Int. j. adv. multidisc. res. stud. 2024; 4(3):350-352

Received: 27-03-2024
Accepted: 07-05-2024

International Journal of Advanced Multidisciplinary Research and Studies

ISSN: 2583-049X

The Relevance of SDGs and IDF during and after Pandemic

Dr. Manjinder Kaur
Assistant Professor, PG Department of Commerce, Guru Nanak Dev University College, Chungh, Tarn Taran, Punjab, India

Corresponding Author: **Dr. Manjinder Kaur**

Abstract
The COVID-19 pandemic that alarmed a public health emergency of global concern derailed from track every country in the world to attain the SDGs by 2030. All this signals that SDGs through international development finance are even more important than ever before pandemic. COVID-19 had negatively affected several goals including SDGs 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 10 (reduced inequalities). Pandemic also caused a setback for the economic globalization throughout the globe where world merchandise trade fell between 13% and 32% after the viral wave and foreign direct investment levels also dropped by 40% which constituted 60% of development finance. Thus, there is a serious shortage of development finance throughout the globe and this issue needs to be addressed on urgent basis since international development finance is the backbone to attain SDGs with in time or before 2030.

Keywords: SDGs and IDF, Pandemic, India

The Relevance of SDGs and IDF during and after pandemic

The World Health Organization publicly confirmed the outbreak of the COVID-19 that alarmed a public health emergency of global concern on 31 January 2020. The complete financial impact of the crisis is still not easy to be forecasted but groundwork estimates are US$2 trillion. The pandemic emergency has impacted every developed and developing economy and threatened the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As we know that through the SDGs, leaders from around the planet are dedicated to ensure that “no one is left behind.” But COVID-19 pandemic has affected adversely international development finance and consequently SDG (sustainable Development Goals) around the globe leading to a major threat towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a result of pandemic, every country in the world derailed from track to attain the goals by 2030. All this signals that SDGs through international development finance are even more important than ever before pandemic.

All sustainable goals aiming at Poverty elimination, well being and good health, clean water, quality education, affordable and clean energy, creation of decent work, reduction of inequality and economic growth are among the 17 SDGs adopted under the UN framework. SDGs are directly and indirectly related to international development finance and these goals have become vulnerable in pandemic era and post pandemic era. There is need to harmonize three dimensions of sustainable development: Social inclusion, economic growth and environmental protection to attain SDGs which can be figured out in five pillars: Goals 1-6 for peoples, goal 7-11for prosperity, goals 12-15 for planet, goal 16 for peace and goal 17 for partnerships. (Ankita Srivastava, *et al*. 2020) [7].

COVID-19 had negatively affected several goals including SDGs 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and wellbeing), 8 (decent work and economic growth),10 (reduced inequalities) but had positive impact on SDGs 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action), 14 (life below water),15 (life on land). However, in long run pandemic effects will be visible in all these goals. Also, India faces challenges in many SDGs which include — zero hunger, gender inequality and good health among others.

Developing countries are vulnerable to the pandemic due to the lack of international financial support to fulfill the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Low and middle-income economies will also suffer from the lack of international funding available for achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (Barbier & Burgess, 2020) [1].

Developed countries provide Official Development Assistance (ODA) which is an important source for financing the needs and SDGs of developing economies, principally for countries that have no access to international capital markets. These nations got severely hit by covid-19 crisis. (Morozkina, 2020) [4].

Pandemic also caused a setback for the economic globalization throughout the globe where world merchandise trade fell between 13% and 32% after the viral wave and Foreign direct investment levels also dropped by 40% which constituted 60% of development finance before pandemic and another important factor of development finance, that is, remittances for which estimated drop has been recorded to be 20% after pandemic begins. Thus, covid-19 created new class of poor (UN, 2020) [8].

Overall, projections that the whole inflows of external private finance to ODA-eligible countries in 2020 plunged by 700$ billion compared to 2019 levels. Due to fall in every source of external private finance, a unique pressure and financing void is being experienced by developing countries. This clearly clues that the bulk of financial requisitions to achieve SDGs will have to come from economies themselves with the help of domestic resource mobilization (DRM). Every economy in the world will have to finance the goals all the way through increased resource mobilizations domestically which is really challenging due to the economic cost of the corona virus.

The report of Business and Sustainable Development Commission recognizes that there are various business opportunities linked with the SDGs for which global potential value has been estimated to be US$ 12 trillion in 2030 at current prices. Developing economies with large markets, such as India has great scope in these business solutions. However, it is challenging since in Asia and the Pacific global demand fell by US$172 billion constituting 0.08% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of the region (Hasan & Hamzah, 2020) [5].

To fill the gap created by covid-19 and to push the economies on the of SDGs agenda of 2030 every nation is engaged in announcing various economic packages to revive the economic slowdown. Among Asian nations such as Bangladesh announced package of $11.7 billion to prop up the economy which constitute 3.7% of the GDP (Haque and Mourshed 2020). Following this, Pakistan government announced package of Rupees1.2 lakh crores to rescue and another Rupees 7,500 crores for small and medium enterprises. Maldives announced package of 2.5 billion Maldivian rufiyaa ($161.8 million) which is an import-dependent economy, Afghanistan allocated about $25 million to deal with the crisis. Sri Lanka announced package of $250 million refinancing facility for banks and planned to enter an agreement with RBI for a currency swap of $400 million for recovery.

In African continent, South Africa Announced package of 500 billion rand ($26.3 billion), which constitute 10 percent of GDP. This was managed from the current budget allocations and further sourced from the local unemployment insurance fund and from global partners and international finance institutions like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, the BRICS New Development Bank and the African Development Bank.

In Europe Switzerland announced package of 6% of GDP, Austria announced package of 8% of GDP and Germany also announced package of 6.9% of GDP, Italy announced package of 2% of GDP and Spain announced package of 0.7% of GDP. All these countries had also faced 2008 economic crisis and have wide range of short-term work place which played an important role (Bettina Schaller, 2020). Around the globe Japan announced 21.1% of GDP which is highest followed by Canada with 16.4% then Australia with 14% and USA with 13.2% of GDP.

India rank 117 in sustainable development report with overall score of 61.9 and spillover score of 98.8 due to being hit hard by pandemic and with the vision of self-reliant India "Aatmanirbhar Bharat", Indian government announced package of Rs 20 lakh crore (276 billion dollars), which consisted 10 per cent of India's GDP. Indian government focusing motto ‘land, labor, liquidity and laws’ simultaneously with world’s lowest health budget and keeping in view pandemic India need some frequent fund provisions to meet covid related health crisis so as to cope up with SDG 3 (good health and well-being). Package which further comprised of Rs 1.7 lakh crores or 0.85% of GDP for Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, Rs 3.74 lakh crore (1.8% of GDP) for Liquidity injection by Reserve Bank of India, further 0.5% of GDP for Liquidity injection by Reserve Bank of India, 0.25% of GDP for Special Liquidity Facility for mutual funds and rest of finance disbursement in 5 Tranche for "Aatmanirbhar Bharat". The support of these packages for India will improve its position to some extent to meet SDGs like no poverty SDG1, clean water and sanitation SDG 6, decent work and economic growth SDG 8, climate action SGD 13 while at the same time also need attention towards zero hunger SDG 2, quality education SDG 4 and serious concern about life on land SDG 15.

So every economy whether developed, developing or under developed are struggling to cope up with SDGs agenda 2030 due to sudden divergence of development finance to pandemic emergency service and all the sources such as ODA, DFIs, budgetary allocation are lacking to maintain smooth path ahead of SDGs agenda 2030. Pandemic created obstacles to meet SDGs. There is a serious shortage of development finance throughout the globe and this issue needs to be addressed on urgent basis since international development finance is the backbone to attain SDGs with in time or before 2030.

References

1. Barbier EB, Burgess JC. Sustainability and development after COVID-19. World Development. 2020; 135:105082. Doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2020.105082
2. Filho WL, Brandli LL, Salvia AL, Rayman-Bacchus L, Platje J. COVID-19 and the UN sustainable development goals: Threat to solidarity or an opportunity? Sustainability (Switzerland). 2020; 12(13):1-14. Doi: https://doi.org/10.3390/su12135343
3. Marteleto LJ, Guedes G, Coutinho RZ, Weitzman A. Live Births and Fertility Amid the Zika Epidemic in Brazil. Demography. 2020; 57(3):843-872. Doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/s13524-020-00871-x
4. Morozkina A. Impact of COVID19 on International Development Assistance System. Health Express, 2020, 1-7. https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/impact-of-covid19-on-international-development-assistance-system/
5. Nik Hasan NN, Hamzah A. Global Partnership under a New Normal: Challenges and Response to COVID-19,

2020, 1-12. Doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-71067-9_135-1
6. OECD. The impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis on development finance. Tackling Coronavirus (COVID-19) Contributing to a Global Effort. 2020; 100(6):468-470. http://www.oecd.org/termsandconditions
7. Srivastava A, Sharma R, Suresh A. (PDF) Impact of Covid-19 on Sustainable Development Goals. International Journal of Advanced Science and Technology. 2020; 29:4968-4972. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341779062_Impact_of_Covid-19_on_Sustainable_Development_Goals
8. UN. Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond Menu of Options for the Considerations of Ministers of Finance Part I SEPTEMBER 2020. September, 2020. http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/461601591649316722/Projected-poverty-impacts-of-COVID-19.pdf
9. https://www.thehindu.com/business/saarc-nations-emergency-stimulus-packages-to-tackle-covid-19-economic-fallout/article31437445.ece
10. https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/coronavirus-south-africa-announces-26-billion-covid-19-relief-package-2215914
11. https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2020/4/22/south-africa-announces-26bn-covid-19-rescue-package
12. https://www.adeccogroup.com/futuhreinsight/covid-19-economic-packages-lessons-from-europe-on-what-works-best/
13. https://www.statista.com/statistics/1107572/covid-19-value-g20-stimulus-packages-share-gdp/
14. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/finance/latest-stimulus-package-among-largest-in-the-world/articleshow/75701976.cms#:~:text=The%20Rs%2020%20lakh%20crore,measures%20and%20interest%20rate%20cuts.
15. https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/atmanirbhar-package-full-break-up-of-rs-20-lakh-crore-nirmala-sitharaman-lockdown-6414044/