Reprioritizing SDGs during pandemic & recession

SDGs can help us recover from pandemic and recession.

The Covid-19 Great Lockdown is being perceived as the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression and countries are struggling to save lives with their limited resources amid a life-versus-livelihood debate. There are concerns that this fight against pandemic may shift both the focus and resources away from some critical SDG actions. However, here we highlight how reprioritization of SDGs can rather help fighting pandemic and recession while protecting key SDG targets:

Goal 1 to reduce pandemic-induced poverty

Social protection*, building resilience# mobilizing resources% and investing$ in poverty eradication

Targets *1.3 *1.5 *1.a *1.b

Goal 2 to address pandemic-induced hunger

Universal access to food*, ending malnutrition# sustainable, resilient% and productive$ agriculture for zero hunger

Targets *2.1 *2.2 *2.4 *2.a

Goal 3 to stop spread of pandemic

End epidemics* through R&D# and access to vaccines and medicines%; improving health workforce$, early warnings and management of global health risks$

Targets *3.3 *3.b *3.8 *3.c *3.d

Goal 4 for resilience and employment

Lifelong learning* for a resilient generation; ensuring adaptive and effective learning environments$, and technical skills for employment$

Targets *4.1, 4.6 *4.a *4.4

Goal 5 against lockdown-time domestic violence

Eliminate violence against women at home*, promote shared household responsibility#, and access to reproductive rights% and information and communications technology$

Targets *5.2 *5.4 *5.6 *5.b

Goal 6 for hygiene and water-use efficiency

Access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all* and increase water-use efficiency# during handwashing campaigns

Targets *6.2 *6.4

Goal 7 for clean energy as pandemic prevention

Promoting affordable*, renewable# and clean energy% and energy-efficiency$ to reduce impact on wildlife and contacts with animals

Targets *7.1 *7.2 *7.a *7.3
Goal 8 to protect workers and economy from recession

Diversification and innovation of labor-intensive sectors*, ensuring decent work†, youth employment‡, and labor rights for all workers including migrants§ without environmental degradation¶

Targets *8.2 8.5 8.6 8.8 8.4

Goal 9 for economic resilience and inclusiveness

Raise industry's share of employment*, access of small industries to affordable credit‡, enhance research and innovation§ for industrial diversification¶

Targets *9.2 9.3 9.5 9.b

Goal 10 to tackle growing income inequalities

Reduce income inequalities*, safeguard wage and social protection‡, ensure special and differential treatment in trade§ and resources to countries in need¶

Targets *10.1, 10.3 10.4 10.a 10.b

Goal 11 to protect urban poor from disaster

Ensure basic services in slums*, promote inclusive and sustainable urbanization‡, reduce deaths by disasters focusing on poor and vulnerable§

Targets *11.1 11.3 11.5

Goal 12 for responsible consumption to prevent pandemic

Sustainable consumption*, efficient use of natural resources‡, reduced food waste and food losses§, sustainable public procurement¶ and lifestyles in harmony with nature

Targets *12.1 12.2 12.3 10.7 10.8

Goal 13 for prevention, adaptation and awareness

Strengthen resilience to natural disasters*, adapt policies, strategies and planning‡, raise awareness and capacities for impact reduction and early warning§

Targets *13.1 13.2 13.3

Goal 14 for conservation and scientific cooperation

Reduce marine pollution*, protecting the ecosystems‡, ensuring scientific cooperation§, sustainable fisheries and tourism¶ and conservation of oceans resources

Targets *14.1 14.2 14.4 14.7 14.c

Goal 15 to protect biodiversity for pandemic prevention

Conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems*, increasing reforestation‡, reducing degradation of natural habitats§, and ending poaching and trafficking of wildlife products¶

Targets *15.1 15.2 15.5 15.7, 15.c

Goal 16 for just and accountable response to pandemic

Reduce violence* especially against children‡, reduce corruption§ ensuring accountable and transparent institutions¶ inclusive decision-making¶, and public access to information

Targets *16.1 16.2 16.5 16.6 16.7 16.10

Goal 17, because we are all in this together

Protect ODA commitments*, resource mobilization‡ and debt sustainability§ for developing countries, enhance international cooperation on access to science, technology and innovation¶ on favorable terms

Targets *17.2 17.3 17.4 17.6 17.7