**MOHAMED SYLLA**

**ID: UB23670BMA31989**

**The 17 Sustainable Development Goals**

 **ATLANTIC INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

**HONOLULU, HAWAII**

 **24/04/2022**

**THE 17 GOALS OF THE UNITED NATIONS**

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a universal program aiming to respond to current challenges by building a sustainable world.

The 17 Goals (SDGs or Agenda 2030) were adopted in September 2015 by 193 countries at the United Nations, following the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). They constitute an action plan for peace, humanity, the planet and prosperity, requiring the implementation of multi-stakeholder partnerships. They aim to transform our societies by eradicating poverty and ensuring a just transition towards sustainable development by 2030.

1. **GOAL 1: THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY**.

While the number of people living in extreme poverty has fallen rapidly according to the latest estimates, 11% of the world's population lives below the poverty line, or on less than $1.90 a day per person.

1-a) SIGNS OF POVERTY

Poverty is not just about insufficient income and resources. It includes hunger and malnutrition, as well as limited access to education, social discrimination and exclusion, but also lack of participation in decision-making, unemployment and disease. For example, only 45% of the world's population benefits from an effective social protection plan.

1-b) AREAS MORE AFFECTED THAN OTHERS

South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are the main areas affected: they are home to nearly 70% of people living in extreme poverty. Developed countries are not spared either: today, 30 million children are growing up in poverty in the world's richest countries.

Areas exposed to natural disasters are also particularly fragile. For example, in 2017, economic losses from natural disasters were estimated at over $300 billion. These losses, caused by three powerful hurricanes that hit the United States and several Caribbean countries in particular, are the highest in recent years. Social protection systems must therefore be put in place to help these populations emerge from destitution.

1-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* 783 million people (11% of the world's population) live below the international poverty line, set at $1.90 a day.
* Three regions concentrate most of the world's extreme poverty: sub-Saharan Africa (35.2%), South Asia (13.5%) and Latin America (5.6%).
* High poverty rates are often found in small, fragile and conflict-affected countries.
* In 2016, the proportion of the world's population that actually received at least one social protection cash benefit would be only 45%.

1-d) SOURCES

* United Nations Development Program
* UNICEF
* United Nations Global Compact – Poverty

**GOAL 2: THE FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER.**

In recent years, the number of undernourished people has been halved; despite this progress, hunger continues to affect several areas in the world. It is therefore necessary to eliminate hunger to ensure that everyone can have access to healthy, nutritious and sufficient food.

2-a) A PARADOXICAL SITUATION

We have enough land, soil and water to feed all of the world's population, but a significant amount of production is lost or wasted. Indeed, food waste in the world is estimated at 1.3 billion tons per year, or 41 tons per second. In addition, the price of food does not allow everyone to have equal access to it.

Thus, global food production is sufficient to feed all of humanity. Yet nearly 800 million people around the world suffer from hunger and more than 90 million children under the age of 5 are seriously underweight.

2-b) MULTIPLE FACTORS

There are several reasons for this phenomenon, such as poor harvesting practices and food waste; wars also contribute to this inequality by affecting the availability of food and especially cultivable land.

Soils, fresh water, oceans, forests and biodiversity are rapidly being degraded by our activities, affecting agriculture and food production. Climate change puts additional pressure on the resources we depend on and increases the risk of natural disasters (droughts and floods, for example).

2-c) AN AGRICULTURAL MODEL TO RETHINK

Ensuring food security requires the development of new agricultural techniques that will make it possible to grow healthy, quality food in a sustainable manner. Indeed, almost half of the people who suffer from hunger come from small farming communities, which survive by farming small plots of land. Proof that the way of cultivating, sharing and consuming needs to be rethought.

Agriculture is the sector employing the largest number of people in the world, representing nearly 40% of the world's population (compared to 37% and 21% respectively for services and industry). It is therefore able to generate decent income, while allowing the development of populations and protecting the environment.

A profound change must be put in place to prevent 2 billion more people from suffering from hunger by 2050.

