements, transparency, the gender pay gap as an indicator and certification mechanisms, such as the Universal Fair Pay Check, gain importance. The FPI stresses to use all measure to its full capacity to close pay gaps sustainably, as not reaching fair pay is clearly a deficit of transposition and implementation rather than a deficit of knowledge.

The Fair Pay Innovation Lab calls for bold actions to close pay gaps. The implementation of the entire United Nations 2030 Agenda depends to a large extent on whether equality can be achieved as a cross-cutting objective. Making women and girls paid fairly is the basis for sustainable development of the entire economy. Anyone who wants to implement the Agenda 2030 therefore needs fair pay for all by 2025.

68. Joint Statement submitted by Frontline AIDS, LVCT Health Kenya and SFAIDS

Why governments must re-prioritise comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) as we build back better from COVID-19

Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) occupies a unique intersection where the SDGs on education (4) and gender equality (5) meet.

In 2013 Ministers of Health in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) agreed to a new set of targets on CSE.

However, a recent evaluation of this Ministerial Commitment has revealed some significant gaps:

Knowledge of HIV prevention among adolescents and young people remains low at 40%. Although new programmes have been developed, critical topics are excluded, and many are still abstinence-based. Only 56% of secondary schools have teachers who've been trained to deliver life-skills based HIV or sexuality education.

Countries still rely on donor funding to deliver CSE. Lack of budget transparency and efforts to decentralise education also make it tricky to track investment (UNESCO, 2021).

Harmful and inconsistent laws on age of consent, child marriage and sexual and reproductive health services - make it difficult to link adolescents to care.

Rate of sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) remain extremely high. Harmful social, cultural and exacerbate this violence - with three ESA countries witnessing a rise in tolerance to wife beating among young people between 2013-2019.

US-funded, anti-rights groups are vocally criticising and challenging the provision of CSE (McEwen, H, 2018, Open Democracy 2020).

COVID-19 lockdowns, school closures and limited connectivity to online learning have exacerbated these challenges even further. During three-month lockdown in Kenya, 152,000 teenage girls became pregnant - a 40% increase in the country's average (VOA News, 2020). Cases of GBV also increased. According to data from the national gender-based violence hotline - there was a 301% increase in calls reporting violence against women and girls in the first two weeks of the lockdown (Human Rights Watch 2020). The COVID-19 pandemic has also had a knock-on impact on young people's wider mental health and psychosocial well-being, while intermittent access to education has further restricted their education and livelihood opportunities.

Our recommendations:

1. We call on governments in the Eastern and Southern Africa region to endorse the new Ministerial Commitment on Adolescent Education, Health and Wellbeing.
2. Member States must ensure that pandemic preparedness and recovery plans prioritise the rights and needs of adolescents – especially their right to education and bodily autonomy.
3. Pandemic preparedness taskforces/working groups must have trained GBV focal points who are working to integrate GBV into national responses, and GBV services should be classified as “essential” during times of emergency.

4. Governments must learn from the adaptations made during COVID-19. This includes amending policies, programmes and learning materials to bring them in line with international guidance – especially for out-of-school learners (UNESCO, 2017/2021, UNFPA 2020).
5. We also encourage governments to strengthen the delivery of existing CSE programmes:
6. Presidential offices, cabinet ministers and senior civil servants should publicly endorse CSE as an effective way to protect and empower young people.
7. Governments must also engage with stakeholders at a community level – including parents, faith leaders. This includes increasing their engagement in the design, delivery and monitoring of CSE programmes.
8. Where opposition is active, governments must also fund and develop targeted campaigns to counter myths and disinformation.

69. The Center for Water Security and Cooperation

The COVID pandemic has highlighted the need for clearer commitments to water security, drinking water, sanitation and hygiene through more effective law and governance. In our work, we have seen the need for stronger laws grow, both as a clear commitment of governments to their people, and as a justiciable and concrete protection for each person's water and sanitation. Technology and financing can only go so far. Without legal commitments, enforced and supported globally by all states, there is no impetus to act to protect or provide water. Without legal commitments, there is complacency and de prioritization of water. Without legal commitments, we are telling the citizens of the world to wait, and hope, that someone provides the money or that a scientist has a breakthrough. Dying of thirst or of famine is a slow, wasting, cruel end. It is also avoidable, if every state and person works to prevent it. The choice we make now to either embrace or to defer our empathy and our action will define millions of lives or end them.

COVID has also allowed the international community to build stronger bonds between countries, though these have still been marked by self-interest. While these instincts are understandable, the message is becoming clearer: when there is a crisis, you are on your own. The exceptions to this have been regional and have shown the power of cooperation. We encourage you to take these examples, and to build upon them for water. This is true not just in the WASH space, where life and death hang in the balance, but in the transboundary water security context, where peace and prosperity are under threat. While we have not yet had a war over water alone, the impact of water scarcity has driven migration, economic decline, extremism, famine, and environmental degradation. Our collective work, as stewards of this earth, is to ensure that water is properly managed and protected. While there have been shining examples of cooperation, the weaknesses of cooperation mechanisms and of the laws governing transboundary waters are very real.

The Stockholm and Rio Declarations that have guided International Environmental Law—and the human rights regimes that protect the rights of individuals—are not preventing pollution, transboundary water disputes, or ecological harm. The UN Watercourses Convention, which reflects the bare minimums of Customary International Law, still has fewer adherents and legal protections than is necessary to be an effective regime. The world has not yet gone to war over water, but without new, real, enforceable, and effective protections and cooperative mechanisms, it is only a matter of time.

Water needs your attention and your focus. It needs your leadership, and your willingness to broker compromise and to accept the binds of the rule of law. It needs your courts, your parliaments, your presidents and your people to work together, to cooperate to preserve our only necessary resource. Build the rule of law to protect our lives.

We no longer have the luxury of failure. We must act now.

70. Caribbean Natural Resources Institute

Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Caribbean have brought to the fore socio-economic and structural inequities and underlying governance issues related to accountability, transparency and shared decision-making, highlighting the need to rethink our economic development and governance models. Public investments in COVID-19 recovery present strategic opportunities to rethink and reimagine Caribbean development and prioritise attention to delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals.

In this light, the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute has conducted desk research to assess to what extent over 400 publicly announced public sector COVID-19 recovery initiatives in six countries (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago) and at the regional level in the Caribbean are aligned at delivering sustainable development priorities.

Findings from this research will be shared with Caribbean stakeholders to stimulate dialogue focused on identifying priority needs and opportunities for building back better from COVID-19 while delivering the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

Presentation of the issue

Within the context of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, Caribbean priorities for COVID-19 recovery were identified under four broad principles:

Transforming economic governance

Supporting fairness, inclusion and justice in economic development

Supporting environmental sustainability while recognising and managing trade-offs

Enabling a low-carbon transition and building resilience to address multiple risks

A way forward

Given the limited accessible information and weak mechanisms for stakeholder input at the regional and national level, there is a clear need for independent, transparent and open dialogue processes on Caribbean COVID-19 recovery priorities, implementation approaches and partnerships.

71. Fondazione Proclade Internazionale – Onlus

During the continuing fallout from Covid-19's enormous impact on all countries, achieving the vision of *Building Back Better* and at the same time advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a monumental challenge.

Every nation has suffered significantly – whether in terms of unemployment, economic slumps, increased poverty, reduced capabilities for providing health care, and lack of education facilities, or many other areas - and each government's responses have been different. The unprecedented time of confinement, restriction on free travel and border closures have hit "informal labour" and migrants hard, even if some countries with more resources or flexibility have managed to mitigate the impact of the pandemic with medical, social and educational assistance programs.

SDG 4. Many States have alleviated the situation by combining "face-to-face" education with the Internet. Others have abolished classes and there has been no alternative; students, who used to partially exercise their right to education, have spent two years without exercising it. Social inequalities have been accentuated; those with higher economic capacity have been able to devise the most relevant solutions, others have been left behind.

From our formal and non-formal education center, we have been facilitating schooling for students with little economic resources, reinforcing school education with expanded time schedules and with non-formal education groups.

SDG 5. Most of the burden of the Pandemic has been borne by women, mainly for the family and the care of children who couldn't go to school, but also concerning work and family maintenance. Domestic violence against women, sexual abuse, and rape have increased, especially among the poorest populations.

We are acting in two ways: by strengthening care for women who have suffered violence; by restarting development and women's empowerment projects.

SDG 17. The lack of governmental coordination and the absence of solidarity among the nations have hoarded the vaccines. To rebuild the countries better, to alleviate poverty and remedy climate change, the commitments of the COP-26 in Glasgow must be fulfilled.

We continue to create solidarity and collaborate with organizations and individuals at *all levels*.

We call on the international community to continue implementing the 2030 agenda, for which we propose:

Allocate resources to promote comprehensive training in education systems, ensuring the basic conditions of access to education: food, connectivity and health devices to prevent school dropout. Efforts must be doubled to ensure the students achieve their potential through education.

The COVID-19 has exposed profound inequality in people's access to healthcare to prevent, diagnose and treat the disease. Strengthening of public health systems by providing sufficient resources towards it, achieving universal coverage, creating universal access to vaccines and prioritizing vulnerable groups for assistance are necessary.

Develop economic recovery plans with environmental policies (de-carbonization, climate change adaptation) with greener and blue planet in mind.

Continue to push for all policies and implementation plans of the 2030 Agenda to have a gender and ethnic perspective and to ensure parity for women and ethnic groups in the planning, implementation, and monitoring mechanisms.

72. Roshd Foundation

Achieving sustainable development in the post-pandemic era needs the real unification of people, non-governmental organizations, United Nations, and governments to boost their meaningful efforts and constructive participation in deprived areas around the globe. This point is signified especially when it comes to rebuilding the education system, which has been negatively affected by the devastating repercussions of the COVID-19.

In fact, the global lockdown of educational institutions led to a visible interruption in students' learning quality and disruptions in internal assessments. This crisis has created many inadequacies and inequities in world education systems, from access to the broadband and computers needed for online education and the supportive environments required to focus on learning up to the misalignment between resources and needs. On the other hand, the pandemic not only has created one of the real disruptions in public health systems around the world, but also it has had severe economic effects beyond the spread of the disease itself. In fact, while it made an enormous impact on the cost of living, the ripple effect on the educational expenses was even more profound. In other words, it made serious problems in the provision of educational needs for poor students, and even it forced them to abandon their learning path.

Therefore, ensuring the inclusive and equitable quality of education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all should be prioritized more in the following years. In this regard, Roshd Foundation has been providing offline learning content and required devices for students in deprived areas. Despite the existing challenges in internet access in some deprived villages, utilizing offline education assistance could be considered an inspiring applicable alternative for supporting students who are excluded from a proper education. In this program, Roshd's volunteers and expert teachers are gathered to record and send videos, including lessons and educational content, which are tremendously helpful for those students in deprived areas. Likewise, for increasing the accessibility of poor students to learning resources, more than 3700 complimentary educational books have been donated in eight provinces in Iran. In addition, another effective solution that has been proposed by this institution was providing online classes for primary pupils to promote their reading abilities which were previously influenced by discontinuous learning progress caused by COVID lockdowns. Accordingly, more than 5800 storybooks have been distributed in deprived areas. Also, it is worth mentioning that investment in education and internet infrastructures should be increased by governments and they have to try to remove barricades and bureaucracy to improve the progress of equality and justice in deprived areas.

Finally, the quick recovery from the pandemic to boost the economic and educational aspects of sustainable development is accessible only when NGOs volunteer groups promote their activities in deprived areas, which should be supported by United Nations and governments.

73. International Shinto Foundation (ISF)

Making the Most of the Covid-19 Pandemic Crisis

Every country in the world has been forced to expend a huge amount of money on anti-Covid-19 measures. In the post-Covid 19 world, one of the most important global policy challenges would be how to sustainably solve the drastically increased government debts. In contrast to the collapse of the Lemman Brothers and the European financial crisis thereafter, there has been little international cooperation this time around to prevent the spread of viral infection – i.e. promoting vaccination. Countermeasures by each sovereign state against Covid-19, including vaccine development, have limited effects because the viral activities and impacts are borderless.

In the face of global crises such as Covid-19 and climate change, the international order required should be “cooperation” and “coordination”, not “division”. Wealthier countries could give support to low and middle-income countries through the purchase of vaccines and distribution of medical equipment’s. Additionally, waiving intellectual property rights is essential in the global distribution of covid-19 vaccines.

Further, securing financial resources to alleviate the financial liabilities of developing and emerging countries would be desirable. Specifically, the imposition of a global environmental tax, as mentioned by Keiichiro Kobayashi and Motohiro Sato in their book entitled “Post-Covid 19 Political Plan” published by Nikkei Publications Inc., might be proposed. This environmental tax will be put towards issues that are common to all humankind such as pandemics and climate change. International cooperation such as “International Taxation” could emerge for the first time in human history. Even after World War II, tax finance is the core of national sovereignty which has never been subordinated to any international cooperation system, as it means a partial abolition of national sovereignty.

Globalization of the world economy will never cease and should never cease. Though cross-border travel could be restricted or controlled to a certain extent, information will continue spreading borderless.

It is true that domestic disparity widens, and social tensions are growing in certain countries. At the same time, the rich-poor gap has been diminishing in a global sense because the low-income class is becoming the middle class in growing developing countries while the middle class’s income in developed countries has been stuck. Renaissance of protectionism pandered to populist advocacy could repeat the tragedy that occurred during the interwar period in the 20th century.

Building a new international order with deepening cooperation and coordination would be indispensable for world development in the future. The achievement may become a testimonial that humans turned the Covid-19 crisis to one's advantage and successfully transformed the world.

74. Society for the Widows and Orphans

The COVID-19 pandemic which started late December 2019 in Wuhan, China continues to spread across the world and consequently the Sustainable Development Goals implementation process have slowed, risking the achievement.

As the pandemic is impacting many sectors such as health, education, economy, it also has key implications to other Goals. The regress on the implementation of the immediately most affected goals influences the achievement of others in short or long-term, creating a new pattern of interconnectedness between them.

Closure of schools SDG4 and migrating to remote learning was difficult, especially in a developing country like Nigeria where advanced technology has not been well integrated into the system.

As some schools are adapting to online learning those in rural communities which are mainly government schools could not, hence the need to upgrade them on Information, Communication Technology to face any challenge.

There should be conducive environment for learning to achieve successful and sustainable results.

The pandemic and its economic fallout have regressive effect on gender equality SDG5. Women's jobs and lives (Gender Based Violence) are more vulnerable than men's own. If these women do not return to work, the global economy will miss out. One reason for this greater effect on women is that the virus is significantly increasing the burden of unpaid care, which is carried out by women. There is need for family-focused policies that will help to drive gender equality further and faster. Changing some policies and incentivizing some, is key to an inclusive recovery.

Ocean's recovery SDG14, which are the world's largest ecosystem, offers opportunity to invest in action plans to conserve our oceans and ensure progress towards the health and recovery of the planet.

There is a misperception that nature is getting a break from humans during the pandemic SDG15. Many rural communities faced increased pressure from land grabbing, deforestation, illegal mining and wildlife poaching as those that lost their employment in cities, returned to their rural homes. Conserving Nature, Slowing Deforestation, stopping illegal wildlife trade is important.

Effects of the pandemic on countries and income levels calls for multilateralism and international cooperation to mitigate it SDG17.

This pandemic has challenged all of us but has provided tremendous lessons: It is often said, "Don't let a Good Crisis go to Waste".

75. Sociedade Filantropica Maria de Nazare

Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679), the notable English philosopher, once said that "hell is truth seen too late."

Lamentably, there are renowned observers, authorities in various scientific disciplines who believe that we are already past the tipping point in terms of reversing the grave picture of apocalyptic tones, in the climate crisis that we are living, especially because of the slowness and varied resistances, of political and cultural nature, in the implementation — which must be urgent and broad — of sustainable political-economic measures on a global scale.

The humanity-ocean relationship alone is, per se, a gigantic problem, even though 80% of the oxygen we consume comes from the oceans' vast and invaluable natural resources.

If we consider, then, the terrestrial face of the ecosystems, the difficulties are massive when evaluating the probability of us achieving an implementation of important changes to the eco-conscious use of its renewable or non-renewable resources, changes that effectively have an impact on the short and, especially, on the medium and long terms, with the aim to make viable the human presence on the surface of the planet.

It is essential to invest all possible resources and make every effort we can in the education and enlightenment of the younger generations, regardless of gender, about the kaleidoscopic complexity of the subject, and even in the re-education of the older ones, who are the current decision makers, toward a conscientious management and an indispensable readiness to a profound change of paradigms used to deal with the essential ecological theme, inextricably intertwined with the ethology of the current and future — inevitable, according to experts — pandemics.

No serious, broad and lasting initiative will succeed, on a planetary scale, while there are disparities or even, in certain sectors, subtle misalignments, between governmental actions, be those of poor, developing, or rich nations.

And to overcome this geopolitical cacophony, it is indispensable to meet the pressing needs regarding fundamental matters of basic infrastructure of education of both genders, including the pillars of food, sanitation and medical-hospital coverage for countries less equipped to adjust to the international demands for the survival of the human civilization in the unprecedented crisis with potential for self-extinction that we are going through.

Despite what we have said above — and perhaps precisely because of the acuteness and breadth of the problem — we must never abandon hope, optimism, and above all, the channelling of these principles into the actions of individuals and communities, in a courageous and persevering way, until we achieve the minimum results that guarantee the perpetuation of our species on the Earth's crust.

76. The Canadian Federation of Business and Professional Women/La fédération Canadienne des femmes de carrières commerciales et professionnelles

BPW Canada develops the business, professional and leadership potential of women on all levels through advocacy, programs and projects. We support the statement below from A Feminist Economic Recovery Plan for Canada: Making the Economy Work for Everyone produced by YWCA Canada and University of Toronto's Institute for Gender and the Economy (GATE)

2020 was the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, but instead of reflecting on how far we have come we see the gains to advance gender equality over the last few decades unravel. Without attention to inequity in post-pandemic recovery, a potential decline in our achievements is a real threat, given the gendered economic, health and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across all aspects of society.

A broader range of people are now seeing the importance of feminized and racialized labour for our health and well-being where women, women of colour and recent immigrants, are leading the response to a major health crisis and preventing further economic and social fallout. However, there was much that was not working before COVID-19. It took a pandemic to see what was already broken.

What lies before us is an opportunity to reimagine our future and thinking about who counts in our economy. The pandemic has revealed who is truly essential and the degree to which the caring economy, both paid and unpaid, underpins our entire economic system.

To truly create an economy that works for everyone, we must dismantle sexism, anti-Black racism, anti-Indigenous colonial racism, anti-Semitism, bigotry, biphobia, colonialism, queerphobia, homophobia, Islamophobia, misogyny, patriarchy, transphobia, xenophobia, and hate and discrimination in all its forms.

The pandemic has also called our attention to the historic devaluation of caregiving. Unpaid caregivers, who tend to be women, are bearing increased burdens due to school closures and shuttered care and recreational services. Before the pandemic, women already took on more of the household duties and care of children and elders than men. This trend has continued into the pandemic, with women often bearing the triple duty of home-schooling, care responsibilities, and doing paid work. The economy faces the possibility of an unnecessarily slow recovery if women who have lost their jobs or have been forced to leave them due to caregiving duties, cannot return to paid work because of the lack of access to safe, affordable, and high-quality care.

There has also been a rise in gender-based violence, which the United Nations has referred to as the 'shadow pandemic', which has been in part exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite new funding for shelters and sexual assault centre's supporting survivors of domestic violence, it has not yet stemmed the tide of violence. With an increase of 20% to 30% in domestic violence rates across in Canada. Police forces and service providers report an increase in domestic violence by as much as 62%.

We must build back better and for that we need women of all intersectionality alongside men and gender diverse individuals to create the solutions together.

77. World Union of Small and Medium Enterprises

The OECD Outlook for 2021 concluded: “Restrictions to mobility, trade and activities taken to contain the COVID-19 pandemic triggered the most severe global recession in the post-war period. All firms and sectors were, directly or indirectly, affected, but Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Crafts (SMEs) were hit particularly hard.” Economists agree that key risks to the global economy are from surging inflation, supply chain bottlenecks and the cost of commodities.

The pandemic recovery efforts: Rebuild Better

International Organizations are aware of the contribution that small businesses make to sustainable, inclusive and resilient economic growth and, shared prosperity and decent work for all. Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Crafts (MSMEs) account approximately for 90% of businesses, 60-70% of employment, and 50% of GDP worldwide. The “good news” is: In many parts of the world, the pandemic recovery efforts are being presented as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to “rebuild better”, particularly by prioritizing sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness.

Education

One of the main goals of WUSME is to encourage education and professional training, working closely with academic institutions in the different countries, to implement appropriate training programs and create effective international network of intellectual resources for the benefit of entrepreneurs around the world, with particular attention to developing countries. WUSME is already active in developing and implementing important partnerships worldwide with public and private partner organizations.

A way forward

After the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009, despite the attempts, many governments have failed to put in place adequate measures to prepare the economy, especially SMEs and Crafts, for the next crisis.

Economic experts have repeatedly pointed out the following priority topics:

1. To strengthen the resilience and liquidity of the companies.
2. to set up national funds for crisis prevention and further development of companies, which would be financed from sales tax funds (value Added Tax - VAT) and possibly by the “Robin Hood Tax”, the Currency Transaction Levy, and preferably administered by business organizations, which live more closely the needs of SMEs and Crafts.
3. To use crises to ensure that worldwide funding in the trillions of euros is used also to promote energy-saving, environmentally, and climate-friendly technology and to achieve the UN SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals.

Crisis preparedness and economic upswing

WUSME has repeatedly recalled the important role played by companies of all sizes, especially SMEs and Crafts. WUSME continues to emphasize how essential it is to improve access to finance, especially simplifying bureaucracy, both for existing companies in difficulty and newly established companies, with particular attention to young people and women.

**Drafted by the Secretary General Dr. Norbert Knoll Von Dorhoff with the assistance of WUSME Office Bearers, Representatives and Staff Members.*

78. Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum (ICYF)

Islamic cooperation youth forum (ICYF) represents and serves the youth of the OIC 56 member states (28% of the world's youth). We recognize the significance of the SDGs as critical guide for youth who are the true harbingers of progress in the post pandemic period. This year, ICYF continued to prioritize strategic objectives and mitigate challenges faced by youth in the OIC region and beyond through linkages with member states, partners and institutions. While we worked to accelerate all capacities to stimulate and delegate the convergence of SDG goals 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17, the pandemic emboldened existing challenges and priorities within the SDGs.

The region's protracted insecurity and intensifying conflicts have flared migration, radicalization and trafficking, placing youth at most risk of decreased economic and learning opportunities added to the cycles of social and mental crises which have emerged as significant agenda item impeding sustainable growth. In recognizing that two thirds of refugees, over 80% of global conflict fatalities originate in OIC countries, the interest to address the catalysts of conflict becomes imperative. It is these affected regions that are the least likely to achieve the SDGs, and in ensuring that no one is left behind, prioritising multilateral action, knowledge sharing and reverse linkages for development and peacebuilding takes a forefront.

We identify the urgent need for cooperation in peacekeeping and rebuilding efforts to eliminate disparities in development furthered by the pandemic consequences. The region's grappling with global conflicts and inequalities demands multilateral action by UN and OIC bodies to curb military spending, militarization and support of armed conflicts. Member states of OIC/UN are well placed to develop policies for security cooperation, stability and economic development.

To deliver on the Agenda 2030, we call for

- (1) Concentrated partnerships between UN/OIC bodies, and NGOs, to produce better solutions for conflict risk regions,
- (2) developed states to uphold their responsibility in the climate emergency seeing that most OIC member states are excessively vulnerable to the onset of climate change,
- (3) The OIC group to take advantage of its high population growth relatively young and dynamic population as enabler for sustainable development, and to support this population through the SDG 8, provide them with economic opportunities for social cohesion and sustainable future,
- (4) Supporting the economical micro-development projects, vocational education and equality of opportunities,
- (5) Responding to unmanaged urbanization diverting OIC region from the SDGs through building networks and knowledge bases to provide real access to finance, education, health and other infrastructures,
- (6) Accelerating internet accessibility and infrastructure as means to realize SDG 1,4 and 5 in addition to preventing educational and employment disparities across countries and genders.

79. Working Women's Forum (India)

Saluting all in global cooperative sisterhood. Movements in Asia that first confronted pandemic such as ours, the Working Women's Forum (WWF) and its credit arm the Indian Cooperative Network for Women (ICNW) (Chennai H.Q.) (6,00,000 women members) valiantly fought it in South India (Tamil Nadu, Andhra, Karnataka, Telangana). Having provided around 5 billion U.S\$ in small/petty loans to informal sector workers (rural/urban) (high repayment).

Rising with resilience our grassroots women demonstrated that that they can cope, build just recovery from Covid-19, through new institutional systems. By mobilizing credit groups/loaning/insurance/capacity building/savings apart from combating Gender Based Violence through counselling. Represented on the oldest International Cooperative Union, Raiffeisen as first Women global board member ever. Coordinator at World Farmers Organization on Global cooperative policy.

We, barefoot bankers reached remote areas in difficult circumstances (lockdown, loss). But celebrate "Covid heroines micro entrepreneur warriors" today. Utilizing technology, awarding/rewarding women who kept their 14 cooperatives alive. The warrior spirit of poor women micro-entrepreneurs on the frontline battling COVID-19, were bestowed by us with the "Corona Heroine Awards". Out of 1500 members (who never ever defaulted even during Covid-19) those who transformed their lives from investing just Rs.200 (3 US\$) to Rs.1,00,000 (1400 US\$) (in 10-37 years) (educating children as Engineers, MBA's, nurses etc), employing 3 other women!

Participating actively in digital literacy training, they refused to default or moratoriums and utilized ingenious coping strategies as unorganized workers. Realising needs but ensuring for a just and fair recovery/growth, moving forward business. Ensuring financial inclusion is key to informal sector poor women workers. A Training of Trainers for 65 women leaders, CEO's of WWF-ICNW was held in September 2020 for "training in digital financial literacy". These women leaders are well-capacitated to deliver training to poor women in cities/towns/villages of South India.

We have shown that the cooperative model of business never fails women. Powered by is self-reliance, versatility and resilience. Despite facing serious loss of sales/ revenue, we women co-operators (fish sellers, vegetable vendors, weavers and 267 type trades) did not shut down businesses or abandon employees. Managing to reboot our businesses through savings /reserve funds. Never forgot social responsibility (relief/support/care) towards communities, governments, charities and people.

Demonstrating that no challenge can deter cooperatives from adapting, showing resilience.

Our recommendations are:

Women must be at the centre of decision making at all levels of cooperatives/institutions. Voice their needs/opinions/views with confidence on all decision-making tables i.e., local/national/international level forums as we have done. By recognition, women need to have power/authority/resources to decide future and of fellow cooperative sisters, with changing times, new solutions.

The ICNW developed a model within the context of SDG's (1-5,9,14), "the Gender and Equality Model". Madam Clinton, as US Secretary of State visited ICNW in 2011. World leaders, inter-governmental process admire WWF-ICNW's "holistic Model of UN SDG's".

Today turning the pillars of history, we have announced the first ever International Network of Women in Cooperatives convened by an iconic grassroots mass movement (to fight the pandemic together).

80. Sulabh International

Stop not till the Goal is Reached

COVID-19 pandemic has impacted almost every life around the globe in one way or the other. The world has witnessed unprecedented times and the Governments, businesses and civil society organizations have been struggling to stay afloat. However, the impact, has been more severe on Sulabh International Social Service Organisation as its role became paramount in combating the Coronavirus and its devastating impact on the most vulnerable sections of Society. Therefore, in pursuance of SGD 6 and in order to minimize and contain the damage, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation was compelled to redesign its projects and activities to effectively respond to the rapidly changing scenario. While keeping in view the main objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the focus was placed on providing immediate help to the most vulnerable population and to assist and compliment the programmes of the Government by way of active participation.

During the crisis, Sulabh International Social Service Organisation did run sustained health and hygiene public campaigns to raise awareness about COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provided critical WASH and housekeeping services in COVID-19 hospitals/centers/wards.

It is pertinent to make a mention of some of the efforts made by Sulabh International towards mitigation of the Novel Coronavirus, by associating itself with the initiatives and programmes of the Government. Sulabh International, having pan India presence, has been rendering its sanitation & hygiene services for the last 52 years in different parts of the country. Based on its experience, reputation and reliability, Sulabh was recognized by UN-Habitat, as their official COVID-19 campaign partner. Despite implementation constraints and financial limitations, Sulabh International was able to inspire its volunteers to work in the larger interest of humanity, in the most critical phase of the crisis, even though their own lives were at a great risk.

In Delhi, sanitation & hygiene services were provided at the major Government & Non-Government Hospitals, Quarantine Centres and Isolation Wards. Sulabh International provided masks, gloves, body apron, etc. to volunteers, necessary for their own protection. With motivation and dedication, they worked round-the-clock, doing frequent deep cleaning and sanitizing every inch of the hospital to keep the virus away. In addition, Sulabh actively provided its services at the Isolation Center of Kolkata Port Trust, Kolkata, and Covid Centers in Odisha, Jammu, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab States of India. Apart from services at hospitals, Sulabh was engaged in the disinfection of several residential colonies, housing the most vulnerable sections of society.

The sanitation personnel, deployed by Sulabh at various hospitals, not only provided sanitation facilities but they also handled bio-medical waste, contagious items and helped hospital authorities in their Covid isolation wards, mortuaries, etc. The volunteers were under high risk of being infected as some of the work that the volunteers undertook in various hospitals, did not strictly fall under the purview of their area of work. Notwithstanding, they did the work, rising to the occasion, understanding the pressing need of the hour.

Sulabh also joined hands with the Government of India in providing free dry ration to the unorganized labour force residing in the slums of Delhi, whose livelihoods were

hit hard because of the lockdown measures to contain Covid-19 pandemic. Sulabh contributed raw ration to help keep the most vulnerable population afloat. Sulabh International has trained thousands of women as seamstress under its skill development programmes. These women helped in meeting the ever growing demand of masks to be distributed across the country.

There is no denying the fact that the impact of the COVID-19 has been crippling on the smooth functioning of Sulabh International, yet its perseverance and unquenchable faith in righteousness of its aims and objectives, lent it the moral strength to meet these daunting challenges, employing innovative and creative ideas. There have indeed been set backs to our collective ambitions to achieve the SDGs but Sulabh International, after the worst phase of the crisis was over, has been working with renewed vigor and resolve to achieve the goal, by resuming all its activities. On its Foundation Day on March 5, 2022, a Seminar was organized on the theme of Sociology of Sanitation: Introspection and Retrospection. The Seminar was attended by senior professors from prestigious Universities and institutions, from across the country. The seminar effectively underpinned the importance of clean water and sanitation in achieving meaningful and sustainable human development.

In pursuance of SDG 10, on the occasion of its Foundation Day on March 5, 2022 a function was held which was attended by about 100 erstwhile human scavengers, who were liberated by Sulabh International's Founder, Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak. The group was led by Mrs. Usha Chaumar, a liberated scavenger, who has been awarded the prestigious "Padma Shri", one of the highest civilian awards, for her contribution to the Founder's Sulabh movement, to make India human scavenger free, thereby restoring their dignity and human rights, culminating into reducing the inequalities in the society. During the interactions and discussions, emphasis was placed on strategies and innovative ideas that could take the movement forward, through education and awareness. Sulabh International can take pride of the fact that Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi, in his congratulatory message to Dr. Bindeshwar Pathak lauded the efforts of Sulabh International in the field of sanitation and in serving various segments of society, particularly the poor and the marginalized. It is only due to the efforts of Sulabh International that the towns of Alwar and Tonk in Rajasthan are completely human scavenging free and initiatives and efforts are afoot in several other towns as well. Sulabh was awarded Gandhi Peace Prize for 2016, in recognition of its efforts to reduce inequalities in the society.

After the COVID-19 crisis, Sulabh International has made tremendous efforts to resume its activities in all aspects of its areas of work. The facilities at the campus are being regularly visited by large groups from schools, vocational training schools, nursing institutes and hospitals, etc. which underpin the importance of the movement which Sulabh International is leading. Further, such visits help spread the message and create awareness, which is so vital to accelerate the momentum after a lull witnessed during the pandemic.

It's Founder, with a sense of urgency, is regularly meeting Union Ministers and senior officials in the concerned ministries and soliciting their support and seeking their cooperation in the fields of clean water, sanitation, environment and social reforms. Sulabh International now hopes that the worst is over and looks forward to gaining much needed momentum in all spheres of its work.

Sulabh's mission and vision is to empower citizens by giving them access to clean drinking water, clean sanitation facilities and promoting menstrual hygiene and social reforms. Sulabh strongly believes that securing equitable access to clean water, sanitation coupled with safe disposal of solid and liquid waste is critical in promoting good health and hygiene of all, and is imperative in achieving other vital SDGs. Sulabh with all its partners intends to work on a three-part environmental transition—brown (water, sanitation and environmental health), grey (air and water pollution) and green (climate change). It is already supporting participatory and bottom up adaptive solutions in the state of West Bengal to respond to local water contamination and climate risks. Strengthening WASH infrastructure and services will enhance the dignity and human rights of all citizens, especially the poor and the vulnerable sections of society.

In line with the above objectives, Sulabh engages at the policy level discussions in its capacity as the national coordinator of WASH sub-group constituted by the Government of India. Sulabh has been advocating and piloting successful livelihood programmes and working with various stakeholders. Building on organization's national network, Sulabh International will endeavor to establish linkages with all the schemes and entitlements of social protection and supporting marginalized sections of society affected by the pandemic. Alongside, Sulabh is continuously working in association with all stakeholders including state governments in India. Its multipronged approach is about giving voice and agency to the voiceless, vulnerable and marginalized populations.

There is a demand to skill up people in the sanitation sector. As a sector that is in the heart of the Sustainable Development Goals, sanitation requires a range of skills from civil and water engineers, masons, planners and communication specialists to the grass root workers (SDG 8). Sulabh as a major sanitation implementing agency, has trained thousands of workers in each district in India and overseas in skills related to sanitation and thus played a pivotal role in the skilling process of workers engaged in the sanitation sector during the last 52 years. Sulabh also puts thrust in procuring locally resourced materials and employs local masons and engineers. It trains them in the process of implementing its projects. The organisation has built more than 1.6 million household toilets and over 10000 public toilets. Sulabh is increasingly looking at strengthening skills across the sanitation verticals.

The genesis of the Sulabh movement has been to reduce inequalities of gender and caste. Since 1970, the organisation under the leadership of its founder, Dr Bindeshwar Pathak, used toilet as tool for social cohesion, reconstruction and transformation addressing inequalities. Sulabh has worked for the dignity and human rights of manual scavengers, who clean dry latrines, come from the lowest stratum of India's caste-based system and are mostly women because their men are engaged in cleaning roads, streets and drains. Sulabh's actions aimed at rehabilitating manual scavengers, restoring their dignity by providing alternative employment presents an inspiring example of promoting peace, tolerance and women's economic empowerment.

Sulabh hopes that the worst phase of COVID-19 is now over but certain amount of uncertainty still lurks, as the variants of the virus keep resurfacing. Sulabh has made its assessment of the challenges that the marginalized communities are likely to face. Sulabh is putting together all its available resources and if need be, it will readjust its implementation strategies to successfully face such challenges. In pursuance of SDG 10, Sulabh will endeavor to address the issue of inequalities in the society and in pursuance of SDG 6, Sulabh will continue its concerted efforts to provide clean water and sanitation facilities, especially to the marginalized communities.

81. Paz y Cooperacion

Performing solutions for addressing one of the most sever socioecological problems in the world: desertification.

According to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), desertification is “land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas, resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities”. It is a major environmental and socio-economic problem, potentially covering 41% of the earth's surface, home to more than 2.5 billion people, including some of the poorest countries. Moreover, the perspectives are not promising as climate change is exacerbating these climatic variations and expanding the drylands. On the other hand, populations in drylands are projected to increase to 4 billion in 2050, adding further pressure on scarce and often depleted resources.

We cannot say that the fight against desertification has been successful so far. There are several reasons for the ineffectiveness of the National Action Plans and the loss of prominence of the UNCCD in comparison to its sister conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change. The colonial origin of the concept has made desertification an ambiguous phenomenon, to the extent that the latest world atlas refuses to map it. Indeed, land degradation means too many things, some of them contradictory. Furthermore, the conflicting interests of UNCCD members interpreted as simultaneously developmental and environmentalist and the detachment from science over long periods have prevented effective solutions from being implemented. Thus, for example, the equivalence between desertification and the advance of the desert has encouraged the establishment of green barriers to halt it, which is innocuous for combating a problem linked to poor land management.

However, Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), conceived by the UNCCD as a global solution and embedded in SDG 15.3, can re-energize the Convention and lay the foundations for successfully tackling land degradation. The LDN expects that foreseeable degradation of a territory because of developmental policies -focused on SDGs such as 1, 2, and 3- is offset by land regeneration measures. Although ecological restoration is part of the solutions offered, priority is assigned to preventive actions. These rely on land planning and sustainable land management practices, which promote the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of resources.

LDN is the leading strategy to combat desertification, but achieving other SDGs also means dealing with this challenge. For example, narrowing the gender gap (SDG 5) is essential for LDN to be feasible. On the other hand, empowering women through access to education (SDG 4) translates into higher incorporation into the workforce and greater control over reproductive health. Breaking patriarchal patterns implies decisions towards less fertility and reduced inequality and poverty. There are other SDGs involved in the fight against desertification, such as drought preparedness (SDG 6) or the previously mentioned 1, 2, and 3. Enhancing synergies between all of them will safeguard the socio-economic and environmental future of the drylands.

82. Conoscenza e Innovazione - Scuola di sociologia e di ricerca interdisciplinare

The current global health crisis is more than a health crisis; it is a human, economic and social crisis, attacking people, societies and economies at their core. After several waves of COVID-19, how to work toward socially, economically and environmentally sustainable and inclusive recoveries becomes pressing, also because it is yet unclear how the pandemic is leading to long-term differential outcomes for different groups of people.

National policy responses have been introduced in multiple policy domains to slow infections and prevent deaths. This has profoundly changed lives, with physical and social distancing, quarantining and self-isolation. It has radically shifted how society is organised, with increased working from home, home-schooling and intensification of online presence, all with their own specific (un)intended consequences. It has also meant furloughing and job losses, with associated economic hardship and mental health issues, delayed ordinary health treatments, and the loss of life.

For many, in particular for already vulnerable groups, the outbreak and its policy responses have meant increased risks and inequalities, such as increased exposure to domestic violence; unavailable personal assistance; hate speech against minorities; increased xenophobia and racism; bio essentialism; and the wrongful dismissal of people with caring responsibilities.

Some European governments have entered bilateral agreements to lift travel bans to allow certain workers (nurses, crop gatherers) to make up for labour shortages, putting these workers from economically disadvantaged countries at greater risk and stretching further often under-resourced health services in poorer countries.

These developments and impacts, like those of other crises, are gendered and related to sex, age, disability, ethnicity/race, migration status, religion, social class, and the intersections between these inequalities. They are also uneven and unequal, disproportional in their consequences for different groups, with uncertain long-term impacts. Women have been disproportionately affected by COVID-19 impacts; as front-line workers, and as formal or informal caregivers in society.

This is a time of great change and challenges, but also a time of opportunity to be ambitious and design innovative solutions to respond to the outbreak through co-created and inclusive strategies that address old and new, durable and temporary, inequality patterns in and across policy domains. This requires research that informs responses designed through inclusive innovation and experimentation, leveraging the skills and knowledge of the many, including through new technologies.

While medical and biological sciences have been at the forefront, the role of social sciences in building back better from the coronavirus disease is likewise crucial, but not always as acknowledged. One challenge is that results need to be made available at high speed, to be able to timely support evidence-based policy-making.

The Resistiré project (resistire-project.eu) was launched by the European Commission in 2021 to meet this challenge and is providing policymakers with the needed information on the effects of the pandemic on vulnerable groups. Highly interdisciplinary and organised in short cycles, the project publishes – every six months – up-to-date research reports, policy recommendations, and pilot action concepts to foster a fairer social recovery, along with a continuously updated social research agenda on the topic.

83. Foundation for the Social Promotion of Culture (Fundacion Promocion Social de la Cultura)

According to “A UN framework for the immediate socio-economic response to COVID-19” (April 2020), the crisis caused by the pandemic will engulf some of the world's poorest and most disadvantaged populations into a context of scarce public resources, weak public health systems and inadequate social protection. Preserving access to food for rural and urban populations that are already undernourished and physically less robust is an essential part of the health response. The same document stresses that “Food production, and related informal and formal labor, transportation, and marketing services are principal sources of income and livelihoods for more than two-thirds of the populations in the least developed countries and several large middle-income countries. Even local disruptions to food systems can lead to political crises with lasting repercussions”.

The mission of the Social Promotion Foundation is to guarantee that all people live according to human dignity and enable people to take over their lives and become the producers of their own development. To this end, since 1987 it has been working to promote a sustainable human, social and economic development through its programmes and projects implemented in all the major geographical regions of the world. In the last two years, we have been able to see the effects that the pandemic has had and still is having on the most vulnerable populations in the countries where we work in Latin America, Asia and Africa. As a result, and in response to the demands of the local organisations we work with, the projects we are undertaking are primarily oriented towards the recovery of livelihoods, especially in rural environments with an agricultural economy, and with special attention to the most vulnerable groups, including women.

In this context, the Social Promotion Foundation has initiated a 3-year programme under the title “Strengthened the capacities of the Kakchiquel population in Joya Grande, Guatemala, which guarantees their access to food and the economic and sustainable promotion of their community”. This intervention is carried out in partnership with the Guatemalan organisation Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral and with co-financing from the Regional Government of Valencia (Generalitat Valenciana).

The joint analysis conducted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in April 2020 “Analysis and responses of Latin America and the Caribbean to the effects of COVID-19 on food systems” recognises how the spread of COVID-19 has deepened the vulnerability of small producers and agricultural workers, with the impact being particularly severe in countries with high levels of food insecurity. The record on the prevalence of food insecurity and undernutrition in Guatemala already posed a significant challenge to people's development before the pandemic: the country ranks first in the prevalence of chronic undernutrition in children under five, and sixth globally (United Nations Children’s Fund UNICEF, 2017). The fact that the people most affected are those belonging to the poorest segments underlines the importance of access to food. This reality is related to power imbalances in agriculture and food systems and emphasises the importance of “leaving no one behind”, respecting human rights and empowering the most vulnerable people.

In Guatemala, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the national government implemented a series of measures restricting interdepartmental movement at the beginning of the pandemic. At the community level, the Community Councils for Urban and Rural Development and auxiliary municipalities restricted access to several communities as a preventive measure. This led to serious shortages in access to basic social services, which led to the establishment of some emergency aid directly linked to the provision of food, such as the solidarity box (with food to feed a family for a month) or school feeding, with the provision of food aimed at supplementing the school breakfast provided in public schools during the time of the initial emergency period.

In a "reconstruction" process, as in the case of the above-mentioned programme, it is necessary to guarantee immediate needs in terms of food availability and access, income support related to food and agriculture, and ensure the continuity and/or rapid recovery of the supply chain of critical food (for the most vulnerable populations and areas) and those fundamental to food systems. In the short term, it is essential to reactivate markets as well as agricultural tasks that ensure sufficient food supplies without harming production in the following season.

With the objective of promoting the right to food of the Kakchiquel population of Joya Grande, with special attention to children and women, through the development of resilient, diversified and culturally sensitive agricultural and food systems, the intervention initiated in May 2022 aims to achieve the following results:

Improving food availability through agricultural production and crop diversity, with the aim of providing the population with a rich and varied diet. It addresses accessibility in terms of the possibility of acquiring food by improving economic income through the commercialisation of agricultural production. Women will have an active role in accessing economic resources, and a participatory and decisive role in income generation.

The promotion of behavioural changes at the nutritional level through the incorporation of food preparation practices that take advantage of their nutritional potential, the revaluation of local consumption patterns with high nutritional content (dissemination of knowledge on nutrition and dissemination activities on behavioural patterns, including awareness-raising on healthy diets and on the retention of nutrient content, cultivation of products that respect local consumption habits). Through health and nutrition training for households and nutritional assistance, the project will address the adequacy of household diets to their specific needs and encourage the development and appropriation of such food in their daily diet, in order to meet the needs of all members of the household.

The improvement of the population's capacity to manage its natural resources in an environmentally sustainable way: the use of organic fertiliser will enrich the soil, crop diversification will maintain its fertility, weed control will be based on the population's cultural methods and ethological control will be carried out to control pests.

Institutional strengthening of the different actors involved is key to achieving effective and participatory internal management, as well as greater knowledge of rights and responsibilities. It addresses the recommendation made in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Report to the Government of Guatemala to facilitate access to women's representation in decision-making processes related to land use.

The approach adopted in this intervention brings together a series of elements that we consider critical to contribute to the recovery of livelihoods that have been exposed by the health crisis and which has shown a cascade effect, threatening the economic, health and social spheres, especially in vulnerable populations in a rural environment and agricultural economy:

It is important to guarantee access to the right to food that also contributes to the improvement of the nutritional situation by applying a resilience approach, providing capacities to the beneficiary population, in order to strengthen adaptability: for example, by diversifying crops under the approach of sustainable agriculture adapted to climate and considering gender and multicultural considerations in all initiatives in order to reduce gender inequalities.

Work must be done to ensure the productive capacity of small-scale agriculture, access to food in local markets and continuity in food production and distribution chains, which will have a positive impact on the fight against hunger and child malnutrition. Strengthening democratic governance, both in terms of public institutions and civil society, is also key to sustainability. Particularly important is the protection of the human rights of the most vulnerable population, the protection of gender equality and children's rights, and the prevention of the increased risk of sexual and domestic violence which is heightened in situations of confinement.

84. Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society

Integrating Adaptation and Mitigation to Address the Climate Crisis and Achieve the SDGs

Our focus and concerns

Climate change is having serious impacts on health, food, safe drinking water, sanitation and decent work, and it will aggravate existing inequality, including gender inequality. To ensure that no one is left behind, we should strengthen policy, ambition, and action to promote both mitigation and adaptation measures. It is important to avoid the trade-offs and seek synergies between the implementation of climate change countermeasures and efforts to achieve the SDGs.

Our recommendations

1. Adaptation

The world is already experiencing extreme weather events, and it is necessary to strengthen policy, ambition, and action to promote adaptation measures. To do so, balancing mitigation and adaptation in climate finance should be achieved through accelerating both public and private finance for adaptation. Since the adverse impacts of climate change are more severe for marginalized people that lack finances, know-how and other resources, we therefore urge countries and international organizations to support measures to address impacts on the most vulnerable people (women, children, indigenous people and so on). Additionally, to monitor the global progress on adaptation, countries that have not yet done so should submit adaptation communications prior to COP27 and provide timely information for the global stocktake. From the perspective of conservation of natural ecosystems, nature-based solutions for adaptation are also important.

2. Mitigation

To limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, it is necessary to dramatically reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. For this, we should not forget other types and sources of emissions than energy-derived CO₂ since one-third of all greenhouse gas emissions are composed of methane, CO₂ from Forestry and Other Land Use, fluorocarbons, and so on. For example, countries and international organizations should contribute to implementation of “Global Methane Pledge” and “Glasgow Leaders’ Declaration on Forests and Land Use” declared at COP26. Furthermore, in the transition to a decarbonized society, we should ensure a just transition through concrete efforts such as reskilling and career design support.

3. Gender and climate change

From the perspective of gender equality, it is necessary to promote the mainstreaming of gender into climate change and energy-related policies and measures of each country and promote fair and meaningful participation by diverse stakeholders, including women, in planning and implementation processes for climate and energy-related policies and measures. Women and girls often suffer unequally from the effects of climate change due to factors such as gender-based role divisions and cultural and social norms. They are likely to face significant risks from the effects of climate change in emergencies such as disasters, war, conflict and political instability.

85. International Association of Justice Watch

Thank you for this opportunity you provided for the International Association of Justice Watch. We would like to highlight that COVID-19 pandemic was not only a disaster for the health section, but, it has destroyed a variety of our constructed bridges to future such as the evolving education and economic empowerment, in particular for girls and women.

Reductions in income and shattering of manufacturing industries are some other consequences of the pandemic in different countries. It is not likely to disappear in a near future as it requires our collective commitment not to let anyone left behind from the sustainable development.

Double standards on human rights and politicization of financial market in terms of sanctions has been two vices which has made the sufferings even worse for countries such as Iran, Syria, Venezuela and Yemen. In the eyes of Iranians, the unfair, illegal and illegitimate UCMs is a flagrant sort of terrorism to restrict nations from vaccines and medical appliances during the pandemic.

The mentioned challenges are serious and require a global commitment to be addressed. However, lessons learnt during the pandemics pushed for much investment in infrastructure and engaging the youth in decision-making positions. The science parks, whose number has increased to 19% since 2013, became the hubs for research on biotechnology and stem cells, making diagnostic kits, developing ventilators and vaccine R&Ds. Regarding the fact that 30% of university professors are women and they also make up about 40% of medical doctors (MDs), one may imagine their big share in such projects.

Digital transformation during the pandemics would continue to have a great impact on the overall economic development, and women's entrepreneurship. Women-founded virtual start-ups have multiplied in this period of time in Iran as the Vice President for Science and Technology in cooperation with the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology have developed the virtual marketplaces based on 63 start-ups and 10 community engagement facilitators. Nevertheless, the development of women's virtual business stands as a national priority and the 'National Plan of ICT Priorities for Women's Empowerment' is being currently prepared in an intersectional working group for reducing the digital gender gap.

Iranians' response to this pandemic encompasses the civil society activation, in terms of awareness campaigns and voluntary medical services even in remote areas, along with the policy improvements such as safeguarding the most vulnerable populations to human rights violations. The latter has significant examples such as protecting children from violence through ratification of the Bill on Protecting Minors and Adolescents, activation of the "123" hotline, and the establishment of 17 Specialized Clinics for Children's Rights across the country for further necessary consultations.

To wrap up, to build back better, a global solidarity is expected to deconstruct the oppressive structures of power as an obstacle against the inclusive and comprehensive sustainable development.

86. Northern Ireland Women's European Platform

Northern Ireland Women's European Platform welcomes the focus on SDG5 and Covid-19 recovery at the 2022 High Level Political Segment. There is a crucial opportunity to speed up progress on delivery of all SDGs by making the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development the cornerstone of Covid-19 recovery across the globe. Northern Ireland Women's European Platform would urge for specific priority to be given to SDG5 gender equality, considering the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on women and girls worldwide. Increased attention should be put on data collection and financing.

While some countries in the global North, including the United Kingdom where this organisation is based, are easing Covid-19 restrictions, the pandemic remains rampant across populations, and continues to deepen economic and social inequalities. In the global North, women and girls are facing increasing challenges in the labour market, as women's care burden remains constant, while access to childcare, adult social care and additional support has reduced and workplace flexibility in many places removed. The health impacts of Covid-19, including both long Covid and growing levels of ill health due to delays to care, further exacerbate the care burden, while the mental health impacts affecting women directly are only beginning to fully emerge.

In the global South, women are deeply affected through loss of livelihoods exacerbating poverty and increasing the risk of violence. Many girls face lifelong disadvantage as they have been forced to leave education and, in many cases, experienced forced early marriage, as well as trafficking and exploitation arising from harmful gender norms and families' acute destitution. The number of widows has increased dramatically, and widows are at risk of destitution, in addition to discrimination, violence and exclusion, even with the recent resolution on widows' rights.

The SDGs provide a clear framework for equitable Covid-19 recovery, in particular by interlinking SDGs in a way that allows gender equality to be put at the heart of all initiatives. However, to date action on SDG5 has been insufficient and ineffective. Clear political and civil leadership from the UN and UN Member States is required to drive change, and Northern Ireland Women's European Platform is urging for this to be prioritised within the High-Level Political Segment. Core elements should be gender responsive climate finance, meaningful inclusion of women in decision making at all levels and improved, gender disaggregated data collection to underpin decision making.

The UN can leverage international collaboration and aid systems. UN Member States, meanwhile, should be mandated to provide annual progress reports on the SDGs, with specific analysis of impacts on equality and marginalised groups; mandating reporting on SDG5 with the indicators provided is a mechanism for achieving this. The framework is there, now commitment to action is required.

87. The Association of Citizens Civil Rights Protection “Manshour-e Parseh”

Education basis of environmental protection, peace, sustainable development

Rapid progress in recent decades in the social, political and economic fields has led to the growth and enlargement of governments, to the extent that these developments have confused governments in performing all tasks in a centralized and bureaucratic manner. There is a deviation from the drug. With the declining power of governments, these organizations have weighed heavily on the scales of power to the general public, so that in some countries these organizations can influence macro-level policies and they want to decide on social will.

NGOs are among the most important social infrastructure to create and continue the sustainable development process in each community. Therefore, they can play a major role in educating high quality and affecting citizens in the areas of environmental protection, maintaining peace and sustainable development for everyone.

Because nongovernmental organizations make up one of the main elements of national and international civil society.

NGOS participation in two general ways, in the formation and implementation of international norms, can be realized. These organizations are important in facilitating the proper hospitalization for the formation and international and international authority for wadding. NGOS is usually the main advocate of global values, such as peace, humanitarian rights and the environment, and can be another voice other than the traditional voice of governments and international organizations in the international law that is heard.

The vital role of women's impact groups and nongovernmental organizations has not been paid much attention, because the cooperation and participation of these groups requires the provision of infrastructure of proper cultural website in this regard. NGOS plays an essential role in realizing the environmental education approach, and in this reason, NGOs have a major role in the 21st in order. Many women in two urban and rural levels can have different functions in the field of education and change and reform the pattern of consumption. Generalization of women is more crystallized in the family environment, because they are like teachers, which can well institutional education in children.

The success of these organizations depends on the interaction and cooperation of the state sector of the countries, and in the event of a recent cooperation and empathy, it can be expected that rapid and effective advances in environmental protection and its training occur. Of course, cooperation and support for international institutions can also be NGOS susceptible to developing countries through the use of various ways such as providing counselling, training methods of promoting in various sectors, including environmental, agriculture, educational health issues, and create a necessary hospitalization for programs and facilitate their implementation. It is effective and helpful. With the development of civil institutions, especially non-governmental organizations in the international system, we see the emergence of international civil society and the emergence of a kind of pluralism in international law.

88. International Health Awareness Network

The International Health Awareness Network (IHAN), calls on member states to address the issue of climate change and its impact on the health of women and girls in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. IHAN emphasises the importance of educating, empowering and providing accessible healthcare to women and children, with a focus on underserved socioeconomic groups.

The global health system has been increasingly burdened over the last 5 years, with climate change-related health impacts and COVID-19 overwhelming an already stretched system. Weaknesses in global health systems have been exposed, with women suffering the worst of these consequences, especially concerning Sustainable Development Goals 3: *Good Health and Wellbeing*; 4: *Quality Education*; 5: *Gender Equality*; 13: *Climate Action*; and 15: *Life on Land*. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has also highlighted the potential for technology and innovation to fast-track global health solutions, presenting a unique opportunity to address the world's most time-sensitive issue: climate change.

Women and children's access to healthcare has been severely affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap 2021 Report estimates a step-back of 39 years due to the pandemic. Nearly 4 out of 5 frontline healthcare workers were women, increasing their exposure to the COVID-19 virus, grief, long hours of work and separation from family. Gender inequality contributed to poorer health outcomes and increased mental stress for women, who were also more likely to manage increased schooling, childcare and household duties, even in dual-earning relationships.

Additionally, the UN Population Fund highlighted that in 115 low- and middle-income countries, disruption in women's access to family planning services resulted in an estimated 7 million unintended pregnancies during the COVID-19 pandemic, of which the burden of care often falls to women. Disruption in maternal and neonatal health services led to suboptimal healthcare for mothers and babies, further compounding this issue. While the investment and promotion of girls' education has significantly improved health outcomes in recent decades, UNESCO estimates that approximately 11 million girls may not return to school following disruptions due to COVID-19. According to The World Bank, educated women are better informed about nutrition and healthcare, have fewer children, marry at a later age, and have healthier children and families. Thus, prolonged disruptions to education during the COVID-19 pandemic has direct impacts upon global health outcomes.

These health inequalities fall against the looming backdrop of climate change, which has seen increases in malnutrition, disease exposure, mental illness, reproductive issues and decreased resource access for women. Overwhelming evidence highlights higher rates of disease, mortality, morbidity and food insecurity for women compared to men, following extreme weather events. In addition, women are more affected by temperature extremes, and at increased risk of poor maternal health, hypertension and heat exhaustion as a result of climate change. These health challenges affect women at higher rates in comparison to their male counterparts.

Climate change has aggravated environmental hazards by extending risk seasons, broadening geographic distribution of vectors, accelerating biting rates and hastening parasite maturation; thus increasing the risk of vector-borne diseases causing severe infection, especially for women in poverty responsible for agricultural and water-collecting work. Pregnant women are particularly vulnerable, with increased risk of nutritional deficiencies due to climate-driven food insecurities, leading to worsening maternal-foetal outcomes and potential lifelong impacts for children's development.

Sustainable Development Goal 5 identifies the discrepancy in economic and workers' rights between men and women. Internationally, women face economic and social barriers which are exaggerated by the environmental shifts driven by climate change. In developing countries, two thirds of the female labour force is engaged in agricultural work. Increases in unpredictable weather events producing periods of drought and erratic rainfall put additional pressure on women obtaining necessary crops to sustain their livelihood. Consequently, women spend more time retrieving biomass fuels, reducing the time they can commit to education, further perpetuating economic disadvantage, and hindering advances in Sustainable Development Goals 4 and 5, and reducing time available to access essential services, such as health. Simultaneous rises in the cost of food in times of drought and flood limit women's nutrition, negatively impacting health and livelihood.

Climate change has also exacerbated previous concerns for safety of women and children, with increased rates of gender-based violence in post-disaster contexts. For example, instances of sexual violence following the 2010 Haitian earthquakes increased considerably, as did incidences of intimate-partner violence following the 2011 Christchurch earthquake in New Zealand. A systematic review published in *BMJ Global Health* suggested that the rise in gender-based violence in post-disaster contexts was attributed to increased stressors and high-risk environments that precede gendered violence, as well as an exacerbation of underlying drivers. Women living in poverty are particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence, including transgender women who experience poverty at a rate more than double the general population in the US.

A similar pattern has been observed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with gender-based violence surging during state-imposed lockdowns globally. One review published in the *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry* suggested that public health protocols requiring families to stay at home increased the invisibility of family violence, escalated relationship tensions, and reduced opportunities for women to flee coercive control. Furthermore, feelings of powerlessness, inadequacy and lack of control for men, particularly in the context of patriarchal social systems, contributed to an increased risk of violence against women and children.

Awareness of the impact of human disasters on the health and safety of women and children is imperative in reducing rates of gender-based violence. Sustainable Development Goal 5 recognises the need to reduce violence experienced by women, and this ought to be considered in acute post-disaster settings, including during disease outbreaks such as COVID-19 and climate-driven disasters, which are set to increase if we do not act fast.

Evidence shows that women can be powerful agents of change but too often they are excluded from opportunities to influence policy, planning and decision-making which affects them. Including women in these forums provides an essential opportunity to

ensure that climate change mitigations, responses and service adaptations meet the needs of a population significantly and directly affected. Not only will this improve outcomes for women, but also for children and families, advancing global health and working towards Sustainable Development Goal 3: *Good Health and Wellbeing*.

Investing in health services can help drive progress across the Sustainable Development Goals, by contributing to poverty reduction, improvements in nutritional outcomes, access to education, improved gender equality and social inclusion. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have a unique opportunity to review and refine our priorities and approaches to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. Investing in sustainable and climate-resilient healthcare, including use of renewable energy and waste reduction policies and including women as key leaders and policymakers will contribute directly to Goal 5: *Gender Equality*; Goal 13: *Climate Action*; and Goal 15: *Life on Land*.

Considering the above evidence, the International Health Awareness Network calls on member states to:

Regard women as leaders and changemakers

Empower women as global health and climate actors

Encourage grassroots change by amplifying voices of female changemakers on an international scale

Invest in programs to promote female leadership on climate and health action

Strengthen services

Invest in healthcare for women in remote and disaster-prone areas, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic which has seen reduction in access to health services

Adopt community-based disaster response approaches that include women in disaster preparedness and emergency management

Ensure access to reproductive health services during climate-driven and disease-related disaster periods

Prioritise supplies and technology

Promote distance learning and medical programs to meet marginalised needs of women and girls

Increase rapid access to infectious disease prophylaxis, COVID-19 vaccinations, maternal health supplementation and PPE for toxic biomass exposure for women

Invest in medical technology to address rising rates of vector-borne diseases

Include women in national and global policy frameworks

Ensure gender representation in decision-making and policy development around climate change and disaster management

Develop gender-sensitive disaster risk reduction policies and apply existing programs to address violence against women and children in disaster contexts

Hold world leaders accountable for supporting environmentally responsible policies that mitigate the health-related harms of climate change on women and girls.

89. World Youth Alliance

The World Youth Alliance is a global coalition of young people dedicated to promoting the dignity of the human person in policy and culture and committed to building solidarity between young people of developing and developed countries. The World Youth Alliance is passionate about promoting person-centered solutions to the world's problems and challenges, including how to build back better from COVID-19, while advancing the 2030 Agenda.

Considering the review of Sustainable Development Goal 4, the World Youth Alliance notes that a vital aspect of delivering quality education is currently missing: human dignity education. When people grasp the importance of their and others' human dignity—the intrinsic and equal value of every human being—at a young age, they strive to create conditions that enable everyone to thrive. Building these insights and resilient capabilities in children is an investment in human capital. This makes human dignity education a fundamental approach to fulfil the 2030 Agenda in a timely manner. To empower children to leave a positive mark on the world, the World Youth Alliance offers the Human Dignity Curriculum. This curriculum, a complement to standard instruction at schools for ages 4 to 18, installs in children a context for personal identity and worldview. It is rooted in understanding that our human dignity allows us to act in ways that respect and affirm it and that our freedom is an expression of acting in conformity with our human dignity.

The Human Dignity Curriculum inspires long-term goals, leads to excellent and healthy decision-making, and emphasizes that “action” follows “being.” Students cover topics such as the hierarchy of living beings, intentional actions, persons as subjects versus objects, friendship and heroes, human freedom, and human excellence. They learn about racism, slavery, human rights, modern challenges, and are introduced to heroes who fought against historical human rights abuses. The Human Dignity Curriculum teaches children to use their freedom and creativity to initiate positive change in their lives and communities.

It is impossible to face the lasting consequences of COVID-19 without awareness of common human goals and mutual respect centred in human dignity. In addition to fostering solidarity in caring for one another and our common home, the Human Dignity Curriculum and similar dignity education nurtures intergenerational solidarity to create communities that can sustain current and future generations.

The World Youth Alliance, in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 17, is prepared to work with member states to bring the Human Dignity Curriculum to schools around the globe. Thus, it will be possible to holistically achieve Sustainable Development Goal 4, while simultaneously caring for a world recovering from a global pandemic.

90. United Nations Association of Russia

The achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals is possible only with the compliance of the principle “Leave no one behind”. Thus, we call for all the states, representatives of businesses, civil society and academia to work closely on Agenda-2030.

We express our concern that in recent months Russia, while being one of the biggest influencers and supporters of the SDGs, was excluded from the sustainable activities in many fields. It happened not by its own decision, but by the actions of others. For example, Russian participation in the UNECE’s II Forum of Mayors was voted out by other state members of the Commission. At the same time, Russia expressed its strong will to participate and contribute to the Agenda of these Forums.

The hard work on sustainability that has been going on in Russia is worth attention. Its exclusion from the international platforms contradicts the basic principle of LNOB of the Agenda-2030 and will negatively affect the achievement of SDGs all around the globe. Moreover, sustainable strategies, projects and activities which take place in Russian regions can be a useful contribution to building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and a subject for establishing new cooperation in promoting sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the current statement, the UN Association of Russia would like to share some sustainable practices of the Russian regions, participants of our Program “Russian Regions and the UN SDGs”. The project has been underway since 2009 with support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the UN Information Center in Moscow. Within the program implementation, we consult the regions and its cities on the development of the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs). The reports are available at our website in English and Russian (<https://una.ru>). 16 regions have been participating in the Program, the latest are Moscow, the Republic of Tatarstan, the Sverdlovsk and Samara regions.

Moscow

In 2022 Moscow ranked first in the world in terms of urban infrastructure development and quality of life in the Urban Prosperity Index (rating) published by the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat).

In the Infrastructure Development category, the TOP-3, in addition to Moscow, includes Hong Kong and Paris. Moscow has become an absolute leader in such components of the quality of the urban environment as access to electricity and clean water, sanitation, the availability of doctors, the possibility of using the Internet and the length of the transport network.

The leadership of Moscow was also ensured by strong positions in higher and secondary education, science, and museum business. Experts praised the low crime rate and the high quality of Moscow's public space.

The UN-Habitat’s index is universal as it is based on the idea of prosperity – a high quality of life and equal opportunities for all citizens in harmony with the natural environment.

Special work in Moscow is devoted to condition facilitation for businesses. Thus the Moscow Innovation Cluster creates an ecosystem of products and services, as well as the conditions necessary for the effective development of innovations and new projects. The i.moscow platform allows organizations to solve both basic and strategic goals and objectives of organizations of all types and sizes.

In recent months several support measures and new programs have been introduced in Moscow to reduce the economic damage from the imposed restrictions. Such measures are aimed to save jobs, help people in difficult situations, save businesses and create conditions for import substitution.

The Republic of Tatarstan

The main aspects of the Development Strategy of the Republic of Tatarstan until 2030 are healthcare, sports, ecology, landscaping, accessibility of transport and housing. President of the Republic of Tatarstan Rustam Minnikhanov pays special attention to the sustainable development of the region, in particular the balanced development of the cluster and green economy.

Since March 2020, a set of measures aimed at ensuring the sanitary and epidemiological well-being of the population has been implemented throughout the Republic of Tatarstan. One of the main measures in terms of ensuring the sustainable development of the region's economy in the face of a deteriorating situation was the support of the population and the provision of essential goods. The implementation of protective measures continued in 2021. The well-being of the population is a priority for the government of the republic, the results of the year of the pandemic in Tatarstan are invaluable experience and one of the best practices among the regions of Russia.

Tatarstan is one of the leaders in terms of the amount of support received by entrepreneurs. In 2021, 1,163 entrepreneurs from the republic received soft loans. Tatarstan business representatives received support in the amount of more than 4.3 billion rubles.

Tatarstan has also become the first region in the world to apply the Earth Charter, an international declaration of fundamental principles and values for creating a just, sustainable and peaceful global society in the 21st century.

Every year, such environmental events as “Day without a car” and “Earth Hour” are held in the republic. Twice a year, the Government in full force, together with the inhabitants of the republic, plant trees as part of the “Forest Planting Day” campaign. There are natural areas, nature reserves, national parks, specialized state and private nurseries in Tatarstan, which allow the implementation of programs for the improvement and landscaping of the territory.

In addition, the concept of a green environment has been implemented in the cities of Tatarstan. In total, there are 50 programs in the republic aimed at improving the quality of life of the population. Such programs find a positive response among Tatarstan residents.

The Investment Development Agency of the Republic of Tatarstan also carefully monitors the topic of "green" bonds. In particular, the experience of KAMAZ PJSC, which is currently the only enterprise in Tatarstan that has issued "green" bonds, has been studied. The volume of placement amounted to 2 billion rubles. Aggregate demand

exceeded the final volume of output three times. Funds from the placement of "green" bonds of KAMAZ are used to finance the production of an environmentally friendly mode of transport – electric buses. As a result of replacing diesel buses with 60 electric buses, CO2 emissions has been reduced by at least 3.6 thousand tons per year.

The Sverdlovsk Region

The Sverdlovsk region has been actively working with the organizations of the UN system to achieve the Agenda-2030 at the regional level. The regional government annually monitors the implementation of all the SDGs. The reviewing process has been done based on the the tasks within the SDGs, national documents and standards, for example, the National Standard "Sustainable development of the community. Indicators of urban services and quality of life." The priority cooperation is with UNESCO, UNIDO, UN Women, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, UN-Habitat, UNEP.

In the Sverdlovsk Region special attention has been also devoted to the rehabilitation process for the patients with the COVID-19. Additional budget is allocated for the creation of health schools and recreation zones.

Special attention in the Region is devoted to the interethnic and interfaith peace. More than 160 nationalities live in the Sverdlovsk Region.

More than 6,500,000 non-profit organizations operate on the territory of the Sverdlovsk Region, of which: more than 3,000 public associations (including more than 60 regional branches of political parties, 22 national-cultural autonomies), more than 750 religious organizations and about 3,000 other NGOs.

In the Sverdlovsk region, there is the oldest institution in Russia of the Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman). The Ombudsman actively cooperates with the UN structures. Three universities successfully operate in the region, which are members of the consortium on human rights in the Russian Federation with the support of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (Ural Federal University, Ural State Law University and the Humanitarian University).

The Samara Region

In the Samara region a comprehensive program of additional financial support for doctors was adopted. In record time, 3 infectious diseases hospitals were built in the Region in addition to its largest COVID hospitals.

An active vaccination campaign has been conducted in the region, bringing vaccination points as close as possible to the place of residence, work and study of citizens. As part of Russian national projects initiated by the President of Russia, over the past few years alone, 5 new clinics were built in the Samara Region.

Concession instruments have been actively used in the medical field. In this direction, the region is the best in Russia. Thus, the project to create the Center for Extracorporeal Hem correction and Clinical Transfusible was included in the list of the best world practices of public-private partnership of the UN Economic Commission for Europe's award.

We believe that the above presented sustainable practices of the Russian regions will contribute to the cooperation establishment and to the search of the best path to the achievement of the Agenda-2030.

We believe that the above presented practices will contribute to the cooperation establishment and to the search for the best path to the achievement of the Agenda-2030. Currently, we have been actively working on the further development of the Program “Russian Regions and the UN SDGs”, including holding the related seminars and the creation of the SDG-laboratories.

