

# PRI-AIN723

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**SOCIAL, ETHICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENTERPRISES  
FOR LEADERS**

## **Slide 1: Global challenges**

### ***Challenge***

- The temperature of the UK increased by 1 degree centigrade in each year due to global warming (Metoffice.gov.uk, 2022)
- Emission of carbon dioxide has increased by 6% in 2022 in the UK and is another cause of global warming (Ons.gov.uk, 2022)
- Shell company produced about 31.95 billion ton of carbon dioxide as this produces 508 million crude oils (Statista.com, 2022)

### ***SDG goal***

- Global warming is related to SDG goal 13 which deals with climate action (Un.org, 2022)
- SDG 13 focuses on taking action for reduction of climate change

### ***Guideline***

- Companies can try to use renewable energy and try to save energy (Un.org, 2022)
- Companies have to focus on process for transition to zero-carbon emission

### **Introduction**

Sustainable Development Goals are the collection of the seventeen objectives planned to increase prosperity of the planet and the people for creating a better future. *Global warming* is considered to be one of the major concerns of the environment and the majority of the companies and businesses have taken responsibility to eradicate the challenge. There are certain organisations and industries that are responsible for the challenge to become more harmful for the society and the environment.

### **Main body**

Global warming is mainly caused by the emissions of greenhouse gases. Fuel & Energy Industry is considered as the most responsible industry that contributes majorly in the global warming increasing concerns of the UK. It has been identified that approximately 78% emissions accounted for fossil fuels in the UK (Ons.gov.uk, 2022). Furthermore, the continuous increase in carbon emission by the construction, fuel and energy, transportation industry and many more are responsible for the increasing concern of climate change, air pollution and other harmful gas emissions. In this case the SDG goal 13 which is *Climate action* is designed to combat global warming and climate change impacts (Un.org, 2022). The guidelines of the goal are to increase the use of renewable resources and solar systems to generate energy instead of fossil fuel. However, there are certain companies that majorly

contribute to global warming and emit tons of carbon dioxide which harms the environment majorly.

Shell is a multinational oil and gas company which is considered to be contributing negatively to the environment. The company has been operating since 1897 in the UK and is considered to be contributing more than 1,377 million tonnes of carbon dioxide solely to the environment in the year 2020 (Clientearth.org, 2020). Hence, it has major harmful impacts to the environment and massively contributes to climate change and global warming. Furthermore, it has also been identified that the company has been emitting various harmful chemicals and dangerous gases in the air which majorly influenced global warming. The company has also been responsible for extracting oil from the Niger Delta for over a century (Foai.org, 2019). However, the company directors are being sued for failing to manage the climate emergency (Cnbc.com, 2023). Additionally, the company also confirms to comply with climate policies. However, it has been identified that the company has spent \$22 million annually on anti climate lobbying (Foai.org, 2019). Thus, it can be analysed that the company majorly contributes to global warming and does not comply with the SDG goal.

### **Conclusion**

Climate change is a global concern which is increasing rapidly due to global warming and the responsible industries are also contributing to endangering the future of the planet and people. It has been identified that SDG goal number 13 tends to impose a sustainable future for the planet and the people and reduce the harmful impacts of climate change. However, Shell companies in the UK are majorly responsible for contributing negatively to the environment and increasing global warming and climate change concerns for the UK population.

### **Slide 2: Social challenges**

#### **Challenge**

- Unemployment rate in the UK is about 3.7% in 2022 (Ons.gov.uk, 2022).
- Failing of real GDP is the cause of unemployment rate in the UK
- Real GDP was fallen by about 0.5% in December, 2022 (Ons.gov.uk, 2022)

#### **SDG goal**

- This is related to with goal 8 which deals with promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all (Un.org, 2022)
- This SDG goal focuses on creation of decent jobs for improvement of living standard

#### **Solution**

- Focus on eradication of forced labour
- Encouragement of people to participate in works

### **Organisation**

- Tiger Trust is a social enterprise which has focused on mitigation the issue of unemployment by inspiring and integration of communities and providing education and opportunity (Tigerstrust.co.uk, 2022)

### **Introduction**

Social challenges refer to the issues of the society that affect the quality of life of individuals such as poverty, unemployment, racism, unequal opportunity and malnutrition. Unemployment is the focus of this section and it has been identified that unemployment is a major concern for the UK population which is decreasing the quality of life of the population of the UK. There are several companies in the UK that are majorly working in order to eradicate the unemployment rate and the SDG goal 8 "*decent work and economic growth*" is designed to increase employability.

### **Main body**

Unemployment is considered as a major concern for the population of the UK which has the potential of increasing poverty, weak economic structure and financial issues. Furthermore, it has been figured that the unemployment rate of the UK has increased over the past 3 months (Ons.gov.uk, 2023). The major reason for the increasing unemployment rate of the UK is considered to be the struggling economy and the labour supply outstrips demand from employers. Therefore, it can be analysed that due to the external forces of Russia-Ukraine war, Brexit and pandemic are the major causes of increasing social challenges such as; unemployment. Sustainable Development Goal number 8 which describes *decent work and economic growth* tends to reduce unemployment issues and support economic growth.

The company Tiger Trust is working to eradicate unemployment. The company confirms that there employees are with total benefits over £60,000 (Register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk, 2021). Furthermore, the mission of the company is to inspire, engage and improve communities and increase participation and education. Hence, the company is majorly working in order to reduce unemployment and increase the quality of life of individuals. Moreover, it can be analysed as delivering the best outcome. The sustainable development goal number 8 is being followed by the company which significantly contributes to the economy of the UK. Moreover, as the GDP of the UK is also falling it needs proper adoption of strategies to reduce unemployment and financial issues. Therefore, companies and organisations of the UK are responsible to increase employability rate and providing chances to enhance the quality of life. The economy of the UK can be developed through reducing the unemployment rate and in which companies like Tiger trust

need to provide equal opportunities to the population of the UK to enhance their financial condition. Therefore, the company mission is to contribute and take part in charitable action to comply with the SDG goal 8 and reduce unemployment.

### **Conclusion**

Social challenges are a major concern for each individual and it has the potential of decreasing the economic condition of a country and decreasing the quality of life. Furthermore, it has been analysed that unemployment is an increasing concern of the UK. However, SDG number 8 tends to increase the economic growth and support the population of the UK to increase the quality of life.

### **Slide 3: Ethical challenges**

#### ***Challenge***

- Staff layoff has mainly happened during Covid 19 pandemic condition
- About two third employees are layoff from various companies in the UK during Covid 19 pandemic (People Management.co.uk, 2022)
- This increases unemployment rate by 3.7% in the UK in 2022 (People Management.co.uk, 2022)

#### ***SDG goal***

- SDG goal 8 is related to staff layoff as this deals with employment and decent work (Un.org, 2022)
- SDG 8 also focuses on economics growth

#### ***Solution***

- Elimination of human trafficking and forced labour
- Arrangement of decent work for increasing employment rate and reduction of employee layoff
- Promotion of development of policies for employees

#### ***Organisation***

- Fairtrade is an ethical enterprise in the UK focuses on elimination of staff layoff issue
- This enterprise focuses on poverty reduction as a mission and provide opportunity to improve situation of employees (Fairtrade.net, 2022)

### **Introduction**

Staff layoff became a significant global ethical issue due to impact of Covid-19 pandemic on business market performance. Staff layoffs from a business perspective, have been considered to be essential to protect businesses from extensive losses and balancing sales

with profitability. However, staff layoff from an employee perspective is an ethical challenge as they lost their jobs in critical health complication risk scenarios and restricted employability opportunities. Thus, making staff layoff a significant global challenge for businesses like Microsoft and Google.

### **Main body**

UK companies in recent years have been evidently laying off employees to improve structural and profitability effectiveness. The unemployment rate in the UK increased by 3.7% in 2022 due to two-thirds of employees being laid off from various organisations (People Management.co.uk, 2022). The organisation that helps eliminate staff layoff challenges is Fairtrade which is an ethical enterprise in the UK. The company is focused on reducing poverty as its primary mission along with providing improvement situation opportunities to employees (Fairtrade.net, 2022). However, staff layout has also been restricted by several other global companies in UK. For instance, Apple has been the only tech company in UK that has avoided mass layoffs supporting mitigation of the global staff layoff challenge (The Quint, 2023). On other hand, all major competitors of Apple like Microsoft and Google in the UK tech market implemented massive staff layoffs during and in post-pandemic environment. Therefore, indicating that Fairtrade is a UK enterprise that helps eliminate employee layoff issues and Apple has supported its employees by restricting mass layoffs to date.

The protection of employee layoffs and employment sustainability led to effective compliance with 8th goal of SDG promoting sustainable employment, economic growth, and decent work for every individual. The SDG goal also states that inclusive and sustained economic growth drives progress, creating decent jobs for everyone and improving standards of living (unric.org, 2023). The 8th goal of SDG also focuses on economic growth of employees that needs to be compiled for ethical business operations in the UK. The businesses following SDG goals are capable of establishing sustainable and ethical business operations due to structured goals and objectives that are to be attained. The most significant solution that can be derived from application of 8th SDG goal is elimination of forced labour and human trafficking. Additionally, the organisations can also make arrangements for decent work and increase employment rate in a post-pandemic environment. Therefore, the issue of staff layoffs is an evident ethical challenge faced by companies and workforce in recent years that needs to be mitigated.

### **Conclusion**

It has been identified that the unemployment rate in the UK has been constantly growing due to staff layoff challenges. Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 boosted the issue of staff layoff due to reduced sales and profitability of businesses. Fairtrade has been evaluated as an ethical UK business that supports elimination of staff layoff challenges and promotes SDG goal of inclusive and sustainable employment, economic growth, as well as work prosperity. It has also been analysed that companies in UK can improve decent work arrangements to create employability.

#### **Slide 4: Environmental challenges**

##### **Challenge**

- About 398,000 discharge of raw sewage in the UK water (Sas.org.uk, 2022)
- About 75% rivers are polluted in the UK (Sas.org.uk, 2022)
- About 62 serious water pollution incidents have reported in the UK

##### **SDG goal**

- SDG goal 6 related to water pollution which focuses on sustainability of water resources (Un.org, 2022)

##### **Solution**

- Have to focus on <sup>5</sup>improvement of water quality and wastewater treatment
- Implementation of integrated water resource management

##### **Organisation**

- Innocent Drink is the eco-entrepreneurship company in the UK which focuses on mitigation of this challenge
- This company makes commitment to improve sustainability of environment (Innocent Drinks.co.uk, 2022)

##### **Introduction**

Environmental challenges have been significantly boosted by industrialisation growth in UK along with various new start-ups during COVID-19 pandemic. Each new business in UK contributes to carbon emission growth within the country. However, in current years water pollution has been identified as a core environmental challenge. Hence, several water contamination incidents have been reported in UK imposing the need for identification and mitigation of water pollution issues which is a critical environmental challenge in the UK.

##### **Main body**

Water pollution not only impacts industries like water suppliers and fisheries but also harms healthy living of households. Water pollution has been observed to constantly increase in recent years due to sewage leakage and release of industrial waters into water bodies (Akhtar



*et al.* 2021). The increasing water pollution has led to creation of various aligned problems like stomach infections, marine life degradation, and increasing mineral water prices. Nearly 398,000 tons of raw sewage are released into water bodies in the UK leading to 75% of rivers being polluted (Sas.org.uk, 2022). This has led to increasing contamination incidents in UK surpassing several global countries' levels of water pollution. In 2022, approximately 62 serious water contamination incidents have been reported in UK (Sas.org.uk, 2022). The government of UK needs to focus on improving wastewater treatment and water quality to restrict growing environmental challenge of water pollution. Additionally, application of integrated water resource management can also be a suitable solution for mitigating water pollution issues. Thus, highlighting that water pollution has become a critical environmental issue that impacts lifestyle of UK's population.

The organisation that helps mitigation of water pollution challenges in UK is Innocent drink which is an eco-entrepreneurial business focusing on sewage waste released into water bodies. Furthermore, the company is committed to enhancing environmental sustainability (InnocentDrinks.co.uk, 2022). UK businesses are taking conscious steps to reduce production waste that can lead to minimisation of liquid waste released into water bodies. However, sewage waste released into water is a more critical issue as compared to industrial waste release (Singh *et al.* 2020). Water pollution not only impacts the industries like fisheries and mineral water suppliers but also harms households to a significant level. SDG Goal 6 concerning water pollution focuses on sustainability of water resources (Un.org, 2022). Government and businesses by complying with 6th SDG goal can suitably develop a sustainable environment mitigating water pollution. UK businesses are conscious of waste control and management systems that might lead to reduced water pollution in upcoming years improving living standards in the country.

### **Conclusion**

Water pollution has been identified to be the most critical environmental issue that the company is fighting in recent years. The growing household and sewage waste accumulation in water bodies of UK has led to significant contamination incidents. Innocent Drinks has been identified to be the most effective business that offers solutions for water pollution elimination in the UK. Compliance with the 6th SDG goal can promote businesses to support water pollution challenge mitigation in future in the UK.

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#### **Slide 4**

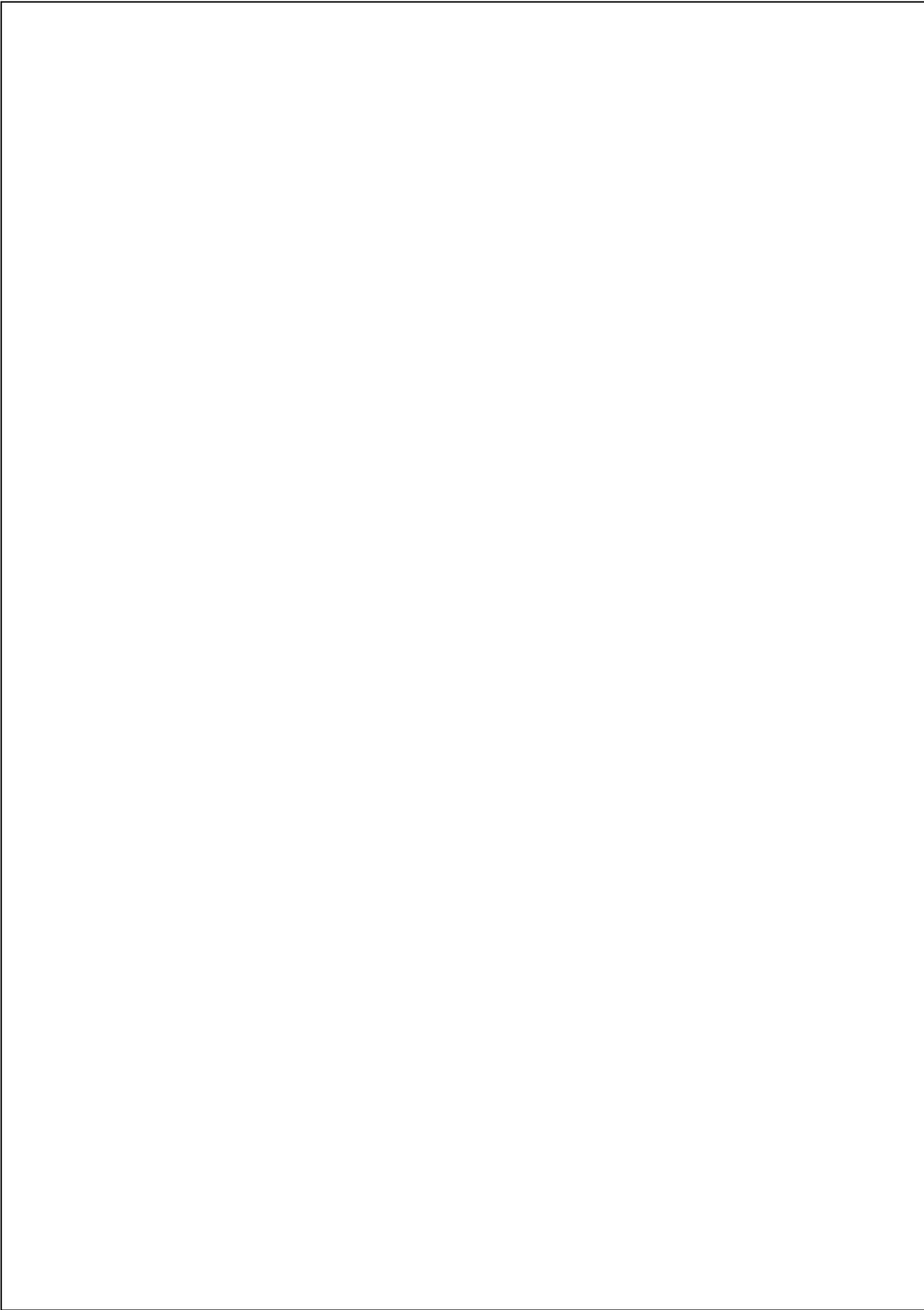
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