1. Post Global Pandemic Solutions

AFTER THE PANDEMIC
OUR NEW WORLD

The coronavirus pandemic has crippled economies, devastated health services and halted life as we know it. Now more than ever, we need up-and-coming problem solvers to help answer some of the biggest dilemmas facing our time. Below are examples of some of the most pressing issues relating to post-pandemic recovery.
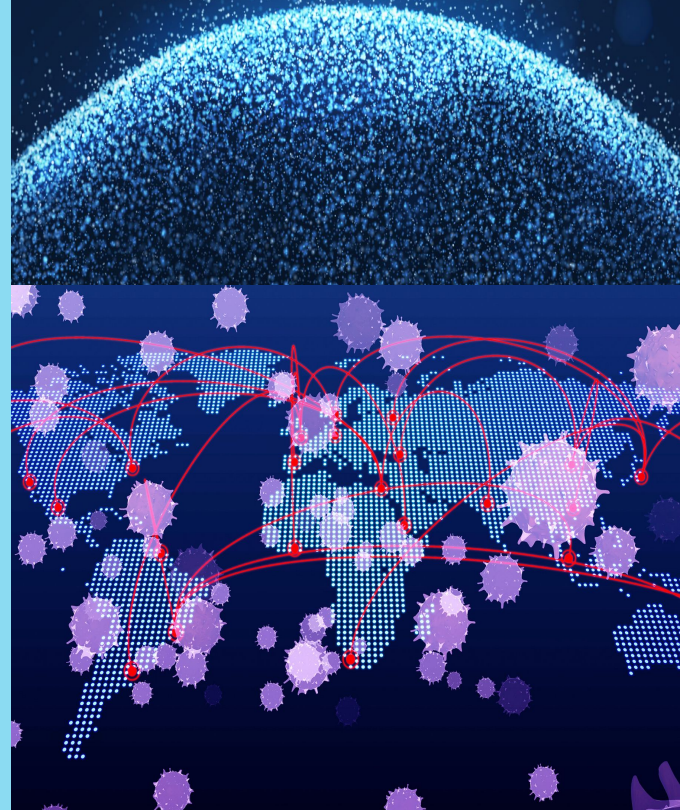
The pandemic has not only exposed weaknesses in health systems, but exposed economic vulnerabilities. The global impact across employment and productivity are at levels not seen since the Great Depression. The crisis has exacerbated existing social divides, with the most vulnerable bearing the brunt of the economic impacts. *How can we **radically reimagine** the post-pandemic global economy? How can we achieve swift post-pandemic **economic recovery?***

The pandemic is accelerating global trends towards decentralisation and de-globalisation. Countries are adopting increasingly protectionist policies and the weaknesses of multilateral organisations such as the EU and WHO are becoming exposed. Meanwhile, populist ideals are on the rise - benefitting from the economic and social fragmentation of the pandemic. *How can we **re-build global collaboration** and maintain the benefits of our interconnectedness?*

In late 2020/ early 2021, massive-scale vaccine rollout began in developed countries such as Ireland, the US and UK. Countries at the front of the queue are expected to have immunised their vulnerable populations by March and expected to reach herd immunity by mid-late 2022. Meanwhile, it is estimated that poorer countries will not have access to vaccines until early 2023 and forecasts for global herd immunity remain uncertain. *How can we efficiently bridge this **disastrous disparity**?*

2. Healthcare in a climate crisis

The impacts of climate change are detrimental to human health while will place huge pressure on healthcare services worldwide.

The occurrence of **extreme weather events** such as flooding, hurricanes, drought and heat waves are becoming both more intense and more frequent. Climate change threatens the availability of clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient food and shelter for many communities.

It is predicted that between the years of 2030 and 2050 climate change will cause approximately **250,000 additional deaths per year**. This is due to malnutrition caused by famine or damage to agriculture, the increase of airborne diseases such as malaria and lymes disease, diarrhoea and heat stress. The effects of climate change can also be seen in the increase in premature mortality caused by respiratory diseases due to air pollution and risk of cancers due to the depleting Ozone layer.

Areas with weak infrastructure are more at risk of mortality due to climate change. Low & middle income countries are more at risk of these detrimental effects. Although they typically contribute relatively little to greenhouse gas emissions, they bear the brunt of the adverse effects since they tend to be situated in some of the hottest regions of the Earth.

What solutions can you come up with to improve & sustain health in the upcoming climate crises?

3. Aging population in Low income countries

Between 2000 and 2050 the proportion of the world's population aged 60 years and older will double from approximately 11% to 22%.

Therefore, it is becoming even more important to create economic, social and health care systems that can meet the needs of this aging population.

On the current trajectory many low-income countries will not be able to sufficiently support their aging population. Globally only 1 in 5 older people have a pension and they are often last to receive aid in a humanitarian response during times of emergency.

Some key areas to consider for supporting aging populations are how to help seniors be more self-sufficient, bringing medical care to their homes and keeping them involved in the community.

What solutions can you come up with to support an aging population in low income countries?

Ageing Population
Projected global population aged 60 years or over

3.1 billion

2.1 billion

1 billion

0.5 billion

1990   2017   2050   2100

Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs,
Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision*
Produced by: United Nations Department of Public Information

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS