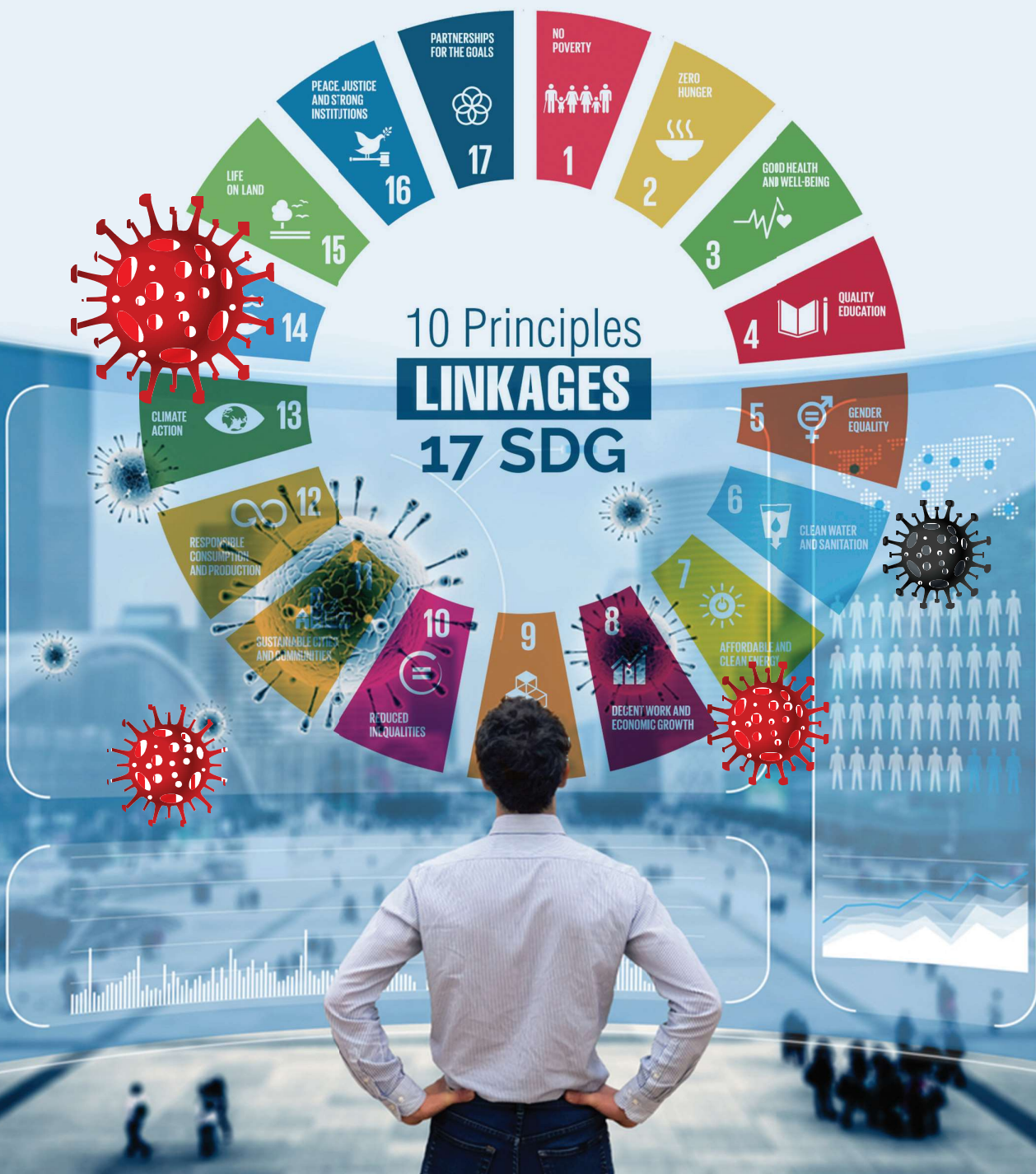


CORONAVIRUS:

the management of pandemic and achieve
the **United Nations Agenda 2030**





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Introduction

The Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic has turned the entire world into ghost new world disrupting everything in our daily life and shutting the entire countries and cities across the globe. Covid19 is considered by many people as the first biological world war ever experienced in modern times with immeasurable impact on our normal life.

Despite the devastating impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the entire world, today more than ever before in human history, there is an urgent need for wake-up call for all countries across the world to find a path to Sustainable Development (SD). And although still early but many people and international organisations already predicting that the coronavirus pandemic will have more severe impact than all previous outbreaks including SARS and other deadly health epidemics.

United Nations Agenda 2030

In 2015, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The conference will critically address the question of how countries can achieve the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda during the Covid-19 pandemic and to provoke forward thinking on developing new methods and approaches to suit the challenges and opportunities of this new era of global lockdown. These new approaches call for actions to create different appropriate ways of doing things and of doing new things that will be essential to solve our future problems and help in the implementation of the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda. Systematic search for opportunities is important for helping to ameliorate the many problems facing countries. We must therefore produce, consume and organise ourselves differently.

This volume of the World Sustainable Development Outlook book series aims to explore the impact of coronavirus pandemic on the global efforts to achieve the UN 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda for SD. More specifically, the book aims to discuss and explore various approaches and different ways planned by governments which can contribute to enhance and support the implementation of Agenda 2030 after the coronavirus pandemic across the world.

The book includes selection of the best papers

- Reflect the SDGs in their own research activities towards any recovery plan after the coronavirus pandemic.
- Strategies for disaster prevention and management as well as recovery strategies.
- Social impact and community resilience and engagement.
- The role and power of science, technology and innovation particularly enabling technologies relating to telecommunication and the internet.
- Education and learning under isolation and how do you see the role of higher education and research institutions (science, innovation and entrepreneurship) in service of the 2030 Agenda.
- Revisiting current healthcare policies and strategies: infectious disease prevention and control.
- Issues to do with strengthening capacity in health systems including field laboratories during the coronavirus epidemic outbreak.
- Rapid vaccine development and vaccination policies across the world.
- Logistics and supply chain management.
- Impact on the hospitality, leisure and tourism.

The structure of both conferences myriad knowledge and learning events were designed to foster maximum peer-learning and experience sharing. The format allowed for panelists to present their views on specific topical issues followed by a question

presented during the Eighteenth International Annual Conference and Eight Diaspora International Conference of World Association for Sustainable Development (WASD), London, UK, 20-22 July 2020. However, as the result of the global coronavirus pandemic, for the first time since its inception, both conferences were organised remotely via video conference technologies. In doing so, WASD used the latest technology in video conferencing from London with participants from all over the world connecting from homes. In preparations for these two conferences, WASD also organised various debates "Global Minds Roundtable Debates" to stimulate and excite people from across the world about the topic of the conference. Each roundtable featured 3 international experts talking live for about 45mins to 1hr about various issues relating to the management and compact of Covid-19 pandemic.

The two conferences brought together researchers, policy makers, educators, consultants and employers from around the world to exchange knowledge and experience and discuss recent developments and current challenges in both theory and practice regarding the Coronavirus pandemic. Participants were invited to address the following key issues in their contribution:

and answer session. This provided opportunities for delegates to effectively engage in dialogue and share their individual experiences and perspectives on the given issue or topic.

Role of the Diaspora

The collaboration between the Diaspora and those working within the country of origin offers several opportunities and contributes to compact Covid-19. Building constructive relationships between the Diasporas and countries of origin require that Diasporas be treated not as a mere resource, but as partners in the countries of origin efforts to compact Covid-19. It has long been argued that Diasporas will be most interested in contributing to SD efforts when they have a sense of belonging in relation to their country of origin. Therefore, it is very important to establish trust between Diasporas

and governments in the country of origin. In doing so, governments need to invest in identifying their Diasporas abroad and in understanding their skills and interests. Many sustainability problems can only be tackled by connecting the diaspora with those working within the country of origin such as dealing with the deadly consequences of Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, building capacity in country of origin is necessary for compacting Covid-19 and it is critical to turn the diaspora into a positive tool for SD as well as serving as role models for the youth in the country of origin.

Role of youth and women

The entire concept of SD is about the future and the future is all about the children and youth! Youth population is growing rapidly in all regions of the world and WASD is very keen to understand the children and youth perspectives and expectations for their future.

Women across the world have an untapped potential as a primary mover of greater development within their countries and regions. Their role is very crucial for compacting Covid-19 and in dealing with its serious socio-economic impacts on individuals and communities, but challenges remain.

WASD has been very successful in encouraging the engagement of children, youth and women from across the world in its various activities to compact Covid-19. In doing so, WASD managed to make the voice of all children, youth and women heard and consequently enabling the decision makers to consider those views and ideas in their big decisions regarding Covid-19 pandemic. WASD strongly believe that children, youth and women should be the cornerstone of any strategy by all governments and policy makers. We must listen to our children, youth and women and more importantly how we can help them with their future employment plans and aspirations.



Conclusions and recommendations

The deadly consequences of coronavirus pandemic, will of no doubt send shocking warnings for all governments to realise, accept and accomplish their natural and ascribed duties to continue their progress to achieve the 17 SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.

All governments must confront new realities rapidly manifesting themselves in the large number of people losing their lives due to Covid-19. Business as usual will not suffice and therefore governments need to be expansively re-focused in order to overcome the many steps back as a result of the coronavirus. More importantly, all governments need to undertake robust national and international fast-track policies and strategies to achieve the 2030 Agenda. It is now clearly recognised that innovation and knowledge, as well as being a central driver of economic growth, are also recognised as very important tools to help achieve SD.

For all countries across the world particularly DCs to succeed in the post Covid-19 era, all youth and women must be equipped with all necessary skills and capabilities to manage and adapt to future challenges.

Meanwhile, with less than 10 years left for all countries to achieve the UN 17 SDGs, many social scientists argue that Covid-19 pandemic is enforcing many governments to take very difficult choices and to make massive behavioural change by adopting various innovative and creative solutions to problems. These massive behavioural changes could help individuals and countries to achieve the 17 SDGs.