2-d) SOME KEY FIGURES

* One in 9 people in the world is undernourished, or 815 million people.
* The majority of hungry people in the world live in developing countries, where 12.9% of the population is undernourished; on the African continent, one person in four still suffers from hunger.
* Malnutrition is the cause of nearly half (45%) of deaths of children under 5, or 3.1 million children each year.
* If rural women had the same access as men to land, technology, financial services, education and markets, the number of hungry people would be reduced from 100 to 150 million.

2-e) SOURCES

* International Fund for Agricultural Development – ​​IFAD
* Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
* world food program
* UNDP – Goal 2: “Zero” Hunger

**GOAL 3: ACCESS TO HEALTH.**

Considerable progress has been made to improve the health conditions of populations and their access to care, regardless of age. Nevertheless, there is still much to be done to eradicate a wide range of diseases and address persistent or new health issues.

3-a) PROGRESS TO BE SUSTAINED

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which preceded the current SDGs, have generated positive developments. These are particularly notable in terms of reducing infant mortality, improving maternal health and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. For example, since 2000, the under-5 mortality rate has fallen by 47% and maternal mortality by 37%.

Despite this considerable progress, many regions still face serious health risks. Indeed, high maternal and neonatal mortality rates, poor reproductive health, and the spread of infectious and non-communicable diseases remain alarming. In addition, while the under-five mortality rate has declined overall, the proportion of deaths is increasing in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia; 4 out of 5 even take place in these regions.

3-b) FIGHT MORTALITY FACTORS

Despite progress, progress is still to be made and changes must take place. Indeed, unsafe water, deficient sanitation systems and a lack of hygiene remain the main causes of global mortality, causing the death of approximately 870,000 people in 2016. With a focus on more effective financing of health systems, improved sanitation and hygiene, better access to health professionals and more advice on ways to reduce pollution environment, significant progress can be made to save lives.

3-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* 5 million children die before their 5th birthday every year.
* The maternal mortality rate is 14 times higher in so-called developing countries than in so-called developed countries.
* AIDS is now the leading cause of death among adolescents (ages 10-19) in Africa and the second leading cause of death among adolescents globally
* The African continent accounts for 95% of malaria cases.

3-d) SOURCES

* World Health Organization
* United Nations Development Program
* UN Women
* UNAIDS

**GOAL 4: ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION**.

Over the past decade, major progress has been made in improving access to education and increasing enrollment rates at all levels in schools, especially for girls. Despite these advances, much remains to be done to achieve access to quality education for all.

4-a) ENCOURAGING RESULTS

Since 1990, school enrollment for young children (3-6 years old) has increased by 30% and the number of out-of-school children globally has almost halved. Indeed, 100 million children did not have access to school in 2010, today there are 61.3 million, of which more than half (32.5 million) live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

4-b) UNEQUAL ACCESS AND EDUCATION

Access to quality education is not equal for all young people. Indeed, UNICEF ​​suggests that at least 250 million children of primary school age do not have basic skills, despite having been in school for at least 4 years for half. of them. The result is a still alarming illiteracy rate: 781 million people over the age of 15 are illiterate (i.e., 16% of the world population of this age). The majority of these people live in South and West Asia (410 million) and Sub-Saharan Africa (187 million), areas where the number of illiterates has increased since 1999.

These gaps in education stem in particular from the lack of properly trained teachers, poor school conditions and equity issues related to the opportunities offered to children in rural areas.

Gender is a specific matrix to be integrated into this theme. Indeed, in some societies, the education of girls is not a priority, which forces them, among other factors, to drop out of school or even never enter it. Currently, 64 million girls aged 6 to 14 do not have access to education. Child labor is also an obstacle to their schooling and concerns 168 million of them.

4-c) A PRIMARY AND CENTRAL OBJECTIVE

Education will make it possible to achieve many other SDGs: quality, inclusive and equitable education is a key to enabling individuals to improve their living conditions and invest in sustainable development. It is a resource that should not be overlooked for reducing inequalities and achieving gender equality, but also for giving individuals the tools to develop innovative solutions to global and local problems.

