

## **Systematic Review of Global Challenges of Sustainable Development**

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**Abstract:** The attaining global sustainable development is paramount for the wellbeing of the humanity and environment. This review aimed at exploring the major global challenges for sustainable development. The research identified major obstacles that inhibit achieving this great milestone. They are ranging from social, economic, environmental and political. These obstacles are global in nature one country or continent cannot prevent it completely. For example, global warming is induced greatly by industrialized nations but developing countries suffer most. Health pandemics and migration are also contagious because all nations must interact with one another due to globalization. However, poverty and inequality are more peculiar to developing countries than developed ones. Food crisis is rampant especially in countries suffers from wars, insurgency and insecurity, people run for their lives abandon their farm lands couple with climate change which affect productivity negatively. The global terrorism in one part created wide vacuum in achieving sustainable environment. There are internally displace persons (IDPs) in almost all the country and some are seeking asylum in another country. All hands must be on deck to check these challenges for attaining global sustainable development.

**Keywords:** Systematic Review, Global Challenges, Sustainable Development

### **INTRODUCTION**

Sustainable development is the kind of economic development in which resources used aim to meet the current human demands at the same time preserving the environment for future generation to come. There is focus on the present generation responsibility to improve the future generation life by restoring the damage done to ecosystem and resistance to contribute to further damage. Sustainable development ties together concern for carrying capacity of natural ecosystem with social challenges faced by humanity (Brundtland Commission, 1987).

The scale of global sustainable development challenges is unprecedented. Tackling abject and extreme poverty has made progress under millennium development goals (MDGs) still billions of people continue to suffer from extreme poverty, inequality and social exclusion and the gap continues to grow in most countries. As world population estimated to be around nine billion by 2050 (United Nations Development Programme, 2007), there is urgent need to tackle sustainable development challenges of ending poverty, insecurity, hunger, biodiversity extinction, population control and sustaining the planet. The sustainable development is threat by several environmental problems such as indiscriminate waste disposal, poor planning, traffic and housing congestion, water scarcity and pollution (noise, water, land and air) as identified by (Bello, 2021). These problems serve as predicament in attaining global sustainable development.

The global challenges of finding patterns and processes of development that are more sustainable have been exposed clearly by global economic crisis. Current trend of globalisation and economic grow is disturbing to the environment and natural ecosystem. Projection of global population, for future resources consumption and for economy recovery depend solely on a wide range of decision and action at various scales that will shape the integrated economy, environmental and social outcomes of development. It is paramount to know the places people live, barriers they face and capacities they bring to change these processes of development. People pursue different activities in different place, including rural and urban areas, which bring different environmental and socio-economic challenges as well as opportunities. Moreover, different places are characterised by varied resources endowment and by unique ecologies that emerge through adaptation to local condition and

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processes of changes. This ensures that the nature of the challenges for sustainable development are going to be distinct locally (Viraluk, 2015). Therefore, the aim of this review is to explore the major global challenges for sustainable development (SD).

## **MAJOR CHALLENGES TO SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT GLOBALLY SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGES**

### ***Population***

Population is the central unit to the global challenges of sustainable development. In that, the number of people presently living in the world is one factor that exact significant impact on the planet. The relationship between population, resources and development are the key in emergence and shaping the mainstream discourses of sustainable development. Between the time of the WCED reporting in 1987 and 2007, world population increased from five (5) billion to 6.7 billion at growth rate of 1.4 per cent per annum (United Nations Development Programme, 2007). The world population projected to reached about nine (9) billion people by 2050 (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). There is no iota doubt that the population changes in large and populous nations such like China and India have had impact on the global patterns. It was estimated that about 33 per cent of the world's population lives in China and India (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). The achievements recorded in these countries in moving their people out of poverty are recommended. Combined these patterns have implications globally for rising consumption and resources demands into the future.

