

STUDY GUIDE



ISTANBUL OKAN UNIVERSITY
MODEL UNITED NATIONS

UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL
ENES PEHLIVAN



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1. Letter from the Secretary-General

Dear Participants,

I'm delighted to point out that it is my utmost pleasure and honor to serve as the Secretary-General of OKANMUN'25. Throughout the three days of our precious conference, different matters on different committees shall be discussed and very important decisions shall be taken on various past and present events that have already or will have a major impact on our lives. From political controversies to social and daily life problems, we will be creating an active atmosphere for our participants to enjoy and remember every moment they will have during the conference and find efficient as well as prudent solutions by having heated and accurate debates.

Heated and accurate debates require a well-executed and ideally placed preparation process. Therefore, our talented academic team has prepared study guides for their committees so that our participants will have a proper document to get prepared for our conference and perform accordingly.

I believe OKANMUN'25 will be a conference where many first timers will discover their inner diplomats and politicians, who had to hold back and keep it hidden for several reasons that no one knows. Hope to see you dear participants to shape the United Nations and Model United Nations to a better and lasting effulgence. It is thanks to our ancestors who guided us to who we are today. Trust in yourselves and stand out for a better world for everyone. Therefore, I would like to remind everyone of a saying from our Great Leader Mustafa Kemal Atatürk,

“If one day you are helpless, don't wait for a savior. Be the savior, yourself!”

EZGİ AKPINAR

Secretary-General of OKANMUN'25

2. Letter from the Under-Secretary-General

Dear Delegates,

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I welcome you all to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Committee at OKANMUN'25. My name is Enes Pehlivan, and I am privileged to serve as your Under-Secretary-General for this year's conference. I am truly excited to embark on this intellectual journey with such a diverse and passionate group of individuals.

The UNDP stands at the forefront of shaping inclusive and sustainable development, and this year's agenda encapsulates two of the most pressing challenges of our time:

Agenda A: The Applicability of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Agenda B: Balancing Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability

These topics are not only timely but are also deeply interconnected. As delegates, you will be tasked with engaging in nuanced debate, crafting innovative solutions, and forging actionable policy recommendations that reflect the global urgency surrounding sustainable development. Your perspectives will be key in simulating the collaborative spirit that the UNDP champions.

Throughout the committee sessions, I encourage you to challenge assumptions, foster mutual understanding, and advocate for the voices often unheard in international discourse. Let OKANMUN'25 be a platform where diplomacy meets action, and where your ideas contribute to a more sustainable and equitable world.

I look forward to witnessing your dedication, diplomacy, and creativity in addressing these agenda items. Let us make this conference a meaningful and memorable experience!

Warmest regards,

Enes Pehlivan

Under-Secretary-General

United Nations Development Programme

3. Agenda Item A: The Applicability of the Sustainable Development Goals

3.1. Introduction to the Committee

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the lead agency of the United Nations system dedicated to development across the globe and working day and night for poverty elimination, inequality, and sustainable development globally. UNDP originated in 1965 and is currently on the ground in almost 170 countries and territories and a front-line development partner to other governments, civil society, and other global partners. One of its work is the achievement and advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—an international agenda to which all UN Member States made a commitment in 2015 to a more sustainable, improved world for everyone by 2030. Operations of UNDP are guided by an expectation of development that is equitable, inclusive, economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. In doing so, it provides direction to policy, technical assistance, and financing to the governments in setting stronger systems of governance, economic opportunities for participation, climate change mitigation, and disaster and conflict resilience. It also speaks to enabling the poor, gender-based disparity reduction, and peacebuilding in fragile settings. UNDP is not only a development organization but also a broker of partnerships and an innovation hub that supports countries with evidence-based policy and international cooperation in the face of complexity. Model United Nations is convened by the UNDP Committee, and it offers delegates the chance to grapple with some of the world's toughest issues today. It seeks to test players to become creative thinkers, multilateral bargainers, and to play at creating sustainable policy that honors national interests and global commitments. As diplomats, you have to be the embodiment of a spirit of international development—an international development spirit that upholds human dignity, is responsible for making sure the environment is maintained, and works towards prosperity for all in the long run.