Additionally, we would like to highlight the project which UNA-Russia has been implementing with the Centre for Sustainable Development and ESG transformation MGIMO-University. We work on the creation of the SDGs Ranking of the Russian Regions. Within our work, we refer to the Guidelines for the Development of Voluntary Local Reviews in the UNECE region and the Collection Methodology for Key Performance Indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities. Once the Project is released the information will appear at our website.

In our turbulent time we, in the UN Association of Russia, see the importance of our continued work in sustainable development and would proceed the related activities building on existing and searching for new ways and approaches.

91. Joint Statement submitted by Soroptimist International and Associated Country Women of the World

Using Gender Equality and Education to Build Forward Better from COVID-19

This statement is presented by Soroptimist International and Associated Country Women of the World on behalf of their membership of over 9 million women in more than 125 countries.

For years, civil society organisations have reported the detrimental impacts of climate change, conflict and now COVID-19 on the lives of all women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination. We should not have to keep repeating ourselves to trigger the decisive, bold actions necessary to save people and the planet. To build forward better, we need multidimensional action which centres on gender equality and education. Human rights and gender equality cannot be an ‘add-on’ to achieving the SDGs: they must be the basis of all programmes and policies. Efforts taken to achieve gender equality and human rights will further the 2030 Agenda and ensure no one is left behind, providing dignity to individuals, communities, and states. A life-course approach to education and training is the key to transforming the lives of women and girls; programmes and policies should better harness this powerful approach to sustainable development.

While the phrase “the Goals are integrated and indivisible” has often been highlighted during the High-Level Political Forum, too frequently this is not reflected in policy and programmes. Every single policy issue directly impacts gender equality; the Goals must be seen holistically. Women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination are disadvantaged economically, socially, and politically. If gender equality is to be achieved by 2030, all laws and policies must be reviewed to ensure that women and girls have equal access to justice, financial resources, equal pay, equal employment opportunities (regardless if working in the informal or care economy), access to child care and healthcare including sexual and reproductive health. There is no such thing as a gender-neutral policy, law, or programme. To achieve gender equality all sustainable development efforts and pre-existing policies, laws, and programmes must adapt to promote the achievement of gender equality.

Together, gender equality and education make a powerful pairing. Life-long access to high-quality education and training, beginning with early childhood education, is transformative in developing leadership opportunities available for countries and people. Skills development, particularly for women and girls, can reduce unemployment, economic inequality, and poverty. However, supporting women’s equal involvement in the world of work must include measures to address the gender-division of labour, especially within the home. We cannot ask women to do more — they already shoulder the burden of unpaid labour, work in the informal economy, caring and household responsibilities. Improved universal social protection, including for women not working and for those working in the informal economy, is needed to address gender inequality. The labour gender-divide creates and contributes to the widening gender pay gap, perpetuating the multidimensional and intergenerational poverty of women and girls. The unpaid labour of women and girls props up entire economies and must be recognised.

Investments in education makes sound economic sense; for every US dollar spent on education, between ten to fifteen dollars can be generated in growth. A woman's level of education is one of the best predictors for her improved health, reduced maternal and child mortality, and improved economic conditions for her family. Education also helps combat climate change, promotes peaceful societies, and eradicates violence. Education empowers women and girls not only through knowledge and increased access to economic resources, it also enhances feelings of self-worth and human dignity.

To recover from COVID-19, it is vital that states re-focus on education. Despite significant investments in education, most women and girls are still left behind. We know that women and girls have missed out on education and training opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many will never return to education. From working with communities, we know that the realities of a lack of education. Rates of child, early, and forced marriage increase, and poverty rates increase, and a regressive shift to traditional gender roles and caring responsibilities falling upon the shoulders of women and girls returns. Without significant efforts to get women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination back to education and training, hard-won progress on sustainable development will be lost.

Too often, women and girls are only seen as recipients of education and training. However, women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, in particular rural and Indigenous women, are both among those most affected by climate change and those with knowledge of adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change and building resilience. They possess knowledge and experiences which make them agents of change and essential contributors to sustainable development. Women's and girls' leadership must therefore be used to find and develop solutions to climate change.

The inherited and traditional knowledge of Indigenous women can be leveraged to manage conservation and sustainability with an understanding of the critical need for preservation of biodiversity, as well as broader and more appropriate representation in decision-making processes. Women in rural, remote, and isolated communities play crucial roles in ensuring education, food, and clean water are provided for their families and the wider world, and it is vital to ensure their full, safe, and meaningful participation in social and political mechanisms.

Gender-based violence, while always prevalent, has made a resurgence during the COVID-19 pandemic to such a significant extent that it has been labelled a shadow epidemic. This violence committed against women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination is a violation of their human rights and must be dealt with, with the utmost urgency. The pandemic pushed many people to live their lives wholly within the home, and behind closed doors gender-based violence is quickly viewed as a 'private problem'. Gender-based violence cannot be considered a private problem, but a public problem created and facilitated by societal attitudes, permissive laws and policies, lack of access to justice and the subjugation of women and girls. To recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, states and sustainable development agencies must address the social impacts of the pandemic.

Recommendations

1. We recommend that states and sustainable development agencies take the following actions to achieve gender equality and ensure women's and girls' full participation in the 2030 Agenda:
2. Establish laws and policies, ensuring that they take a gender transformative approach and contribute to the achievement of gender equality. This must include addressing the policies which contribute to increased rates of poverty among women and girls and which sustain the economic gender gap. Issues of unequal pay, lack of equal employment opportunities, the pension gap, a lack of women and girls in positions of leadership or having a seat at the negotiating table along with a lack of political participation, and unequal access to education, justice and healthcare all contribute to women and girls in all their multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination experiencing gender inequality.
3. Increase investments in education and lifelong learning, and create specific, targeted programmes, including on digital technology, focused on getting women and girls back into education and training to build forward better from the COVID-19 pandemic. Specific attention must be paid to those at risk of being left behind, including rural and Indigenous women and girls, those living through conflict, refugees and internally displaced persons and women and girls in care and state institutions.
4. Develop and implement free or affordable training programmes which respond to climate change and the changing world of work.
5. Work with Indigenous women to ensure their leadership in gender-responsive action on climate change mitigation and sustainable land management.
6. Ensure that all women and girls affected by conflict or who are refugees or internally displaced have access to all levels of education and training, and provide support for those women to find safe and sustainable employment opportunities.
7. Take immediate action to create gender parity in all levels of leadership and decision making, including by creating gender quotas.
8. Ratify and remove all reservations to CEDAW and all ILO member states ratify ILO Convention 190 on the elimination of violence in the world of work.
9. Develop data sources and indicators on gender equality and sustainable development which should include both quantitative and qualitative sources of data.
10. Ensure women's and girls' full and equal participation in the justice system by recruiting and training women to work at all levels of justice systems. For women who have to participate in justice system processes, additional protections must be put in place to ensure witnesses can provide evidence safely, psycho-social support should be offered, and legal support provided to victims of gender-based violence.
11. Eradicate all forms of gender-based violence, both in conflict and in peacetime, by developing national action plans, using education as a tool to change social attitudes and share information on sources for support, and by strengthening laws and accountability processes.

92. Joint Statement submitted by Azad Foundation (India) and The Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE)

The Asia-Pacific region is now facing the economic impact of the crisis and the risk that progress will slow down even more in the coming years as environmental and social targets are compromised and there is a disproportionate exclusion of vulnerable groups including women, rural populations and poorer households which impacts the overall progress towards SDG's and the legacy of 'leaving no one behind'. UNESCAP SDG Report, 2022). It also reports that the unemployment rate (8.5.2) has increased in the Asia Pacific while the level of compliance with labour rights (8.8.2) has declined, which has further slowed progress on Goal 8 especially 8.5 on access to equal work opportunities.

Azad Foundation India's work with marginalised women enabling them to enter viable but male dominated non-traditional livelihoods like driving in the transport sector and delivery agents in the expanding e-commerce sector has revealed the inadequacy of the industry or market to help women enter and sustain themselves in decent livelihoods. The increasing footprint of the gig/ platform economy has opened opportunities for women but the inadequacy of infrastructure like access to e-vehicles, loan schemes to purchase e-vehicles (for resource poor who do not have collateral) or charging stations, clean and hygienic public washrooms pose hindrances for their long-term sustenance.

The Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) asserts that a sustainable and transformative recovery will rely on prioritising significant investments in building human capabilities and well-being, and on strengthening public institutions to deliver better quality services. It reiterates that education is a basic human right and a key component to achieving sustainable recovery from the global pandemic. Governments and development partners must invest in the long-term transformation of education systems based on the lessons learned and innovations emerging from this crisis.

Azad Foundation and ASPBAE express concern over the de-prioritisation of education in recovery plans initiated by most governments. Apart from COVID19-related funding and emergency social assistance, much of the stimulus packages have gone to the corporate sector, with less priority given to education and other essential social services. This type of stimulus will widen inequalities and leave people even more vulnerable to future emergencies.

Gender-just skills education and an ecosystem of support for marginalised women will ensure they remain in decent work. There is need to create adequate public infrastructure for connectivity, ensure access to digital devices and equitable, inclusive, and free public education and skills that translate into work opportunities. At work, there is need for adequate social security coverage, minimum pay guarantee and support to purchase e-vehicles for platform economies along with creation of gender-sensitive infrastructure like washrooms for women. Urgent actions are needed to address the burden of unpaid care work, gender-based violence, ensure access to day-care and elderly care homes to sustain participation in decent work with labour protection and right to equal pay, safety and health. Gender just skills education with ecosystem support for marginalised women is foundational to building a fairer and gender-just present and future.

93. Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization Inc

In support of the New Urban Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization organized a high-level conference that focused on the planning and design of cities in the Covid and post-Covid eras. A synopsis of critical comments follows. A full recording of this this program and a full publication of its content is available at the following link: <https://consortiumforsustainableurbanization.org/board-members/>

The UN publication “Cities and Pandemics: Towards a More Just, Green and Healthy Future” was cited as an available roadmap document. Big ideas include local and regional ecosystems and the need to intersect that with the New Urban Agenda as a critical blueprint.

Health Matters

Ninety percent of our children were out of school during the last year, a 100 year phenomena! This is not just a health crisis. People will flee cities but the cities have to be welcoming when they return. Coordinated health systems are critical.

Issues of inequality are critical as the highest density areas did much better than the other areas because of less crowding. Crowding, not density, is the problem. Crowding is not a choice. Lack of health insurance, obligations to use public transit, all such structural inequities have devastating effects. Crowding has a great effect on infection and mortality. City dwellers live 3.5 years longer. Misconceptions between density and crowding have deleterious effects if not corrected. It was noted that if we follow the science in 20 years we can rebalance and stabilize our environment.

Science Matters

We must consider a range of scales from industrial ecology, buildings, apartments, individuals, infrastructure, urban design, architecture, the household, and individuals themselves where “conditionality” means feeling safe, in control, and with aspiration. The pandemic illustrates the interconnectedness of things and how psychological well-being is related to both crowding and mobility. Adaptability, substitutability, buffers, and long-term strategies for housing and mobility and sustainability represent potentials for leapfrog technologies.

Science can inform policy but cannot make it. We need more science to develop risk management and the invisibility of many large issues

Government Matters

Good and accurate data for municipal economics, for arts and culture, and for health, is critical. Federal, provincial, and regional government collaboration is critical. Readjustments are necessary when moving from big to mid-size cities. Digital technology will play a critical role. Political ideologies must be set aside. SDGs need more active responses and inequity needs to be addressed.

A 10 Point program including building resilience, increasing public engagement and transparency, encouraging community participation, exploiting digital technologies through universal access was presented. More crisis management and strategies are needed to leave no one behind.

Critical points about COVID-19 included the asymmetrical response and the inequalities. The notion of trust was critical to the conversation. Moving into the future successfully necessitates working together as community and supporting the United Nations New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

94. Centre for Public Health

Centre for Public Health is currently working with fellow ECOSOC NGO, Sikh Human Rights Group (SHRG) an NGO with special consultative status, and other thirty-six (36) organizations spread in twenty-three (23) countries, with over three thousand (3,000) volunteers in setting up CPH Ten Million Voices Coalition in creating awareness and promoting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

SDG 1- No Poverty

It is a fact that the COVID-19 pandemic led to extreme poverty in the world, especially in the low- and middle-income countries. However, this is aggravated in women who are menstruating every month. The women in this group need a monthly supply of menstrual materials. which are very expensive. Most women can no longer afford menstrual materials such as menstrual pads and tampons because of high costs and poverty. Hence, CPH and members of the Ten Million Voices coalition believe that providing the pads to the women will further empower them and helps to alleviate extreme poverty.

SDG 3 – Good Health and Well Being

Menstruation is an integral part of the menstrual cycle, indicated by blood flow from the vagina for a few days every month if pregnancy didn't occur after the release of eggs during ovulation. These are components of women's reproductive processes. Inadequate menstrual management affects women's reproductive health, dignity, and mental state.

It is a fact that menstruation is a component of women's reproductive health. Then all the materials used to manage the menstruation, such as menstrual pads, tampons, menstrual cups, etc., should be classified as health products/medical devices.

The classification of the menstrual materials as women's health products will help to appreciate the importance of these materials that will impact their availability, accessibility, and affordability.

Unfortunately, most women across the country have no access to menstrual materials based on the reasons bothering availability, accessibility, and affordability.

SGD 5- Gender Equality:

The tax on menstrual materials (menstrual pads, tampons, Menstrual cups) is discriminatory and gender biased. Hence, we advocate and plead for the removal of all taxes on these materials.

SDG 17- Partnership for the Goals:

Centre for Public Health is working with 36 organizations, members of Ten Million Voices, and SHRG member of Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation to continue to actively engage the state and non-state actors in achieving a safe, affordable and dignified menstruation in the world.

Hence, we humbly advocate for the following: Classification of menstrual materials as health products/medical devices; Removal of taxes on menstrual materials such as menstrual pads, tampons, and menstrual cups; Inclusion of all the menstrual materials as essential health products to be made available to schools, airports, stadiums during sports events, and hotels.

95. Science of Spirituality, Inc.

Science of Spirituality is pleased to contribute its message to the HLPF 2022 theme, “Building Back Better from the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) while Advancing the Full Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.” Science of Spirituality (SOS) is a non-profit, non-denominational organization with over 3,000 centers worldwide, dedicated to peace, spirituality, and service to humanity under the guidance of Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, a spiritual leader internationally recognized for his work toward promoting inner and outer peace through meditation. SOS believes that it is of the utmost importance that we address the long-term impact of COVID-19 globally and across all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Pandemic has dramatically revealed the pre-existing, glaring, socio-economic inequities in education and the disproportionate impact of poor health outcomes in vulnerable communities and low-income countries. It has resulted in stalling the progress of SDGs that are all inextricably linked, especially Good Health and Wellbeing (SDG 3), Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Clean Water (SDG 6), and Peace (SDG 16). This underscores the necessity of achieving an inclusive recovery to further the progress of the 2030 Agenda.

As we focus on building a brighter future and advancing the SDGs, let us remember these crucial lessons from the Pandemic. *As a global society, we are interdependent. What one does affects all. We need to work cooperatively to solve critical issues.*

In addition, what we have experienced collectively in the past two years has inspired us to introspect and question our values, lifestyle, and purpose. Science of Spirituality has reached out internationally with free online meditation classes and webinars for stress reduction, healthy living, and personal transformation. Weekly *Global Meditation in Place* programs with Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj have been live-streamed every Sunday since 2020 helping people across the world develop compassion, peace, and find meaning in their lives through meditation.

The lessons from COVID 19 have provided the foundation for programs helping to "Build Back Better" in our communities. As an example of compassion in action, SOS has made ongoing donations to food pantries and nursing homes, organized food distribution, provided financial assistance to the needy, supported our first responders, partnered with local governments providing personal protective equipment, and collaborated with International Relief organizations.

In conclusion, sustainable recovery means no one is left behind. Science of Spirituality is helping to actualize the United Nations' sustainable development goals and offers its fullest cooperation toward a resilient recovery and a more peaceful, compassionate, and inclusive world.

96. International Committee for Peace and Reconciliation

Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Ever since 2019 a tiny virus and its many variants have engulfed the world in an unimaginable darkness. Normal lives and daily activities for many people have been disrupted. It seems to have wiped out many human progresses and development achieved over so many decades. Now it is time to rethink global strategy going forward. This might well prepare us to deal with such future challenges. Our motto should be learning from the past and get ready for the future. A major section of the humanity is already a victim of poverty, disease, lack of education, lack of opportunities for advancement, security and healthcare. Whatever progress was achieved in these fields received a severe blow from COVID-19. With the experience from the past, it is time to get ready for the future and move forward.

“The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a plan of action for people, planet and prosperity. It also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We recognize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. All countries and all stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership”.

A society is collection of individuals. Society forms nations and then all individuals become members of the humanity. So individual improvement in real sense will improve the quality of the humankind.

There must be an awareness agenda globally at every step of the way. As has been suggested by many from kindergarten to senior care facilities there must be regular drills to propagate and prepare everyone for such calamities and how to respond to them proactively. That implies prepare each household and with basic hygiene tools which are essential to combat an unforeseen disaster such as COVID-19.

As has been emphasized again and again education is the vehicle to success and improvement. In order to overcome physical distance online education must be encouraged and emphasized. If the people are the remote place have access for telecommunications they easily be trained, informed of the current events and can be offered educational and medical training.

Eradication of poverty is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

A person in poverty must struggle all the time to earn for his/her basic needs. To eradicate poverty, it is not enough to appeal to the conscience of the rich to share their wealth. The rich must be made to understand that it is for their own interest they uplift the poor. Otherwise, the poor can make this world non-live able for the rich also.

Eradication of poverty, equal social justice, peaceful and just society can only be possible when humanity will learn to live in a society without borders and freely share knowledge. This will make a peaceful world not only for a few but for all.

97. Internet Society

The Internet Society is pleased to submit a statement to the ECOSOC High Level Segment 2022 on the Internet as an enabler of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG-4) which calls for inclusive and equitable quality education.

As we enter the third year of the global health pandemic, the Internet has remained resilient. Despite the Internet's critical importance as a resource, nearly 2.9 billion people remain unconnected. According to UNESCO, UNICEF, and the World Bank's 2021 State of Global Education report, the pandemic disrupted traditional education models affecting over 1.6 billion children, and countries that adapted quickly to remote learning had better resources and connectivity. Without Internet access or digital devices at home, many children in remote, rural and underserved areas couldn't learn remotely. 'Building back better' requires expanding Internet access so that no one is denied the promise and opportunity that an education provides.

While the Internet is incredibly resilient, a looming threat may limit our ability to grow and use it to its full potential. Internet sanctions are being considered by certain governments, service providers, and other groups. They could have unintended consequences that irreversibly damage the global Internet and harm the very nature of the open network. A splinternet would shatter decades of global connectivity efforts into a series of separate networks that no longer work together in the 'Internet way.' Undermining the core principles of a borderless, globally connected Internet would severely limit global participation in the digital economy and global trade. We would also lose access to innumerable chances to use the Internet to promote gender equality and quality education.

"Building back better" means moving beyond the status quo and adopting new approaches for connectivity to allow everyone to benefit from the opportunities the Internet provides including the option of remote learning. Community Networks for example provide affordable and sustainable connectivity to remote, rural, and underserved areas. To foster community networks, we recommend governments eliminate barriers through clear policy and regulatory guidance. Factoring complementary, non-profit, and small-scale operators in to policies and regulations will enable Community Networks to emerge and thrive. Further, consider innovative spectrum management, financial and legal mechanisms that avail resources needed to support the development of complementary connectivity solutions.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, "building back better" means ensuring free and open access to a critical lifeline for people in times of crisis, and one of our more powerful tools to collaborate across borders on the SDGs. To preserve the Internet, sanctions regimes must ensure people have access to the Internet and include exemptions for services that operate Internet infrastructure. Furthermore, we must ensure the technical governance of the Internet is not politicized.

98. Humanitarian Foundation of Canada

Our organization considers following SDGs (4) on Quality Education (5) on Gender Equality (14) on Life below Water (15) on Life on Land, and (17) Partnerships for Goals as Key to the survival of the human species; and, thus present the issues arising from the above SDGs and prescribe following recommendations as a Way Forward.

SDG 4 On Quality Education

Conventional Education memorized and theorized knowledge to obtain Qualification or Degree “to feel educated”, to get a job, to feel belonging to an elite class without allowing it to determine one’s human survival.

But Contemporary Education reverses such expectations and demands Quality Education to guarantee survival of the human species. Such Education provides normal literacy & theoretical knowledge but MUST provide job skills and work skills. It should provide “open-ended” educational skills where people can ‘upgrade’ their jobs skills.

SDG 5 On Gender Equality

Currently gender inequality causes key family and social problems; namely wage inequality, inequality of job skills training, inequality in parenting & educating children, working conditions inequality; such inequalities endanger family cohesion and survival.

SDGs 14 on Life Below Water

Direct results of global warming: Accelerated Melting of Arctic and Antarctic Oceans, Sub-merging of numerous islands, coastal land masses of some countries. This will cause unlimited deaths and humankind displacements, thus dwindling global population.

SDGs 15 On Life on Land

Direct global warming results: radical variations of weather denying crops and yields, uncontrollable floods; uncontrollable pandemics spreads; high inflation and global economic collapse.

SDGs 17 On Partnerships for Goals

Instead of reinventing and duplicating, NGOs should create and apply sustainable solutions to the above issues. NGOs must stop self-glorification, arrogance and pride and exclusivity; instead they should build partnerships.

Policy recommendations for way forward

SDGs 4 Above

All forms of education must be dynamic and open-ended so as to be relevant and suited for jobs and job-specific skills training, thus making Theory and Practice-based education universally mandatory.

SDGs 5 Above

Gender Equality must be made a universal human right for all nations. Thus, it will eradicate all forms of injustices and evil for humankind.

SDGs 14 Above

Causes and reasons for Life Below Water must be exposed, stopped and eliminated immediately globally.

SDGs 15 Above

Liabilities and Negatives for Life on Land must be exposed globally, stopped and eliminated immediately.

SDGs 17 Above

NGOs Duplicating similar sustainable projects anywhere must be stopped and compelled to partner with such respective NGOs. Why? Because such NGOs do more

harm to sustainable development. Partnerships for NGOs must be a requirement for any project funding.

99. ASTM International

A private, not-for-profit organization granted special consultative status, ASTM International is pleased to offer the following comments on the 2022 ECOSOC High-level Segment: Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Since 1898, ASTM International has provided an open, transparent forum for public and private stakeholders to address technical challenges. ASTM's consensus process engages over 30,000 members from 150 nations. Through targeted outreach ASTM also informs and engages standards organizations in developing nations. Volunteer technical experts formulate the best science-based solutions for environmental, quality, safety, health, innovation, and trade objectives. These experts have developed over 13,000 market relevant, high-quality standards used globally by governments, industry, research institutions, academia, and consultants in 90 industry segments. Through its broad scope of work, routine review and update of its standards, and diverse membership, ASTM delivers technical solutions that directly support the SDGs, such as:

Standard Specification F3502 for Barrier Face Coverings (SDG 3),

Test Method E1367 for Measuring the Toxicity of Sediment-Associated Contaminants with Estuarine and Marine Invertebrates (SDG 14),

Standard Guide E3249 for Remedial Action Resiliency to Climate Impacts (SDG15)

ASTM standards manifest SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals. To be successful ASTM relies on partnerships between governments, the private sector, and civil society without considering national borders. Innovation impacts all sectors, traditional and cutting edge; ASTM standards transition technology to the global marketplace. Recognizing that every voice has value is a hallmark of ASTM's consensus process. Together with its current diversity, equity, and inclusion initiative, ASTM's process supports SDG 5 on Gender Equity.

ASTM's mission to serve global societal needs, by improving health and safety, consumer confidence and the overall quality of life, aligns with SDG 17, placing people and the planet at the center on the global, regional, national, and local level.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) published a 2021 case study of ASTM International as an international private standard setting organization that contributes to international regulatory cooperation.

OECD stated,

Voluntary standards, such as ASTM standards, can provide input for domestic policymakers and regulators when designing measures to advance their policy objectives. This is particularly evident for technical regulations, and for the coordination of approaches among peers with similar goals. Recognition of international standards is one of the primary approaches available for countries to embed international considerations within domestic rulemaking. International standards are a central dimension of regulatory alignment, enabling the alignment of technical specifications of products as well.

ASTM respectfully encourages the United Nations' leadership and Economic and Social Council to avail itself of the standards solutions ASTM International offers for addressing global challenges through the SDGs.

100. Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights Association

Achieving SDG 5 in the armed conflict countries ... Obstacles still here

Conflict has a long-lasting effect on societies. Large-scale violence trigger other phenomenon such as forced displacement, deprivation, and sexual violence, which is often used as a weapon in war as is clear in the Middle East.

Conflict is often used also to destroy the social fabric of communities. Moreover, wars and conflicts also deny people access to education and work, which in turn impacts women.

Covid-19 posed new challenges such as the challenge to achieve target 5.1 in sustainable development, which means that women still suffer from discrimination, and the challenge to achieve target 5.2, which deals with violence against women, and target 5.3, which means that girls still suffer from harmful practices, and target 5.5, which means the participation of women in social sites.

Women participation in decision-making is still very low. In Syria, since the eruption of the civil war a decade ago, the challenges and suffering endured by Syrian women have been clear. Syrian women have been paying the highest cost of the ongoing conflict, and the return to clan, sect, and religious affiliations in some areas because of social and political exclusion, have contributed to the progressive deprivation of women's civil rights and social entitlements. (SDG 5.2, 5.3, 5.5)

Seeking to repress any opposition, Syria government has resorted to violence, imprisonment, and murder to intimidate both men and women. Also, repressive tools include arms proliferation, property theft, and arbitrary arrests, in addition to sexual harassment and gender-based violence, including rape. The security situation and conflicts are among the main reasons hindering the achievement of Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals in Syria, where the security factor affects 50% of women's participation in public life.

In this context, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights recommends the following:

Launching feminist platforms independent from governments and companies, launching a feminist agenda, and not reducing the role of feminist organizations only to "monitoring".

Considering the spread of violent practices carried out by the UN peacekeeping forces, there is a need to impose clear and strict sanctions on these forces, and to pay more attention to eliminating this phenomenon.

Maat appeals to national and regional middle east institutions for the importance of doubling financial aid for education and adapting scholarship support for Syrian girls, especially in the regions, which is doubly affected by conflict.

101. Sikh Human Rights Group

SHRG is addressing all 5 SDGs that are being reviewed at this year's HLPF and stands with the Centre for Public Health with UN ECOSOC Status.

Firstly, we propose that the UN readdress the classification of all menstrual products, both sustainable and disposable, to be seen as health products and not clothing or luxury items and for there to be a global elimination of the Tampon Tax. To do this we recommend creating a step-by-step guide consulting with the 22 (estimated) countries that have eliminated the tampon tax and how to best overcome the challenges countries will face and how they can work with neighbouring countries or countries with a similar economy to globally eliminate this gendered- based tax discrimination. The tampon tax is a human rights issue and stopping us achieve the sustainable development goal of gender equality because menstruation and affordable access to menstrual products are inextricably linked to rights to health, sanitation, education, dignity, and work, among others. Eliminating taxes on menstrual products, both sustainable and disposable, is consistent with the human right to be free from discrimination, and other rights that flow from that as articulated within the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action 1993, along with the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

Secondly, SHRG is working with 50 other organisations who are members of the Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation to formulate a basic curriculum that sets out how to teach menstruation to ensure that it is taught without shame, without trauma, without encouraging child marriage (teaching it separate from reproductive health) and allows people who menstruate to feel dignified and empowered. This is something we believe needs to be pluralistic in nature and led by the global south as they are the states who are suffering from this inadequate education the most. This point specifically addresses the sustainable development of quality in education.

Partnership for the Goals:

We strongly recommend the UN works with the Global South Coalition for Dignified Menstruation and let the global south lead the conversation around menstrual access, education, and stigma to achieve a dignified and empowered menstruation.

Life on Land and Life Below Water:

Menstrual products are the fifth most common item found on Europe's beaches, more widespread than single-use coffee cups, cutlery, or straws. Some 200,000 tonnes of material are believed to end up in UK landfills every year. It has estimated that 700,000 panty liners, 2.5m tampons and 1.4m menstrual pads are flushed down the toilet every day in the UK.

If we have better education on how to use these products in a more sustainable way, ensure the sustainable products aren't being taxed, place more funding on producing menstrual products made from organic cotton and corn starch and put pressure on the countries with a high GDP to start to invest in only sustainable products this will help the environment significantly.

102. Association femmes leadership et développement durable AFLED

Notre intervention va s'appesantir sur les ODD 4 et 5.

Selon les données de l'UNESCO, plus de 220 millions d'enfants, d'adolescents et de jeunes ne seront toujours pas scolarisés en 2030 et 138 millions (36 %) de jeunes en âge de fréquenter le deuxième cycle de l'enseignement secondaire (15–17 ans) ne sont pas scolarisés. L'Afrique va accuser du retard dans la mesure où la population en âge d'être scolarisée augmente rapidement plus que partout ailleurs dans le monde.

Concernant l'ODD 5, un rapport de 2020 publié par la Banque africaine de développement, la CEA et ONU Femmes a révélé que le score de l'Indice de genre en Afrique est de 48,6 %.

En Afrique de l'Ouest particulièrement dans le Sahel, la situation politique, économique et sociale est critique en raison de plusieurs facteurs:

la rareté des ressources liée au changement climatique, à la mal gouvernance,

la disparité entre les sexes

l'insécurité grandissante (terrorisme)

la crise économique post Covid19

Le constat sur le terrain est que les populations ne connaissent pas leurs droits en raison de l'analphabétisation d'où l'importance de financer l'ODD4. Par ailleurs, à l'heure où nous travaillons sur de nombreux défis, de nouveaux aussi émergent tels que: l'enrôlement des enfants et des jeunes dans les groupes terroristes, la crise sanitaire de la Covid19 dont les effets pèsent lourdement sur nos économies, l'aggravation des effets du changement climatique.

Aucune avancée n'est possible sans la sécurité qui est un défi dans le Sahel aujourd'hui. Les initiatives et les mesures d'accompagnement post Covid 19 n'ont pas atteint les cibles en raison de la corruption. Les populations dans certaines zones sont prises au piège et doivent se procurer les produits du marché noir vendus par les groupes criminels en tout genre. Le manque à gagner pour la plupart des Etats est très important.

Nos contextes ne sont pas suffisamment pris en compte dans la formulation des politiques ce qui entraîne un élargissement du fossé entre pays riches et pauvres. Il ne faut pas avoir de complexe et assumer le fait que nos économies et nos systèmes politiques ne permettent pas d'avancer à la même vitesse que le Nord.

De plus, il faudrait croiser les ODD, en effet, le lien entre Genre-changement climatique-sécurité est évident. A l'heure où nous parlons d'égalité il y'a toujours des flagellations, des privations de liberté, des viols.

Il faut garantir des lois propres à chaque pays pour bannir le mariage d'enfant, les mutilations génitales féminines parce que tant que les femmes se marient tôt elles vont abandonner l'école, le lien est direct entre les ODD 4 et 5.

Il existe assez de politiques, il faudrait renforcer les mécanismes de suivi et trouver les moyens pour soutenir les « retardataires » à rattraper les autres.

Aujourd'hui les conséquences économiques de la Covid-19 sont importantes et les financements manquent, il faut financer la relance économique en prévoyant des ressources pour les femmes à la base.

103. VAAGDHARA

The Covid-19 disrupted the lives, livelihood and food security of millions of people across the world. The small and marginal farmers in India who contribute to about 80% of the total farmers, were among the deeply affected segment of the society. The tribal farmers, who were already facing the brunt of an assured livelihood through agriculture round the year owing to small landholding and lack of resources, were greatly affected by the pandemic. The tribal community was known for its sovereignty for ages, who were not dependent on the external environment. But due to increasing modernization by the outside world, the tribal community went on forgetting its traditional practices which eventually compelled them to migrate to nearby cities and work in low-paid and insecure labour markets, to earn their livelihood. This further resulted in increased inequality and other challenges, impacting them adversely.

For a resilient recovery from Covid-19 and sustainable livelihood, it is imperative to mobilise and empower the communities to take ownership, make them self-reliant and resilient towards such unforeseen difficult situations. It has been learnt from experiences, the traditional lifestyle of tribal farmers based on the circular economy, reduces dependency on the markets, enhances income levels of the farmers and thus, is significant in achieving sustainable development of the community. Linking tribal communities with the sustainable agricultural practices and encouraging them to adopt components of integrated farming system through various on-farm and off – farm interventions, could be an effective way for resilient recovery.

The tribal farmers in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh states in India, who returned to their villages during the Covid-19, a large proportion of them are reviving and adopting traditional farming practice like multi-cropping, cultivation of ‘nutri-cereals’ and other traditional crops in their own villages and striving to improve their livelihood. Many tribal families are improving and sustaining their food and livelihood security through various off-farm interventions like goat rearing, backyard poultry, preparing organic manure and pesticides, developing nutrition gardens to name a few. Such traditional farming practices are helping them to improve their social and economic dimensions and holding them back from migration.

It is necessary that agricultural policies of the Government reflect the concerns of small and marginal farmers and are inclined to benefit them to the maximum with increased public investment and having no influence of external environment. The indigenous solutions of tribal communities need to be augmented to reach a large number of the communities across the globe, helping them to build back better and contribute to achieving various SDGs. Promoting traditional practices would certainly be consequential to ameliorate the situation, bring resilient recovery from Covid-19 and contribute towards paving the way for sustainable development.

104. Internationaler Wirtschaftssenat e.V.

The dreadful human, economic and socio-political toll of the COVID-19 pandemic has clearly shown that only global solidarity can help meet the challenge at all levels of society and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. There is a need for early alert systems and a global network of surveillance as well as an universally accessible emergency health care surge capacity to respond to mass casualty events such as the pandemic.

COVID-19 has highlighted the central role of science and innovation in the pharmaceutical field to enable health care systems to respond timely to a disease outbreak. Moreover, the ability of the international community to swiftly mobilize vaccines and therapies at the global level determine to a substantial degree the capability to respond to such a global threat.

The members of our organization (most of them SMEs) have concluded that the following lessons from the pandemic will help increase the resiliency of individual businesses and enable them to prepare for the next pandemic.

First, be prepared to overcome any interruptions of international supply chains by choosing alternative suppliers and reducing dependency from a single supplier.

Second, those businesses where home office is appropriate, should always keep a certain share of employees working from home or in a mixed status (home and office work).

Third, where governmental labour policies are available, middle-sized businesses should be prepared to furlough a share of employees at short notice.

Fourth, SMEs should train their employees to adjust their behaviour in the business and at home in the event of a new pandemic.

Fifth, SMEs should all be aware that even a pandemic is a transitory phenomenon and that they should be able to recover from the pandemic as soon as possible.

Sixth, although pandemics cannot be eliminated, trust in public health systems must be restored at the global level to protect income and employment of the population.

Seventh, ultimately, the responsibility for decisions in health care policy lies with the public, which is why all governments, independently of their level of development, should keep updated pandemic response plans ready and carry out yearly exercises to readily increase the preparedness of the health care system and of society at large, in order to help the economy overcome the challenge and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

105. Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD)

According to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), more than 300 million tons of plastics are produced worldwide, and plastics are emerging as a major threat to the global environment in 2022. Plastics are regarded as the main threat to climate change. 99% of all plastic production is based on natural fossil fuels and large amounts of greenhouse gases such as methane are released. While plastic production leads to increased greenhouse gas emissions, extreme weather changes (e.g. floods and typhoons) due to the rise in temperature, aggravate marine plastic pollution. Problems derived from the production and disposal of plastics threaten human health and ecosystems and require practical measures.

Throughout COVID-19, increased quantities of healthcare and other single-use plastic waste have a tremendous effect on human and planetary health. Personal protective equipment (PPE) such as masks, gloves, face shields, and gowns that are contrary to environmental sustainability goals distributed by healthcare services as part of COVID-19 risk management has had a massive environmental impact through its carbon footprint, impact on ecosystems, and impact on the resource.

Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations (ASD) which is in special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), is contributing to taking climate action.

Blue Olive is a global carbon reduction supporting initiative that advocates the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) and European Union (EU) climate action. Being launched by the Association for Supporting the SDGs for the United Nations (ASD) and European Union (EU) Climate Pact Ambassador, Blue Olive envisages campaigns and activities to ambitiously promote the importance of collective awareness and action of various groups on topics of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially climate issues. It supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), the Paris Agreement, which brings all 196 parties of the United Nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to reduce carbon emissions.

Blue Olive promotes the transitions of our daily routines to be embedded with carbon-free efforts. Through such transitional steps, as an initiative, Blue Olive will successfully bridge these performances of the general public, private sectors, and other organizations to build a green and sustainable world.

106. The International Humanitarian Society for Development Without Borders

The Situation of Education Sector considering the Corona Pandemic and Severe Economic Crisis

Due to the economic crisis that has hit Lebanon currently and the ensuing forced closures, results in a significant decline in the education sector affecting negatively the students 'performance them being the most vulnerable group. As families find it difficult to afford their needs because of the status quo, many students had to leave school to support their parents.

Schools, including UNRWA schools, had to close for about 75% of the year between January 2020 and February 2021 and adopt the online learning. However, with the beginning of the academic year 2021-2022, Lebanese schools were limited to in-person education only, 4 days a week, after facing many obstacles like low salaries for teacher and high transportation prices.

Similarly, Lebanese students who count for 1.25 million students, are facing many obstacles during their educational path. They include the dramatic increase in stationery and transportation expenses. The results of public and private school students' participation in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) test indicate that two thirds of Lebanese students are not proficient in basic reading and writing.

As for the Syrian refugee students, according to officials in the Ministry of Education, there are about 190,000 Syrian children in Lebanon who enrolled in public schools in the 2020-2021 school year, while only 25,000 were enrolled among who should have to in the first grade. Because they must wait for the registration of Lebanese students to finish so that they can register according to the school's remaining capacity, if not evening shift is established for them, otherwise they will be merged with the Lebanese students.

Apart from that, the Palestinian students, who count for 36,960 distributed among 65 UNRWA schools all over the Lebanese state, are not exempted from all the challenges hitting the education sector, in addition to operating a vocational training center in Seblin that serves a total of approximately 1,143 students.

With all the obstacles, the Palestinian students is also stressed with other challenges that makes the academic learning even more difficult where the percentage of school dropout cases has reached 18% according to UNRWA. While the average number of students who pass the Lebanese baccalaureate is estimated between 1000 and 1200 students annually, most of them are not able to complete their university studies at their own expense.

Concerning the tuition fees in the 30 universities all over the Lebanese state, they vary from one to another, as some started the year of 2020/2021 to raise the dollar rate exchange but still reasonable compared to that in the black market; with some universities making the rate 3900 L.L to the dollar and others even less.

The Lebanese university has witnessed a high turnout of students after the crisis because it is considered to be free compared to other universities.

However, for the last two years, educational staff are protesting the low salaries, the lack of adequate budget and evident neglect towards it, and where sometimes exams are postponed due to strikes and other times due to loss of ink and papers.

And after adopting the online learning during the crisis, the universities have returned to in-person or blended learning with the beginning of year 2021-2022.

107. Concepts of Truth, Inc.

As we take stock of the devastating effects of COVID-19, we compare the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Agenda) with current United Nations policies to assess whether we are on track to “build back better.”

On March 8, 2022, the World Health Organization (WHO) released its Abortion Care Guideline (Guideline) to enable “evidence-based decision-making” regarding abortion in reliance on official United Nations pronouncements regarding sexual reproductive health (SRH). The Guideline urges States to:

“[A]llow women to terminate pregnancy on request during the first trimester or later;”
“[R]epeal and refrain from enacting laws and policies that create barriers to access SRH including biased counselling requirements and mandatory waiting periods for access to abortion;”

Acknowledge that “[u]nequal access to SRH by adolescents including to safe abortion constitutes discrimination.”

Such broad recent policy statements raise significant questions:

How can we aspire “to build. . . inclusive societies [and] protect human rights (Agenda, par. 3)” when we fail to recognize the rights of humans in the womb?

How can we “pledge that no one will be left behind” and declare that “the dignity of the human person is fundamental,” (Agenda, par. 4) when WHO reports that the world ‘leaves behind’ more than 73 million aborted persons each year?

How can we pretend that we “envisage a world of universal respect for human rights and human dignity. . . a world which invests in its children,” (Agenda, par. 8) when each year we deny all rights and dignity to those same 73 million aborted children?

How can we profess to “respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind as to. . . birth. . . or other status,” (Agenda, par. 19) when we advance laws and policies that do the opposite?

If we truly seek quality education (SDG 4) and “evidence-based decision-making” for women, then we must disseminate the *real* evidence surrounding abortion. Global studies confirm widespread adverse consequences, including haemorrhaging, infertility, cancer, autoimmune disease and numerous psychiatric complications, including suicide. Moreover, chemical abortions, which surged during COVID, present approximately four times the complication rate of surgical abortions. (Lanfranchi, A., *Complications: Abortion’s Impact on Women*, 2015)

Concepts of Truth Inc., a faith-based NGO that provides counselling and educational resources for reproductive loss consistent with the Geneva Consensus, has received approximately 20,000 calls worldwide from women descending into mental illness because they lacked the information to make informed decisions and now grieve their abortions. We cannot claim we are striving to empower women when we refuse to recognize their grief.

“The future of humanity. . . lies in our hands.” (Agenda, par. 53).

108. Nor Luyce Mentoring Center for Youth

Nor Luyce Mentoring Center for Youth NGO is the first mentoring organization in Gyumri, Armenia to work with adolescent girls from orphanages and socially vulnerable families to provide them with mentoring relationships, skill-building opportunities, career planning, and college scholarships.

As an organization, we strongly believe that the following advocacy efforts made by Nor Luyce will contribute greatly to Agenda 2030 and progress toward the SDGs:

Provide social inclusion to adolescents by emphasizing their strengths, resources, and resilience, as well as through partnering with local entities to expose the adolescents to a number of opportunities for personal growth.

Provide support and education for women to feel empowered to speak up for themselves and each other knowing they can lean on an entity that promotes continuous self-efficacy development and growth while hindering any type of violence towards women.

Educate and share techniques for everyone to know how to stop violence, abuse, and bullying.

Engage in debate on environmental topics to support women to utilize various life skills while raising counterpoints and working together to reach a unified consensus on solutions to the debate topics.

Nor Luyce's mission and vision align with 3 sustainable development goals, SDG 4: Quality Education, SDG 5: Gender Equality, and SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities.

Target 4.7 emphasizes the education needed to promote sustainable development. Nor Luyce educates on topics such as the UN and its mission, the ECOSOC status of Nor Luyce, climate change, discrimination, professions without genders, human rights, etc.

Target 5.5 addresses women empowerment and tangible changes in managerial positions by women. This aligns with Nor Luyce's goal of improving self-efficacy in young girls and empowering them to be successful leaders in technological and global environments by giving mentees active roles in the training and education of others.

Finally, target 10.2 emphasizes the importance of reducing inequalities for all. Nor Luyce continuously educates their mentees on sustainable living, women's empowerment, and the importance of gender and human rights.

Inclusion is a large part of Nor Luyce and its philosophy. It not only works on inclusion by focusing on uplifting girls and specifically those from vulnerable backgrounds, but also, the girls are taught about inclusion and bullying to foster a mindset of community.

We are also working towards target 4.5 by understanding additional hardships each mentee faces and continuing equal access to educational opportunities for girls from vulnerable backgrounds in Armenia. To reach SDGs 4, 5, and 10, Nor Luyce utilizes its partnerships with Lehigh University and the UN. This trilateral cooperation is multi-level: the levels of Biosphere, Society, and Economy, ultimately highlighting Nor Luyce's engagement in realizing the SDGs.

Resilience displayed within the Nor Luyce staff and the mentees solidified an effective, efficient, and sustainable path towards achieving Agenda 2030. The UN must emphasize the importance of self-efficacy building within youth organizations, especially those working with vulnerable populations. The UN can take Nor Luyce's successes and uplift our method as an effective way of achieving pandemic recovery, multi-level changes, and reaching the 2030 goals.

109. All India Women's Education Fund Association

The All India Women's Education Fund Association (AIWEFA), established in 1929, celebrates 93 years in the education and advancement of women and communities. Through the Lady Irwin College founded by the organisation in 1932, nearly 80,000 women students have passed through the portals of this institution.

The tectonic shifts that the COVID 19 pandemic brought with it has thrust the Indian Education sector into the global limelight.

The pandemic galvanised the government to present the New Education Policy that advocated a budgetary allocation of 6 percent of the Gross Domestic Product; and though the 2022 budget may have crossed a landmark of 13 billion dollars, it has decreased as a percentage of total expenditure. The Policy lays emphasis on critical thinking rather than rote learning; it promotes harnessing of appropriate technologies for e-learning and lifelong skills like *e pathshalas* (schools) where students access lessons in different languages without internet access for the whole day; it ensures health and nutrition through mid-day meals including door-step deliveries of rations to 800 million families. Industry, Institutions and start-ups indigenously developed a range of innovative cost-effective quality educational solutions at scale, including multi-media class plans, meeting platforms, direct-to-home television educational channels, radios, loudspeakers and whatsapp groups. Unified Payment Interface with banks eased payment of fees.

This organisation's pandemic response employed technology for transformative growth spanning the local to global. The centrality of all programmes was disability inclusion, reduction in violence against women, gender-responsive and environmentally safe development for all, while safe-guarding and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals.

The organisation's webinars and programmes reached over 6000 participants towards building the resilience of people with disabilities and senior citizens, by empowering families; developing skills for lifelong learning; and promoting intergenerational bonding for a culture of peace.

To substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers from Higher Education Institutions, including through international cooperation, the organisation has developed the System's Approach Model. This replicable and scalable model promotes inclusive learning; offers skills for employability; ensures leadership and resilience to build back better; enhances use of technological tools and communication mechanisms; and advocates mindful choices.

To develop a "green economy at community level", the organisation is conducting a Pilot Research Project to explore economic empowerment and entrepreneurship avenues among 900 women who have undergone CARE India's training in 30 villages in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh.

To regenerate several native species which were lost from Delhi's forests, the organisation, with the Department of Forest and Wildlife and Bombay Natural History Society, is participating in a plantation drive in nurseries that are being developed over about three hectares of land in Tughlaqabad, Delhi.

To disseminate the Hon'ble Prime Minister's campaign 'LIFE' - living for the environment, the organisation screened two short films on United Nations online platforms for over 1000 participants. Supporting a violence-free and gender-just world, the films advocated mindful choices, which, when exercised by billions of people daily around the world, will create a ripple effect towards building a Pro People Planet.

110. Nurses Across the Borders

Taking actions in advance of hazards is a key component of disaster risk management, which is increasingly recognized in international, national and local policy frameworks and strategies. Appropriately planned preparedness actions can reduce the impact of the hazard and meet people's dire needs. Incorporating disaster preparedness into long-term development plans is integral to its sustainability and effectiveness.

According to the WHO COVID-19 and climate change has exacerbated malnutrition in all its forms and threatened the sustainability and resilience of food systems around the world. Given the potentially overwhelming effects of climate change on social wellbeing, the protection and promotion of public health are one of the most important motivations for climate action. Indeed, the protection of health and welfare is one of the central rationales for reducing emissions in Article One of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

"Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," can only be possible by the adequate empowerment and involvement of the healthcare professionals on all fronts, especially in the developing countries suffering more from the adverse effects of climate change and poor health facilities. In addition to this, climate change mitigation can deliver many benefits to health worldwide. If designed with the 'health co-benefits in mind, climate mitigation policies have the potential to substantially improve public health, reducing the burden of disease from a variety of illnesses, including lung disease, obesity, heart disease, cancer, diabetes, mental illness, and road injuries.

The World Health Organization (WHO)'s theme for this year's health day celebration is: '*Our Planet, Our Health*' #Healthier Tomorrow. This underscores the critical role of healthcare professionals and the strategic position of health in the climate change campaign and UNFCCC negotiation process.

Between 2004 and 2021, the Organization has actively participated in all the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COPs) through approved Side-events with both local and international stakeholders and the WHO in advancing the cause for the inclusion of health as not only the driver of the climate change campaign but also in the UNFCCC Negotiations. At COPs 15 & 16, NAB, SeaTrust, WHO launched the *Friends of Health and Coalition on Health and Environment: Climate Change Initiative*. This culminated in the launching of: *The Global First Responders to Climate Change Disasters* at COP 17 with UNDRR.

Our statement is to reinforce and provide a voice for these professionals that have been at the fore of all major disasters. Nurses Across the Borders have been promoting this campaign since the WSSD, more so, as we mark the 50th anniversary of the World Earth day.

111. Centro internazionale sindacale per la cooperazione sviluppo

The Sars-Cov-2 pandemic has significantly impacted the various countries of the world, significantly affecting the 2030 Agenda, causing a slowdown in the roadmap in almost all the Goals. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, while not the only ongoing conflict, has exacerbated this delay.

Overall, paradoxically, the only goal that has experienced, at least in part and only in the more developed areas, an acceleration is the third, relating to health and well-being. Notwithstanding the enormous difficulties of the poorest countries in accessing health measures, the fact remains that, in a few months, public-subsidized private research (Objective 17) has made it possible to have innovative vaccines and treatments, both effective. in the reduction of damage from Covid-19.

Between 2020 and 2021, the necessary measures to contain the spread of the virus caused a widespread worsening of the indicators relating to Objectives 1 (defeat poverty), 2 (defeat hunger), 4 (quality education), 5 (equality gender), 8 (decent work and economic growth) and 10 (reducing inequality).

Few steps forward have been made on Objective 6 (clean water and sanitation), also due to severe travel restrictions.

The European Union, practically by itself and, subsequently, also to respond to the effects of the Russian Ukrainian conflict, has tried to accelerate on some Goals, in particular 7 (clean and accessible energy), 9 (business, innovation and infrastructure), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (sustainable consumption and production), 13 (fight against climate change).

The Russian-Ukrainian war has far removed the achievement of Goal 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions). We therefore ask governments for greater resolution for the above objectives.

112. Southeast Asia Sexual Orientation, Gender identity and Expression Caucus (ASC), Inc.

The statement focuses on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on civil society organizations working with persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity. Indeed, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed long standing inequalities to persons who have been facing violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

In a research done by our organization, which entailed a survey of 48 organizations from 11 countries in the Southeast Asia region, one common theme that surfaced is that local and mostly unregistered organizations play significant role as a primary support system for persons facing violence and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, for example providing shelters or safe spaces, while at the same time burdened to provide psychosocial support, economic and humanitarian assistance to those disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The following are the other key finding of the said research:

First, the COVID-19 pandemic created an additional layer to marginalization. Health and socioeconomic impacts did take a toll on the lives and livelihood of communities marginalized based on sexual orientation and gender identity. For example, transgender communities in Indonesia estimated that their provision of support would only last for three months during the pandemic. Other groups reported food shortages and inability to pay for the essentials needed by their constituents.

Second, civil society organizations working with marginalized communities lead humanitarian responses but struggle to adjust to fast-changing and uncertain contexts. Except for some ad-hoc initiatives by local governments, there are no national-level responses that are inclusive of sexual orientation and gender identity. Organizations had to fill such gap by taking leadership roles through provision of emergency responses, advocacy, and other interventions risking both the disease and facing mobility restrictions by governments. Moreover, organizations had to stretch their resources to meet all the needs of their constituents. Civil society organizations focused on human rights of persons of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity in the Southeast Asia region rely on short-term or activity-based funding, mostly relying on volunteers. Most local organizations have no financial safety nets, with a quarter of those surveyed having less than a month's worth of financial resources.

Given this context, the following policy recommendations are being put forward. First, strengthen the role of civil society organizations at the local level in undertaking health, economic, and other interventions to address the needs of marginalized communities. Provision of resources, forming government and civil society partnerships, and removing restrictions to enable legitimate pandemic responses are necessary. Second, to be able to build back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, policy and programmatic responses must be inclusive of the rights of persons who have been discriminated based on sexual orientation and gender identity. To do so, governments must engage groups working on communities marginalized on the basis sexual orientation and gender identity in all aspects of the pandemic response.

113. European Forum for Restorative Justice

The European Forum for Restorative Justice is an international network organisation promoting research, policy, and practice development so that every person may have access to high-quality restorative justice services, at any time and in any case.

Restorative justice is a justice-oriented approach towards repairing the harm caused by a crime and/or conflict. A core element of restorative justice is the active participation of the parties involved, namely victims, offenders, and, when applicable, community members, who voluntarily come together with the help of a facilitator to talk about the harm and its consequences and identify means for repairing such harm. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis, restorative practices have been used to provide support for citizens and professionals, and to respond to new conflicts in an innovative way. They have been used to reflect on the purpose of the regulations with persons that breach them, to deliver restorative circles for health workers, victims of COVID-19, and survivors, and to keep and promote contact for many people with the outside world during the lockdown period, among others.

In this context, restorative justice professionals focused on healing the aftermath of COVID-19, helping people to respond to traumas and grief. In this regard, discussions around truth and reconciliation have fostered restorative initiatives to address the complexity of the needs of COVID-19 survivors, families, and communities. These initiatives argued that people needed spaces to tell their stories and feel heard, where accountability was not precluded by legal procedure and criminal sanctions, and where collective decision-making about how to prevent such harms from reoccurring as far as possible was allowed. In these circles, medical professionals, people who were hospitalised, lost family members, or continued working in other frontline roles, such as in stores, during the crisis were included. Their initial circles reflected raw emotion and grief, while later meetings enabled participants, having expressed their emotions, to consider their longer-term needs.

Taking into account the above mentioned, we firmly believe that restorative justice also falls within the scope of the UN Agenda 2030, especially related to **UN-SDG 16** (for developing strong institutions and promoting peace it is necessary to “ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels”), **UN-SDG 3** (e.g. restorative practices were applied to various circumstances, such as for doctors and nurses, and for families grieving for the death of a loved one from COVID-19, many of whom were not able to attend a funeral, also to young people and to explore the sociological and psychological effects of the pandemic on their community) and **UN-SDG 13/14/15** (Environmental Restorative Justice promotes forms of dialogue within communities and between individuals to act together to preserve and restore our planet which inevitably implies our health, our families and our livelihoods).

Therefore, we believe that governments and UN institutions can and should play a more proactive role in promoting restorative justice as a reaction not only to crime, but also to crisis situations.

114. International Trade Union Confederation

A New Social Contract

More than two years on since the outbreak of Covid-19, our world is more unstable and unsafe. We face an increasing number of conflicts, growing global inequality and a worsening climate crisis.

Covid-19 has also triggered an extraordinary wave of destruction across the world of labour. We lost the equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs in 2020, and some 130 million jobs were lost or at risk in 2021. The global jobs deficit, the number of jobs that must be created to reach full employment, is some 575 million. In addition, around two billion people are trapped in informal work. At the same time, workers' share of the world's wealth continues to decline, labour rights violations are increasing, and more than half the population have no social security coverage.

In this context, trade unions are calling for a New Social Contract globally, rooted in a gender-transformative agenda, based on:

Jobs: investment in decent and climate-friendly jobs with just transition.

Rights: the promise of the ILO Centenary Declaration of rights and protections for all workers, irrespective of employment arrangements and including occupational health and safety.

Wages: minimum living wages and equal pay, established through statutory processes or collective bargaining.

Social protection for all, with a Global Social Protection Fund for the poorest countries. Equality of income, gender, and ethnicity, including for migrant workers, and a world of work free from gender-based violence and harassment.

Inclusion: a rights-based development model realised through the SDGs and multilateral reform.

The leverage effect of SDG 8

Rewriting the social contract for our societies is a must, and it is feasible. The SDGs show us the way forward, and SDG 8 has a leading role in boosting recovery and resilience. Indeed, with its targets on jobs, workers' rights, decent work, social protection, inclusive growth and environmental preservation, SDG 8 provides strong leverage for other goals, including goals under review in HLPF 2022, such as SDG 4 on education and SDG 5 on gender equality.

For example, by calling for the eradication of child labour (SDG 8.7) and the reduction of the “proportion of youth not in employment, education or training” (SDG 8.6), SDG 8 contributes to ensuring that more children access education (SDG 4). By pushing to “achieve decent work for all women and men, (...), and equal pay for work of equal value” (SDG 8.5), SDG 8 acts positively on increasing the number of women working and holding managerial positions (SDG 5). And by calling for “decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation” (SDG 8.4), SDG 8 effectively sustains progress in SDG 14 and 15.

This is why we call for SDG-8-driven recovery and resilience and why we support the vision for a better world enshrined in the 2030 Agenda and the UN secretary-general's report “Our Common Agenda” and the [UN Global Accelerator for Jobs and Social Protection](#).

Trade union priorities for an SDG-8-driven recovery

Investing in decent, climate-friendly jobs: To achieve full employment as mandated by SDG 8, we need to create 575 million new jobs in the formal economy by 2030 and to formalise at least one billion informal jobs. Investments should be promoted to create decent, climate-friendly jobs in strategic sectors – sustainable infrastructure, transport

and agriculture – and there need to be energy and heavy-industry transitions and we need to have liveable cities. Investment in public digital infrastructure must be accompanied by frameworks for a fair digitalisation that protects workers' rights and personal data. Adequate public investments in the care economy are also critical for community resilience, the formalisation of informal care jobs, reducing the burden of care on women and facilitating their labour market participation. These shifts require just transition processes involving social partners.

In line with the ILO Centenary Declaration, job creation strategies should guarantee the application of a labour protection floor for all workers, including migrant workers. Universal social protection: Putting social protection at the centre of government responses to Covid-19 and other areas of crisis will increase resilience while fighting poverty and inequality and will act as an economic and social stabiliser to sustain recovery and boost development. That is why governments must prioritise investments in extending social protection systems to achieve universal coverage in line with ILO standards. A Global Social Protection Fund is essential to mobilising and coordinating international financing to support the establishment of social protection floors in the world's poorest countries, which lack sufficient domestic resources to finance social protection in the short term.

Minimum living wages and equal pay: Over the past 30 years, the world's GDP has quadrupled; however, the labour share of GDP has constantly been decreasing. As a result, millions of workers worldwide do not earn enough to live with dignity.

Wage policies should be central to fiscal policy: statutory minimum living wages, with collective bargaining, are essential to fighting poverty and inequalities. These policies must go hand in hand with the promotion of equal pay for work of equal value through inclusive labour market policies, formalisation processes and measures tackling occupational segregation and discrimination.

Financing strategies to turn priorities into reality

The financing strategies to turn these priorities into reality are available. We need a stronger and inclusive multilateral system based on shared prosperity rather than austerity; strengthened development cooperation with debt relief; special drawing rights (SDRs) reallocation, liquidity swaps and direct funding support; and fair taxation and trade rules that allow policy space for industrial policy, along with due diligence laws for business accountability and anti-corruption measures.

Increased development cooperation: While development cooperation donors increased spending in 2020 to an all-time high of US\$161 billion, this is less than half the amount that would have been mobilised if development partners were in line with the 0.7% of ODA target. We need to urgently scale up and meet the ODA 0.7% commitment, with 0.15 to 0.20% of GNI for least-developed countries. Moreover, ODA should be directed to support key SDG-8-related policies, such as jobs creation, social protection and climate sustainability.

Tax justice through progressive taxation and global regulation: Progressive taxation systems should be promoted at the country level. Policies tackling precarious work and promoting the formalisation of the informal economy should also be prioritised so as to improve working conditions while strengthening the financing base.

Improved global governance on taxation should be promoted to address inequalities between countries and tackle tax evasion and illicit financial flows. There is an urgent need for a multilateral reform of the current corporate tax architecture – a reform which would include a minimum tax floor of 25% for all corporations, a switch to unitary taxation with fair allocation factors, a billionaires' or wealth tax, and a financial transaction tax.

Strengthened business accountability: Decent job creation must be at the centre of private sector financing strategies, including innovative financing vehicles such as blended finance. Supporting decent work requires an adequate regulatory framework to ensure that investments comply with ILO standards, responsible business-conduct principles and due diligence. In this sense, the ITUC supports the adoption of the UN Treaty on Business and Human Rights and of an ILO standard on decent work in global supply chains.

Facilitating access to finance for MSMEs will enhance their job-creating potential and, when complemented with the right incentives and enforcement measures, could contribute to the formalisation of the informal economy.

Given geopolitical instability and planned increases in interest rates, public development banks should facilitate access to credit at concessional rates for public investments in health, education and social protection that will support public services

Debt relief restructuring and cancellation: An extension of debt relief should be granted to the poorest and most vulnerable countries, and debt restructuring and cancellation should be applied to countries in debt distress.

With the end of the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative, the G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments constitutes a positive step. Still, it needs to be improved and expanded to other heavily indebted countries in dire need. Sustainable solutions beyond the common framework should move towards a permanent multilateral process to tackle sovereign debt challenges and ensure private creditor participation in debt restructuring.

Ambitious targets for special drawing rights (SDRs) reallocation: The ITUC welcomes the progress on creating a Resilience and Sustainability Trust Fund to rechannel SDRs allocated to high-income countries that already have adequate reserves. The goal of rechanneling US\$100 billion in SDRs to IMF trust funds and multilateral development banks should be seen as a minimum target. The trust fund is a step forward in recognising that transformative measures are needed to anticipate and mitigate shocks related to climate, health, digitalisation and other challenges. The IMF should be reformed to best support transformation and effective crisis response, avoiding past mistakes of weakening labour market institutions.

Reform of the multilateral trading system: The WTO should be reformed to deliver development, sustainability and human rights. Among other issues, implementing the Doha Development Agenda and actualising the Agreement on Agriculture would contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. WTO reform should incorporate social and environmental standards and require mandatory human rights due diligence and remedies from all trading actors and MNEs.

Building forward sustainably

The theme of the 2022 ECOSOC High-Level Segment is “building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda.” To achieve this goal, we need an inclusive multilateral system with social partners on board at a global and national level. Right now, the moral imperative of global governance is to ensure universal access to Covid-19 vaccines by financing expanded production, fair distribution among countries, equitable rollouts and the removal of WTO intellectual property barriers.

The world needs a new vision to build inclusive societal models, and this requires commitments from all economic, social and political forces. We applaud the UN secretary-general for the launch of the Global Accelerator for Jobs and Social Protection, which calls for putting decent jobs creation and universal social protection at the centre of recovery plans. These priorities are at the heart of trade unions

demands. The ITUC will work assiduously with the ILO to make the Accelerator a reality at the national level.

Building back better is not enough. The SDGs tell us that we need to build forward differently, sustainably and fairly. As the UN secretary-general has said, humanity faces the choice between a breakdown or a breakthrough. Trade unions stand ready to engage through social dialogue to pave the way to global resilience.

115. Islamic Research and Information Artistic & Cultural Institute

Islamic Research and Information Artistic and Cultural Center considering the importance of the subject of education, as expressed in Objective No. 4 on quality education presents its views as follows:

All levels of education provide valuable lessons to human societies and can be the basis for achieving the long-term goals of more open, inclusive and flexible education system during and even after the Covid-19 Epidemic.

Teachers need assistance to become more familiar with the key issues related to distance learning. The complementary relationship between formal education and non-formal education and continuing education at different levels of education during lifelong learning is a delicate and precise task which requires the following points:

- Ensure continuation of distance learning
- Teachers of different age groups need different guidance
- Monitoring and evaluation of students' distance learning processes at home,
- Adjusting students' learning management and evaluating the achievements
- Maintain friendly communication with students
- Seriousness in answering students' questions
- Collect and use different types of curriculum resources
- Maintaining necessary consultations with families

Family:

Effective distance learning at home requires that parents and teachers interact favourably with students' daily learning activities to help each other track and monitor students' academic progress.

From the Islamic point of view, education from childhood should focus on the comprehensive development of the human personality and the spiritual, moral, social, cultural and economic development of the individual in the society. Families should try to create a calming environment physically and mentally for students at home.

Governments:

Governments should provide the necessary infrastructure and facilities for distance learning including strengthening the high-speed internet system.

Religious Institutions:

One of the problems of students' physical absence in the school environment is the creation and development of a spirit of isolation and sometimes depression in students. Providing the necessary guidance regarding religious values and moral issues arising from the entry of adolescents into cyberspace can be of great help in eliminating or minimizing the aforementioned destructive effects.

International Organizations:

- 1- Cooperation and interaction between governments in sharing the experiences of each other
 - 2- Helping to produce educational equipment and affordable educational aid for poor and underdeveloped countries
 - 3- Strengthening communication systems and low-cost internet
 - 4- Helping to expand the quantity and quality of forums and virtual teaching
- Given that the increasing growth of cyberspace education facilities has introduced many teachers and students to this new environment and the fear of providing virtual education has been significantly eliminated, education officials should take the best advantage of this opportunity by turning the threat posed by Covid-19 into a golden opportunity. In this regard, while providing quality education, educational authorities must ensure that these facilities, equally belong to all students and scholars. Furthermore, no discrimination or

injustice in providing educational services to all stakeholders and those interested in learning and applying science and technology should apply.

116. Elizka Relief Foundation

African debt crisis is related to the achievement of SDGs path. The African continent, especially the countries of sub-Saharan Africa, is one of the countries with a long history regarding debt and its scheduling with international multilateral financial institutions, in the recent period, many African countries have turned to expand borrowing to compensate for budget deficit, and the weakness of domestic liquidity. Before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Africa was already facing a looming debt crisis. According to the World Bank, Africa was in trouble, as most countries struggled to repay the accumulated debts of 583 billion US dollars between 2008 and 2018, owed to other countries, multilateral lenders from in the private sector, the average increased to 59% in 2018.

For example, Sudan has a debt ratio of 212% of GDP, and Eritrea is about 174% of GDP, becoming the highest level of government debt in the world⁴. The average ratio of government debt to GDP in sub-Saharan Africa is about 46%.⁵

During the COVID-19 pandemic, many concerns were raised regarding the increasing debts in Africa, where the average government debt for sub-Saharan African countries as a percentage of GDP reached 50% at the end of 2020, compared to 48% in 2018. At the same time, the budgets of African countries witnessed a significant financial burden, as the current government spending has increased to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the value of government revenues declining because of the economic Recession, which put great pressure on government financial budgets and the financial deficit of countries.⁶

Thus, considering the pressures that African countries are experiencing after COVID-19 and other pressures like African conflicts, we call for multiple stakeholders to relieve the debt burdens of the African countries that are less developed and more affected by conflicts and conflicts.

Lenders should improve African middle-income countries' access to concessional loans, and to renegotiate interest rates for non-oil-based economies to reduce the debt burden in proportion to the growth levels of African countries.

The African governments should take into considering the voice of the people and the interest of future generations in debt deals and try to find ways to locally finance the financial deficit in African budgets and move forward in achieving the goals of the 2030 and 2063 agendas.

⁴ AFDB. Eritrea economic outlook, <https://bit.ly/37lo74f>

⁵ IMF, staff report for the 2019 article iv consultation— debt sustainability analysis Sudan, <https://bit.ly/3vdh5uq>

⁶ Africa growth initiative at Brookings, sub-Saharan Africa's debt problem mapping the pandemic's effect and the way forward, October 2021, <https://brook.gs/3kjvdjp>

117. Carlsron Initiative for Peace and Human Rights

The purpose of this statement is to examine the theme, building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development focusing on Sustainable Development Goals 4 quality education, 5 gender equality, 14 life below water, 15 life on land and 17 partnerships for the goals.

Building back better approach is a means of effectuating a sustainable resilient recovery by way of reducing future disasters while building back the collapsed infrastructures and re-financing the affected institutions and societies that were adversely hit by the pandemic so they can fully recover and renew their commitments towards full restoration and implementation of SDGs. Building back better from COVID-19 therefore is a mechanism to improve resilience to disasters of economic, social or environmental dimension whenever they occur. To this end, it transcends beyond COVID-19 as defensive apparatus.

Building back better from COVID-19 is a necessary tool to advancing the full implementation of SDGs and to realize this, its central focus should be directed to people-centred recovery that will focus on well-being, improved inclusiveness, quality education and gender equality as required by SDGs 4 and 5. Education is the backbone of any development and a resilient recovery, must be strengthened and sustained to achieve the 2030 Agenda for SDGs. This also applies to gender equality as the women have proved themselves to be a powerful force in social, economic and environmental development of any society. To this end, a strengthened resilient measure on COVID-19 will certainly advance full implementation of SDGs especially on SDGs 4 and 5. A strong build back better from COVID-19 with strong recommitment to lives below water and on land as required by SDGs 14 and 15 through financing, conservation and sustainably use of ecosystem and biodiversity, management of forest and containment of global poaching and trafficking will accelerate full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for SDGs.

Building back better from COVID-19 while advancing 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be best achieved by reinvigorating SDG 17 of partnerships for the goals through effective communications, policy deliberations and formulations, holding workshops, seminars, conferences among the stakeholders to revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable finance. Our organization has been a participant and strong advocate of this goal among others. Goal 17 has been tested many times, yielded successes and still yielding.

In conclusion, building back better from COVID-19 while advancing full implementation of SDGs could be achieved at all levels of analysis through stronger cooperation among the SDGs stakeholders. The resilient recovery measure should be extended beyond economic recovery to social and environmental areas. There must also be a review of policies by World Health Organization on how to prevent future epidemic so that it will not blow out of proportion. Total eradication of COVID-19 should also be pursued. It is only on these grounds that we can advance the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

118. United Nations Association of China

Promoting Global Development Initiative to accelerate the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

At present, the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development faces great challenges. At the 76th UN General Assembly, China put forward the Global Development Initiative (GDI), aiming to accelerate the implementation of SDGs. 2022 ECOSOC High-level Segment will be held in July to urge countries to further implement it. Recently, the United Nations Association of China held a meeting and discussed with former foreign leaders, officials of the UN and other international organizations, as well as international experts and scholars on the challenges facing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the opportunities brought by the GDI for global common development and the achievement of SDGs. We hereby share the outcome of the meeting and hope that our views will be taken into account when the subject is discussed at the 2022 ECOSOC High-level Segment.

I. Challenges and Opportunities for 2030 Agenda

COVID-19 has wiped off the achievement in global poverty reduction of the past years. International efforts to implement 2030 Agenda have been greatly undermined.

Impacted by COVID-19, the global extreme poverty rate rose for the first time in more than 20 years. 119 million to 124 million people in the world has been returning to extreme poverty. If the current trend remains unchanged, the global poverty rate is expected to be 7% in 2030, which will not meet the goal of poverty eradication in 2030. The economic recession and slowdown caused by COVID-19 did not alleviate the climate crisis, the biodiversity loss and the ecological environment continued to deteriorate.

COVID-19 has also exacerbated the existing inequalities among and within some countries. Digital divide is growing, and the the North-South development divide continues to deepen. There have also been setbacks in basic medical service and gender equality, a surge in domestic violence faced by women and girls. Fair and equitable distribution of vaccines around the world would be a long and arduous task, and developing countries are confronted with mounting challenges as they seek recovery from the pandemic.

The current crisis in Ukraine has added uncertainty to global development, making it more difficult to implement the 2030 Agenda.

Meanwhile, international development cooperation also face rare opportunities. The tide of the new industrial revolution is gaining momentum. New business forms and models generated from digital economy and green development provide new opportunities for developing countries' leapfrog development.

II. The Role of Global Development Initiatives in Promoting the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda

At a time when global development has suffered severe setbacks, China raised the GDI, and called for the international community to pool efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and build a global community for development.

The GDI conforms to the trend of historical development. It adheres to development priority, focuses on new challenges and opportunities facing global development, pays attention to the special needs of developing countries, and deepens practical cooperation in such eight areas as poverty reduction, food security, anti-pandemic and vaccine, development financing, climate change and green development, industrialization, digital economy and connectivity. The eight key areas fully covers all 17 goals in 2030 Agenda. Through specific cooperation programs in those areas, the GDI will promote the realization of the SDGs as scheduled.

The GDI practices true multilateralism. The GDI closely follows the UN agenda and supports the UN in playing a leading role in global governance, which has received strong supports from the UN and its member states. The GDI upholds the principle of achieving shared benefits through consultation and collaboration, practices true multilateralism, formulates a road map to narrow the North-South gap and overcome development imbalance, and promotes global development to a new stage of balance, coordination and inclusiveness, which will bring tangible benefits to all countries. The GDI emphasizes the thoughts of people-centered development and leaving no one behind, greatly promoting the people's rights to life and development. The GDI is a new contribution to peace, development and human rights.

The GDI contains new development concepts. It accurately grasped the current situation and problems in world economy, and guided development practice with advanced concepts. It insists on inclusiveness and benefit for all, solving the problem of unbalanced and insufficient development among and within countries. It stresses development driven by innovation, seizing the historical opportunities brought about by the new round of scientific and technological revolution, and helping developing countries achieve leapfrog development. It takes the harmonious coexistence between man and nature as the development direction, accelerating green development, low-carbon transformation. The new development concepts are good remedies for world economic recovery and global common development.

The GDI has received enormous positive response from the international community. Since its inception, more than 100 countries and international organizations such as the UN have expressed their strong support, indicating the core concept of the GDI has broad international consensus. The GDI demonstrates China's responsibility, and is in line with the common vision of the international community to achieve the SDGs. The international community should work together to promote the implementation of the GDI, so that no country and individual should be left behind, and no appeal should be ignored.

III. Recommendations to Timely Realize all 17 SDGs through the GDI

The GDI is a public good for the world, and a further boost to the global partnership for development. The international community should promote synergy between the GDI and global relevant parties.

The UN is the main channel for the international development cooperation and plays an important role in promoting the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The

GDI brings new important opportunities for the UN and its development agencies to call on all parties to focus on the development agenda, invest more resources, and respond to the development of developing countries. They should actively advocate the GDI in UN platform, incorporate it into the UN development agenda, and propose specific cooperation programs in accordance with their respective mandates and strategic plans, to give stronger support for the 2030 Agenda.

Regional and sub-regional organizations are important parts of the international development cooperation and can also make positive contributions to the implementation of the GDI. Regional and sub-regional initiatives and processes such as the ASEAN Community Vision 2025, the African Union Agenda 2063, the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the SAMOA pathway for small islands developing countries, the Vienna Program of Action for landlocked developing countries and the Doha Program of Action for the least developed countries, can strengthen the alignment of their development strategies on the GDI, so that the GDI cooperation can be more in line with the development priorities of the region or sub-region, and better respond to the people's aspiration for a better life across the region or sub-region.

The GDI fully recognizes that different countries face different challenges, needs and concerns at different stages of development, and each country has the best knowledge of its most pressing development demands. So, countries could participate in the GDI in a gradual and flexible way, either in part or across all eight key areas, based on their practical needs or comparative advantages. Countries should strengthen coordination and communication, and build mutual trust, so that developed and developing countries could better carry out transnational cooperation, and pool financial resources to achieve common development by exploring new financing methods and channels, green technology, and artificial intelligence. Adaptive development could be considered to reduce climate change risks and promote 2030 Agenda.

More attention should be paid to the important role played by the private sector, non-governmental organizations, think tanks and universities and colleges. All parties are welcomed to carry out dialogue in an open, inclusive, flexible and gradual manner, and make suggestions from different perspectives on enriching and deepening the GDI and accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The media is encouraged to give more coverage to development issues. Through the concerted efforts of all parties, the GDI will bring together great forces at the global, regional and national levels for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the building of a global community for development.

Peace is the prerequisite and condition for development. All countries should engage in healthy competition for a better future, rather than pursuing hegemony. All countries should firmly safeguard the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, settle disputes by peaceful means through dialogue and negotiation, and create better conditions for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

119. **Apostle Padi Ologo Traditional Birth Centre**

This statement raises issues and way forward to building back better from COVID-19 in Sra community where we serve in Ghana with the focus on SDGs 4, 5, 15 and 17.

Issues:

SDG4 Quality Education: COVID-19 impacted on Education in the said community by reducing access because of fear of the pandemic leading to natural lockdown. Before COVID-19, quality of Education in the community was nothing good to write home about because of poor infrastructure. It became worse during COVID leading to high dropouts' rate.

SDG5 Gender Equality: The COVID-19 pandemic has brought petty trading of vulnerable women in the communities to a halt due to loss of financial capital. Discrimination against the women and girls intensified. Twenty households suffered domestic violence.

SDG15 Life on Land: Deforestation is extremely high even before COVID-19 because of poverty making the community and the surroundings, vulnerable to climate change. This is because the rate at which carbon dioxide is absorbed by the forest is reduced due to the practice of deforestation exposing the land surface to erosion, increasing soil temperature and preventing the existence of wildlife.

SDG17 Partnership for the Goals: In Ghana, there is a policy called Public, Private Partnership (PPP). This partnership works in the implementation of the Goals only when the private and for that matter, the NGO is financially resourced. In this case, the NGO can collaborate with Government expertise. It is however, difficult for NGOs to access funds from the government for project implementation. The impact of the COVID-19 has brought about reduction of Funds from International donors making it difficult to implement the SDGs.

A Way Forward:

Let us make genuine commitment to “Leave no one behind” principle. Access to education was not compromised in advanced countries like Australia during the peak of COVID-19 because of availability of digital technical infrastructure including laptops, internet, phones, etc. With Technical capacity building, donors should support our NGO and others to ensure digital technology covers the estimated 3.5 billion people still with no access to internet for skilled and quality education system.

United Nations and donors in partnership with local NGOs should broaden Social protection policy to cover women and children in Sra community and communities in Sub-Saharan Africa. This will empower them to ensure sustainable gender equality.

We reiterate our last year call that United nations and donors partner our NGO and local NGOs to organise communities to practice afforestation. This reduces emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere which will rectify the climate change syndrome because of the reduction in global warming to ensure healthy planet for the prosperity of all.

120. Ijeoma Foundation For The Old People

The pandemic had taught us the need to address critical issues holistically because of the negative long-term impact globally. Especially, in the area of health, food, technology, as the need for each cannot be overemphasized. Our organization hereby call for immediate support for the old people who are the most vulnerable in the society, and the women and girls, in the area of digital skills and know-how, food sufficiency, health care services and protection. We therefore solicit that all senior citizens must be adequately, provided for, to ensure healthy living for them.

To actualize all these goals, funding opportunities should be made available for us to use, for adequate implementation of sustainable development, in line with 2030 agenda.

121. Global NeuroCare

Global NeuroCare, in Special Consultative Status with the UN ECOSOC, focuses on transformative pathways promoting sustainable access to healthcare, a goal reaffirmed, targeted, and endorsed by the Agenda [A/RES/70/1, SDG 3], providing a cross-cutting impact across multiple SDGs, thus advancing global health security while furthering economic, social, and political stability, and directly relevant to the theme “*Building back better from coronavirus disease (Covid-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.*”

Findings

Deeply concerned that the world remains mired in the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic originating from Wuhan, China in 2019, causing millions of deaths, unprecedented suffering, and wreaking global economic and social devastation.

Fully aware that the pandemic overwhelmed medical systems, diverted healthcare funding, and destroyed years of progress in developing nations by *inter alia* derailing global health programs [E/CN.5/2019/NGO/33];

Bearing in mind this contributed to a resurgence of infectious diseases, untreated non-communicable diseases, and maternal, neonatal, and childhood morbidity and mortality [E/2020/NGO/1 at 68; E/2021/NGO/1 at 189];

Noting this resurgence exacerbated poverty, increased vulnerability, marginalization, and exclusion, aggravated healthcare disparities, and destabilized global health security [E.CN.5/2018/NGO/20];

Noting with deep regret that the failure to properly investigate the origin of this pandemic further jeopardizes global health security by impeding scientific advancement and creating an increased risk of the next pandemic.

Taking into consideration these factors, *Building Back* mandates addressing healthcare disparities in tandem with an independent inquiry into the origin of the pandemic in order to advance the full implementation of SDG 3 and comport with SDG 3.D, strengthening capacity by potentially averting the next pandemic through early warning, risk reduction, and management of global risks – risks such as the Wuhan Institute of Virology gain of function experiments [Nature 2015; 21(12):1508];

Recognizing that the most sustainable means of addressing these disparities is to improve healthcare access in developing regions [E/CN.5/2018/NGO/20; E/CN.5/2019/NGO/33];

And realizing this is most effectively accomplished by restoring global programs focused on establishing self-sufficient local training through collaborative partnerships, designed to advance the recruitment, development, training, and retention of a strong healthcare workforce [SDG 3.C], thereby improving healthcare access and promoting health equity and security, a position we have consistently ratified [E/CN.5/2017/NGO/19; E/CN.5/2018/NGO/20; E/CN.5/2019/NGO/33; E/2020/NGO/1], and which comports with the Agenda and current theme, Global NeuroCare® recommends:

Recommendations

Global NeuroCare respectfully calls upon this Forum to (i) undertake an independent, scientific, and transparent investigation into the origin of this pandemic, and (ii) coordinate aid to support relevant global health programs providing an integrated, multi-lateral, multi-faceted, cross-sector approach to improving healthcare access, in parallel with funding to manage the ongoing pandemic and prepare for the next event, thus promoting global public health security [SDG 3, 3.C, 3.D] and providing a broad cross-cutting impact directly or indirectly across multiple SDGs [SDG 1, 3, 4, 8.5, 10.4, 16, 17], thereby engendering positive economic, social and political stability,

which will contribute to global recovery while advancing the full implementation of the Agenda.

122. Ashinaga

Ashinaga Foundation is a non-profit organization that provides education and emotional support for students who have lost their parent(s) to disease and disaster, as well as for those whose parents are unable to work due to disabilities. All activities are funded by public donations; no governmental subsidies or tax exemptions are received. Over the past 50 years, 11,000 orphaned students have been supported by Ashinaga and its grassroots activities. We support not only orphaned students in Japan, but also students from Sub-Saharan Africa who attend universities worldwide. Through the Ashinaga Africa Initiative, over 250 talented orphaned students, each of them committed to returning to the African continent post-graduation to contribute to its development, have succeeded in enrolling at top global universities.

In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ashinaga conducted a survey in autumn 2021 among 4,000 guardians of our orphaned scholars in Japan, which yielded the realization that 1 in 4 of these guardians did not have any steady income. Since the situation had become this severe in a high-income country like Japan, we grew concerned that the impact on the Ashinaga Africa Initiative Scholars had been even more detrimental. And in fact, some of the Scholars have been unable to enter their country of study and are forced to attend classes online. Because of the time difference and their living situation back home, they cannot focus on studying, and suffer both mentally and physically. However, we believe that persevering and diligently continuing their studies ultimately will become a source of strength that will unlock their futures.

Many of our Scholars are already proactively participating in internships or international events online, changing this experience into an example of how to survive the “New Normal.” Moreover, thanks to the development of information technology, Ashinaga has been able to collaborate with local partners in Sub-Saharan Africa online, receiving support for our recruitment process. We have also undertaken extra efforts to support the Scholars with setting up their internet connections, online learning, and maintaining general well-being through frequent staff check-ins.

Among our current Graduates, some have started projects to solve problems in their local communities back home, and some have found employment in companies bridging Japan and the African continent. All are gradually realizing Ashinaga’s mission of “cultivating leaders who will contribute to sub-Saharan Africa.”

In keeping with the goal of gender equality, we also are strengthening our efforts in recruiting female applicants. Since the Initiative was launched in 2014, female applicants’ representation has ranged from 35 - 50%. In 2021, however, our first recruitment cycle since the start of the Covid, the proportion of female applicants dropped to 27%. To improve the gender balance among the Scholars, which is currently 40% female, we have reviewed our promotion and selection process and succeeded in increasing the proportion of female applicants this year to 40%.

This year we are hoping to continue spreading the *Kokorozashi* (a Japanese word for mission and vision that also encompasses “heart”) of the Ashinaga Movement throughout the world.

123. Fondation Zizi Care

Le dix-septième objectif promeut des partenariats efficaces entre les gouvernements, le secteur privé et la société civile sont nécessaires pour la réalisation des Objectifs du développement durable au niveau mondial, régional, national et local. Ces partenariats doivent être inclusifs, construits sur des principes et des valeurs communes, et plaçant au cœur de leur préoccupation les peuples et la planète

Presentation

Le monde reste actuellement sur la voie d'une augmentation de la température de 2,7 degrés Celsius, loin de l'objectif de 1,5 degré. Cette hausse de température provoque des catastrophes écologiques, notamment la réduction de la production agricole. Notre étude est axée sur l'impact de la Covid-19 et du changement climatique sur les Petites et moyennes entreprises. Elle a pour but d'analyser leurs effets, proposer des solutions pour une transition vers une économie verte, résiliente et inclusive.

A partir des données empiriques quantitatives et qualitatives recueillies auprès de 130 entrepreneurs congolais :

- Par l'échantillonnage aléatoire simple, l'élaboration du questionnaire, descente sur terrain et interview ;
- Publication de ce questionnaire sur les réseaux sociaux et la collecte des données avec Google Form.

Il ressort de nos enquêtes que 37% ont des entreprises de service ; 21% agro-alimentaire ; 91% sans appui des organismes gouvernementaux ; 52% font de l'épargne individuelle ; 61% ont réduit le nombre d'employé et 47% affirment que la quantité de production agricole est inférieure.

Au demeurant des dommages causés par la pandémie, les nouvelles technologies constitueraient une des solutions les plus probantes de relance et de métamorphose des Petites et moyennes entreprises (Fond Monétaire International, 2021).

Parmi les efforts fournis, nous citons les travaux de prototypage des générateurs verts à zéro émission de gaz carbonique que réalisent les Petites et moyennes entreprises ainsi que la Fondation Zizi Care et ses partenaires à Kinshasa.

Ces travaux portent notamment sur les projets suivants:

Générateur à base de produits agricoles, séchoir solaire, générateur à volant d'inertie, générateur à aimant permanent etc... A cela s'ajoute les allumés de feu écologiques (à base des déchets biodégradables) et les pavés écologiques à base des déchets non biodégradables.

Notre organisation s'occupe aussi de la construction immobilière comme stratégie innovante pour la réinsertion des différents corps du métier, l'agriculture, les œuvres caritatives...

La voie à suivre

Voici les actions à mettre en œuvre : décarboniser l'économie, enseigner l'éducation climatique dans les écoles, financer les projets et les innovations des énergies vertes présentés par les Organisations Non Gouvernementales, responsabiliser les jeunes aux postes de décision pour les questions qui concerne l'économie verte et développer le partenariat public-privée entre les entreprises privées qui développent des emplois verts et l'Etat

124. Institut International Pour les Droits et le Développement

Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action: The path to eradicate landmines in Azerbaijan

The Institute for Rights & Development - Geneva (IRDG) is deeply concerned by the threat to the population and environment posed by explosive remnants of war left on the Azerbaijan territory. In the aftermath of the Karabakh conflicts, "Azerbaijan has become the most contaminated country in the world" with over seven million square/meters reported as contaminated with mines and other types of explosives.

Azerbaijan is currently addressing the clearance of remnants of war with all the means at its disposal, but it is also working to address the social inclusion of seven hundred fifty thousand internally displaced people. This statement shed light on the humanitarian crisis caused by the disposal of the war remnants, which left an estimated 750,000 people displaced internally as well as 250,000 refugees. There is no possible return for the population until the region/land has been cleared completely from its remnant of war."

International community support through fundraising initiatives is essential to address effectively the remnants of war issue in Azerbaijan.

IRDG calls for

Exploring linkages between the potential of humanitarian mine action for lasting peace and socio-economic development and the achievement of the 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development more specifically SDG 16, that seeks to "significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

Introducing a national standard of incorporating environmental management while dealing with landmines. Humanitarian demining is not without risk of environmental harm SDG 15: Life on land. This is acknowledged by work carried out by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). Mine clearance activities may involve the clearance of vegetation, the use and deployment of heavy machinery, the detonation or disposal of large quantities of explosives and the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste – all of which has the potential to result in adverse environmental effects if not properly managed. This is also true of how land is used following the clearance of landmines.

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the effective global partnership at all levels for sustainable development, through supporting the efforts to clear landmines and explosive remnants of war and to mark and fence off dangerous areas. Acknowledge that humanitarian mine action is crucial for sustainable development, rebuilding infrastructure, education and agriculture and underline the importance of strengthening assistance to Azerbaijan to support the ongoing reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts in conflict affected areas. Explosive ordnance Risk Education and victim assistance are important and integrated part of any mine action programme.

125. **Fundacion Pro Humanae Vitae**

Leaving no one behind to accompany everyone into the future

Continuing with our previous interventions that dealt with the principle of Subsidiarity for Development and the need for generosity in cooperation, we keep this line of strategic thinking considering that to overcome the pandemic is fundamental to adopt a comprehensive approach with more development, social inclusion, diversity and a tangible commitment to strengthening nation-states, enhancing the structure of civil society and networking with the private sector. These variables are fundamental to ensure the full development and exercise of the rights of the population, and therefore the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

With these strengthened actors, already elevated to international scalability within the framework of the multilateral system and multinational actors, the State, civil society and the private sector are transformed and projected globally, generating weights and counterweights.

Civil society is crowned as a fundamental actor at the global level for public-private articulation around the world.

The private sector is a determining factor in continuing to sustain the industrial productive system in nation-states (allowing them to be integrated into world trade flows), the distribution of wealth, the creation of employment and the satisfaction of needs in terms of products and services.

Meanwhile, nation-states in regions with low institutional quality must promote global policies to inspire, accompany, guide and standardize processes to join the global development trend in the search for a system of high institutional quality and economic-financial transparency in order to provide a context conducive to high human development for their local societies.

It is necessary to break the systemic tradition of entrenched poverty in underdeveloped societies to move towards fully developing societies, and in a systemic and methodological exercise of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as a guarantee of the exercise of basic human rights of the first, second, third and fourth generation.

The role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations is to see, accompany and guarantee these processes that will allow for real, objective, concrete resilience and pragmatic results in overcoming COVID-19.

126. International Association of University Professors and Lecturers

L'enseignement supérieur est présenté comme partie intégrante de l'ODD 4 « Éducation de qualité ». La cible 4.3 vise d'ici à 2030 à faire en sorte que les femmes et les hommes aient accès dans des conditions d'égalité et de transparence à un enseignement technique, professionnel et tertiaire, y compris universitaire. Dans l'hypothèse que les formations se présentent comme les mécanismes permettant une accélération du processus d'enseignement, la reconnaissance des qualifications devrait être également incluse dans la stratégie de l'Agenda 2030. Dans le cadre de ces activités l'UNESCO et l'IAUPL souhaiteraient promouvoir la « Convention mondiale sur la reconnaissance des qualifications relatives à l'enseignement supérieur », qui a été adoptée par la 40-ème Conférence Générale de l'UNESCO en 2019.

Selon cette Convention, la mobilité académique constitue à cet effet un élément important pour les formations en mobilité, ainsi que pour leurs reconnaissances respectives. Or, la crise Covid n'a pas égaré l'enseignement supérieur et la mobilité académique. Ayant pris en considération les conséquences de l'impact de la Covid sur les futurs de l'éducation, l'IAUPL souhaiterait approfondir les débats menés au sein de l'UNESCO et compléter les dispositifs de la Convention quant aux interrogations concernant les points suivants:

- garantir l'assurance de qualité de l'enseignement supérieur pendant la période Covid.
- l'impact sur la reconnaissance des titres universitaires délivrés après la période de Covid.
- l'impact sur la mobilité universitaire pendant et post-covid et sur l'avenir de l'éducation.
- les conditions du travail des enseignants-chercheurs universitaires pendant la période Covid, et son impact sur leurs responsabilités et libertés académiques.
- l'usage des moyens numériques dans l'enseignement supérieur lors de la situation d'urgence.
- l'impact de la Covid sur le futur de l'enseignement supérieur.

Cette action consiste à présenter les dispositifs non-formels par le biais des Recommandations de la Conférence de l'IAUPL en tenant compte des priorités des pays adhérents à la Convention vis-à-vis des points suivants :

1. Définitions de nouveaux cadres de la mobilité numérique (pour la période 'post-covid').
2. Déploiement du réseau universitaire africain pour le projet de 'formation Doctorale' comme moyen du dialogue interculturel universitaire entre les pays.
3. Reconnaissance des qualifications et responsabilités des universitaires en la matière. Renforcement des capacités des enseignants-chercheurs et des libertés universitaires.
4. Harmonisation de reconnaissances des formations doctorales, notamment pour les formations doctorales Sud-Sud-Nord.
5. Accès des jeunes et des femmes aux formations par le biais des formations numériques.
6. Enfin, toute action visant à assurer la qualité des formations par les universitaires pour le développement des pays qui souhaiteraient adhérer à la Convention.

Il convient également de se questionner sur l'importance de la mobilité académique des formations universitaires au service du développement durable régulé par cette nouvelle Convention. L'idée que les universitaires puissent davantage associer les approches de leurs missions aux nouvelles exigences d'un environnement en

perpétuelle mutation suite au Covid, en mettant l'accent sur la reconnaissance des qualifications, est sous-jacent à ce questionnement. En effet, ce sont les universitaires qui conçoivent des formations de qualité, indispensables au développement durable, dans le cadre des principes qui régissent leurs missions, et d'abord le respect des 'Libertés Académiques, Academic Freedoms' consubstantielles de leur métier : la liberté pédagogique, la liberté en matière de recherche et la liberté d'expression, conformément à l'ODD 16 : « il est crucial pour une société durable de promouvoir des communautés pacifiques, d'assurer l'accès de tous à la justice et de créer des institutions efficaces, responsables et inclusives à tous les niveaux. Cela comprend un large éventail d'activités, tels que la liberté d'expression, l'accès à la justice, le respect des droits de l'homme, la réduction des inégalités et l'élimination de l'exclusion sociale. Chaque société doit disposer d'institutions fortes et efficaces qui garantissent le plein exercice des droits de ses citoyens ».

D'une façon plus générale, il conviendrait d'encourager de nouvelles idées sur la mise en place et le déroulement des enseignements pendant la période Covid et leurs reconnaissances en lien avec les responsabilités et libertés académiques des enseignants universitaires. Il pourrait en être de même, et à plus juste titre encore, pour le concept de liberté académique dans les conditions de la mobilité internationale des universitaires. Celui-ci est traditionnellement présent dans un préambule de la Convention en référence à la Recommandation sur la condition et le statut d'enseignant universitaire (1997), adoptée par la 27-ème Conférence Générale de l'UNESCO. Or, les conditions d'exercice des métiers des universitaires peuvent évoluer en fonction, non seulement des instruments normatifs, mais aussi en fonction des circonstances d'application de cette Convention, notamment celles provoquées par la Covid. Une organisation comme l'IAUPL, qui depuis son origine a inscrit la défense des libertés académiques dans ses buts, devrait être particulièrement encouragée à mener une réflexion sur la question du nouvel instrument normatif. Ici, l'activité de l'IAUPL s'insère dans les Programmes de l'UNESCO et de l'ONU pour aider à accélérer des actions et la mise en œuvre des voies de transformations pour une « décennie d'action et de réalisations en faveur du développement durable ». L'IAUPL a conçu et proposé une action pour les ODD 4, 16 et 17 par le biais de deux stratégies d'accélération suivantes :

Stratégie d'accélération N°1 : « la mobilité académique équitable des formations universitaires (y compris celles numériques) pour le développement »

Le nécessaire développement de la mobilité académique numérique et du système de reconnaissance des qualifications par les universitaires, peut être l'occasion d'opérer un changement qualitatif des pratiques professionnelles des enseignants-chercheurs. Ces formations numériques sont-elles de qualité internationalement reconnues ? Amènent-elles vers les problématiques de développement durable les parcours des étudiants et ceux des enseignants-chercheurs vers l'obtention des ODD 4, 5, 8, 9, 16 et 17 ? Par ailleurs, comment rendre davantage visibles et lisibles le rôle des universitaires dans le cadre des ODD 4 et 16 ?

Pour répondre à ces questions, il revient aux universitaires de créer des passerelles vers des mécanismes éducatifs appropriés répondant à la nouvelle donne de la Convention mondiale de l'enseignement supérieur avec une voie suivante :

-Voie de transformation : « renforcer les responsabilités, les libertés académiques et les capacités des universitaires, acteurs actifs de reconnaissance des qualifications et des formations traditionnelles et numériques »

Stratégie d'accélération N°2 : « La formation doctorale à la recherche et par la recherche des enseignants universitaires est au cœur du développement »

Des ouvertures originales sur des problématiques assez proches seront acceptées comme, par exemple, le projet de création d'une plateforme « université doctorale ». En effet, la préparation du Doctorat est une formation initiale (formation spécifique 'à la recherche' et 'par la recherche') permettant de faire accéder les titulaires du diplôme aux fonctions de Maîtres de Conférences et de Professeurs universitaires. La Convention pourrait trouver insuffisante la procédure actuelle de reconnaissance des titres et qualifications du Doctorat, formation des futurs enseignants universitaires à la recherche et par la recherche, qui reste spécifique au milieu universitaire. Selon les législations de divers pays cette préparation du diplôme de Doctorat peut prendre diverses formes.

-Voie de transformation : « la création des réseaux et des plateformes de formation doctorale avec une reconnaissance spécifique « évaluation par les pairs »

Pour le projet de l'IAUPL, il s'agit de créer une Université Doctorale, fonctionnant uniquement en mode de réseaux numériques dans un point focal, en faveur des doctorants d'Afrique ne pouvant pas venir pour un cycle complet doctoral dans les pays du Nord (mobilité académique réduite par la Covid). Les universitaires se prononcent au sujet d'une telle université qui - délivrerait le titre de Docteur en dehors des systèmes universitaires existants, différents d'un pays à l'autre, en respectant une Charte mondiale de qualité avec les standards internationaux et les harmonisations de reconnaissance du Doctorat.

Dans le cadre du Programme de participation de l'UNESCO, l'IAUPL a organisé, conjointement avec les Universités Cady Ayyad de Marrakech et Polytechnique de Ben Guerir, la Conférence Internationale IAUPL 'Mobilité académique et formations universitaires au service du développement de l'Afrique' qui s'est tenue au Maroc les 22-24 Mars 2022. Les universitaires de huit pays Africains, Européens et d'Amérique Latine ont élaboré les recommandations visant à renforcer le rôle des universitaires en matière de reconnaissance des diplômes et ont appelé les représentants de leurs États à ratifier la Convention mondiale de l'enseignement supérieur de l'UNESCO 2019. Un accent particulier a été mis sur la reconnaissance des Études Doctorales et la création de réseaux facilitant l'harmonisation transfrontalière de la reconnaissance du titre du Docteur par des universitaires dotés d'un 'Statut Mondial d'Enseignant-Chercheur'.

Au cours de ces journées, plusieurs intervenants ont dressé un bilan contrasté de l'utilisation des moyens numériques, notamment pour remédier à la crise de la Covid -le numérique- doit compléter le présentiel, sauf circonstances particulières, ne saurait le remplacer-, de l'exercice des libertés académiques et des mobilités universitaires en présentant certains réseaux déjà existants.

Plusieurs communications ont mis en évidence l'ambiguïté de la Convention mondiale de l'enseignement supérieur, notamment dans ses rapports avec les Conventions régionales déjà existantes. L'IAUPL souhaite que certaines clarifications soient apportées.

Le problème majeur que pose actuellement la mobilité des étudiants africains, c'est le risque qu'ils restent dans les pays du Nord dont les universités les accueillent, privant ainsi les pays africains des jeunes cadres nécessaires à leur développement. Pour remédier à cette situation, il y a d'abord des solutions universitaires. Les universités africaines doivent améliorer leur assurance qualité, cette mise à niveau leur permettrait de développer, à l'initiative des universitaires, des partenariats avec des universités du Nord pour mettre en place des réseaux, des structures comme l'Université francophone numérique que propose l'IAUPL, des doubles diplômes ou des diplômes communs avec une mobilité organisée à la fois des universitaires et des étudiants dans un parcours 'alternant' qui garantisse aux étudiants africains de garder le contact avec leur pays d'origine afin de lutter contre le pouvoir d'attraction des pays du Nord. Mais,

pour lutter contre cette attraction, des dispositions économiques, sociales et politiques doivent être prises par les États du Sud pour assurer à leurs jeunes cadres des conditions de travail et de rémunération attractives.

L'équilibre du monde dépend d'un rééquilibrage Nord-Sud et donc d'un développement (durable pour respecter l'équilibre de la planète) du Sud, les progrès de la connaissance et de la formation des jeunes générations dépendant d'une ouverture au monde et d'un dialogue équilibré entre les nations respectant leurs spécificités de tous ordres.

Plusieurs recommandations ont été faites dans le cadre de la Conférence 2022 IAUPL:

- La vérification des qualifications devrait intégrer le rôle joué par les universitaires au sein de son environnement.
- Proposer un cadre de référence permettant d'amorcer une diplomation efficace à travers des équivalences Sud-Sud-Nord et la reconnaissance des qualifications.
- Harmoniser la reconnaissance des formations Doctorales et contribuer à la ratification des propositions en ce domaine.
- Harmoniser les Statuts des Universitaires entre les pays partenaires.
- Élaborer une démarche inclusive pour optimiser l'efficacité de la mobilité internationale.
- Renforcer le rôle des Organisations Non Gouvernementales concernant l'enseignement supérieur et la recherche dans les débats et les sphères de suivi de la Convention.
- Reconnaître l'implication, l'engagement et les initiatives des universitaires dans la mise en place des projets de partenariats.
- L'accessibilité aux dispositifs de connectivité à internet et aux technologies devrait s'opérer d'une manière équitable entre les différents pays.
- Penser à des partenariats équilibrés et repenser les disparités régionales.
- Repenser le modèle de la mobilité académique en instaurant des dispositifs numériques permettant de mutualiser les compétences et les connaissances et les capacités des enseignants.
- Innover en période de crise pour proposer des solutions innovantes pour soutenir le savoir et un avenir réussi.
- Enrichir la formation à travers l'accompagnement de la digitalisation optimale en prenant en considération son danger sur l'humanisme.
- Promouvoir la liberté universitaire comme facteur déterminant de la mobilité universitaire en Afrique.

Dans le cadre de prochaines consultations de suivi du Comité sur les Conventions et Recommandations - Conseil Exécutif de l'UNESCO, il serait souhaitable qu'un questionnaire intègre les problématiques concernant le rôle et l'inclusion des Universitaires dans la reconnaissance des qualifications de l'enseignement supérieur.

127. Legion of Good Will

Given the difficulties the world has been facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we, from the Legion of Good Will (LGW), submit our recommendations for advancing the 2030 Agenda, with a particular focus on the fourth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), which deals with quality education. We believe that only by way of a major investment in an education that combines academic goals with values of compassion and understanding to “educate brain and heart”—as we advocate in our schools—will nations be able to ensure a model of development that is committed to sustainability and peace. We are a civil society organization founded 72 years ago in Brazil and that operates in the areas of social assistance, education, and social communication. Our work model is currently replicated in six other countries by the Legion of Good Will of Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Portugal, the United States, and Uruguay. This document is divided into two topics: (1) “Education, the pandemic, and the mental health of children and adolescents” and (2) “Social support for families and the fight against school dropout.”

According to the “Remote Learning Reachability” report, released by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), 3 out of 10 children cannot be reached by remote learning programs during the pandemic. This is a global emergency in education. Exclusion from school in Brazil has affected those who were already living in a vulnerable situation even more. The North (28.4 percent) and Northeast (18.3 percent) regions saw the highest rates of children and adolescents aged between 6 and 17 with no access to education. The black, mixed-race, and indigenous populations suffered the most, representing 69 percent of the total.

From December 2021 to March 2022, we delivered 20,000 school supplies to children and adolescents and more than 130 tons of food and other basic supplies to families who were affected, in addition to the pandemic, by the heavy rains that devastated parts of Brazil in this period. Helping us with this are partner organizations that work on the outskirts of cities, with indigenous communities, quilombos [remote settlements originally founded as a refuge by fugitive enslaved people or their descendants], and riverside communities throughout Brazil. In addition, the LGW-Brazil has received and distributed a large donation of 406,450 face masks and face shields from Henry Schein Cares-USA, benefitting more than 165,000 people across 75 cities. This international humanitarian effort, which counted with the important transportation sponsorship of C.H. Robinson and Latam Airlines, helped mitigate the spread of COVID19 and directly assisted hundreds of economically disadvantaged communities in all parts of Brazil.

Education, the pandemic, and the mental health of children and adolescents

According to the survey, “Primary and Secondary Impacts of COVID-19 on Children and Adolescents,” conducted by UNICEF and released on June 30, 2021, 56 percent of adults reported that at least one adolescent in their household experiences one or more symptoms related to mental health issues, such as: irritability, sleep alteration, changes in appetite, decreased interest in routine activities, or anxiety about the future. Health researchers have, in fact, warned that it is a mistake to underestimate the feelings of children, adolescents, and young people who have also faced serious restrictions imposed by the health crisis caused by the new coronavirus. Anxiety, loneliness, fear, and apathy are some of the issues that deserve attention in order to prevent trauma and future repercussions.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, the school staff from the Legion of Good Will’s teaching network of Brazil, Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay have been working to

minimize the impact of this scenario, which has hit the poorest families the hardest, who have had difficulties with eating, studying, and even in having access to minimally structured spaces.

We continued training our professionals to provide better support for students and their families. The guidance offered to teachers through the teaching line we apply in our schools—which is comprised of the Pedagogy of Affection and the Ecumenical Citizen Pedagogy, created by educator Paiva Netto—is that they should have a complete view of the students, so that they are seen not only in their cognitive aspect, but also in their physical, emotional, and spiritual aspects.

We were able to reach zero school dropout rate in 2020 and 2021, at the height of the COVID-19 crisis that was unfortunately responsible in 2020 alone for keeping four million Brazilian students aged between 6 and 34 out of school or college, according to a survey published by C6 Bank/Datafolha.

Research shows that students learn more and better in an environment of emotional security, where trust is established between teacher and student. The Ecumenical Culture, Peaceful Coexistence, and Life Projects classes, which are on the curriculum of the Legion of Good Will's schools, help students increase their self-knowledge and sense of well-being, as teachers encourage each one of them to talk about what they like, their aspirations, and wishes.

Various experiences in this regard were shared at the LGW's 24th International Congress on Education on June 27 and 28, 2022, whose theme was "Learning challenges and emotional health – reflections of the pandemic: a view beyond the intellect." The event had simultaneous transmission in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Brazilian Sign Language.

Social support for families and the fight against school dropout

In addition to our schools, in 2021 alone our social assistance services monitored 9,000 underprivileged children and adolescents aged between 6 and 18 who attended public schools. Despite all our efforts, we identified that 3.5 percent of them dropped out of school, and even if the school where they were enrolled had not informed the competent bodies, our teams immediately provided individual assistance for each family by notifying the popular municipal bodies whose mission is to guarantee the rights of children and young people in order to get them back into their respective schools.

The closing of schools, artistic and cultural projects, and leisure areas during the pandemic has had a serious impact on Brazilian children and adolescents, especially those from low-income families and living in vulnerable situations. The poor levels of education of their parents, legal guardians, and the over-load experienced by female caregivers—mothers, aunts, grandmothers, etc—made it difficult for them to help their children with schoolwork when remote classes were introduced. In many cases, there was just one cell phone for the whole family; and even in those homes that had more devices, it was common for them not to support the apps and materials required by the school.

Even among students who did not drop out of school, learning was hampered by the little or non-existent stimulus to study; the public system stopped monitoring those with learning disorders and deficits; there was an increase in children and adolescents being forced into child labor, which aggravated the situation and was the result of the worsening of the family's working conditions and the increase in unemployment; families that at the beginning of the pandemic had had access to the Internet were now losing income and, consequently, lost access to the Internet, to food, and to the resources necessary for survival and learning continuity.

Every two weeks, our team carried out a total of 35,756 remote consultations with all the families to offer guidance and identify monitoring needs, which meant that parents had a place to seek help in any situation they needed, ensuring that many situations of vulnerability did not become a risk for the families. This initiative helped them with several aspects that also had an impact on school attendance, such as mediating the access to government and institutional benefits, offering emotional support, providing information about preventing COVID-19 in the city, according to the guidelines of the Ministry of Health, and passing on information about labor rights so that people could better understand the legislation that was introduced during the pandemic.

We have designed and maintained strategies for promoting interaction with children and young people by way of online social and educational actions that involved them directly. We carried out activities between family members that strengthened the social bonds and encouraged a closer contact with the arts, games, and topics that promote citizenship. Activities were assigned and explained to the families according to their possibilities. Online messaging apps were used a lot, but those who did not have access to them received guidance by phone calls or in person at the LGW's unit. To avoid that the lack of resources hampers the participation of children and adolescents, 75,524 games kits were delivered, which contained different teaching materials for use during the activities, such as paint, modeling clay, different types and colors of paper, crayons, colored pencils, etc.

With regard to this extensive work with families, educator Paiva Netto, President of the Legion of Good Will, affirms, "Everybody is deeply concerned with the savagery that is spreading over the Earth, looking for a solution that at least reduces violence, which has come out of hidden places, from the shadowy dawn, and taken over streets and homes, for it has invaded minds. However, today, one is becoming more aware that if there is violence, it is not just the problem of governments, of police forces, but a challenge for all of us, for society. If violence came out of the dark night and came to show itself in the light of day, it is because it lives in our innermost selves. By existing in our Souls and hearts, it will manifest itself wherever human beings may be. I emphasize that we must deactivate the explosives remaining in our hearts.

"Now, experiencing disarmed Peace, also starting with the fraternal, moral, and spiritual re-education of all nations, is a measure for the survival of people that cannot be postponed. But for this to happen hearts must first be disarmed, while preserving good sense, as I pointed out to the young people of all ages who heard me speak in the city of Jundiá (Brazil), in September 1983, and that was later published in the *Folha de S.Paulo* newspaper on November 30, 1986. As I said at the time, the real danger lies not just in weapons, but also in the brains behind the production of those weapons; the brains that create the conditions, both locally and worldwide, for these weapons to be used; it lies in the fingers that push the buttons and pull the trigger.

"Arms alone do nothing nor do they appear by 'spontaneous creation'. But they are dangerous even if they are stored in magazines. They can explode or get rusty and pollute the environment. They are the effect of the cause called human beings when they are distant from God, the *Causa Causarum*,*1 who is Love (First Epistle of John 4:16). We become true atomic bombs, biological and chemical weapons, cannons, or rifles, when we distance ourselves from Goodness and do not live by the precepts of Fraternity, Solidarity, Generosity, and Justice of Christ, who is the Lord Almighty of this planet.

"The deadly, mental, and physical weapons will lose all their terrible significance and bad reason for 'existing' on the day wisely re-educated individuals no longer have sufficient hatred to fire them. And they will no longer be manufactured.

“We need to deactivate the explosives, stop holding the grudges that insist on dwelling within human hearts.”

To conclude, we thank all organizations and countries engaged in this forum and reaffirm our commitment to cooperate with the United Nations in the implementation of a new development paradigm that guarantees both sustainability and peace.

128. Partners For Transparency

Corruption hinders achieving SDG 16 in the Arab region

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the weakness of institutions in many Arab countries, which undermines the ability of the State to respond quickly and effectively to crises. Weak rule of law, spreading corruption, lack of accountability, increasing lack of trust, and protracted conflict and occupation already impeded Arab countries' ability to achieve SDG 16 and all the other SDGs.

Focusing on Corruption, which is one of the factors hindering development within countries, as corruption is still rampant in the world, where more than 6 billion people live in countries where corruption prevails in one way or another, especially countries where conflicts and undemocratic regimes are prevalent.

Corruption has developed into organized institutions that pose a threat to development in the world. Rather, it is the most prominent obstacle to the realization of sustainable development goals, if sustainable development is one of the basic human rights recognized in national and international charters. Corruption contributes to the loss of this right and deprives individuals of enjoying freedoms and justice and ensuring a future. It also excludes the advanced generations from formulating policies and various development plans and participating in making fateful decisions related to their future. Corruption is prevalent across the Arab States. According to the 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index, 5 out of the 11 worst-scoring countries globally are from the region. Corruption impacts the private sector, with almost a quarter of businesses receiving at least one request for a bribe from a public official. For example, 37 percent of businesses have experienced at least one request for a bribe from a public official in Iraq and Morocco, as have 65 percent in Yemen.

In this context Partners for Transparency recommends the following:

A. Considering corruption is directly linked to achieving sustainable development goals, there is a need for Arab governments to provide systems to curb corruption and nepotism, enhance meritocracy in public institutions and public works, and activate the national oversight role

B. Considering the efforts of the governments of Arab countries to develop plans to implement the sustainable development goals, it is recommended to adopt concrete strategies to combat corruption and introduce strong systems of checks and balances

C. Legislative bodies and parliaments in Arab countries should work to uphold the rule of law and fight corruption, by calling for a commitment to what is stated in Arab national anti-corruption laws and constitutions.

129. **Fundación More Peace Less AIDS**

During the COVID 19 pandemic, the economic crisis was an aggravating factor in situations of endemic violence and gender inequalities (SDG4) in the LAC Region. Femicides increased significantly and women's limited employment and socio-educational prospects further exacerbated the lack of opportunities for their insertion in these spheres.

As stated by UN WOMEN, in emergency contexts, the risk of violence against women and girls increases, especially domestic violence, due to increased tensions in the home. It is a fact that, if they are subjected to conditions of violence, gender equity is far from being achieved.

We believe that an essential first step in achieving gender equity is to establish lines of action in order to reduce the impact of violence in general, and against women. In this regard, UN Member States have signed resolution 53/243, Declaration and Program of Action on a Culture of Peace.

This Resolution, in its program of action, proposes that Member States adopt measures to promote a culture of peace at national, as well as regional and international levels. Among the measures to ensure equality between women and men, point f) highlights the provision of support and assistance to women who have been victims of any type of violence, including at home, the workplace and during armed conflicts.

In this context and within the framework of this UN Resolution, we promote an innovative tool which is applicable in reducing the impact of violence: Theaters of Peace.

The proposal is to build scenarios that allow us to talk about situations of violence already installed in society and, at the same time, introduce ourselves into the universe of the Culture of Peace.

One of the most worrying aspects of the multidimensional nature of the COVID pandemic is the epidemic of violence that is spreading around the world in very common scenarios: educational institutions, homes, the workplace and even on public roads. All of these are "Theatres" where what we call "Everyday Wars" take place. Governments have not played a leading role in these "Theatres", they have not sought the best strategy to mitigate the impact of Violence.

In this sense, we propose two priority lines of action:

1. Social Communication. Establish agreements with social communicators, media managers, directors, media owners' associations and press workers to make visible the impact of violence against women and the consequent gender inequality, using the Theatres of Peace as a dynamic instrument to detect conflicts and inequalities.
2. Construction of Citizenship. To promote DIALOGUE and REFLECTION on violence and gender inequity in various social groups that are spontaneously constituted by their working, personal, social or private activity of association/affiliation.

130. Fundação Antonio Meneghetti

In the thematic of “building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, Fundação Antonio Meneghetti has been working to develop educational strategies that can contribute to the discussions that will take place at the ECOSOC High-Level Segment.

Having as bases the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the knowledge of the onto psychological Pedagogy (a knowledge initiated by Prof. Antonio Meneghetti, founder of our institution, and that is now continued in the world by many scholars), we have been working all over 2021 and this beginning of 2022 to understand the characteristics of the Brazilian youth that has suffered the effects of the pandemics over the last years. We have found out that these young people need help in order to learn how to communicate to teamwork and to develop their self-esteem. In that sense, our social projects are working with initiatives involving areas such as literature, music, sports, creation of green spaces, improvement of the public school’s areas and recycling in order to offer them alternative knowledges that help increase youth’s protagonist.

Also, another very fruitful initiative has been the study groups created with teachers of the public networks of schools here in the South of Brazil. It is a support group where the teacher finds very useful tips in order to overcome their traumas and worries originated by the pandemic period. A space of plural conversation that has been counting with the participation of experienced teachers from *Antonio Meneghetti Faculdade* (higher education institution that is our partner).

Also, our Foundation has promoted, in July of 2021, the IV International Congress “A new pedagogy for a future society”. It was organized in online format, with accreditations free for all the public, and it has discussed the future education after the pandemics. This debate has counted with the participation of scholars from Brazil, Europe (Netherlands, England), USA, and Asia (Sigapure); also, with the participation of distinguish representatives of UNESCO, such as the former director general of UNESCO, Ms. Irina Bokova, and the director of UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean, Mr. Lidia Brito. All these guests brought a great enlighten over the thematic for the participants.

To promote conversations and help people towards the new reality we are facing together in the Education field seems to be an important action that could be replicated all over. It is essential to take practical actions in order to offer children and youth supplementary education on the many different fields in which their improvement was made difficult during the pandemics.

Our initiatives here in Brazil might be of interest for other institutions, so we invite to read the report published in English in our website (www.fundacaoam.org.br). It will be great if we can exchange experiences and, with this knowledge, improve our work here in Brazil towards a 2030 in which we can reach the SDGs and overcome the difficulties imposed by the COVID to populations all over the world.