Urbanization is currently shaping the world population, nowadays about fifty per cent of world's population now reside in town and cities. The urban population of the developing countries grew by an average of 1.2 million per week between 1995 and 2005 (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). However, there is variation between and within countries to the pace of urbanisation and the growth rates of particular cities. The increase in numbers of people living in urban areas come along with challenges and opportunities for sustainable development, these include the need for shelter, employment and infrastructure. Cities are still remains the major drivers of development and are source of political momentum that can be advance actions towards sustainability (World Bank, 2010).

### ***Poverty and Inequality***

Poverty alleviation was central to the recommendation of the WCED 1987. Provision and meeting the demands of the poorest sector of society was imperative in conserving environment and achieving sustainable development. Poverty remains the major cause and effect of environmental problem. Therefore, it is irrational to deal with environmental problems without taking poverty and inequality into consideration (Brundtland Commission, 1987). Poverty and inequality continue to serve as bottleneck to millions of people in accessing basic human right. The falling of current development to meet the needs of the current generation is that over 24,000 children die every day before their fifth birthday, largely in the developing world from preventable diseases that are closely related with environmental conditions such as water quality and under-nutrition (United Nations Children's Fund, 2009). More than half of these 9 million annual deaths are in Africa.

Alleviating poverty and inequality were central to the commitments in 2000 by the UN and the global community within the millennium Declaration. With less than five years remaining to the target date for the Millennium Development Goals, it is anticipated that the first goal (MDG1) of halving the proportion of people in extreme poverty. The number of people in developing countries living in poverty [define as living on less than US\$1.25 a day] fell from 46 per cent in 1990 to 27 per cent in 2005 and is predicted to continue to fall to 15 per cent by 2015 (World Bank, 2010). Around 1990 and 2005, about 400 million people move out of extreme poverty. However, there is geography to persistent poverty; some regions and countries especially East Asia and China have shown significant improvement. Many countries may not likely meet MDG1. In sub Saharan Africa, for example, the number of people in poverty is 58 per cent in 1990 and 51 per cent in 2005. India is expected to achieve the Goal of reducing poverty rates from 51 per cent in 1990 to an anticipated 24 per cent in 2015, but countries in southern Asia are not.

The variation in wealth and income inequality are vital in explaining spatial pattern of child mortality across scales, factors of the environment are also keys. For example, about 90 per cent of all child deaths due to malaria happen in Africa (United Nations Children's Fund, 2010). However, large number of children die before reaching the age of five in West Africa than East Africa are linked to the environmental condition and the disease ecology of malaria. Research has also shown that children born in drought years in East Africa were more likely to suffer stunted growth that impact on nutritional status, the possibility of attending primary school and their ability to bear children in future (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). Killer diseases such as malaria and diarrhoea are particularly sensitive to change in ecosystems and abundance of human pathogens, making children particularly vulnerable to the effect of climate warming (United Nations Children's Fund, 2009).

### ***Causes of Global Poverty***

The research shows that 8% of the world population lives in extreme poverty, most of them are surviving on only \$1.90 or less on daily basis. There are some good news that are recorded: In 1990, that figure was 1.8 billion people, so serious progress has been made. While many wonder if we can really end extreme poverty, we at concern believe the end is not only possible but also possible within our lifetimes. There is no magic solution to end extreme poverty, but understanding its causes is a good first step (World Bank, 2010).

### ***Inequality and Marginalization***

Inequality can best describe as the barriers that hinder person or groups of people from equal access or representation within their communities. It also seen as a situation where certain group are been marginalized. For a population to escape poverty, all hands must be on deck in the decision-making process. Gender inequality, caste systems, marginalization based on race, tribal or religious affiliations are all economic and social inequalities that mean the same thing (World Bank, 2010). Little to no access to the resources needed to live a full, productive life. When combined with different combinations of vulnerability and hazards which comprise the rest of this list a marginalized community may become even more vulnerable to the cycle of poverty.

### ***Conflict***

Conflict is one of the most common forms of risk driving poverty today. Large-scale, protracted violence that we have seen in areas like Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan can grind society to a halt, destroying infrastructure and causing people to flee. In its tenth year of conflict, Syria's middle class has been all but destroyed, and more than 80% of the population now lives below the poverty line (World Bank, 2010). However, even small bouts of violence can have huge impacts on communities that are already struggling. For example, if farmers are worried about their crops being stolen, they will not invest in planting. Women also withstand the worst of conflict, which adds a layer of inequality to all conflict. During periods of violence, female-headed households become very common.

### ***Hunger and Malnutrition***

One might think that poverty causes hunger, but hunger is also a cause and maintain cycle of poverty (World Bank, 2010). When person did not have sufficient food, as such lack the strength and energy to work. The first 1,000 days of a child's life are very important in ensuring their future health and possibility of escaping poverty (World Bank, 2010). If a mother has poor diet during pregnancy, it transferred on to her children, leading to wasting. Child stunting, both physical and cognitive, can lead to a lifetime of impacts. Adults who were stunted as children earn, on average, 22% less than those who were not stunted (United Nations Children's Fund, 2009). In Ethiopia, stunting contributes to GDP losses as high as 16 per cent (African Development Bank, 2020).

### ***Poor Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)***

Presently, more than 2 billion people do not have access to clean water at home (UNICEF/WHO, 2017). This means that people collectively spend some 200 million hours every day walking long distances to fetch water (USAID, 2005). That precious time could be utilized in working, getting an education and other economic ventures. Contaminated water can also lead to a host of waterborne

diseases, ranging from the chronic to the life threatening (Mustapha et al, 2021). Poor water infrastructural facilities can compound this, or create other barriers to escaping poverty, such as keeping girls out of school during menstruation.

### ***Climate Change***

Climate change leads to hunger through drought or flooding and its consequences contribute to the cycle of poverty in several other ways including disproportionately affecting women, creating refugees, and influencing conflict. World Bank estimates that climate change has the power to push more than 100 million people into poverty over the next decade. Majority of the world's poorest populations completely rely on farming, hunting or gathering in order to eat and earn a living. For example, Malawi people are 80% agrarian (Livefrman, 2009). They often have only just enough food and assets to last through the next season, and do not have enough reserves as the emergency cases arise. Therefore, when there is climate change or natural disasters it leave millions of people without food, it pushes them back into poverty.

### ***Lack of Education***

Most of the people living in extremely poverty are not educated. There are several bottleneck in acquiring education globally; these includes financial predicament in buying uniforms and books, gender bias in against education. Nevertheless, education is serve as the great equalizer, because it open the door for jobs and other resources and skills that a family needs to not just survive, but rather to thrive. UNESCO estimates about 171 million people could have been lifted out of extreme poverty if they attend school and acquire basic reading skills. Poverty threatens education, but education can help to eradicate poverty.

### ***Poverty and Environment***

Poor people happen to be the victims' and at same time unwilling agents of environmental degradation. Poverty have restrict people's option in resources management, they have to cultivate marginal lands and dwell in unsafe housing and remove remaining woodlands in order to sustain their household in short term, with possibly detrimental effects on the resources base and their long term livelihoods. Their environmental concern are often those associated with immediate survival needs, such as fuel, access to clean water, sanitation, or in securing productive lands. On global scale poorer in both rural and urban areas have concentrated on environments that are 'inherently' poor, That is, they are ecologically marginal and require high levels of investment in order to remain productive. In the mid-1980s, research suggested that 57 per cent of the rural poor and 76 per cent of the urban poor were resident of areas where ecological destruction and/or severe environmental hazards threatened their well-being. In 2000, an estimated 1.3 billion people lived in what were termed as 'fragile' lands because of its soil characteristics, aridity and slope constraint (World Bank, 2003).