3.2. Introduction to the Agenda Item

Realization of the SDGs is, undoubtedly, the most complex and difficult problem of modern global development thought. In 2015, all United Nations Member States within the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development signed up to the 17 SDGs as a global pledge to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace and prosperity for everyone. Nonetheless, even though well-intentioned and ambitious in scope—from no hunger and quality learning to action on climate and institutions—their realization has documented wide variation in progress both across and within nations. As challenges like climate change, conflict, economic fluctuation, and pandemics continue to put nations' nerves to the test, doubts about the pragmatic viability and sensitivity of the SDGs have only mounted. How do countries with such different economic endowments, political regimes, and social settings all make an equally solemn commitment to the same set of universal global aspirations? What are the processes for translating the SDGs into national language and marrying them to national development plans? How do we hold individuals to account and monitor progress when data gaps and structural inequalities continue to exist? In addressing this agenda item, the delegates are encouraged not only to reflect on the normative agenda of the SDGs but also on structural and situational obstacles to their integrated implementation. Discussion should be going into new, inclusive, and viable frameworks of SDG implementation with a focus on cross-sector convergence, worldwide partnerships, and global goal localization. The delegates will also have to contribute on how technology, good governance, finance, and people's participation can make the SDGs more meaningful and impactful in the entire world. This point of agenda calls for the delegates to go beyond rhetoric and consider how SDGs can be inspirational goals, but at any cost, transformational instruments for sustainable development in the next decade.

3.3. Key Words

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** 17 global goals adopted by the UN in 2015 as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- **2030 Agenda:** A global action plan for people, planet, and prosperity, containing the SDGs and their targets.
- **Localization of SDGs:** Adapting the global SDGs to national and subnational contexts and development plans.
- **Indicators:** Measurable metrics used to assess progress toward each SDG target.
- **Disaggregated Data:** Data broken down by variables like gender, age, income, or region to monitor SDG progress fairly.
- **Policy Coherence:** Ensuring that policies across sectors (health, economy, environment) align with SDG goals.
- **Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships:** Collaborations among governments, civil society, the private sector, and international bodies to implement SDGs.
- **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** Systems for tracking progress, measuring results, and adjusting SDG strategies.
- **Voluntary National Review (VNR):** A country's self-assessment of its SDG progress, presented at the UN High-Level Political Forum.
- **Capacity Building:** Strengthening institutions and human resources for better SDG implementation.
- **Financing for Development:** Mobilizing financial resources (domestic and international) to support SDG implementation.
- **Data Gap:** The absence of reliable or sufficient data, which hinders SDG monitoring and accountability.
- **Equity:** Ensuring fairness and justice in outcomes across all population groups in the SDG process.



- **Global Indicators Framework:** The list of 231 indicators adopted by the UN to track SDG progress worldwide.

- **Leaving No One Behind (LNOB):** A core SDG principle aimed at reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized populations.

3.4. Understanding the SDGs

Today, humanity exists in an interconnected globe with severe collective problems such as climate change or inequalities. The United Nations established the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a reference to address such conflicts and give better lives for people in all areas of our planet. Their main aim is to tackle these challenges along with others to make the world more sustainable for future generations.

In 2015, all the countries in the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It sets out 17 Goals, which include 169 targets.

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development



SDGs are essential to build a better future. They; create universal responses to various issues being faced, eradicate poverty along with promoting development, create a balance among the environment, society and economy. And when achieving these goals natural resources are sustained. These effects and implementations of SDG's represent the importance of them for our world.

The 2030 Agenda and its Goals also offer a comprehensive vision for sustainable development that:

- is global, rather than limited to “developing” countries as was the case with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
- is based on values such as equity and respect for human rights;
- relies on approaches such as sustainable financing, scientific research and innovation, and monitoring and evaluation;
- requires a new way of working, involving intersectoral action by multiple stakeholders;
- aims to strengthen health systems towards universal health coverage (UHC).

In conclusion, SDGs are the means to make a sustainable, healthy and peaceful future. If these goals are achieved then the coming generations will not only coexist with nature but will hold on to each other.

3.5. Assessing the Applicability of SDGs

In this part of the guide you are going to read importance of the application of SDGs, not how can it be because it is your duty to debate and solve the issue.

SDGs are the key goals and key aspects of our time. Since the start of MDGs to SDGs, they became global foreseen way to development in every country. By applying SDGs every single citizen of all countries are included in the development and may have benefited from the development. Good education, cheaper and more beneficial healthcare, personal and national economic growth, better working conditions, gender equality are most common need for all citizens as we all know. Applying SDGs are easiest, fastest and most participable way to achieve. If the world wants to achieve these goals, the governments should be like a team, the companies should sacrifice from their profit for a bit, UN or some NGO's should be included in the whole process. Achieving the SDGs requires substantial investment. Many low-income nations face financial constraints and depend on international aid or public-private partnerships. Similarly, access to data, digital technologies, and innovation directly affects how feasible it is to monitor and meet targets. Many SDGs are interconnected. However, in practice, policy incoherence between sectors—such as economic growth and environmental protection—can undermine implementation. Therefore, integrated approaches that consider trade-offs and synergies are essential. Another one of the key obstacles in assessing SDG applicability is the lack of reliable, disaggregated data. Without consistent data collection and reporting, it is difficult to evaluate progress, adapt policies, or target vulnerable populations.

While the SDGs provide a visionary roadmap for sustainable development, their applicability is not uniform. To ensure meaningful impact, national strategies must align with local realities, supported by strong governance, adequate financing, reliable data, and inclusive participation.

3.6. Major Parties Involved

United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP): Works in connection with environmental aspects of SDGs. (6, 7, 13, 14, 15)

International Labour Organization (ILO): International Labour Organization (ILO) : They also promotes and supports because this organization have a common goal with SDG 8. Sustainable Development Goal 8, which advances the promotion of inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work, deals with issues at the core of the ILO's mandate. Goal 8 covers a variety of topics such as labour productivity, informal employment, earnings (including the gender pay gap), unemployment, youth not in education, employment or training, child labour and occupational injuries.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD): UNCTAD supports developing countries' economic growth. By supporting their growth, they are supporting the idea of SDG 8.

World Bank: The World Bank, founded in 1944 to rebuild post-war Europe, evolved from focusing on large-scale infrastructure and GDP growth to aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8) after its 2015 adoption. Initially prioritizing economic expansion, it shifted in the 1970s toward poverty reduction, then embraced inclusive growth and job creation under the Millennium Development Goals (2000–2015). With SDG 8—promoting sustainable economic growth, decent work, and full employment—the Bank now invests in skills training, green jobs, and private sector partnerships, balancing growth with sustainability and equity.

World Health Organization (WHO): This organization is linked with SDGs via SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being. Supports the SDG because all the world needs decent healthcare.

International Finance Corporation (IFC): The International Finance Corporation (IFC), the World Bank Group's private sector arm, plays a key role in advancing Sustainable Development Goal 8 (SDG 8) by fostering sustainable economic growth, job creation, and decent work through investments and advisory services. Unlike the World Bank's focus on public sector lending, IFC targets private enterprises, financing projects like renewable energy plants, small business expansions, and digital infrastructure—such as a \$100 million investment in India's solar sector in 2023—that generate employment and promote innovation. It also supports entrepreneurship and improves labor conditions by advising companies on sustainability and inclusion, aligning with SDG 8's emphasis on productive, equitable, and environmentally conscious growth.

UNWOMEN: This organization of UN is linked with SDG 5: Gender Equality. Their purpose with SDG 5 is making the world equal to every gender.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF): This organization of UN is working for education, health, and protection of children, so it is linked with multiple SDGs like: SDG 1, SDG 2, SDG 4.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO): This organization of UN is working for global education and cultural initiatives. It is linked with SDG 4: Quality Education.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO): This organization's concern is hunger, food security, and sustainable agriculture. This organization is linked with SDG 2: Zero Hunger.

World Wildlife Fund (WWF): This organization addresses environmental sustainability and biodiversity. (SDG 13, SDG 14, SDG 15)

UN Global Compact: It is an UN initiative that is working with multiple amount of companies to adopt them into the SDG system.

International Monetary Fund (IMF): Mostly linked with SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth. They support countries' macroeconomic stability and economic growth's increase.

3.7. Global Perspectives on SDGs

Globally, different countries have different perspectives and applications on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in terms of their capacities, geopolitical position and challenges.

Sweden is a global forerunner in sustainable development. The SDGs have been integrated fully into Swedish foreign and domestic policy. Sustainability is not being shared as an independent agenda but as the core field of Sweden's welfare system. Gender equality (SDG 5), climate action (SDG 13), and energy (SDG 7) are the priority fields. Sweden is keen on becoming the world's first fossil-free welfare state, indicative of its seriousness towards social and environmental transformation.

While so, Nigeria also possesses critical development and development issues and employs SDGs as a strategy to eradicate poverty, improve and better education, and access to basic services. The government created an SDG Implementation Plan involving regional development and rural coverage of focus. Top core targets with highest priority are SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), and SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). In parallel, however, insecurity and poor infrastructure pose impediments to effective implementation at national levels and dimensions.

Japan is unique in the tech fantasy and SDG pairing. Japan will use its investment from "Society 5.0" vision into artificial intelligence, robots, and digital infrastructure to develop an inclusive sustainable society. Its most highly ranked activity sectors are SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities), and SDG 13 (Climate Action). Innovation and resilience are central for the Japanese strategy as the growth drivers of the future.

Germany engages in tackling the SDGs domestically and internationally. There has been the creation of a Sustainable Development Strategy that incorporates the SDGs in national policy and development cooperation. Successful inter-country global solidarity and partnerships are brought to the forefront by Germany. It concentrates primarily on SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), and SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and is also a leading donor to international SDG efforts.

Finally, Norway views SDGs as the advancement of its established tradition of peace, protection of nature, and conformity with human rights. The government of Norway trusts in working on SDGs within and outside Norway via extensive investments in foreign aid, the protection of oceans, and the empowerment of women. The very best priority interests of Norway are SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 5 (Gender Equality). The country is a global leader in creating a more equitable and sustainable world.



3.8. Advices for Debate and Progress of Committee

Dear Delegates,

Don't forget the fact that you are the person who representing your country's policies etc. , so that you have to know what your countries economic situations, policies; public's economic welfare, politic situations. And you should prepare well to this debate because we have an actual and important agenda item and a very well prepared guide. Also, do not forget to look for what is a resolution paper and how can it be written.

Lastly, I **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** you all to look your countries economic datas using this two site : <https://fred.stlouisfed.org/> <https://data.worldbank.org/>

Here is an example of a data I prepared before:

Macro economic indicators, United States

	1948-1972	1973-1979	1980-2006
GDP per capita (billion \$)	18376	26515	37791
GDP Growth (annual change %)	4,0	3,4	3,1
Government Expenditures	0,9	0,3	0,4
Consumption Expenditures	2,4	2,0	2,2
Private Investment Expenditures	0,8	0,9	0,7
Net Exports	-0,1	0,2	-0,3
Budgetary Balance (as of GDP)	-0,4	-2,2	-2,5
Consumer Price Inflation	2,4	8,2	3,9
Unemployment	4,8	6,5	6,1
Interest	4,6	8,9	9,0
Borrowing by Sector (as of GDP)			
Government	1,8	4,0	4,0
Households	3,4	5,2	5,4
Nonfinancial Business	3,3	5,0	4,0
Domestic Financial Sector	1,0	2,5	6,3
Gross Savings (as of GDP)	22,7	22,4	19,6

3.9. Questions to be Answered

- What structural challenges prevent the uniform application of SDGs across countries with varying economic and political systems?
- How can the SDGs be effectively localized to reflect national and regional development needs?
- What role does the lack of reliable and disaggregated data play in hindering SDG implementation and monitoring?
- How can governments ensure policy coherence when trade-offs exist between economic growth and environmental protection?
- What are the most critical sectors where SDG implementation is lagging, and why?
- How can partnerships between governments, the private sector, and civil society improve the applicability of SDGs?
- In what ways can innovation and technology be leveraged to overcome barriers to SDG implementation?
- How should low-income countries finance SDG implementation given limited national resources?
- How can international organizations like the UNDP, World Bank, and IMF assist countries struggling with SDG applicability?
- What mechanisms can be put in place to hold countries accountable for their SDG progress?
- How do conflicts, pandemics, and other crises affect a country's ability to implement the SDGs?
- What are the risks of “SDG-washing” by governments or corporations, and how can it be prevented?
- How can educational reforms contribute to raising awareness and support for the SDGs among citizens?
- What successful national strategies (e.g., Sweden, Japan, or Nigeria) can be used as models for improving SDG applicability elsewhere?
- How can delegates propose resolution frameworks that balance global SDG goals with the realities and capacities of each nation?

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4. Agenda Item B: Balancing Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability

4.1. Introduction to the Committee

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is the lead agency of the United Nations system dedicated to development across the globe and working day and night for poverty elimination, inequality, and sustainable development globally. UNDP originated in 1965 and is currently on the ground in almost 170 countries and territories and a front-line development partner to other governments, civil society, and other global partners. One of its work is the achievement and advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—an international agenda to which all UN Member States made a commitment in 2015 to a more sustainable, improved world for everyone by 2030. Operations of UNDP are guided by an expectation of development that is equitable, inclusive, economically, socially, and environmentally sustainable. In doing so, it provides direction to policy, technical assistance, and financing to the governments in setting stronger systems of governance, economic opportunities for participation, climate change mitigation, and disaster and conflict resilience. It also speaks to enabling the poor, gender-based disparity reduction, and peacebuilding in fragile settings. UNDP is not only a development organization but also a broker of partnerships and an innovation hub that supports countries with evidence-based policy and international cooperation in the face of complexity. Model United Nations is convened by the UNDP Committee, and it offers delegates the chance to grapple with some of the world's toughest issues today. It seeks to test players to become creative thinkers, multilateral bargainers, and to play at creating sustainable policy that honors national interests and global commitments. As diplomats, you have to be the embodiment of a spirit of international development—an international development spirit that upholds human dignity, is responsible for making sure the environment is maintained, and works towards prosperity for all in the long run.

4.2. Introduction to the Agenda Item

With intensification of globalisation and industrialisation, the balance between development and nature conservation is becoming the world's largest challenge on the menu. When nations push towards higher living standards, better infrastructure, and more stable economies, they are likely to be confronted with the environmental cost of unchecked growth: rising greenhouse emissions, deforestation, species extinction, water scarcity, and pollution. While economic development is crucial in the alleviation of poverty, creation of employment, and social development, its environmental cost can substitute riches in the long run and undermine ecosystems vital to human beings. Industrialized countries so far have relied on fossil fuel and energy-intensive manufacturing in order to achieve high levels of development.

Yet, that is now threatened by a new danger in the form of more severe and more frequent climatic catastrophes being experienced around the world. Third world and least-developed nations have a particularly prickly issue to resolve: how to develop and raise people out of poverty without taking environmentally unsustainable trajectories already traveled by already-industrialized nations. The globe is then left with capability, responsibility, and equity with which to mold world solutions. The attempt at balancing the two extremes—growth and the environment—has to be three-pronged. This will be through investment in green agriculture and urbanization, renewable energy, environmental policy-making, and promoting sustainable consumption patterns. In achieving this, there is a need for international cooperation and funding towards green technology and adaptation to climate change in getting the whole world, both the developed and developing world, to reap the advantages of going green.

This agenda item invites the delegates to reflect on policies, technologies, and institutional arrangements for facilitating sustainable development across contexts. The delegates are also invited to reflect on how development cooperation, trade policy, and multilateral agreements like the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can be leveraged in striving to create inclusive economies within planetary boundaries.

Throughout the dialogue, the representatives are led to observe how economic prosperity and responsibility towards the environment could be two sides of the same coin, and not enemies. New, equitable, and sustainable options need to be negotiated if the world is to be able to effectively respond to the double challenge of sustainability and prosperity within a period of some decades

4.3. Key Words

Green Economy: An economy that aims for sustainable development without degrading the environment.

Climate Finance : Funding from public, private, or international sources to support climate mitigation/adaptation.

Carbon Neutrality : Achieving net-zero carbon emissions by balancing emissions with removal or offsetting.

Sustainable Development: Development that meets present needs without compromising future generations.

Renewable Energy: Energy from sources that are naturally replenished (e.g., solar, wind, hydro).

Just Transition: A fair shift to a low-carbon economy that protects workers and vulnerable communities.

Circular Economy: An economic system aimed at eliminating waste through reuse, repair, and recycling.

Carbon Pricing : Economic tools (e.g., carbon tax or cap-and-trade) to charge emitters for greenhouse gas output.

Green Technology: Technologies that reduce environmental harm (e.g., EVs, carbon capture, clean energy tech).

Multilateral Agreements: Treaties or arrangements signed by multiple countries to achieve shared goals (e.g., Paris Agreement).

Environmental Degradation: The deterioration of the environment through depletion of resources and pollution.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs): Climate action plans submitted by countries under the Paris Agreement.

Policy Coherence: Ensuring that different policies (economic, social, environmental) work together effectively.

Green Infrastructure: Infrastructure that promotes sustainability, such as eco-buildings, green roofs, public transport.

Trade-offs: Situations where gaining one objective (e.g., growth) may hinder another (e.g., environment).

4.4. Current Global Trends on Agenda Item

In recent years, the global community has increasingly come to realize the necessity of including environmental sustainability in economic growth paradigms. Notwithstanding considerable progress, green economy transformation has been geographically and income level uneven. The majority of high-income economies, particularly in Europe and parts of Asia, have put enormous resources into renewable power, circular economies, and green infrastructure. For the case, EU Green Deal and Chinese solar energy leadership show stronger resolve in sustainable development. Developing countries and least developed countries have limited finance, technology, and policy support access, and it becomes ever more difficult to take on low-carbon development pathways. Climate finance all over the world has risen through such products as green bonds, the Green Climate Fund, and the mechanisms for bilateral aid.

Yet, disbursement has not been entirely as good as desired, and accessibility still persists as a challenge for fragile states, especially small island developing states (SIDS) and fragile economies. Along with these changes in the economy also come public concern over the environment, which has risen astronomically. Customers are demanding more sustainable consumer products increasingly, and businesses are being compelled to adopt open environmental, social, and governance practices. Social forces are compelling the private sector to greener business, and national and global policy directions are being shaped in the process. However, the global economic response to such crises as the COVID-19 pandemic has sometimes been achieved at the cost of short-term succor at the expense of long-term sustainability.

This has resulted in the revival of fossil fuels in some regions, and the difference between climate fantasy and reality has increased in the bargain. International structures like the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development remain focal point frameworks, setting national policy via the recognition of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). But the manner of implementation is skewed and the level of commitment varies widely between states. Moreover, technology-driven innovation continues to be the driver of the future.

Electric mobility, energy efficiency, carbon capture, and climate-resilient agriculture promise to unlock growth from environmental degradation. The risk of amplifying existing inequalities is real with uneven access to such innovation across the world. Now that the world is confronted with economic growth and environmental conservation, the world requires global solidarity, innovation, and equity to be at the forefront of all policy discussions.

4.5. Some Examples

The study of the world's environmental sustainability and economic growth endeavors is highlighted with many live examples that show the feasibility and difficulty of the two's management. The examples, which are based on both the developing and developed world, show how countries are trying to meet economic demand requirements and environmental protection requirements.

Norway is an especially compelling case study in a fossil fuel economy investing in a more sustainable future. One of the largest oil exporters in the world, Norway has been investing its petro profits in a sovereign wealth fund, which it invests in sustainable initiatives both domestically and abroad. With strict environmental regulations and an active investment in alternative energy, Norway proves that economic growth and environmental sustainability are not opposing forces.

In the meantime, China's record is a balancing act between hyper-industrialization and green preservation. While the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases today, China is also the world's largest investor in renewable energy. That its only follow-up success to its pledge of being carbon neutral by 2060 is an unabated continuation of the use of coal to power its expanding economy for the energy requirements of its expanding economy is a testament to such a tension between green long-term imperatives and development short-term imperatives.

Brazil has a unique policy challenge in the Amazon forest. Driven by the needs of heightened agricultural product exports and industrialization, Amazon deforestation has, in the recent past, been on the rise. For as much as the development creates space for economic engagement and jobs, it does so at a very steep environmental price, threatening biodiversity and global carbon emissions. The issue is the decision in developing resource-rich nations to forego short-run economic gains and ecologically sustainable management of the environment.

Another instance is from Germany's "Energiewende" (Energy Transition) policy. Germany has been experimenting with leaving nuclear and coal for green energy. While the transition has made Germany a model for green policy, it has also made energy more expensive and foreign energy dependence, and it illustrates the economic cost that there is to activist environmental policy.

India is a model of sustainable urbanization. India's "Smart Cities Mission" aims to make its cities modern while embracing green technology, clean transportation, and efficient waste management. As a rapidly emerging economy with a behemoth population, Indian urban policy has a leadership role to play in demonstrating to other developing nations how they can prioritize sustainability at the top of their agendas without inhibiting economic growth.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) such as the Maldives, Tuvalu, and Fiji offer real-world lessons in the vulnerability of climate-prone economies. They are at the forefront of sea-level rise and weather-related natural disasters yet are very reliant on tourism and fisheries for income. Their priority is not so much to reduce their negligible emissions but to mobilize access to climate finance and technology to attain resilience.

Finally, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) provides a regional chance to combine sustainability and economic integration. As African nations seek more trade and industrialization, there is a chance to invest in clean energy, green infrastructure, and nature planning from the beginning in such a way as to ensure that future development is not gained at the expense of environmental health.

These examples show that there is no single path to realizing economic and environmental aspirations. Context, capacity, and political will all will come to bear on how nations approach this challenge. Delegates in MUN business are encouraged to present such diverse case studies with the goal of constructing realistic, representative, and region-specific solutions.

4.6. Major Parties Involved

The challenge of balancing economic growth with environmental sustainability is a global issue that engages a wide variety of stakeholders, including both state and non-state actors. The following parties play significant roles in shaping international policies, funding green initiatives, and setting global environmental and economic standards:

Being the world's largest emitter of greenhouse gases and the world's biggest manufacturer, China is at the focal point of this agenda. While it is still an important consumer of coal to fuel its economic growth, it is also the largest investor in renewable energy, electric cars, and green infrastructure. China's model is an embodiment of the global conflict between decarbonization and development.

America is one of the world's largest carbon dioxide emitters and the strongest global environmental diplomacy champions. The United States invested heavily in green employment, clean energy, and emissions reduction through instruments such as the Inflation Reduction Act (2022). America wields immense influence through foreign policy and international finance.

The EU has set the world in its leadership in climate governance through the European Green Deal and promoting net-zero emissions by 2050. It encourages sustainable development globally through investment, green clauses in trade agreements, and climate diplomacy leadership.

As the custodian of much of the Amazon rainforest, Brazil is central to the problem of environmental sustainability. Brazil is brought under international pressure for the deforestation policies it adopts but also wants to use its natural resources to ensure economic growth. Brazil's reaction lies at the center of the debate on environmental conservation and economic requirements for developing nations.

India is a fast-emerging economy but equally one of the biggest emitters of greenhouse gases. India has committed to going net-zero by 2070 and launched humongous missions such as Smart Cities Mission and International Solar Alliance. India is the fulcrum around which developing nations' voice should be heard on the platform of climate summits.

Africa's emerging economies are confronted with the twin testaments of ending poverty by industrializing as well as safeguarding their wealthy ecosystems. The African Union, together with the AfCFTA, is pushing to have a situation where economic integration in the continent includes green growth and sustainable development tenets.

Civil society groups such as Greenpeace, WWF, and Friends of the Earth, and youth and indigenous movements are the major forces to push governments, raise awareness, and campaign for urgent climate action and sustainable policies.

4.7. Advices for Debate and Progress of Committee

The issue of "Balancing Economic Growth and Environmental Sustainability" puts the delegates into conflict with trying to balance the priorities of developing the country with what the environment needs. The delegates will have to be solution-focused and team-focused while trying to perform well in committee. You need to be conscious of the economic standing and natural wealth of your country. Learn about the term common but differentiated responsibilities—no country can make the same level of contribution to climate action because they are not equally developed. SDG-targeted proposals, i.e., SDG 8 (Economic Growth) and SDG 13 (Climate Action), are to be proposed. Proposals with innovation and creativity, i.e., green jobs, carbon pricing, and investment in renewable energy, are to be put forward. Climate finance and technology transfer to developing nations are the most appropriate tools to help them. Don't leave out the social factor: be inclusive in policy, shelter vulnerable populations, and provide a fair transition for displaced workers. Form coalitions, ideally party or interest-based caucuses, and make decision by consensus. Good proposals will be accompanied by implementation, funding, and monitoring plans to keep the parties on track to success. Above all, try to frame policies in such a way that economic development and environmental protection reinforce each other—this is the key to great, durable solutions

4.8. Questions to be Answered

- How can countries promote economic growth without harming environmental sustainability?
- What are the most effective policy tools to achieve a green economy?
- How can developing countries be supported in adopting sustainable growth models?
- What role should international climate finance play in helping nations transition to sustainability?
- How can governments ensure a ‘just transition’ for workers affected by environmental regulations?
- How can the private sector contribute to balancing economic growth and environmental protection?
- What incentives can be offered to reduce dependency on fossil fuels?
- How can trade agreements include environmental standards and safeguards?
- What are the challenges to implementing green technology in low-income nations?
- What role do multilateral agreements like the Paris Agreement play in shaping sustainable development policies?
- How can developing countries avoid repeating the environmentally damaging paths taken by industrialized nations?
- How can environmental protection be made economically beneficial for governments and industries?
- What regional partnerships or examples (e.g., AfCFTA, EU Green Deal) can serve as models for sustainable growth?
- How should conflicts between short-term economic gain and long-term environmental protection be addressed?
- What monitoring mechanisms can ensure implementation of environmental commitments in national development plans?



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