4-d) SOME KEY FIGURES

* More than half of the children who are not enrolled in school live in sub-Saharan Africa.
* An estimated 50% of out-of-school children of primary school age live in conflict-affected areas.
* The number of students enrolled in higher education institutions more than doubled between 2000 and 2014 (100 to 207 million)

4-e) SOURCES

* United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
* United Nations Development Program
* Global Education First Initiative

**GOAL 5: GENDER EQUALITY.**

Progress has been made worldwide in gender equality, but discrimination and violence persist. It is therefore necessary to act to guarantee to all individuals the same opportunities and possibilities in all areas.

5-a) WIDESPREAD PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Sexual violence is always alarming:

* at least 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone female genital mutilation in the 30 countries with representative data;
* currently, one in five women aged 15-49 reported having experienced physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner over a 12-month period.

It is estimated globally that 750 million girls were married before the age of 18. The marriages of minors are a considerable obstacle to their education because it generally implies the abandonment of their schooling to devote themselves fully to domestic tasks.

5-b) GLOBALIZED INEQUALITIES THAT PERSIST

In 15 years, the schooling of girls has progressed, but women still represent 63% of illiterate adults. In addition, strong inequalities persist in terms of access to employment and working conditions. Thus, according to estimates by the World Economic Forum 2019, gender inequalities at work will not disappear before 2034.

Discrimination is also significant in public decision-making. Indeed, in the world, only 11 countries have more than 40% of women elected in their parliament. Political participation is therefore unequal, which hinders their representation and the consideration of issues that concern them more specifically.

5-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Globally, women make up only 13% of farmland owners.
* Rates of female genital mutilation among girls aged 15-19 rose from 1 in 2 girls in 2000 to 1 in 3 girls in 2017 (in the 30 countries with representative data).
* UNESCO estimated in 2014 that one in 10 girls missed school during their period in Africa.
* 49 countries still do not have laws protecting women against domestic violence.

5-d) SOURCES

* UN Women
* World Health Organization (WHO)
* Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

**GOAL 6: ACCESS TO WATER AND SANITATION.**

Access to drinking water and sanitation facilities is a fundamental right. However, even today, nearly 700 million people do not have access to a source of drinking water protected from various contaminations. It is therefore necessary to guarantee all individuals universal and equitable access to drinking water, hygiene and sanitation.

6-a) VERY UNEQUAL SITUATIONS

Nearly half of the population drinks water that is dangerous to health. The consequences are fatal: around 2.6 million people worldwide die due to lack of access to safe drinking water and 2 billion people use water contaminated. These figures reveal the extent of the lack of infrastructure for sanitation and inequalities in access to drinking water.

We speak of a situation of water stress when a water resource is insufficient to meet human activities and the needs of the environment. It begins when water availability is less than 1,700 cubic meters per year and per person. It is estimated that 63% of the world's population will be under water stress in 2025.

6-b) MULTIPLE IMPLICATIONS

Promoting access to water and sanitation systems is a key objective from a sustainable development perspective because its lack has many and varied repercussions, for example:

* environment: more than 80% of wastewater resulting from human activities is discharged into rivers or the sea without any depollution;
* gender equality: women and girls are in charge of water collection in 80% of households without access to water on site;
* education: for children in school, 443 million school days are missed due to waterborne diseases.

The consequences and extent of the lack of access to water will be all the greater with climate change. Indeed, natural disasters cause direct damage to infrastructure; they also cause long-term consequences, such as the decline in the availability and quality of water resources, in particular due to the increase in temperatures, droughts and increased consumption.

6-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* At least 892 million people in the world defecate in the open air (a practice that is increasing in sub-Saharan Africa and Oceania due to population growth).
* 361,000 children under the age of 5 die each year from diarrhea, that is more than 1,000 children per day.
* 40% of the world's population will face water shortages by 2050.
* Women and girls spend up to 6 hours a day collecting water in Africa.

6-d) SOURCES

* Sanitation handbook – Greet
* Brochure “Solidarity communities for access to water and sanitation in the South” – Adour-Garonne Water Agency
* UN-Water
* World Water Assessment Program
* Water – UNESCO
* Decade “Water, source of life”

**GOAL 7: ACCESS TO ENERGY.**

Access for all to reliable, sustainable and modern energy services is a major challenge from a sustainable development perspective. Indeed, this goal is central to many current challenges and has direct implications for other areas. It is therefore necessary to invest in universal access to energy and to increase the use of renewable energies.

7-a) A CENTRAL ISSUE.

Between 1973 and 2012, global energy consumption nearly doubled. In view of this expansion, it is necessary to find clean and sustainable solutions, to meet the needs of all without depleting resources; for this, it is necessary to develop and multiply the use of renewable energies. Energy is said to be renewable when it comes from sources that nature constantly renews.

7-b) UNEQUAL ACCESS.

The current situation is characterized by its disparity: one person in 7 does not have access to electricity in the world and 62% of them are in sub-Saharan Africa. Additionally, an estimated 3 billion people lack access to clean cooking solutions and are exposed to dangerous levels of air pollution. Thus, they are dependent on wood, charcoal or animal waste for cooking and heating.

7-c) SOME KEY FIGURES.

* Energy is the main factor contributing to climate change: it accounts for around 60% of global greenhouse gas emissions.
* Indoor air pollution from fuel use caused 4.3 million deaths in 2012 – with women and girls accounting for 60% of those deaths.
* In 2015, 81.4% of global primary energy consumption was based on fossil fuels according to data from the International Energy Agency.

7-d) SOURCES

* Sustainable energy for all
* International Energy Agency
* International Renewable Energy Agency
* UN Energy

**GOAL8: THE PROMOTION OF DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH.**

To keep up with the growth of the world's working-age population, 470 million jobs will be needed in the labor market between 2016 and 2030. This corresponds to approximately 30 million additional jobs per year. To meet this objective, while adopting a sustainable development approach, it is necessary to promote sustained, shared and sustainable economic growth.

8-a) CONTRASTING REALITIES

Global unemployment has increased: it went from 170 million unemployed in 2007 to almost 202 million in 2012.

In 2017, the global unemployment rate stood at 5.6% of the world's working-age population. Nevertheless, large disparities between countries should be noted: Congo is the country with the highest unemployment rate (45.4%) and Qatar the one where it is the lowest (0.10%).

8-b) PROMOTE DECENT WORK

Having a job does not automatically guarantee escape from poverty. Indeed, approximately 780 million workers do not earn enough to cross the poverty line. It is therefore necessary for individuals to be able to live from their work while being adequately remunerated. In addition, safe working conditions and social protection must be guaranteed to them. In addition, the number of work-related deaths has increased: it was 2 million in 2000 and has now reached 2.8 million.

According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), child labor includes all activities that deprive children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity and harm their education, health and physical and mental development. Today, around the world, 11% of children aged 5 to 17 work, 115 million of them carry out dangerous activities.

8-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Globally, 61% of workers were in informal employment in 2016.
* Women continue to spend 2.6 times more time than men on domestic and unpaid work.
* 1 in 3 girls and 1 in 7 boys experience sexual violence in the course of their work.
* Only 45 countries have legislation against discrimination or specifically referring to people with disabilities in the workplace.

8-d) SOURCES

* International Labor Organization
* United Nations Development Program
* United Nations Capital Development Fund

**GOAL9: THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURES.**

To achieve sustainable development, investments in the various infrastructures are essential. It is also necessary that they favor and align themselves with innovations that respect the environment and cultures.

9-a) GREEN INNOVATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

More than half of the world's population now lives in cities. Thus, public transport and renewable energies are increasingly important issues, as is the growth of new green industries and information and communication technologies.

These infrastructures must be developed, while limiting their impact on the environment. This approach is feasible, as demonstrated by Reykjavík, voted the “greenest” city in 2016. Indeed, the Icelandic capital is now fully supplied with electricity thanks to green energy produced by geothermal and hydroelectricity. In addition, the city has opted for a clean and ecological public transport network since 1990; today, all buses are equipped with a hydrogen engine.

9-b) DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE INDUSTRIALIZATION

Faced with growing industrialization, it is necessary to develop green innovations. For example, sustainable companies seek, among other things, to take into consideration and limit the impacts of their activities on the societies around them. For example, they make commitments aimed at the well-being of populations and the preservation of living biodiversity in their direct environment.

The renewable energy sector is promising and attractive. Indeed, it currently employs 2.3 million people. Nevertheless, given the growing interest in alternative energies, it could create 20 million jobs by 2030.

9-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Worldwide, 2.4 billion people do not have access to basic sanitation and 1 billion to electricity.
* According to a report by the international NGO Carbon disclosure project, more than 70% of greenhouse gas emissions come from just 100 companies.

9-d) SOURCES

* United Nations Industrial Development Organization
* Secretary-General's strategy for new technologies

**GOAL 10: TO REDUCE INEQUALITIES.**

Inequalities are glaring across the world. Indeed, disparities in access to health services and education, but also income inequalities have not disappeared.

10-a) A WIDENING GAP

With the globalization of trade and production, inequalities between developed and developing countries are increasing. In addition, profits are concentrated in developed countries, for example, the African continent produces 75% of the world's cocoa and receives only 2% of the income from chocolate manufacturing.

According to a report by Oxfam, in 2018 the gap between the richest and the poorest continued to widen around the world. Indeed, billionaires have seen their fortunes increase by 12% the previous year, pocketing 2 billion euros a day. Conversely, the wealth of the poorest half of the world's population, or 3.8 billion people, fell by 11%. Thus, it is estimated that the richest 26 billionaires owned as much as the poorest 3.8 billion people.

10-b) MULTIPLE INEQUALITIES

In so-called developing countries, children in the lowest wealth quintile are still up to three times more likely to die before their 5th birthday than children in the highest wealth quintile. This difference can be attributed in particular to inequalities in access to care and health infrastructure.

Globally, 83% of domestic workers are women; most are unregistered and therefore unable to receive a minimum wage or benefit from social protection.

10-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Women in rural areas are still up to three times more likely to die in childbirth than women living in urban centers.
* 75% of the world's population lives in a society where income is more unequally distributed than in the 1990s.
* In Kenya, a girl from a poor family has a one in 250 chance of continuing her education beyond secondary school.
* A new billionaire was counted every two days between March 2017 and March 2018.

10-d) SOURCES

* OXFAM report (Davos, 2019)
* United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
* United Nations Development Program

**GOAL 11: THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES.**

In view of the growth of the world population, it is necessary to invest in reducing the pollution load of city dwellers. Indeed, 35% of the world's population currently lives in urban areas; cities, their developments and their organizations must therefore be more sustainable and inclusive to respond to current challenges.

11-a) GROWING URBANIZATION

The number of people living in cities is expected to reach 5 billion by 2030 and 66% of the world's population in 2050 according to UN projections. Urban expansion will take place more specifically in so-called developing countries because the rural exodus leads to a convergence towards megalopolises. Thus, it is central to develop sustainable planning and urban management practices; the focus must therefore be on air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and waste management.

11-b) DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE CITIES

Cities cover 3% of the earth's surface and yet they are responsible for 70% of carbon dioxide emissions and consume between 60 and 80% of the world's energy. Faced with this imbalance, changes must be implemented to make urban areas greener.

Rapid urbanization is putting increasing pressure on housing, viable land and infrastructure. Currently, 900 million people live in slums; without change, by 2030, this figure will rise to 3 billion.

11-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* In the decades to come, 95% of the growth of the world's urban population will take place in developing countries.
* In 2016, 90% of city dwellers breathed unhealthy air, resulting in 4.2 million deaths from ambient air pollution.
* More than half of the world's urban population was exposed to air pollution levels at least 2.5 times higher than safety standards.

11-d) SOURCES

* UN – Habitat
* UN – Environnent
* ICLEI: local governments for sustainability

**GOAL12: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS.**

Consuming and producing sustainably means “doing more and better with less”. It is therefore necessary to reduce the use and degradation of resources, but also the pollution of our environment. To do this, the overall functioning of the supply chain must be redesigned, involving all the players, from the producer to the end consumer.

12-a) A HUGE WASTE

The food sector accounts for approximately 30% of global energy consumption and nearly 22% of greenhouse gases. Yet a third of food produced for human consumption is lost or wasted, or 1.3 billion tons per year. Every year, 250 km3 of water are used to produce wasted food.

12-b) DIZZYING DATA

The textile industry is regularly criticized. Indeed, this production emits 1.2 billion tons of greenhouse gases each year. Its impact is greater than that of international flights and maritime traffic combined. However, more than 100 billion pieces of clothing were sold worldwide in 2016, which represented 9.5 kg per inhabitant in France, or 60% more than 15 years ago.

The plastics industry is also controversial. Indeed, the world production of plastics reached a record level of 359 million tons in 2018, the equivalent of 11.38 t per second; this figure has increased by 3.2% since 2017. According to a UN report, only 9% of the plastics the world has produced have been recycled and 12% incinerated. Thus, the vast majority of the plastic produced ends its life in landfills, the oceans or even pipes.

12-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Every year, 20 billion tons of waste are dumped into the oceans.
* 2500 liters of water are used to produce a 250-gram t-shirt.
* 500 billion plastic bags are produced each year in the world.
* A pair of jeans travels on average 1.5 times around the planet before reaching the store, i.e., more than 65,000 km.

12-d) SOURCES

* UN – Environment: efficient use of resources
* UNDP: Goal 12

**GOAL 13: THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE.**

Every country in the world is witnessing the severe impacts of climate change. However, greenhouse gas emissions continue to grow: since 1990, they have almost doubled.

13-a) CHANGES ALREADY VISIBLE

Between 1880 and 2012, the average temperature in the world increased by 0.85°C. In addition, the 21st century has 16 of the 17 warmest years recorded. The impact of this increase is not insignificant, for example, when the temperature increases by one degree, the production of cereals decreases by about 5%.

The oceans have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have decreased, and sea levels have risen. In addition, the sea ice is melting very quickly: since 1979, it has been losing 1.07 million km2 per decade (i.e., 100,000 football pitches).

13-b) MULTIPLE CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

Climate change is the result of human activities, including transport, agriculture, energy and industry. Indeed, the gases emitted by these activities considerably reinforce the natural greenhouse effect, which leads to a gradual warming of the climate. These temperature changes threaten our way of life and the future of our planet since the lasting modifications of our climate system will lead to irreversible consequences in the event of inaction.

Since 1880, the sea level has risen by 20 cm and an increase of 30 to 122 cm is expected by 2100. In addition, the number of natural disasters has almost doubled: the Observatory of natural disasters has recorded more 1,100 worldwide in 2017, compared to 599 in 2002. Climate change is driving the increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events.

13-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* To limit warming to 1.5°C, CO2 emissions must decrease by 45% between 2010 and 2030 and then reach 0 around 2050.
* In a report published in November 2015, the World Bank estimates that more than 100 million people could fall into extreme poverty if greenhouse gas reduction targets are not met.
* In its 2019 report, the UN predicts 280 million climate refugees in the world in 2050, and this, in the optimistic scenario of a rise of 2°C.

13-d) SOURCES

* UN : Climate Change
* UN – Environnent : Climate Change
* IPCC reports
* FAO: Climate Change

**GOAL14: THE PROTECTION OF AQUATIC FAUNA AND FLORA.**

Humanity depends on the planet's oceans, which cover more than 70% of the globe and represent 99% of the available living spaces (by volume). Thus, conserving and sustainably exploiting the oceans, seas and marine resources is a necessity.

14-a) A CENTRAL AND VITAL RESOURCE

More than 3 billion people owe their livelihood to marine and coastal biodiversity. In addition, sea fishing directly or indirectly employs more than 200 million people. Preserving this biodiversity is a major challenge from a sustainable development perspective.

The oceans absorb about 30% of the carbon dioxide emitted by humans. Thus, this process makes it possible to store part of the greenhouse gases and therefore to slow down climate change.

14-b) AN OVEREXPLOITED AND THREATENED RESOURCE

Today, more than 30% of the world's fish stocks are overexploited leading to 7 of the 10 most important fish species being close to total depopulation. Seabirds are also victims of human activities: more than 200 million disappeared between 1950 and 2010.

Coral reefs are also in danger due to human pressure. About 20% of them have been totally destroyed and have no prospect of recovery. In addition, about 24% of the remaining reefs are at imminent risk of extinction and 26% are threatened with long-term extinction.

Plastic pollution is alarming: every year, 4.8 to 12.7 million tons end up in the oceans. Thus, more than 150 million tons of plastic waste are currently floating in the oceans. This mass could double by 2050.

14-b) SOME KEY FIGURES

* It is estimated that illegal and unregulated fishing represents between 11 and 26 million tones, or 12 to 28% of the world's fishing.
* On average, 13,000 pieces of plastic waste are present in every square kilometer of ocean.
* Since 2014, more than half of the specimens consumed worldwide come from aquaculture.
* Single-use plastics (cutlery, bottles, straws, cotton swabs and cigarette filters) are responsible for 50% of marine pollution.

14-c) SOURCES

* UN – Oceans
* UNDP: water and oceans
* Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (UN)
* Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO

**GOAL15: THE PROTECTION OF TERRESTRIAL FAUNA AND FLORA.**

Human life largely depends on the preservation of terrestrial biodiversity. However, human activity and climate change threaten its balance.

15-a) CRUCIAL TERRESTRIAL BIODIVERSITY

Forests cover around 1/3 of the land surface, i.e., 4 billion hectares. They are home to 80% of all terrestrial species of animals, plants and insects. They are crucial in the fight against climate change and represent a major source of air, in particular because the forests in formation produce a significant surplus of oxygen. In addition, around 1.6 billion people depend on forests for their livelihoods.

Plants provide 80% of our food. However, since the beginning of the century, 75% of the genetic diversity of cultivated plants has been lost. We are therefore dependent on an ever-decreasing number of plant varieties due to the replacement of traditional varieties by uniform commercial varieties.

15-b) THREATENED ECOSYSTEMS

Every year, 13 million hectares of forest disappear, or 15 million football pitches. In addition, 1/5 of the Amazonian Forest has already disappeared and 40 to 55% of its area will disappear by 2050 according to WWF.

Desertification results from deforestation, climate change and soil erosion. It results in the deterioration of living conditions (famine, disease, difficulty in accessing water, etc.), the destruction of ecosystems and biodiversity, but also the deterioration of arable land, which becomes unusable. According to a report by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), desertification threatens nearly 40% of land in the world, or 5.2 billion hectares.

Terrestrial animal species are also threatened. Indeed, of all known animal species, 8% are already extinct and nearly 22% are at risk of becoming so in the near future. For example, the elephant population in Africa was estimated at 1.3 million in 1970; today, there are 350,000.

15-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Nearly 7,000 species of animals and plants are victims of illicit trade involving 120 countries.
* Worldwide, 2.6 billion people depend directly on agriculture for their livelihood.
* According to the 2018 Living Planet report (WWF), 60% of wild animal populations have been lost in 40 years.

15-d) SOURCES

* UN – Environment: forests
* Convention on Biological Diversity
* Living Planet Report 2018 (WWF)
* United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

**GOAL 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS.**

Sustainable development requires the establishment and sustainability of peaceful and equitable societies, but also access to justice for all and the establishment of effective institutions. Furthermore, peace, stability, human rights and governance based on the rule of law are central to achieving this goal.

16-a) A FLUCTUATING JUSTICE

The death penalty is gradually declining in the world; however, it is still applied in many countries. Indeed, in 2017, the NGO Amnesty International recorded 993 executions (not counting China, where statistics are unavailable) and at least 2,591 death sentences in 53 countries. Moreover, 84% of executions are concentrated in 4 countries: Iran, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Pakistan.

The use of torture also remains very frequent; it is defined as the intentional infliction of intense pain, whether physical (beatings, holding in a painful position, sexual violence) or psychological (sleep deprivation, humiliation). Currently, more than 140 countries continue to practice torture or ill-treatment.

16-b) ONGOING CONFLICTS

Currently, 1 child in 9 lives in a region affected by conflict, or 230 million children. In the Middle East region alone, 13 million children can no longer go to school due to conflict.

Civilians are the first victims of armed conflicts in the world and are, for example, forced to flee and leave their country. Thus, in 2015, more than 5,400 people died on the roads of exile; among them, 3,700 attempted to cross the Mediterranean to reach Europe.

The context of conflicts leads to the development of many forms of violence, such as arbitrary detentions, enforced disappearances or torture. They can also directly affect civilians, through the practice of rape and sexual violence against women and the enlistment of children in combat.

16-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* The war in Syria has led to massive population displacements: more than half of the Syrian population is displaced - including more than 5 million people who have taken refuge in neighboring countries or beyond.
* At the end of 2017, 68.5 million people were displaced, forced to flee persecution, conflict, violence or human rights violations.
* Homosexuality is illegal in nearly 80 countries.
* 10 million stateless people worldwide have been denied a nationality and related rights.

16-d) SOURCES

* Amnesty International report: The situation of human rights in the world (2017/2018)
* Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
* United Nations: Peacekeeping

**GOAL 17: THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOALS.**

For all the SDGs to be achieved, effective partnerships between the different actors are necessary. They must therefore be inclusive and allow governments, the private sector and civil society to mobilize around common principles and values.

17-a) AN INCREASINGLY INTERCONNECTED WORLD

More than 4 billion people currently use the internet, i.e., more than one in two people in the world. The use of the Internet continues to grow at an increasing rate, which allows an ever-wider connection of territories. Nevertheless, the digital divide has not disappeared: Northern Europe remains the most connected region, with 95% of users, and conversely, Central Africa remains the most isolated region. digitally with 12% of connected users.

The divide between the so-called developed and developing countries also appears in the average connection speeds. Indeed, for example, it is estimated that the internet is 50 times faster in Singapore than in Algiers.

17-b) EXPAND DEVELOPMENT AID

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), achieving the SDGs would require between $5 trillion and $7 trillion in annual investment. Yet in 2016, total official development assistance (ODA) reached $142.6 billion. In the same year, only 6 countries achieved the international goal of keeping ODA to a minimum of 0.7% of gross national income.

Thus, it is necessary to expand development aid in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals because it embodies a lever allowing the realization of various development projects but also the establishment of partnerships at the global, regional, national levels. and locally.

17-c) SOME KEY FIGURES

* Between 2009 and 2014, the number of Internet users in developing countries doubled.
* 79% of imports from developing countries enter developed countries duty free.
* Official development assistance stood at $146.6 billion in 2017.

17-d) SOURCES

* United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
* International Telecommunication Union
* United Nations: Let's shape our future together.

**MY WORK**

After noticing the existence of the problems and wanting to act like nobody cares about them, I created a non-governmental organization (NGO) which I named THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE SUPPORT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN GUINEA (DSFEG). Because in our societies the only problem that has not yet found a solution is that of women. They are attacked, insulted, raped and their rights are not respected.

DSFEG aims to improve the living conditions of women and children to live in a world where all human beings have access to food, education, health, security and work.

DSFEG was created to help promote local development, create an environment that seeks to improve the living conditions of women and children. Serve them with compassion and maintain high standards of integrity, responsibility and commitment in seeking service through action and work. Motivated, effective and committed research in the fight against poverty.

We have been working with women for years on gardening. It all began with the pity we felt for women and children and especially for suffering widows. We started in our own village by visiting them regularly, to discuss their concerns, the good times in their lives.

Afterwards, we brought them the food they liked and which was not in the village. We brought them clothes against the cold in the rainy season, medicines and we helped them to read the instructions for the use of medicines.

We were encouraged in these activities by other people who came to help us by bringing food (rice, oil...), clothes and other useful items. We were two founding members, my deceased big sister (peace to her soul) and me. So we started working with young people who could not complete their higher education and who had settled in the village. More and more, our action spread to the surrounding villages. It was only recently that I saw the need and usefulness of forming a legal NGO.

Now that I'm on my own, I'm dealing with issues of differing views on what to do. On the one hand, I am thinking of building community housing for elderly women, building schools and hospitals in these villages, modernizing agriculture. On the other hand, I think of leaving them

 his wives in their own homes and help them there. Train young people who will be responsible. These trained leaders will give more impact to our activities in several ways:

* By sensitizing other inhabitants to the issue;
* By serving as messengers in public information campaigns;
* By defending the cause with the government or elected officials,
* By going to meetings or giving their testimony;
* By encouraging others to mobilize, speak up and take action.

To immortalize my big sister, I will do everything to achieve her goals.

But all that is long term when I have the means.

THANKS