Forty per cent of the population of sub-Saharan Africa and one quarter of all people in Asia for example were resident in such fragile areas (World Bank, 2003). Moreover, the research found that these areas were home to an increasing proportion of the total population of developing countries and a majority share of people in extreme poverty, suggesting a 'geographical retreat' of poverty into more impoverishment and ecologically marginal areas over time. Similarly, in urban areas, low-income groups are often increasingly concentrated in inherently poor locations such as on steep hillsides and riverbed prone to flooding and mass movements (Ahmad, 2021).

There is need to take significant steps in understanding the complex relationship between poverty and environment, including through the work of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005). Human well-being to have five basic components, these are security, basic material needs; health, good social relations and freedom of choice and action. Ecosystems provide service to support human well-being. Clearly, human well-being also depends on other factors such like quality of education, health systems, aspect of technology and the activities of institutions as well as the quality of governance.

### ***Migration***

Nowadays people live in country other than their own country. According to the IOM World Migration Report (2020), as of June 2019 the number of international migrants estimated to be more

than 272 million globally, 51 million than in 2010. About two thirds were labour migrants. International migrants consists of about 3.5 per cent of the global population in 2019. This compared to 2.8 per cent in 2000 and 2.3 per cent in 1980. Some people migrate because of pulling factors and many others migrate because of pushing factors. UNHCR, reported the number of globally forcibly displaced people worldwide was about 79.5 million at the end of 2019. 45.7 million People were internally displaced, 4.2 million were asylum-seekers, and 3.6 million were Venezuelans displaced abroad. Female migrants comprises of about 48 per cent of international migrants. About 38 million of the migrant are children, three out of four international migrants were of working age, meaning between 20 and 64 years old. 164 million were migrant workers. Approximately 31% of the international migrants worldwide resided in Asia, 30% in Europe, 26% in the Americas, 10% in Africa and 3% in Oceania.

## **GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS**

Millions of children are facing the worst hunger crisis that the world has seen in decades. More than forty-five million people are close to starvation right now facing famine or famine-like conditions - with children and women hit the hardest (United Nations Children's Fund, 2009). There are 584,000 girls, boys, women and men facing catastrophic levels of hunger, an increase of 300% in the past six months alone (World Health Organization, 1999). Unless drastic measures are taken, more lives will be lost and the devastating effects on the lives of children, especially girls, today will be felt for decades to come.

### ***Causes Food Insecurity***

Causes of hunger and food insecurity are numerous and differ from one geographical location to another, but generally, it is a result of conflict, poverty, economic shocks such as hyperinflation and rising commodity prices and environmental shocks such as flooding or drought. COVID-19 also caused increases in poverty and inequality at global scale, as lockdowns have devastated family livelihoods. In many countries, pandemic restrictions have also meant disruption to food supplies, slowing remittances from family overseas and the halting of school meal programmes. Increases in food prices created great strain on household budgets, and poorest families hit hardest. According to the UN, 2017 928 million people were severely food insecure last year – an increase of 148 million on the previous year. This is equal to one in eight people globally. The storage facilities challenges drastically affect food security as identified by (Bello et al., 2021)

### ***War and Conflict***

War and conflict are the main causes of hunger at global scale, and they are responsible for the largest number of people facing serious food shortage with about 65% (African Development Bank, 2020). From Mali to Syria to Mozambique, incessant fighting destroys livelihoods and forces families to flee their homes, leaving large number of children in hunger and diseases. It is very difficult for humanitarian organisations to reach communities in need. It find out that more than 14 million people in the Central Sahel countries of Mali, Burkina Faso and some part of Nigeria are in need humanitarian intervention (World Food Programme, 2014)

### ***Climate Change***

Climate change also contributed to food insecurity by changing weather patterns such as rainfall, increased climatic shocks such as hurricanes, cyclones, floods and droughts that all have an impact on harvests. Climate change greatly increased the prevalence of crop pests such as locusts, which damage and destroy harvests (Hassan et al., 2021).

### ***Economic Instability***

Economic and financial crisis equally limit people access to food all over the world. Even places where food is sufficiently available, many people do not have purchasing power to buy it. Linked to the Pandemic i.e Covid-19, many people have lost their livelihoods and income, again reducing people's ability to purchase food. Some people move in search for work or economic opportunities, join family or to study. Others move to escape conflict, persecution, terrorism, or human rights

violations. Still people move to escape the adverse effects of climate change, natural disasters and other environmental factors.

### **POLITICAL CHALLENGES**

Scientific evidence for human-induced global warming has mounted, it is suggested that political responses have been slower to emerge (Giddens, 2008; United Nations Development Programme, 2009). Climate change is not a single problem, political decisions across all sectors and on behalf of many different organisations is challenged to embed climate change considerations throughout their strategies and actions. Addressing climate change requires political leaders to take action. The current emission of hazardous substances may destroy the environment for future generation to derived maximum benefit from it (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). Furthermore, climate change challenges cannot be address by one generation of political leaders as sustainable emissions trajectories will be needed for decade's not mere years. The uncertainty of many aspects of climate, however, makes the assessing the political risk of actions and strategies to solve problems hard to established. Moreover, action on climate change need a strong role for government in intervening in public life and business operations that is substantially different from previously dominant ideas about how development should occur.

The political challenges of climate change include the need for the political leaders to work internationally in complex negotiations. The Kyoto protocol is an international agreement towards ameliorating climate change through setting targets for emission reduction. The protocol recognised 'differentiated' responsibility globally, only were subject to legally bind emissions targets specific to their countries situation, while the emerging economies were required to monitor further and address their emissions. The reasons why political action has been slow to emerge has been that much of the debate around climate change has tended to be in scientific language that is not well understood by political leaders.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES**

During the Stockholm conference of 1972, the primary environmental problems tend to be national; the environmental sins of one nation did not generally impinge upon other nation, let alone upon the community of the nation. Ten years later, cross-border environmental problems, which affected many nations such as acid rain, were recognised. At the time of the Earth Summit in 1992, a series of environmental problems that affected the global community as whole identified in two senses. First are those human impacts on the environment that have supranational characters such as climate change and ozone depletion. Second one includes loss of forest, soil erosion and accessing clean water were occurring in various locations, thereby posing threats on resources on which more and more people of the globe depend. Environmental education is paramount to sensitize people on environmental issues and measures to prevent environmental deterioration (Shehu, 2018; Ahmad, 2021). These include controlling pollution via indiscriminate burning of fossil, refuse dumping and deforestation.

#### ***Climate Change***

In the past decades, climate change was considered principally a concern for high-income countries start action to mitigate it's impact for future generations. Such actions are the targets to reduces the greenhouse gases emissions included in the Kyoto protocol. It is affecting many ecosystem services, local environment, and development opportunities within current generations and in low-income countries. Climate change and development agendas have moved so closer together in recent years. This includes understanding that the emerging risks of climate change will fall disproportionately on countries that are already characterized by high levels of poverty and vulnerability (United Nations Development Programme, 2009).

The Earth climate system is extremely complex but there is little doubt that it is continuously under change. The IPCC reviews and assesses the research produced worldwide on climate change with thousands of scientific contribution to their work. In 2001, the ICPP established that the climate was warming; global mean surface temperature had increased by 0.6 degrees Celsius since the late nineteenth century and continues to increase gradually. It also reported that most of the observed warming was due to anthropogenic activities. It leads to rising concentration of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere and thus, enhanced greenhouse effect.

Greenhouse gases comprise of water vapour, methane, Nitrous oxide, ozone and carbon dioxide, regulate the temperature of the Earth by controlling the re-radiation of solar radiation back to space; serving to keep the Earth warmer than it would be. The IPCC established that concentration of carbon dioxide moved very starkly from a long period of stability to exponential growth from around 1750. These changes in chemical composition of the atmosphere cause the Earth to trap more heat in the atmosphere and thus, to warm up. Carbon dioxide is the principal greenhouse gas that provides the main warming in the atmosphere. At global scale, the major source of carbon dioxide is the burning of fossil fuels, contributing about 75 per cent of human induced carbon emission since the 1980s (ICPP, 2001)

### ***Water Resources***

Water scarcity currently presents a number of complex and interrelated global challenges of sustainable development. Agricultural sector use the majority of fresh water resources and increase in food production will be needed to feed increasing population to tackle under nourishment and food insecurity. Managing water as productive resources for livelihood efficiently and equitably is a great challenge facing government worldwide (Abdulkadir et al., 2019; United Nations Development Programme, 2009). Water bodies especially surface water have a lot of contaminants due to various anthropogenic activities that are taking place close to water bodies as observed by (Mustapha et al, 2021) in Wudil river, heavy metal are present which are hazardous to human lives when consumes. The global challenges of ensuring greater equity in access to water as a fundamental foundation for human development has been recognised within the Millennium Development Goals. Currently, more than 1 billion people worldwide do not have access to safe drinking water and 2.6 billion lack basic sanitation and safe removal of wastewater. There are serious water scarcity in developing countries, demand surpass the supply (Bello and Tuna, 2014).

A key sustainability is that reduction in precipitation will affect hardest in the region already affected by drought, such as sub-Saharan Africa (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005). Many of the predicted impact of climate warming are water related these are disruption of ocean currents and increase in flood events. Some people argue that the roots of these challenges are increasing demand of an expanding population on physical water resources available. It is believe that physical availability is not causes of the global water crisis but rather poverty, power and inequality. For example in water stressed part of the India wealthy farmers are able to pump water from aquifer 24 hours a day, while poorer farmers rely on rain fed agriculture. In the west bank Israel has restricted Arab farmers from drilling new well while Israel settlers are able to continue to dipper wells (World Bank, 2010).

### ***Environmental Resources***

Resources shortages and degradation are global challenges for sustainable development. There is relationship between natural resources abundances and prospect of sustainable development. Slow rate of economic growth have been observed in minerals rich economies than in non-minerals economies, which is called 'resource curse'. In 2004, a non governmental organization Christian aid compared six oil-producing nations of Angola, Iraq, Kazastan, Nigeria, Sudan and Venezuela, with six non-oil producers such like Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Peru and Tanzania. It shows that oil economies have slower rate in economic growth, low life expectancy and low level of literacy than non-oil economies. Availability of Natural resources also results to conflict and host condition for criminal and terrorist activities. For examples in countries such as Congo and Sudan, while the trigger unrest and conflict may not have been the mineral or oil, it is understood those resources generate the finances that allow conflict to continue and make it harder to resolve.

Energy presences two global challenges of sustainable development, future energy supply and current pattern of energy consumption which damage environment. Current rate of energy growth are extraordinary historically. China alone for example, energy consumption grew at nearly 10% per year between 2000 and 2005 and total world energy consumption is predicted to rise by 49% by 2035 (United Nations Development Programme, 2009). About 80% of this projection is expected to come from developing countries, the more economically advanced countries currently account for almost 50% of world energy demand (UNEP, 2007). If the future demand for energy is to be met and the emission reduction required to address climate change are to be achieved, there is widespread of

understanding that lower carbon growth is an essential global challenges. Lower carbon growth includes rising energy efficiency in production that is reducing the amount of energy use to produce each unit of output.

### ***Challenges of Biodiversity Extinction***

Biodiversity extinction is a great challenge in attaining global sustainable development, in the sense that various plant and animal species are becoming extinct as a result of natural ecosystems destruction. Most fauna and flora were lost globally due to deforestation. Forest is a home to different species many of these species are no longer available as a result of forest destruction for fuel wood, settlement, construction of infrastructural facilities, farmland due to increase in population, poverty and so on (FAO, 2007). Similarly, many aquatic organisms were lost due to melting of ice, rise in sea level, flooding and discharging of toxic substances into water bodies because of domestic, industrial and agricultural activities. This clearly shows that plant and animal species are in serious threat of total extinction. Unless deforestation stops there may be a total extinction of species in future.

### **HEALTH CHALLENGES (GLOBAL PANDEMIC)**

A pandemic is an epidemic occurring on a global scale, that means it crosses international borders. A disease or condition is not a pandemic merely because it is widespread or kills many people, it must also be infectious. Widespread endemic diseases with a stable number of infected individuals such as recurrences of seasonal influenza are generally excluded as they occur simultaneously in large regions of the globe rather than being spread worldwide. In the human history, there have been a number of pandemics of diseases such as smallpox. The fatal pandemic in recorded history was the Black Death, which killed an estimated 75–200 million people in the 14th century and Corona virus of recent, which affect more than 300 millions globally, and it is still up surging.

### ***HIV/AIDS***

HIV started in Africa and spread to the United States via Haiti between 1966 and 1972. HIV is no longer an uncontrollable outbreak outside of Africa. AIDS is currently a pandemic in Africa, with infection rates as high as 25% in some regions of southern and eastern Africa (*Cohen et al., 2008*). In 2006, the HIV prevalence among pregnant women in South Africa was 29%. Effective education about safer sexual practices and blood borne infection precautions training have helped to slow down infection rates in several African countries sponsoring national education programs. There were an estimated 1.5 million new infections of HIV/AIDS in 2020. As of 2020 there have been about 32.7 million deaths related to HIV/AIDS since the epidemic started (Global HIV&AIDS statistic, 2020).

### ***Corona Viruses (COVID-19)***

In December 2019, Corona virus was detected in the city of Wuhan, Hubei Province of China. More than 200 countries are affected by the virus and major outbreaks recorded in Brazil, Russia, India, Mexico, Peru, South Africa, Western Europe, and the United States. World Health Organization declared it on 11 March 2020 as global pandemic, which make it the first global pandemic after 2009 swine flu pandemic. As far as July 2022, the number of people infected with COVID-19 reached more than 544 million worldwide. The death toll is 6, 340,42 (WHO, 2022).. Its seriously affect global economy particularly developing countries where economies are fragile (Said et al., 2021). The prevention to check the spread of infection include regular hand washing, wearing a face mask, going outdoors when meeting people, and avoiding close contact with people who have tested positive regardless of whether they have symptoms or not (Petrovski et al., 2020). It is recommended that people stay two meters or six feet away from others, commonly called social distancing.

### ***Measles***

Measles was prevalent throughout the world, as it is highly contagious. According to the U.S. National Immunization Program, by 1962, 90% of people were infected with measles under age of 15. Before the introduction of vaccine in 1963, there were an estimated three to four million cases in the U.S. each year (Guglielmi, 2019). Measles killed around 200 million people globally over the last 150 years. In 2000 alone, measles killed more than 777,000 worldwide out of 40 million cases globally. Measles is an endemic disease, meaning it has been continually present in a community and many

people develop resistance. In populations that have not been exposed to measles, exposure to a new disease can be devastating. In the year 1529, measles outbreak in Cuba killed two-thirds of the natives. The disease had ravaged Mexico, Central America, and the Inca civilization (Anlar, 2013).

### ***Tuberculosis***

About one-quarter of the world's current population has been infected with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and new infections occur at a rate of one per second. About 5–10% of these infections will eventually progress to active disease, which, if left untreated, kills more than half its victims. Annually, eight million people become ill with tuberculosis and two million die from the disease worldwide (Centers for Disease Control, 2005). In the 19th century, tuberculosis killed an estimated one-quarter of the adult population of Europe and by 1918; one in six deaths in France were still caused by tuberculosis. During the 20th century, tuberculosis killed approximately 100 million people (World Health Organization, 2006). TB is still one of the most important health problems in the developing world. In 2018, Tuberculosis became the leading cause of death from an infectious disease, with roughly 1.5 million deaths worldwide.

### ***Malaria***

Malaria is widespread in tropical and subtropical regions, including parts of the Americas, Asia, and Africa. There are approximately 350–500 million cases of malaria annually (Sarkar et al., 2009). Drug resistance poses a growing problem in the treatment of malaria in the 21st century, since resistance is now common against all classes of anti-malarial drugs, except for the artemisinins. Malaria is common in most of Europe and North America, where it is now for all purposes non-existent. Malaria may have contributed to the decline of the Roman Empire. The disease is also called as Roman fever. *Plasmodium falciparum* became a real threat to colonists and indigenous people alike when it was introduced into the Americas along with the slave trade. Malaria devastated the Jamestown colony and regularly ravaged the South and Midwest of the United States. By 1830, it had reached the Pacific Northwest. During the American Civil War, there were more than 1.2 million cases of malaria among soldiers of both sides (White, 2011).

### ***Yellow fever***

Yellow fever is one of the major global pandemic affecting several countries. Cities as far north as New York, Philadelphia, and Boston hit with epidemics. In the year 1793, one of the largest yellow fever epidemics in U.S. history killed as many as 5,000 people in Philadelphia roughly 10% of the population. About half of the residents move out of the city, including President George Washington. Another major outbreak of the disease struck the Mississippi River Valley in 1878, with deaths estimated at around 20,000 (Global HIV&AIDS statistic, 2020). The major places hit hardest are Memphis, Tennessee, where 5,000 people were killed and more than 20,000 fled, then representing over half the city's population, many of whom never returned. During colonial period, West Africa is regarded as “white man's grave” because of malaria and yellow fever.

## **GLOBAL TERRORISM**

Global terrorism can be describe as use of illegal force and violence by a non-state actor to attain political, economic, religious or social goal through fear, coercion, and intimidation. A good example of large terrorist attacks includes Madrid train bombings in 2004, 2005 London bombings, 2011 Norway attacks, 2015 Paris attacks; the truck attacks in Nice and the Berlin Christmas market attack in 2015 and the Manchester and Barcelona attacks in 2017. The Global Terrorism Index (2016) published by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP) found that 29,376 people died from terrorism in 2015. Afghanistan remains the country with the highest impact from terrorism. However, terrorism deaths in the country declined in 2019 for the first time in three years. The Taliban remained the world's deadliest terrorist group in 2019. However, terrorist deaths attributed to the group declined by 18%. The importance of non-military dangers in international life is growing rather than diminishing. Conflicts, which would most likely have been expressed in the past by the application of military force, may now be implemented by the use of indirect coercive measures, economic or political. There are other potential factors of international insecurity, namely are threat of nuclear war, economic imbalance between developed and developing countries, world food shortages, global

pollution, and earth resources. According to the report, political and social polarization built on economic disparities and populism, competition for natural resources and environmental degradation, fragmented non-State armed actors and the absence of political solutions to evolving conflicts remain the main causes for insecurity.

## **CONCLUSION**

For a long, since the world commission on environment and development emphasize the need of sustainable development, it is very clear that environmental degradation is continuously threatening human well-being and development opportunities worldwide. Factors responsible include population growth, poverty, insecurity and rising of resources consumption which exact high pressure on global environment. The new challenges of sustainable development due to rapid economic growth in the most populous countries including China and India are possible through technological innovations in energy efficiency and renewable, but these also bring new environmental and political challenges. There is strong relationship between natural resources abundance and prospect for development. Natural resources are blessing but when carefully manage; it is also a curse when there is mismanagement. Many countries do have resources but are not developed, rather the resources leads to conflict, destruction of natural environment. A good example is Niger-delta area in Nigeria. Since 1970s, the oil extraction started in the region but the benefits goes to the government elites and foreign investors while the local people (Ogoni people) are suffering from serious environmental deterioration.

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