



DUSF'20 x HMUNEA'21

CONCEPT NOTE

“COVID-19 and its Impact on SDGs’ Targets”

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the progress toward achieving many of the Sustainable Development Goals and threatens to undo much of the work already achieved. Delivering on the SDGs’ in the face of the pandemic will require real focus, major changes, and, most importantly, global solidarity. **The global solidarity also demands an equitable vaccine distribution, as “nobody is safe until we all are safe.”** While societies continue to implement policies to achieve the SDGs’, COVID-19 will continue to spread, threaten these efforts, and put the achievement of targets at risk. The sooner the pandemic is contained, the more resilient the global community will become to face the uncertainty looming on achieving the SDGs’ targets. COVID-19 has had a detrimental impact on employment, food security and the economic growth of many countries, especially the countries that rely heavily on tourism and foreign aid have suffered a great deal as a result of these cutbacks.

Most of the states had already been in the backseat in terms of progress towards achieving sustainable development goals. The impact of COVID-19 has exposed the vulnerability of states around the world in their failure to achieve the basic ideals of an equitable and sustainable society, especially in the domains of reducing poverty levels, providing standardised and quality healthcare facilities to its citizens, achieving gender equality through the provision of equal and fair opportunities and ensuring greater participation in the workforce, creating a transitional mechanism towards clean and renewable energy from the conventional modes of energy bases, fostering action to combat the negative impacts of climate change and cutting down on carbon emissions to fostering synergies and partnerships with other state governments to tackle global, national and regional issues and challenges.

Ever since the conception of the SDGs as the global development framework as a stepping stone to the millennium development goals, these goals have largely remained “aspirational” rather than becoming a “reality.” Most of these goals encompass key dimensions of progress and well-being and serve as an important benchmark to assess how nations perform and meet the issues and challenges in the contemporary scenario. A sloppy approach or a failure to achieve these goals would leave nations susceptible to major catastrophes, especially in a post-pandemic recovering world. The need of the hour calls upon the states to sincerely act upon their commitments and fulfil the aspirations outlined in these goals.

SDGs Covered:

Goal 1: No Poverty

Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being

Goal 5: Gender Equality

Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy

Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Goal 13: Climate Action

Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals