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TRUMP'S POLICIES AND THEIR IMPACT ON ACHIEVING GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY

A Dissertation Submitted to the Department of English in Partial Fulfillment of the Master's Degree in Literature and Civilization

Board of Examiners

Chairman: Mrs Rima ZIAYA — **(MA/A) 8 Mai 1945 Guelma University**

Supervisor: Dr Abdelkrim DEKHAKHENA — **(MCA) 8 Mai 1945 Guelma University**

Examiner: Mrs Lamia SAADAOUI — **(MA/A) 8 Mai 1945 Guelma University**

Submitted by:

Seyfeddine MAHIDDINE

Adlan NOUAR

Supervised by:

Dr Abdelkrim DEKHAKHENA

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Dedication1

I humbly begin this dedication by acknowledging the blessings and guidance bestowed upon me by Allah. It is with utmost gratitude that I dedicate my research to my parents and siblings, who have been instrumental in my academic pursuits.

To my parents, thank you for always being there for me. I hope I continue to make you proud in all my future endeavors.

To my little family, thank you for being a constant source of strength and care. I am grateful for your unwavering presence in my life.

Mahiddine Seyfeddine

Dedication 2

First and foremost, we would like to thank God Almighty for granting us the health, strength, and opportunity to arrive at this moment. We pray that his grace will always be upon us.

This dissertation is dedicated to each and every individual who have supported us and believed in us throughout this challenging endeavor.

Dear parents! Your unwavering encouragement and belief in our abilities have been the driving force behind our success. Thank you for standing by us and being a constant source of motivation.

Nouar Adlan

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Abstract

During his presidency, Donald Trump has been criticized for undermining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their importance, with his opponents questioning the implications of this as the US pursues a more inward-looking agenda. This dissertation examines the relationship between Trump's presidency and the SDGs, highlighting the irony that the increasing inequality that fueled his campaign is the very goal the SDGs aim to address. Some of Trump's campaign pledges directly relate to the SDGs, and his administration has implemented policies that could hinder progress towards them. For example, Trump's protectionist agenda has put the clean energy market at risk, and his administration has rolled back environmental regulations, which could increase greenhouse gas emissions and negatively impact the SDGs. Furthermore, Trump's disregard for the SDGs has led to a decline in business commitment to the SDGs, as seen in the decreased mention of sustainable development in corporate annual reports. In conclusion, Trump's presidency has had a negative impact on the SDGs, undermining global collaboration and jeopardizing the achievement of these ambitious goals.

الملخص

خلال فترة رئاسته، تعرض دونالد ترامب لانتقادات بسبب تقويض أهداف التنمية المستدامة وأهميتها، حيث شكك خصومه في العواقب المترتبة على ذلك في حين تلاحق الولايات المتحدة أجندة أكثر انغلاقا على الداخل. يدرس هذا الهجر العلاقة بين رئاسة ترامب وأهداف التنمية المستدامة، مما يسلط الضوء على المفارقة المتمثلة في أن عدم المساواة المتزايدة التي غذت حملته الانتخابية هي الهدف ذاته الذي تهدف أهداف التنمية المستدامة إلى معالجته. وترتبط بعض تعهدات حملة ترامب بشكل مباشر بأهداف التنمية المستدامة، وقد نفذت إدارته سياسات يمكن أن تعيق التقدم نحو تحقيقها. على سبيل المثال، أدت أجندة ترامب الحمائية إلى تعريض سوق الطاقة النظيفة للخطر، وتراجعت إدارته عن القواعد التنظيمية البيئية، وهو ما قد يزيد من انبعاثات الغازات الدفيئة ويؤثر سلبا على أهداف التنمية المستدامة. علاوة على ذلك، أدى تجاهل ترامب لأهداف التنمية المستدامة إلى انخفاض التزام الشركات

بأهداف التنمية المستدامة، كما يتضح من انخفاض ذكر التنمية المستدامة في التقارير السنوية للشركات. في الختام، كان لرئاسة ترامب تأثير سلبي على أهداف التنمية المستدامة، مما أدى إلى تقويض التعاون العالمي وتعريض تحقيق هذه الأهداف الطموحة للخطر.

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List of Abbreviations and acronyms

UN	United Nations
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
U.K.	United Kingdom United
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
US	United States
CO2	Carbon Dioxide
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
SO2	Sulphur Dioxide
NOx	Nitrogen Oxides
PM	Particulate Matter
ACE	Affordable Clean Energy
TCJA	Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
SMBs	Small and Medium-sized Businesses
IRA	Inflation Reduction Act

PTC	Production Tax Credit
ITC	Investment Tax Credit
IEA	International Energy Agency
RE	Renewable Energy
PPAs	Power Purchase Agreements
SDG 13	Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action
SDG 4	Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education
SDG 10	Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
SDG 17	Sustainable Development Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals
WTO	World Trade Organization

Chapter One

Introduction to UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGS)

1. Introduction

"Climate change" as defined by global temperature increase due to human over-dependence on fossil fuel is just one of the many phrases used in reference to the changes that take place in the climate system. Fossil fuel consumption, and subsequently, higher carbon dioxide production has been linked to the US on several occasions after Donald Trump stepped down, considered the primary cause. We can trace it to the time of the current President Trump. Unlike the other alternative approaches, this view has received incredible bad reviews on the global arena. Thus, several nations are searching for better solutions to address the existing severe dangers of climate change.

The research in question centers on America's pulling out of the COP 15, which effect Nigeria's sustainable development. Trump's approach is more focused on the noisy competition and self-interest among the countries, which makes the situation more realistic for international affairs like international politics where nation-states are key actors. Bearing in mind that the efforts taken by Trump will only bring short-term benefits, the analysis highlights the danger of the possible, long-term negative consequences. This calls for proactive actions and collaboration of the states in fighting with climate change.

The environmental policies of former President Donald Trump brought about substantial changes to state and global environmental activity. The Trump administration is widely criticized for reversing course on climate change efforts, particularly for withdrawing from the Paris Agreement, wherein numerous nations committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and limiting global warming. While there may be a short-term economic benefit to the US economy

from his strong emphasis on increasing domestic energy production through increased fossil fuel exploitation, this is still a long way from the overall sustainability of the global energy system. However, these regulations

The United Nations put together the SDGs in 2015 of 17 objectives most intended to address the top challenges that humans face. These objectives also include various globally crucial sectors including climate change, poverty, and inequality at the state and cross-state levels. Sadly, every now and then the world we live in seems to be tipping in even worse direction but there is hope as the UN paints a clear picture of the desired change through the SDGs. At the core of these goals is combating climate change with Goal 13 dedicating robust intent to climate change mitigation. The importance of urgency is evident to reduce greenhouse gas emission rates and to improve climate change response mechanisms, to build climate resilience and to integrate climate change cooperatively.

The elimination of poverty is one of the SDGs' most important goals. The first goal is to eradicate all forms of poverty worldwide. This aim emphasizes how critical it is to provide everyone, especially those experiencing extreme poverty, with access to essential services, social protection systems, and economic possibilities. Diminishing Disparities Taking inequality head-on is essential to the SDGs.

The reduction of inequality both inside and between nations is the emphasis of Goal 10. This objective underscores the necessity of empowering and advancing the social, economic, and political integration of every person, irrespective of their origins or situations. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are essential for tackling major worldwide issues like inequality, poverty, and climate change. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seek to make the world more just and prosperous for both the current and future generations by offering a

comprehensive framework for sustainable development. By means of joint efforts and dedication to these objectives, communities can strive towards a future that is both sustainable and inclusive.

Literature Review

The United Nations established the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in 2015, which contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to address global concerns such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and environmental degradation. The SDGs are interrelated and emphasis the necessity of achieving economic, social, and environmental sustainability (Sachs et al. 805).

The SDGs' implementation issues and progress have been examined in a number of studies. The COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down progress on many SDGs, especially in sectors like poverty reduction, education, and health, according to a report released by the UN Secretary-General in 2021 (United Nations 2021). But the report also pointed out that some nations have advanced significantly in areas like gender equality and renewable energy (United Nations 2021).

Scholars have also investigated how different stakeholders contribute to the SDGs' accomplishment. According to (Scheyvens et al. 371), businesses have the potential to make a significant impact on the SDGs by means of sustainable practices, innovation, and partnerships with civil society and governments. In order to achieve the SDGs at the community level, local governments are also essential (Parnell 107).

Even with the advancements, there are still major obstacles in the way of accomplishing the SDGs by 2030. According to (Sachs et al.), these include a lack of resources, inadequate institutional capability, and opposition to change. According to experts, a more comprehensive

and integrated strategy is required, one that involves all parties and addresses the underlying causes of global issues. the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development offers a thorough framework for tackling world issues. Though there has been progress, there are still big obstacles to overcome. A combined effort from all stakeholders—including governments, corporations, and civil society—will be necessary to achieve the SDGs.

Hypothesis

This paper hypothesis's that major policy shifts under Donald Trump have significantly hampered progress towards meeting the Sustainable Development Goals in the United States and globally. The hypothesis is based on previous examinations of Trump administration policies and high-level assessments of impacts on sustainable development efforts. According to specific study, Trump's policy approach has actually caused regressions in a number of climate action, inequality, health coverage, and renewable energy-related metrics, which is preventing progress towards important 2030 SDG benchmarks. This study will evaluate and confirm the detrimental impact of Trump administration decisions on UN Sustainable Development Goals through a contextual analysis of major policy impacts and a systematic analysis of global policy databases and domestic progress reports linked to SDG achievement during the 2017–2021 period.

1.2 Methodology

The quantitative research methodology for studying the UN's 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) involves a systematic approach integrating manual qualitative coding and automated data entity extraction. This method analyzes SDG-related research literature, applies rules computationally, and uses a mapping approach to discover data types and sources for SDG research. The study focuses on data-driven approaches, aiming to innovate sustainable development and measure progress towards achieving the SDGs

Using the Sustainable Development Report's SDG Dashboards and a longitudinal database of pertinent US policy activity, the quantitative analysis will code and analyze m significant federal policy changes under Donald Trump from 2017–2021 across dimensions tied to specific SDG targets (Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, 2021). A statistical analysis will look at pre-post trends on important metrics related to pre-Trump baseline expectations for SDG advancement during the Trump administration.

Theoretical Background

The 2030 Agenda, which was adopted by all UN member states in 2015, lays out 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that build on and expand the Millennium Development Goals, adding new priorities around climate action, sustainable consumption, resilient infrastructure, and global partnership. The SDGs provide an ambitious framework for international cooperation to address the interconnected economic, social, and environmental challenges facing humanity

The 169 targets nestled inside the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) cover a wide range of topics, including gender equality, clean energy, health, education, poverty, hunger, and environmental protection. Together, they form an integrated and unbreakable plan of action for global peace and prosperity over the next ten years. The SDGs place a strong focus on eliminating disparities in wealth, gender, age, race, and immigrant status both within and between nations.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which have 2030 as its target date, offer a road map for changing to more equitable and sustainable models for development in both the Global North and South. Nevertheless, an increasing body of scientific evidence indicates that national policies and initiatives in place now are woefully insufficient to bring about the

revolutionary shifts that the SDG agenda demands during the remaining years of this decade. To achieve success, major countries such as the United States must demonstrate unprecedented global coordination and leadership in aligning economic systems and human activities with sustainable development guidelines, while also matching their proclaimed principles with concrete reforms.

The World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) published the Brundtland Report in 1987, which introduced the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). According to WCED, sustainable development is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted in 2015, and the SDGs were further developed in subsequent UN conferences and resolutions, including the Rio Summit in 1992. The SDGs aim to address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice.

2.1 Key Issues Covered (Climate, Poverty, Inequality, Etc.)

Climate change is a current phenomenon whereby average global temperatures increase; instances of severe weather are more frequent, and the atmosphere is becoming less hospitable for the poles to endure. The main reason is due to elevated levels of emissions of greenhouse gases mainly as a result of human actions like consumption of fossil energy and destruction of forests. All these lead to tangible negative consequences on the environment, which are manifested in increased loss of bio-diversity, rise of sea-level, and interferences on the natural imbalances in the ecological cycle. Climate change also needs a more active approach similarly to policy, measures that focus on the utilization of renewable energy, carbon decrease, and management.

Poverty remains a significant challenge, millions of people are still living in abject poverty; they lack the basic needs of foods, clean-burning water, and health facilities. The factors that contribute to poverty are unemployment, fugitive economy, illiteracy, non-supply and poor quality of social services. The strategies used to reduce poverty levels include development of the economy through investments, creation of employment opportunities and use of subsidies. Foreign assistance, micro credit and charcoal banking are crucial in facilitation of change in that they enable transforming or to enhance living condition of the needy societies.

Inequality whether in terms of economic or social relations is also another important factor that causes societies to be affected all over the world. It is the phenomenon where the bubble of the rich, the wealthy, the millionaires, and the billionaires are separated from the poor, the disadvantaged, the minorities, the needy, and the ignorant by the problems which are perhaps systematic, but are built through and through by the policy of giving unequal education and unequal healthcare facilities. Social inequality encompasses the social differentiation power which deals with issues of racism, sexism and other forms of discriminations. The fight against inequality requires an approach that captures economic reform, including through the progressive taxes, affirmative action, and equal opportunities policies. The challenge of maintaining fairness and equity for all the population is essential in the containment of social problems and development.

This section dives into the nature of the major concerns that define our world today, from the growing demand for the fight against climate change to the need to kick the poverty and inequality. These challenges are intertwined elements in the global fabric of human coexistence, each requiring immediate response and tangible solutions. By unpacking how these key topics

interface, the world can move toward a horizon of progress toward a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous world.

2.1.1 Climate Change

Climate change is the most important issue that the modern world faces since the global future and the overall living environment is at stake. According to a report by Smith and Jones (2020), more gas is being trapped in the Earth's atmosphere, mainly due to the use of fossil energy and land overuse and depletion. This has brought many effects in the modern world such as extreme climate change effects like increased storms, unusual changes of rainfall, and disturbance of ecosystems. Furthermore, climate change has social justice consequences, in which its effects are not felt equally by everyone, vulnerable groups are affected the most.

Combating climate change is a global emergency that, at its core, refers to mitigation, the process of reducing the emission of greenhouse gases and adaptation, is the preparation for and management of unavoidable climate change risks. The good news is that if the scientific community as well as major governments and global institutions worldwide come together and push for it via research, innovation projects, big pledges, and such like, it might still be possible to avoid the worst of the climate change and create a world and a future that is sustainable for generations to come.

2.1.1.1 Importance of Reducing Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions

It is important that the countries of the world work hard to slow down greenhouse gas emissions to help reverse the effects of climate change changes and save the future of our planet. Any gases that cause heat-trapping, including carbon dioxide and methane, within the earth's atmosphere lead to global warming, which has the effect of altering ecosystems and weather conditions. Failure in reducing emission the global temperatures will soar to dangerous levels

then consequently bring tremendous impacts to Efforts towards tackling this problem which affects the earth's climate in many ways is not enough to prevent the temperatures from rising to extremely dangerous levels which will in turn affect the climate in many ways.

The need to mitigate emissions is also justified beyond the environmental measures, that, address the societal and economic gains of embracing change to a low-carbon economy. By promoting the utilization of renewable sources of energy, improving energy efficiency, and adopting sustainable transport systems as measures to tackle climate change, countries are likely to enhance innovations and skills, create opportunities for employment addressing environmental issues, and enhance human health, which is associated with reduction in incidences of air pollution.

2.1.1.2 Key Initiatives and Agreements (E.G., Paris Agreement)

This can be explained by the fact that major projects and treaties, including the Paris Agreement, are aimed at combating climate change at the international level. The Paris Agreement, signed under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in December 2015, is a global climate agreement by almost 200 countries to pursue the long-term aim to limit the global average temperature increase to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to put into efforts to combat its further increase to 1. 5°C above pre-industrial levels. It was the beginning of a new era in addressing climate change, as countries came together, willing to start cooperating in change (UNFCCC) .

Another notable treaty is the Kyoto Protocol that laid down quantifiable commitments to emissions among developed countries in the late 1990s. However, with the limitations and drawbacks that it had, the Kyoto Protocol provided the roadmap and the foundation for future climate accords as well as creating consciousness about the impending need to cut back on the

emission of greenhouse gases. Further, the Kyoto protocol efforts like the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), aids in the reduction of emissions from developing countries through provision of financial and technology support from developed countries. Such endeavors highlight the need for common and coordinated global approaches to tackling the intricate issues of climate change

2.1.3 Affordable Clean Energy

The following section describes the importance of shifting to affordable clean energy sources in the current environment of the energy mix. Given the current global issues in climate change and environmental degradation, the search for ways and means to cut on the use of fossil fuels has gained serious importance. This change is expected to achieve this while arresting leakage of greenhouse gases, at the same time offering fresh economic prospects such as encouraging innovation, employment, and energy security.

Reasonable and clean energy is seen as one of the sustainable development goals thus forms a significant part of the global efforts towards the sustainability and protection of the environment. As the issue of climate change persists with the increasing demand for fossil fuel energy and the finite queue of supply, the shift towards the use of renewable energy sources has been proposed as a solution. The innovation of clean energy technologies including solar and wind power has demonstrated impressive improvements in efficiency besides touching on the cost aspect. These developments have helped to reduce the difference between renewable energy and energy from conventional sources such as fossil fuel. Consequently, there has been expansion of renewable energy systems globally and for the new capacities, renewable energy sources have grown beyond capacities from fossil energy sources. This evolution towards cheap,

clean energy, not only helps in cutting emissions but also does wonders for economic stability while reducing energy dependence.

Cost consideration, which shapes the utilization of clean energy technologies is equally important in guaranteeing equal access to electricity, thus addressing social inequalities. Decentralized renewable energy systems presents off-grid communities as well as underserved areas with an opportunity to skip over macro-grid thus enabling then access reliable electricity services at a go. With these systems, local communities that are often poor can produce their own clean energy which would help them reduce poverty, better their health and education, as well as foster economic development.

But the quest for the sustainable resource for energy is not an easy one as this piece will show. The practice has legitimate and reasonable roots that act as barriers to the expansion of renewable energy solutions due to policy frameworks, the dynamics of the market, and technological impediments. It is on this basis that governments continue to encourage the use of clean energy through provision of incentives and subsidies otherwise most companies will opt for mechanisms whose effects pose negative impacts on the environment. Further, the development of energy storage technologies is required to eliminate the intermittency problems of renewable power sources and to create a sustainable and credible power system.

Affordable clean energy can be deemed as a significant cornerstone for the transformation of the world into a sustainable environment with low emission of greenhouse gases. As such, key initiatives for the advancement of cleaner electricity technologies include technological advancement, supportive policies as well as international partnerships to bring the dream of affordable and clean energy for all the world. The readiness to adapt renewable opportunities

enables overcoming the negative effects of climate change, integrating development and wellbeing for current and future generations alike.

2.1.1.5. Transitioning to Renewable Energy Sources

Switching to renewable sources of energy is one of the most significant development milestones in human history focusing on the sustainable development process. The constantly deteriorating condition of the global environment due to the use of fossil fuel in products for generation of energy has necessitated the international community to intensify efforts for the adoption of cleaner and sustainable sources of energy. More specifically, renewable energy technologies are solar, wind, hydroelectric, and biomass, which can provide an enormous amount of energy in a sustainable manner to replace conventional fossil fuel sources and reduce greenhouse emissions. This shift is enhanced by the continuously reducing costs and modern technology and the integration of renewable energy systems at par with fossil fuel systems.

Renewable energy sources offer countless socio-economic advantages including effecting employment and economic development, improving energy security, and benefiting public health. Development of renewable energy leads to increased economic activity, skill development employment and improved sovereignty of embarking on importing fossil fuels. In particular, decentralized generation of energy through the renewable sources enables the community to take control of its energy resources thereby creating social capital/missing middle and hence resilience. But, the move to clean energy isn't easy. The stop-and-go power from the sun and wind can cause issues with keeping the power system stable, so we need to create smart power networks and ways to store energy. Laws and rules must push for clean energy use and end the support for old oil and gas. Working with other countries and putting money in can help grow clean power builds and share tech with poor countries.

To wrap it up, going for clean power is key to a long-lasting and strong power future. By using what renewable sources give and going for new ideas, people can cut down their mark on the earth, fight climate shift, and make energy fair for all. If people work together - in towns, countries, and the whole world - the dream of a place run on pure, clean power can come true, making a good and green future.

2.1.1.6. Reducing Dependency on Fossil Fuels

Limiting the use of fossil fuels is crucial from both a climate and sustainable energy convergence perspective. Renewable sources of energy, including solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, are gradually replacing organic sources of energy for them to be depleted. In ensuring that consumer-driven change is realized, government policies act as key drivers in the promotion of renewable energy. In their study, as long as policy tools like state subsidies for renewable energy facility and carbon prices remain an instrument, there cannot be a shift from fossil fuel energy resources. Similarly, also highlights the need to coordinate the efforts of countries in the face of another key global threat – dependence on fossil fuels (Ahluwalia and Patel 85).

It also helps in the reduction of dependency on the limited stocks of fossil fuels Cyber activist, 2009 Technology is also one way of reducing the extent to which fossil fuels are used. Solar, wind power, stored energy in batteries, smart grid infrastructure and biofuels are three of the best developed types of renewable energy that can be used as substitutes to the traditional fossil fuel system. Additionally, it is evident that the more recent breakthroughs in carbon capture and storage (CCS) technologies can support the reduction in environmental harm caused by continued. Thus, the decrease in dependent on fossil resources is possible only through the complicated strategy that involves the application of policies, as well as technical and

international actions. It is that society should be committed to utilizing renewable energy sources and proposing relevant measures to ensure that the energy of the future shall also be green.

2.2 Targets for Achievement by 2030

It is crucial that the world sets clear and ambitious targets toward global achievement as the global community seeks to find ways to redress its reliance on fossil fuels in an effort to solve the world's energy demands towards creating sustainable energy future. Collective efforts are demanded to cut down the consumption of fossil fuels to a great extent in the year 2030 and bring higher level of renewable energy. This section explores the detailed goals and objectives that need to be achieved in different spheres by 2030 in order to resolve the issues of climate change and environment degradation. These targets as part of the policy and technological interventions as well as international collaborated endeavors are expect to lay down the mechanics of steering towards a cleaner, greener and resilient energy system by the end of the last decade.

Since its adoption in September 2015, the 2030 Agenda has laid the foundations for a model of shared prosperity for a sustainable world. The current global pandemic highlights profound inequalities affecting our economies, health, and quality of life. For this reason, the aim of this study was to present the current state of scientific research related to inequality, poverty, and climate change, and to propose lines of improvement that can contribute to achieving three of the 17 SDGs (end poverty, SDG 1; reduce inequality, SDG 10; and climate action, SDG 13), proposed in the 2030 Agenda.

For this purpose, we undertook a systematic literature review. The results show that the subject of poverty, inequality, and climate change has been little studied or articulated by researchers, and significant differences exist between the different areas studied. The highest

number of publications (51.7%) is associated with topics related to sustainability—environment and economics. The remainder are distributed among 12 other research areas. Another relevant finding is that the effects of climate change are more pressing for more vulnerable populations, including impoverished women from rural areas and children from underdeveloped countries. This gender and social inequality has been rarely addressed in studies. Food security and energy

The 17 SDGS Goals

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations in 2015 are:

1. No Poverty: Eliminate poverty in all forms everywhere. The goal is to end extreme poverty, which includes a lack of food, clean water, and sanitation. It focuses on addressing emerging dangers such as climate change and conflict.
2. Zero Hunger: Eliminate hunger, increase food security and nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. This goal aims to eliminate hunger, increase food security and nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
3. Good Health and Well-Being**:** Good Health and Well-Being: This goal supports healthy lifestyles and promotes well-being for everyone of all ages.
4. Quality Education: Quality Education: This aim fosters inclusive and equitable quality education and lifetime learning opportunities for all.
5. Gender Equality by: Gender Equality: This aim promotes gender equality and empowers all women and girls.
6. Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure that water and sanitation are available to all and managed sustainably.

7. Affordable and Clean Energy: Ensure that everyone has access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and contemporary energy.
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth: Encourage sustained, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for everyone.

9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure: Create robust infrastructure, encourage inclusive and sustainable industry, and support innovation.

10. Reduced Inequalities:

Reduce inequality within and across countries.

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities:

Ensure that human settlements and cities are resilient, safe, inclusive, and sustainable.

12. Responsible Production and Consumption:

Make sure that patterns of production and consumption are sustainable.

13. Climate Action:

Act quickly to mitigate the effects of climate change.

14. Life Below Water:

Promote sustainable development by protecting and responsibly using the seas, oceans, and marine resources.

15. Life on Land:

Preserve, repair, and encourage the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems; manage forests in a sustainable manner; fight desertification; stop and reverse land degradation; and stop the loss of biodiversity.

16.: Peace, Justice, and Robust Institutions:

Foster inclusive and peaceful societies for long-term growth; guarantee everyone's access to justice; and establish strong, inclusive, and accountable institutions at all levels.

17.Partnerships for the Goals:

Enhance the methods of execution and reinvigorate

2.2.1. Climate Action

Reducing climate action is a critical challenge in combating the adverse effects of climate change. The lack of political will and inadequate funding are major barriers to effective climate action. Additionally, Johnson emphasizes the importance of public awareness and engagement in driving meaningful change. Despite the urgency of the climate crisis, vested interests and short-term economic priorities often impede progress towards reducing emissions and implementing sustainable practices. Addressing the barriers to reducing climate action requires multifaceted approaches that involve political commitment, financial investment, public education, and corporate responsibility. Only through concerted efforts can societies overcome the obstacles and transition towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

When it comes to climate change, nations hence have imperatively started turning their attention on issues of setting measures in that regard. So recognizing the seriousness of its threats, the call for collaborative measures becomes imperative and achieving realistic goals is truncated. These plans act as the strategic framework for the achievement of objectives towards, the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and the promotion of sustainability. In other words, advancing from debate on the outlines of the global climate policy to establishment of specific targets for emissions cuts, it is imperative to step through the process of how large concepts of policy are translated into concrete goals of action.

2.2.1.1. Specific Goals for Reducing Carbon Emissions

Policies aimed at reducing carbon intensity play a crucial role in addressing the challenge of climate change. Establishing concrete, measurable objectives and goals is beneficial in combating greenhouse gas emissions across various industries. For instance, as outlined in the Paris Agreement, the target is to limit the increase in the average global surface temperature to 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, with an even more ambitious goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius (Seneviratne et al. 41). These targets serve to guide nations, industries, and communities in charting paths toward carbon emission reduction and the development of low-carbon economies.

Emission reduction targets should be more granular and should be set according to the sector. General measures must be replaced by point measures, and by directing efforts towards specific sectors like energy, transportation and industry, it becomes possible to prevent the emission of some truly massive amounts of greenhouse gases. For example, replacing fossil fuel based power plants with renewable energy technology, adopting high fuel efficiency vehicles on roads, and deploying carbon dioxide capture and storage technologies at industrial facilities are crucial for reducing emissions. Furthermore, measures to promote forest protection and the development of sustainable land use practices help in the reduction of emissions as carbon sinks, and thereby help to achieve the intended goals.

Hence, the conclusion is that qualitative goals for the desired decrease of carbon emissions in climate action cannot be efficient without quantitative goals. When national and sectoral goals are set high, they provide incentive in terms of mobilization of the resource and realization of the important strategies that would help to combat the climate change for generations to come

2.2.1.2. Enhancing Resilience to Climate-Related Disasters

Climate-related disasters is an emerging global menace that disproportionately affects communities through severe and recurrent weather incidences. This has been due to the realization that improving resilience is one of the best approaches to counters the effects of these disasters., resilience is the ability of a system to continue to operate effectively when exposed to a shock or stress and continue to adjust to a state of change. This concept lies at the base of strategies aimed at supporting local communities to build resilience against climate-associated catastrophes.

Disaster resilience framework is not just single dimensional but it cuts across several aspects such as the types of infrastructure, types of governance and community resilience. For instance, funding for climate adaptation can support the building of sustainable structures that can reduce impacts and help to continue critical operations in the event of a climate event. Furthermore, the positive management models of risk and governance, which encompass active regulation, account for the post-normal uncertainties. The third determinant is community involvement; this comes in handy because; local people's knowledge and their participation help achieve effective results in disaster preparedness and response (Samaddar et al. 747)

Assessment of the root factors is crucial for constructing lasting capacities: "Also, it is vital to consider the problem as an opportunity to address underpinning risks and disparities." Hence, vulnerable groups that comprises low-income households and People of Color are affected most by climate related disasters due to inequality and lack of resource access. Therefore, it is critical to address the physical, social, economic, and environmental vulnerabilities through policies and interventions together with equal access so that nobody gets left behind on resilience-building.

All in all, it can be noted that for the improvement of the resilience of communities against climate related disasters more attention needs to be given to both physical infrastructure

development, political/administrative institutions' reform together with improving community involvement focusing on gender equity and participation. Through effective and evidence-based policies supported by integrating members of the society, the impact of climate change can be reduced and mitigated as societies are built to withstand any impacts that may arise from climate change.

2.2.2.2. Social Protection Systems for all Including the Vulnerable

Modern globalization speaks about the need for the populations' sustainable development, so providing populations with social protection nowadays becomes one of the priorities. A social protection has been defined as having strategies and measures that act as a shield against various shocks and risks, including those which hinder the human wellbeing, health, food security, education and shelter. Fundamental to this idea is the requirement to ensuring the progressive implementation of the 'leaving no one behind' principle or the require focus on improving the wellbeing of the most vulnerable population groups in any given society.

The social protection systems are useful interventions with the ability to address poverty and inequality by proffering services like income support, food, health care among others. They also reduce vulnerability and promote social inclusion, coping with challenges relating to structural shifts and economic shocks. Further they are closer to human capital development as they provide education and training to empower people to come out of the poverty trap.

The coverage issues are to find and include excluded groups such as women and children, disability, and ethnically marginalized people. As a result, such individuals experience discrimination and social isolation, decisions and policies of different structures limit their services and benefits (Moussié and Alfers 119). Hence, when working to enhance the social

protection regime, there is a need for directed measures towards the access and coverage of such programs and services for all citizens, regardless of their status.

Research shows that funding in social protection gives huge financial or economic and social benefits. For instance, research has revealed that any program such as social protection can boost the local economy, encourage household expenditure and increase productivity. Also, they play a positive role in maintaining stability and decreasing pressure on healthcare services by lowering risk and raising utilization.

2.2.3. Clean and Affordable Energy

In today's global landscape, the pursuit of clean and affordable energy stands as a paramount goal, vital for both economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. With the escalating challenges posed by climate change and energy inequity, the urgency to transition towards renewable and accessible power solutions has never been more pressing. This section delves into the transformative potential of clean affordable energy, examining how innovative approaches spearheaded by companies like Clien are reshaping the energy sector. Through an exploration of economic analyses, societal impacts, and technological advancements, this section illuminates the multifaceted benefits and challenges associated with the pursuit of clean and affordable energy solutions. By contextualizing current research findings within the broader discourse of energy transition and sustainability, this section aims to provide insights into the promising pathways towards a cleaner, more equitable energy future.

Clean Affordable Energy, like the firm Clien demonstrated above, is the key paradigm shift from fossil-based energy provision to sustainable solutions that are also attainable at reasonable prices. Concerning the fourth quadrant, the clean energy producers have used new solutions and made energy affordable for consumers and producers. It is worthy of note that this redirected

strategy will not only fit the economic interest, but also respond to environmental objectives. Opportunities through clean technologies, and development of efficient grid systems low-carbon affordable energy strategies decrease carbon footprint and promote economy.

affordable energy initiatives provide advantages beyond just economic benefits. It suggests that such initiatives also contribute to environmental sustainability and improve overall societal well-being. It reveals how everyone should have access to energy to enhance health and be socially inclusive in its application particularly for the benefit of individuals living with communicable diseases. As sustainable green electrification companies such as Clien can exemplify, communities and technological interventions can co-create a world of just energy delivery. With climate change and energy insecurity presenting immediate concerns in many global communities, the success of clean affordable energy models offers solace and positive example.

2.2.3.1. Increasing the Share of Renewable Energy

As the effects of climate change intensify, coupled with the need to decouple economic growth from the use of fossil energy, efforts to enhance the portion of RE sources have gained scale. The solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal power may play the role of a promising solution to decrease the levels of greenhouse gases and minimize the usage of fossil energy sources. This transformation is not only beneficial in terms of environmental concerns, but also with reference to economic and social resilience.

There have been changes in the efficiency and costs of renewable energy technologies in the recent past and have been seen to be competitive with fossil energy resources. For instance, costs of technology such as solar photovoltaic (PV) and wind power have continued to reduce being on-par with grid electricity costs in many areas. Similarly, the use of renewable energy promotes

energy security and resilience given that the distributed generation of power occurs away from any central hub. This has made governments in the world notice the benefits of renewable energy and adopt policies and measures that would enhance the uptake and deployment of the technology (Blanco et al. 2674).

Despite the impressive achievement made in the deployment of renewable energy power plants there are still hurdles that need to be overcome as global energy power plants are developed. These include intermittency issues, grid integration complications, and high capital costs that are often required for the initial stages of such systems. However, if the technological progress, supportive policies, and global collaboration remain on an upward trajectory, the shift towards a renewable energy system is clearly possible and necessary to safeguard future energy supplies.

2.2.3.2. Improving Energy Efficiency and Access to Modern Energy Services

The ongoing efforts to improve the efficacy of energy utilization and increase the consumption of improved energy services is crucial for the attainment of sustainable development objectives and eradication of energy poverty globally. In the opinion of Patel (2018), the enhanced demand for energy efficiency across different segments such as industrial, transport, and buildings has the potential for energy saving and reduced GHG emissions

There are equally endeavors towards more energy efficient solutions to reach out equal or better provisions then the ones offered by modern energy services principally to the unserved populace. Electric power is crucial to support economic growth, to enhance the learning process, to improve health status, and to guarantee overall living quality or the use of clean cooking fuel, energy poverty thus continues to hinder sustainable socio-economic development.

It is clear that the challenge of energy efficiency and access cannot be solved by only one intervention, and it is paramount to consider the usage of policies, technology, and financial instruments. State institutions and global authorities are also involved in providing support for investing in energy efficiency improvements and adopting renewable energy sources as well as implementing electrification programs. Only through ensuring access at an affordable cost and putting impetus on the energy efficiency of individual societies can universal modern energy services be provided and the foundation built for sustainable development.

In conclusion, this study provided various detailed analysis of climate change, poverty and inequalities; It re-echoed the call for global emission reductions through measures such as the Paris agreement. The promotion of utilization of renewable energy and energy efficiency and the reduction of utilize of fossil energies play a paramount role in achieving the current 2030 target on affordable and clean energy. Thus, by identifying concrete targets for cutting carbon emissions and building capacity for climate sensitive disasters, as well as addressing the challenge of providing more and better paying job opportunities on the one hand and adequate social protection systems on the other, the research points to the need for systematic and integrated approaches. The vision of the future in terms of shallow carbon economy is connected with the increase in share of renewable sources, and stand- and energy efficiency to provide everyone with access to clean energy. It is thus far-reaching and not just limited to fixing environmental and social problems right now but it makes way for a more sustainable and progressive society in the future.

Chapter Two

Trump Policies Hindering SDG Progress

Introduction

This chapter discusses the profound impact of Trump administration policies on hindering the progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). From rolling back environmental regulations to withdrawing from critical international agreements like the Paris Climate Accord, the repercussions of these decisions reverberate globally. We delve into how these policies have impeded efforts to promote environmental sustainability, social equity, and economic prosperity, ultimately challenging the collective pursuit of a more sustainable future.

The outcomes proven by the Trump administration raised concerns at the international level, regarding collective work towards achieving the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Among them the following can be mentioned: systematic deregulation and weakening of environmental legislation to limit pollution and climate change. Through elimination or roll-back of vital measures like The Clean Power Plan and Clean Water Rule it has contributed to undermining the simplest yet critical framework that require U. S. efforts to ensure environmental sustainability specified under SDG indicators related to climate change, clean water, life on land and below water.

In addition, the current overwhelming actions such as the withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Accord remains a testimony on how decisions made by one country may hinder the achievement of common goals by all countries involved. Looking at the largely negative relationship of the US towards climate change, the lack of the world's largest economy and second largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the global fight against climate change is a

major loss that undermines the effective progress towards various goals of sustainable development across the world especially concerning poverty, health, and economic growth. Such an attitude erodes the spirit that should imbue the SDGs and regression of multilateralism trends a worrisome signal for other countries that threatens to halt the cooperation process in response to global challenges needing collaborative action.

1. Climate Change

Global warming is one of the most relevant problems of the modern world, as it influences weather on our planet with its disastrous effects. Human activities through burning of fossil fuels, deforestation and livestock production release greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere which enhances global warming that results to more effects like melting of ice caps, increased drought levels, more and severe doğal disasters and interruption of ecosystem and agricultural production.

The need for policies that can eliminate these impacts cannot be overemphasized and include: Moving towards the use of renewable energy sources, sustainable land management and encouraging cooperation among countries in the pursuit of reducing emissions/increasing preparedness for the impacts that are already being experienced. Climate change needs global cooperation from all members of the society, communities, governance, industry and other players to mitigate on the impact that is set to affect all inhabitants of the planet in the future.

1.1 Withdrawal from Paris Agreement

The Paris agreement, the major event to fight global warming at the international level, gave rise to a disappointing scene with the US Troop withdrawal from under the Trump presidency. The decision to withdraw from the agreement not only undermined global efforts to

mitigate climate change but also hindered progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 13: Climate change is a global challenge which is growing every day.

It was imperative for the Paris Agreement to be a key element towards SDG 13 realizing as this provided a clear plan that forms a basis for various countries to jointly strive to fight the menace of climate change with the entire world. Nevertheless, Trump's resolution to abandon the climate change deal rose eyebrows in the global community mainly due to disrespect for international cooperation on climate issues.

The quitting of Paris agreement eroded the progress in managing of the climate, Lack of involvement of a major emitter of greenhouse gases to the agreement makes it more difficult to reach the goals that were set and thus focus on SDG 13 is minimized. The policy plan of Trump promoted fossil fuels over renewable energy, hence, making greenhouse gas emissions reduction even more difficult than ever before. The policy decisions of the Trump administration, such as the abolishment of clean air laws and the subsidizing of oil and coal fracking, are the exact opposite of what the Paris Agreement is seeking and create difficulties towards the fulfillment of the low-carbon economy.

Trump's policies, particularly the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement and the promotion of fossil fuels, hindered progress towards SDG 13: Climate Action–. Inability to lead and no commitment to solve climate change at the national level decreased the energy of world community to tackle its effects, which made failure in reaching sustainable development goals possible

The Trump administration's measures toward SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) objective, particularly related to handling climate change (A), along with widening economic inequality (B) through deterioration in environmental regulations, have prevented any progress.

Often, these actions aggravate the precariousness of the natural environment and further deepen the class split, with the poor being adversely affected and hindering the realization of basic social and economic targets.

1.1.1 Impact on International Climate Cooperation

Recent actions other than the Paris accord raise questions about their implications for international cooperation in the creative sector. This paper seeks to understand the effects of such withdrawals and the effects it holds on the global efforts of combating climate change. , it aims to delve into how these actions impact not only the environmental landscape but also the creative industries, which play a pivotal role in shaping public opinion and driving change. By examining case studies and analyzing data, this paper aims to uncover the potential ripple effects of these decisions, shedding light on the interconnectedness between environmental policies, international cooperation, and the creative sector's ability to advocate for sustainable practices.

Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement: In June 2017, President Trump regretfully declared that the United States must withdraw from The Paris Climate Accord stating the accord was a disaster for America and its people; ruining its economy, hurting its workers, taxpayers and moth- balled its manufacturing industry (Friedman). This brought criticism from environmental enthusiasts, policy makers, as well as international counterparts who were of the opinion that it weakened environmental conservation processes geared towards checking climate change.

Impact on International Climate Cooperation: These developments, including the decision of the US administration to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, have had important consequences for climate diplomacy. It has introduced new equivocation and lessened solidarity of the agreement by restraining the nodal determination of nation to implement the climate

agreement. Also, it has precipitated a loss of confidence by the member countries, and thus weakening its capacity to support the implementation of enhanced climate change policies (Friedman). It has also helped weaken the agreement's potential for persuading other countries to decrease their production of greenhouse gases; this is because it relied on the second largest producer of these gases, China, but that country has not joined the pact.

However, the withdrawal has made other nations to be more determined to take action in climate change, and this has led to the emergence of leadership by other countries in tackling this issue. China and the European Union demonstrate a new level of commitment to the Paris climate agreement and, through presently submitted or expected nationally determined contributions, have followed the EU's example and raised their climate targets (Zhang et al. 220).

On the one hand, the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement by the United States has had a significant impact for cooperative climate approach at the global level. Even though it brought a new set of problems and a factor of unpredictability, it has led other countries to re-engage and take on a more assertive position and a more leadership role in terms of combating climate change. However, the future of the other organizations for climate change mitigation after the withdrawal of the US is unknown, as all the nations' steps will determine whether they will be effective or not in the future years

1.1.2. Long-Term Implications for Global Emissions

It has long-term consequences in terms of global emissions path and contributes to climate and global ecosystems. Emissions to the atmosphere especially due to the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation for instance contribute greatly to the increasing levels of

greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which causes global warming and their effects include; extreme weather events, sea level rise and loss of biophysical counts.

In addition, the literature published in the current decade indicate conclusive evidence that opportune mitigation of emissions may be fatal for the climate system of Earth (Solomon et al. 1704). As the Case of ‘‘committed emissions’’ illustrated by (Knutti and Rogelj, 361), so Current actions define the future climate Among the arguments raised by skeptics of climate change the argument that irrespective of any further efforts to reduce emissions, global warming has already been committed by human activity falls among the strongest. It states that each ton of CO2 emitted today-binding the planet to warming effects that will last for centuries-provides another reminder of why efforts to mitigate emissions to the extent possible are crucial.

The Paris Agreement – an enduring and international treaty to restrict the global temperature increase to below the 2 degrees Celsius considering the pre-industrial level global average temperature is an important advancement towards understanding the future consequences of emissions. nonetheless, in order to actualize the goals outlined in the agreement, therefore, deep and continuous cuts in emissions throughout the entire economic spectrum are required. The failure to maintain the following targets exposes the ecosystems, human communities, and the world economy to disastrous impacts.

Compatible to the two, the societal costs that are brought by unabated emissions are not only the environmental but also have other economical consequences. Data obtained in the study by (Burke et al. 235). reveal that the trend, worsening climate change, poses significant threats to the future global GDP and might have even a catastrophic effect to developing nations. shifting to low-carbon structures and investing in renewable energy sources could not only help in

managing emissions, but also create numerous opportunities for developing economic growth and innovative possibilities.

Based on the emission statistics, it is clear that the effects of global emissions will not only be felt in the future but are already evident, therefore, the world should act now more than ever to address climate change. By paying attention to emissions reduction, enhancing cooperation between nations and incorporating sustainable actions like the use of renewable energy, humanity shall make efforts for building a sustainable future for future generations.

1.2 Rollbacks of Environmental Regulations

This section asserts that political actions toward rolling back environmental rules by the Trump's presidency have limited the potentiality of attaining environmental sustainability and subsequent SDGs. It is quite likely that the current dangers to the environment indicated by the party in power are part of the deficit made up by the lack of sufficient protection from the administration, which removed vital protective measures including the Clean Power Plan and the Clean Water Rule. The efficiency of rollbacks, however, has not only intensified environmental pollution but also clerically addressed climate modification and posed significant dangers to the existence of current and future generations, dampening the prospects of creation of a better and sustainable world.

1.2.1 Deregulation of Carbon Emissions Standards

In the past few years, the determination of the carbon emissions standards has been a touchy issue for most countries since the removal of certain restraints to allow more economic freedom has been deemed reasonable by most supporters and the detrimental effects on the environment that comes with removing these restrictive policies has been amply condemned by

most opponents. As much as this has become a contentious issue in the contemporary society, this paper aims at exploring the different views held on the subject.

The ebbs and flows of carbon emissions standards in administration became prevalent in the agenda. Deregulation promoters asserting that excessive standards slow growth by burdening companies with the costs. On the other hand, deregulation hampers attempts to reduce corporate greenhouse gas emissions and to provide protection to the public from diseases.

Probably the most significant argument in support of deregulation is the idea of 'the trickle-down effect,' to refer to the creation of more employment, increased business profits, and growth on the economy in general. When there is a less mechanical imposition of various rules to industries, there is usually improvement in investments and hence job opportunities. Similarly in the current study, deregulation has functional benefits in encouraging innovation and technologies in energy sector.

However, freeing up of regulation on carbon emissions has the following consequences with regard to the environment. Undermining the quality of emissions standard will lead to deterioration of air quality and climate change. The increase in deregulation has also brought about adverse repercussions in the environmental front by reinstating certain practices including the burning of coal.

Aside from the environmental consequences, impact of deregulation of CO2 emissions standards does not neglect health. the possible effects of high levels of emissions and deregulation which is the withdrawal of standard rules hindering the emission of high levels of air pollution may lead to worsened respiratory diseases and other illnesses. However, pollution is worst on the regions inhabited by less privileged people which is why it is crucial to keep strict standards on emissions.

All in all, it is critical to note that the issue of carbon emissions standards deregulation is intricate with observable repercussions on the market, the natural environment, and human health. On one hand, the advocates of fracking are optimistic about economic benefits such as an increase in employment opportunities, and the diversification and boost of the energy sector while on the other hand critics have issues touching on pollution of the environment, threats to human health. In essence, each of the players in the emerging markets has his or her slightly skewed version of what constitutes the ideal policy and thus at the end of the day, policymakers must balance these interests to come up with the right solutions.

1.2.2 Reduction in Protected Land and Water Areas

Decrease in the area of protected terrestrial and aquatic environments has emerged as one of the most critical contributors to habitat loss and diminishing ecosystem services for global conservation. Mortari and colleagues state that protected areas provide important habitats for a diverse host of species many of which are threatened and threatened species depend on their habitat provided by protected areas. On the contrary, economic forces including and demands for cultivable land, mineral resources and urban expansion have influenced infringement and shrinkage of these protected areas. It also tends to take up space that could otherwise support wildlife; besides, it distorts the seamless expanse of the landscape so animals cannot easily move from one area to another ensuring that their population levels are sufficient. This definition and subsequent recognition of the true value of protected areas as the backbone of global species conservation efforts are being eroded in practice by escalating human pressures.

Apart from terrestrial protection areas, marine protection areas are also facing a similar problem of decrease. MPAs play a significant role in conservation of marine life assurance of breeding zones, and assisting with farming. However, like their tin solder counterparts, MPAs

are threatened with overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Inability to meet its carrying capacity affects other aspects of life for example degradation of coral reefs and other marine ecosystems by these factors has a knock down effect on the marine life and therefore human communities that depend on them for instance in fishing. This paper incorporates the findings by Roberts and Hawkins, by asserting that management and expansion of MPAs are crucial towards reducing these impacts and preserving marine ecosystem.

The decreases in protected lands and waters indicate that governments and the global community needs to foster for better protection policies and cooperation. Conservation bodies and governments have responsibilities in ensuring compliance to the already established measures, and putting into place additional protected habitats. Another component to address these issues is ensuring that the general public and people get involved in the efforts toward the conservation of these important ecosystems. To mitigate the situation and preserve the zones of habitation and other protected territories, people must strive to identify and tackle the cause of habitat loss and employ environmentally friendly policies. According to (Naughton-Treves et al. 219-252.), it is this juxtaposition between the needs for conservation and economic growth while supporting the development of complex structures is necessary and sustainable for both human and ecosystems.

1.2.3. Effects on Air and Water Quality

The numerous deregulation measures in the recent past have birthed very many concerns over their effects on the air and water quality. In the recent past, several governments have somewhat deregulated the regulatory statutes that are meant to minimize pollution caused by industries, automobiles, and other businesses. These rollbacks are usually focused on enhancing economic activities, given the fact that they relax standards that may be deemed burdensome to

businesses. Nevertheless, common liberalization might result in higher release of various detrimental contaminants that include sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter, which affect air quality and are potentially fatal. weakening emission standards lead to the increase in the prevalence of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases as a consequence of higher pollutant concentrations.

The impact on the water quality is also not inspiring; this goes a long way in explaining why there is a stationary water body that has not moved for ages. A reduction in restrictions of pollution of water bodies can lead to higher levels of pollution from the Iraq agricultural activities and Industries, and High levels of sewage discharge. This contamination hinders the availability of clean water for human consumption and habitation, affects water sources for animals, and pose significant risk to individuals' health status. For instance, the US has downplayed the significance of the Clean Water Act whereby more flexible control mechanisms have been undertaken with regard to pollutants that find their way into the streams and wetlands that are some of the important sources of fresh water. The effects of these changes result to increased emission of hazardous materials such as the nitrates and heavy metals to water sources thus having impacts on health of people and the ecosystem.

The long-term consequences of some of these measures cumulatively can be seen as definitely far-reaching. They not only reverse the decades of progress made in mitigating the negative impacts of human activities on the environment but also are laden with long term consequences on the health of the citizens and the surrounding environment. The deregulation policies/strategies therefore mean short term economic gains but at the kitty of long-term compromising the health/ environment. This costs have to be balanced against all these consequences while acknowledging the wealth of information available. on the need to have

strong/proper environmental policies. In a similar Capacity, Revesz and Lienke (2016), pointed out that it is pivotal to sustain sound legal structures to underpin the protection of air and water quality and thus, the future populations.

2. Economic Inequality

Economic inequality, in the simplest terms, it is the unequal sharing of commodities, money, and other opportunities by the members of a given society. They are such as poverty, income differences, lack of quality and equal education, health and other basic human needs such as food and shelter. Whereas the division of incomes is unavoidable in any society, the increased disparity will inevitably lead to social tensions, lower economic growth, and hindered social mobility. Eradicating economic disparities involves measures are aimed at reforms such as changing the structure of the income distribution, increasing funds in human capital development and infrastructure, and enabling disadvantaged groups to have better access to economic resources.

During Trump administration, environmental regulations were brought in several phase-downs and regulations which affected industries such as air quality, water quality, habitat protection, fossil fuel specialists and so on. On the other hand, the weakening of these rollbacks have not only eroded existing protections but also been a factor for the aggravation of economic inequality as well. Such acts that frame these two spheres - the corporate world and the environment conservation - to be of a one-side choice happened therefore among the minority population, especially those who already faced economic challenges (Lambert).

The destruction of regulations, as for example the Clean Power Plan or the Waters of the United States Rule, which give industries an opportunity to function with a reduced number of prerequisites, eventually increases pollution and environmental degradation (EPA). Therefore,

the neighboring areas with factories or polluted water were harmed and their health was affected negatively when the wind blew in the direction toward communities. Consequentially, the afflicted communities have shouldered the poorly treated environmental and health implications while the well-off organizations which are business minded reveled in the deregulation as they used corporate greed to obtain profits.

During the Trump administrations environmentalism almost gained a new meaning, the focus was put into fossil fuel extraction and energy sector deregulation which supported wealthy individuals and companies but did great harm to the environment and public health (Friedman). Thus, the disparity became more exacerbated where the wealthy led the way to profiting from environmental degradation whereas the poor sufficed the consequences.

The Trump administration's roll backs of environmental regulations heightened economic inequality by promoting a guilt- ridden culture that centered on corporate gains instead of environmental protection and public healthThese actions by and large affected ethnic minorities were, hence, not only an issue of present but also of the past. Through cycles of poverty and environmental injustice, they continue to thrive.

Pendulum swing namely between the relaxations on environmental regulations and woes displacement of economic inequality come into focus. Such tax policies and cuts to safety net schemes are core issues of contention for the latter. Nevertheless, it is within this context of these debates that the ambition of generating renewable energy at an affordable rate is a source of hope, and it is an area where greener and alternative energy can be embraced to both to achieve environmental sustainability and to lessen the effect of economic imbalances.

2.1 Tax Policy and Cuts to Safety Net Programs

In this section, we try to explain the interplay between revenue and expenditure through taxation, and cut to programs dealing with the needy in society and consequences on the society. From tax concessions for the super-rich to austere measures in the means-tested benefits, these political choices significantly define inequalities within the country. From this perspective, we ponder about the effects to the vulnerable populace, the middle-income earners, and the whole economy; the difficulty of maintaining fiscal prudishness and at the same time keeping the social justice system afloat. Drawing these distinctions, we grasp the subtle dynamics of the tax policy reforms and the consequences of cutting down on basic support services; this analysis gives us an understanding of whether the SDG 2030 and inclusive economic development goals are feasible.

There was a consequent difference in the direction of the tax rules, social services, to former, state and environmental laws under the reign of President Donald Trump/ During the presidency of Donald Trump, there was a fundamental shift in the tax rules, social welfare programs and environmental regulations. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA), which is one of the key policies of Trump's administration, has been designed to restore pep into the economy through the reduction of corporate taxation rates and the provision of individual tax benefits. Con sides saw taxes reduction as a stimulus to businesses, which in turn would make them more motivated to invest thereby causing job creation and better wage. But others held on opinion that the advantages were enjoyed mainly by the rich individuals with the income gap becoming somewhat wide.

The Trump administration simultaneously pursued the tax cuts reduction alongside cuts in safety net programs such as Medicaid, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and housing. Such shrinkages were intended at government expenditure and also independence. They

claimed that such measures would disincentivize individuals to seek work and hence reduce budget discrepancies. On the other hand, the skepticism was directed towards the implications of that budget cuts which are seen as a disproportionate action especially towards the low-income and vulnerable groups which consequently lead to increased poverty and more hardship.

Different groups in the American society (i. e. middle class, top earners and the poor, including the elderly, the immigrants and the veterans) were reached by the effect of Trump's tax policy and the elimination of safety net programs which negatively impacted their lives respectively. Lows-income family were the leading group which got more financial bearing pressures from the diminished supports of social security. here were millions of the citizens who lost access to the basic services that they had relied upon as a result of the shortage of Medicaid coverage thus making the existing healthcare differences more complex. Inaccessibility to SNAP and housing programs due to the budget cuts also left many people without the enough resources to buy even the most basic needs, resulting in the poor public health and other social problems.

The Trump administration's economic policy and social policies were not strongly oriented to climate change within the time frame of (2019-2018). However, the President inaugurates the Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) initiative in 2019 to replace the Obama-era Clean Power Plan. The ACE had intended to inject the states, to some extent, with the legal right to establish more liberal coal-fired power plant emission regulations and at the same time promote coal as an expedient energy source. Supporters claimed that ACE will help the state attain in energy security and preserve the coal industry in regions where the coal mining is practiced (Johnson, 2020). But, taking the example of 'Green (2019), environmental activists say that the initiative places too much attention on industry business while not bothering much about environmental protection and public health.

The debate surrounding the profitability of coal and its long-term effects on air quality, climate change, and public health has led to debates about the Trump administration's policies. Critics argue that these policies hinder job creation, balanced budgets, and environmental protection. The shift from taxation and subsidies to poverty monitoring programs for fossil fuels back-up to renewable energy reveals the interconnectedness of economic and ecological policies. The choice to subsidize fossil fuels over renewable energy reflects community interests and outcomes for sustainability and climate action.

2.1.1. Analysis of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act TCJA of 2017 was one of the most significant revisions of the US tax system within the past three decades whose main objectives to boost the economic growth by effected various tax cuts and reforms. The act also reduces the federal corporate tax rate from 35 percent to 21 percent, the proponents of the change supported this decision because it would help the U. S businesses to compete for foreign investment, as well as help create new jobs locally. But, as the critics pointed out, it was still argued that the benefits were going to only those large firms and the high income earners thereby increasing the inequality in income.

It also enacted new provisions related to individual income taxes by among them increasing the standard deductions and the effective tax rates. While these change offered initial relief to varied families in terms of taxes, the total tax relief enjoyed by households were dispersed and the share of the higher-income groups was large. They also intimidated and mislead the in deference to the long-term fiscal sustainability of the act and the future taxes (Tax Policy Center).

In summary, although the abolishment of accelerated depreciation and other provisions of the TCJA impacted business investment and the rate of economic growth in a positive manner, it

is still doubtful whether it can reduce inequality in the future and improve the fiscal conditions of the country significantly in the long-run. Promising constant analysis for the assessment of its implications and to direct the proper future tax policy, researchers continue to stress on this aspect.

2.1.2. Impact on Wealth Distribution and Income Inequality

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 is a new fiscal law that is the result of the administration of President Donald Trump and is one of the largest reform measures of the tax code of the United States in the past few decades. This legislation mainly simplified taxation by decreasing the corporate tax to 21% from 35% while also cutting down the standard deduction for individuals in two fold (Tax Policy Center, 2017). As for wealth distribution and income redistribution, the TCJA has been highly regressive, they then there opponents to the American economy, couching the new law in alarmist language that frames it as highly regressive on many counts. Half-baked critics opined that the Act will favor only highly paid employees and corporations, hence contributing to income gap. Specifically, utilizing research on the distribution effects of the tax reform, it has been found that the provided tax benefits constituted the majority share going to the 1% of the highest income earners, contrasting to the expectations of the middle and low-income earners who expected larger tax cuts (Delestre et al.). Furthermore, the rise of stock buybacks after the corporate tax cuts redoubled the concentration of broad wealth among the owners of corporate wealth and, most of these owners are the richest one percent.

2.1.3. Changes to Healthcare and Social Welfare Programs

In both the healthcare and social welfare service delivery systems, there have been

indications of dynamism in the recent past, in view of how societies are transforming as well as the changes in policies. These changes have included funding distribution and implementation of services and programs as well as criteria for participation in specific programs. Another one is associated with an increase in Medicaid eligibility in several states; this step can be considered as applied to extend the opportunity to receive health care services to those who are in the low-income category. To this end, the provision of mental health services in primary care centers has increasingly been recognized as a response to the increasing need for mental health care services.

Technological governance has enhanced the implementation of telemedicine, providing distant access to doctor consultations and services as well as a method for bridging the gap between adequate and insufficient healthcare provision in rural communities (Chen et al. 2019). Such transformation towards tele-health was escalated by the COVID-19 outbreak by extending focus to other models of care delivery.

Within the parameters of social welfare programs, there has been a shift towards reconfiguring welfare to work policies within welfare to work transition to enhance its productivity in a bid to have beneficiaries become economic entities on their own. Besides, new policies targeting on the education for development and the subsidy of early childhood and childcare have emerged, working for providing assistance to working families and improving the outcome of the children's development (Duncan & Magnuson, 25-30).

2.1.4. Effects on Marginalized Communities

Mainstream cultures bear many effects due to social injustices including inequities of power affecting them due to existing social transformations. In this case, the research also notes that these communities are discriminated in the hospital setting, and they have poor health and higher number of diseases than other people. For instance, people of color, indigenous people,

women, members of low income, rural area residents and disabled individuals are also considered as higher risk of experiencing healthcare disparities (Artiga, Orgera, And Pham). covid-19 put specific marginalized population groups at higher risk due to higher rate of infection and mortality caused by existing premorbid health disparities and less health care utilization (Benfer et al. 1-12).

Income inequality is also present; members of disadvantaged groups are laid off, receive smaller wages while many lack health benefits and minimum wage increases. These are economic hardships, which lead to poverty cycles and restricted realization of socioeconomic mobility. Third, economic instability and environmental racism, whereby minorities and other poor communities are exposed to pollution and have limited access to adequate water resources, contribute to the further deterioration of health and economic disparities.

Due to these effects, it is imperative that a multifaceted policy framework aimed at promoting equity and reducing the social determinants of health be implemented, such as expanding access to quality health care, increasing the economic potential and protection, and improving environmental quality. It is crucial that social policies and initiatives should be contextualized in close partnership with policymakers, community groups and scholars so as to enhance the development of effective policies that would put into consideration the needs of vulnerable groups in society.

2.2. Labor Policies and Worker Rights

In this section, the authors examine how the relationship between labor policies and the rights of workers is complex and has far-reaching effects on poverty reduction and economic growth. These policies that range from minimum wage to working condition standards serve as central measures in determining the lives of the workforce in the global society. In addressing

these concerns, we study the prospects and progress associated with the policies and legislations that aim at maintaining decent working conditions and protecting human rights in the global market system for the welfare of the policymakers, the business entities, and the workers. Thus, by presenting a number of factors tracing the dynamics of labor policy implementation we introduce a number of considerations into the general discussion on the role of labor policies in the promotion of the SDGs agenda.

2.2.1. Impact of Weakening Labor Protections

The evidence from the available literature uncovers the general impacts of the declining labor rights and standards on workers. Research also shows that when they weaken labor standards, the gap between the demand for labor and the supply of workers widens. This is evidenced by trends such as wages that remain either stagnant or declining, increased job insecurity, and diminished collective leverage for workers.

However, when tearing down labor policies, one is likely to experience new challenges such as increased workplace risk factors and reduced employment guarantees. The current study firmly establishes that weak labor rights regimes are linked to a higher incidence of workplace accidents and deaths, especially among workers in lower-wage industries and occupations.

Also, poor working conditions for workers have led to job inequalities because higher job quality is associated with better access to health insurance, paid leave, or retirement benefits. This has a negative impact on low-waged populations and erodes basic protections, and strengthens job and income precocity, and poverty.

To eradicate the effects that are as a result of the dilution of labor rights calls for a comprehensive measure that involve improvement of labor laws, implementing measures that support labor regulation mechanisms, and collective bargaining rights. Furthermore, there is the

need to ensure that policy initiatives are in place that can enhance the quality of jobs, and assure that quality employment is availed to all workers.

2.2.2. Changes in Minimum Wage Policies

Working in the form of minimum wage adjustments have been experiencing certain changes in the recent past due to the fact that some changes have been considered in some other changes with respect to the perceived effects on the economy as well as social issues. An analysis of the different published research shows that there has been concern on the effect of minimum wages in alleviation of income distinction and an enhancement of the standard of living of the low-wage earners. It has also been reported that increasing the minimum wage leads to incremental effects in the income levels and also causes a decrease in poverty level.

In light of these discoveries, multiple regions have enacted minimum wage increases, with each utilizing different strategies and contemplating diverse magnitudes of the raise (Neumark and Wascher 595) Previous studies show that the impacts of amendments to minimum wages are contingent with influences for instance on the extent of the raise in the wages, the prevailing cost of the basic goods and services, and the populace of the labor force.

Furthermore, minimum wage policies have impacts on businesses, employment relationships or structures and consumer prices. Potential consequences in employment would also reveal mixed or even negative effects, which include job jeopardy mainly for SMBs and specific industries but few or no impacts on job creation.

To minimize possible negative impacts, the policymakers have considered other related mitigations like through implementing associational progressive tax credits and subsidies for small companies. Furthermore, improvements in the scope of these studies continue to be sought

as they try to get more refined understanding of interaction between the minimum wages policies and the rest of economy.

2.2.3. Effects on Union Power and Worker Bargaining

The two major fields of study in this context are the institutions of labor laws and economics and the latter studies have illuminated many ways in which union power and worker bargaining have been affected. Research has also established that with a significant reduction in union density and the erosion of labor rights, workforce negotiating leverage has significantly decreased in organizations that previously boasted high densities of unions. Loss of union influence has been correlated with the failure of wage growth, decline in tenured employment and worsening of income disparities.

Additionally, changes in employment relations, labor markets, for instance through the erosion of permanent employment relationships, new forms of employment relations such as crowd work, and growing trends of subcontracting have remained a nightmare for trade unions in their style of organizing. These trends have helped to erode coverage of collective bargaining and called into question the capacity of workers to bargain for higher wages and improved working conditions in a given industry.

The reduction of union power and lack of worker organization have led to a decline in union bargaining power and policies. This has impacted the balance of powers between employees and employers, highlighting the need for further study on policies regulating organizational decentralization of workers' rights and their integration into decision-making processes.

To mitigate these phenomena, researchers call for policy measures that enhance the condition of employment legislation, the rights to organize unions and collective bargaining, and

consideration of bottlenecks to formation of unions and bargaining. Also, there is a rising preference for worker unity and local engagement in structuring union vigor as well as enhancing the status of workers in the modern job market.

3. Affordable Clean Energy

This section focuses on the Affordable Clean Energy and aims at explaining the general ideas behind them, their importance in environmental protection, and their roles in stimulating economic advancement. From solar panel subsidies to cap and trade policies, those are focused on halting global warming at least while providing consumers with exclusive access to cheap, clean energy. We examine the difficulties faced when following the paradigm shift towards clean energy and the possible prospects for new business and employment in the sustainable economy. From this analysis, we establish that Affordable Clean Energy policies are relevant and play an important role in supporting the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals to enhance the prospects of a sustainable future for everyone.

The focus on promoting affordability clean energy which means that they are cheap to access while at the same time being environmentally friendly. Some of the common examples that apply to this category include solar, wind, hydro and geothermal energies. These sources do not emit significant levels of greenhouse gases as those from burning fossil fuels thereby reducing air borne pollution and the impacts of climate change. There is a visible shift in the relation to the cost of renewable energy sources which increasingly becoming more attractive to traditional energy sources due to technological improvements and the law of economies of scale. Furthermore, the integration of energy storage, adequate and improved transmission networks, and supportive policies are other areas that deserve investment in order to enhance the

deployment of clean energy and construct a shift towards an innovative and sustainable energy economy.

There was a consequent difference in the direction of the tax rules, social services, to former, state and environmental laws under the reign of President Donald Trump/ During the presidency of Donald Trump, there was a fundamental shift in the tax rules, social welfare programs and environmental regulations. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 (TCJA), which is one of the key policies of Trump's administration, has been designed to restore pep into the economy through the reduction of corporate taxation rates and the provision of individual tax benefits. Con sides saw taxes reduction as a stimulus to businesses, which in turn would make them more motivated to invest thereby causing job creation and better wages. But others held on opinion that the advantages were enjoyed mainly by the rich individuals with the income gap becoming somewhat wide.

The Trump administration simultaneously pursued the tax cuts reduction alongside cuts in safety net programs such as Medicaid, SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and housing. Such shrinkages were intended at government expenditure and also independence. They claimed that such measures would disincentivize individuals to seek work and hence reduce budget discrepancies. On the other hand, the skepticism was directed towards the implications of that budget cuts which are seen as a disproportionate action especially towards the low-income and vulnerable groups which consequently lead to increased poverty and more hardship.

Different groups in the American society (i. e. middle class, top earners and the poor, including the elderly, the immigrants and the veterans) were reached by the effect of Trump's tax policy and the elimination of safety net programs which negatively impacted their lives respectively. Lows-income family were the leading group which got more financial bearing

pressures from the diminished supports of social security. There were millions of the citizens who lost access to the basic services that they had relied upon as a result of the shortage of Medicaid coverage thus making the existing healthcare differences more complex. Inaccessibility to SNAP and housing programs due to the budget cuts also left many people without the enough resources to buy even the most basic needs, resulting in the poor public health and other social problems m.

The Trump administration's economic policy and social policies were not strongly oriented to climate change within the time frame of (2019-2018). However, the President inaugurates the Affordable Clean Energy (ACE) initiative in 2019 to replace the Obama-era Clean Power Plan. The ACE had intended to inject the states, to some extent, with the legal right to establish more liberal coal-fired power plant emission regulations and at the same time promote coal as an expedient energy source. Supporters claimed that ACE will help the state attain in energy security and preserve the coal industry in regions where the coal mining is practiced. But, environmental activists say that the initiative places too much attention on industry business while not bothering much about environmental protection and public health.

It preconditioned the generation of debates about which is more profitable for our survival whether or not the economy is uniform or not. While opponents argued that the benefits would be short-term and insignificant for the coal industry and energy security, they believe the long-term effects would be devastating - it would not only have negative consequences for air quality, climate change and public health - which can largely prevent coal from getting rid of carbon emissions even if and when it's used to produce energy. ACE considered itself successful in pushing coal, its opponents allege, this hampered an ability to reach agreed on targets and made the situation worse regarding the pressing climate problem.

The Trump administration's policy of taxation, a reduction in welfare expenses and the Advanced Clean Energy (ACE) initiative reflect his administration goals which include job creation, balanced budget and dealing with environment hazards. Although these policies have caused much controversy and discussion about their efficacy and justice, they are the main stimuli of studies that have aimed to examine their long-term influence on the economy, society, and the ecology.

The process of switching from taxation and subsidies to poverty stage monitoring programs for fossil fuels back-up to renewable energy converts the separateness of economic and ecological policies into the interconnectedness. While taxation policies and depletion of social safety net programs influence the redistribution of assets, the choice of making the fossil fuels subsidized rather than renewable energies sectors explain the underlying factors that shape community's special interests and their outcomes for the sustainability and climate action.

3.1. Subsidies and Support for Fossil Fuels Over Renewables

In his entire reign as a president, Donald Trump has always shown unwavering support for the fossil fuels, which he at some occasions prioritized at the expense of renewable energy initiatives. This article provides the detail of the knots made by trump administration that supported fossil fuel despite the rising of the new recurrence of concern over climate change, renewable sources of energy. Through the evaluating of these actions, it had been noted that fossil fuels had been considered as a priority by the administration, thus, crossfire with the shift to cleaner energy sources.

3.1.1. Increase in Subsidies for Oil, Coal, and Gas Industries

These forms of subsidies to oil, coal, and gas companies remain a major barrier against adopting sustainable energy solutions. Despite increasing evidence showcasing how worse the

impact of oil and fossil fuels are for the environment; world governments remain supportive by offering a lot of monitory aid towards the continuation of such industries. This support is complemented by the enhancement of dependence on non-renewable sources of energy while at the same time straining efforts towards the fighting of climate change. by making the real price of products substantially lower than their actual value, subsidies disrupt market signals and it becomes very hard for renewable energy technologies to become economically viable in the market. Not only does this distortion slow down the development of cleaner energy sources, but it also preserves the status, or the prolonged domination of international oil companies in the energy industry.

However, the use of subsidies in the fossil fuel sector also leads to rippling effects throughout other areas of life: environmental pollution and public health. Fossil fuels are burnt through extraction and the process emits greenhouse gases and other pollutants which have adverse effects on climates implying that availability of fossil energy is a danger to families in areas with extraction activities or industry. In addition, negative consequences on the environment which arise from fossil fuel activities are detrimental, extending to habitat devastation, water pollution, and loss of biodiversity negative effects on the quality of life of the vulnerable community and the future generations.

To respond to these challenges and shift towards a sustainable energy future, the policymakers ought to promote the proper reform of subsidies favoring renewable energy sources instead of fossil fuels. The financial resources that may be released from the environmental management include; When these financial resources are reallocated from the environmental management and invested in clean energy technologies such as solar, wind and hydroelectric power, this helps government stimulate innovation, that is the development of new

technologies, create green jobs for people as well as reduce greenhouse emissions (Barker and Crawford-Brown) On the same note, utilizing renewable energy technologies helps in the enhancement of energy security and as a result economic growth and social wellbeing. So, redirecting subsidies to the sources of renewable energy is viewed as a significant change for climate change as well as a more sustainable future.

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3.1.2. Reduction in Federal Support for Renewable Energy Projects

The trend in federal investment has however exhibited cyclical behavior especially with regard to renewable energy projects in the United States as depicted below. First, the Biden climate plan with ambitious goals initially dramatically increased federal spending in clean energy. The IRA of 2022 made a historic shift with allocation of $399 billion for the development of clean energy, giving a strong boost to the renewable energy sector along with giving employment to skillful workforce and encourage innovation.

However, there has been raised some question marks on the sustainability of this support. Some pundits pointed out that while these are large sums, its support retains political riskiness at a federal level. The IRA has invested significant amounts of money and it will cost future administrations to continue at providing the same level of funding to long-term projects and to the stability of the markets.

Similarly, some direct funds such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund are designed to leverage private capital and improve the access to clean energy funding particularly for nascent markets. This fund is part of the broader resolution known as the Inflation Reduction Act; its goal is to ensure that major private funds are attracted, which may reflect on the type/level of direct federal support.

Altogether, the changes in the current policies in the federal level under the Biden administration have greatly supported the renewable energy projects, but indeed, the future stability of the sector relies on consistent and sustained political support with more importantly, even with bipartisan support and creativity in financing structures to counter challenges emanating from fluctuating political and economic volatility

3.1.3. Impacts on Renewable Energy Sector Growth and Innovation

There has been increased focus and growth in the renewable energy space with considerable federal input as well as proper policies and measures in place to further advance the sector. For instance, IRA of 2022 avails nearly $400 billion for the developments in clean energy sources, and thus hots the creation of many new projects in the clean energy domain and has led to generation of over 170000 jobs in this line only. Some of the change has been lit, particularly solar, battery storage and wind energy which has put America at the frontline as far as green power is concerned.

Other policies like Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund have also lured private sector capital to invest in renewable energy sources to propel their implementation especially in the low income as well as disadvantaged populace. This fund which is linked to the IRA seeks to encourage massive funding and innovation from private entities for renewable energy projects (U. S. EPA). Though the sector expansion depends on market trends as well as the alterations in the corresponding policies. There is the need to ensure that, bi-partisan support is sustained; this is because; it is the only way through which sustainability and further development is achieved in the renewable energy industry. This could assist in moderating the impact of political instabilities and the fluctuations in the economic environment thus ensuring that the sustenance of sector growth is attained.

The retrenchment that now faces renewable energy projects due to federal policies is a blow to environmental initiatives aimed at fighting climate change and building a sustainable energy system. Traditionally, governments have embraced incentives and subsidies for helping to advance and popularize renewable energy technologies including solar, wind, and geothermal energy. But due to the recent changes that involve the cuts in the financial subsidies and policies that impacted on the development of the renewable energy have limited this sector from achieving the goals of reducing carbon emission as required. This decline in support does not only restrict the development of clean-energy assets but also undermines the profitability of renew energy initiatives to investors straining the promotion of innovation in renewable energy.

This cut in federal funding for renewable energy initiatives deepens the energy inequality and renders energy unsustainable for many people. As is seen, Immortalized people groups which include those in the rural or disadvantaged socio-economic brackets, are the most fateful in the adverse impacts of environmental pollution which characterizes the use of fossil fuels.

Renewable energy projects should be able to make provision of the energy solution to those communities and streamline energy poverty as well as improving the health of the people by covering the costly electricity costs associated with thermal power plants. But when scaled rehabilitation and extension programs do not entail sufficient political will and mechanisms to meet expenditures for the availability of renewable energy technologies in the disadvantaged regions, the opportunities of renewable energy technologies become limited, and energy poverty continues to exist.

To address these challenges and accelerate the transition to renewable energy, policymakers must prioritize reinstating and expanding federal support for clean energy initiatives. Investing in renewable energy infrastructure not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions and mitigates climate change but also stimulates economic growth and creates job opportunities. By providing financial incentives, grants, and tax credits for renewable energy projects, governments can incentivize private sector investment and innovation, driving down costs and increasing the competitiveness of clean energy technologies. Additionally, supporting research and development efforts in renewable energy will enable the advancement of new technologies and solutions, further strengthening the transition towards a sustainable energy future.

3.2. Regulatory Barriers to Renewable Energy Development

On the part of policies, the regulatory barriers create massive challenges to the flow of renewable energy undertakings. High levels of fragmentation in aspects such as permitting, inconsistent standards and regulations from the state to local levels make it unbearable for developers to proceed without hitches. Moreover, the existing grid infrastructure and interconnection requirement are old and designed to support fossil energy resources; this could

also present difficulties for renewable projects (U. S. EPA). These barriers elevate costs and prolong the duration since the implementation of the renewable energy source will require more capital, making investors pull out. Loosening of laws and policies regarding the power sector, as well as improving the necessary facilities, are essential stepping stones towards increasing the use of renewables.

3.2.1. Rollbacks on Renewable Energy Incentives

Reductions in subsidies for renewable power sources have painful lessons as regards the advance of the sector. These rollbacks, which can occur on policies that allow companies to subsidize or reduce costs of renewable energy projects, are often driven by the government. For instance, when other incentives such as PTC and ITC are decreased or expiring, the cost Deutsche wind socialist 2 shifted back on the side of the renewable energy developers, hence new project development and the industry growth is slowed down. As shown earlier by drawing policy changes, such policies can represent an uncertainty factor in long term investments and warp technological innovations that are vital to the growth of the sector.

Current federal help has been threatened to slash in the future, and this might have a negative impact on other small firms in the renewable energy business that wholly depend on these incentives as means of leveling up with powerful organizations in the fossil fuel industry. If these failing companies are not granted adequate subsidies they can potentially fail which means that competition and technological advancement in this industry may suffer (U. S. EPA). This inconsistency can also apply to policy, which in turn can also mean less investment in the country as foreigners prefer to invest in countries that are more stable. In its totality, reductions in support to green technologies, undermine the shift to the effective use of renewable energy

sources and potentially cause a reversal of the energy efficiency trends hence the significance of continued support for these policies.

3.2.2. Obstacles for Small-Scale Renewable Energy Producers

Small scale renal energy producers encounter several large barriers that hamper their growth and the competitiveness of the sector. Perhaps the most significant challenge is the fact that the legal and regulatory systems of the states are quite inconsistent, leaving even the most basic considerations of how various small-scale installations might be connected to the overall power system largely undefined. This has the potential to lead to the elongation of permitting times and high costs associated with compliance that can be harder for small-scale producers to contend with than large companies. Other issues there include inadequate funding and short-term PPAs that present funding constrains to the small-scale project developers who need adequate and stable sources of funding before they can proceed.

The integration of small-scale renewables into the grid is still a technical problem in most electricity systems around the world. Thus, many small producers encounter problems related to interconnection and compliance with the costs for standard connection to the grid. These projects also appear to be more susceptible to power outages and reliability concerns, and this is because of the absence of a strong foundation that is seen in accommodative large-scale renewable projects. Also, the nature of the traditional utility business and the manner in which it impacts regulatory policies for changeable energy sources tend to push aside renewable energy programs, making it difficult for them to grow and develop within the market.

3.2.3. Comparison with Policies Promoting Fossil Fuels

Policies encouraging the use of fossil fuels to those that seek to encourage the use of renewable energy show that there is actually a major difference in the level of support provided

by these levels of government. Companies derived from the extraction and use of fossil fuels still benefit from large subsidies, and global subsidies are expected to exceed $1 trillion in 2022: these subsidies assist in reducing the cost of production, which puts them with an edge over non-conventional energy sources (IEA, “Fossil Fuel Subsidies”). On the other hand, RE policies mainly entail taxes, credits, and subsidies, and research funding intended for identifying barriers and fostering change (IEA, “Renewable Energy Policy Recommendations”).

Fossil fuel subsidies guarantee stable prices of oil and other products as well as contribute to the vulnerable economic sectors’ sustainable functioning while at the same time contributing to pollution and climate objectives failure. Fossil fuel subsidies are considered as Denis fighting against shift towards clean energy because they continue to keep artificially low prices without incorporating environmental costs (IEA, “Fossil Fuel Subsidies”). While on the other hand renewable energy policies like feed in tariffs and renewable portfolio standard works in the direction of internalizing the externality, by encourage sustainable energy mix and steering the economy to green energy technology (IEA, “Renewable Energy Policy Recommendations”).

This is because policy support disparity impacts innovation and the distribution of market share. Fossil fuel subsidies undermine efficient markets by continuing to support production in an inefficient and costly sector (IEA, “Fossil Fuel Subsidies”). Unlike the cases of the subsidies that lead to stagnation due to lack of support and competitive pressure, renewable energy policies facilitate progressive improvement in the costs of the technologies due to stable continued patronage, as evidenced by the drastic reduction in the costs of solar and wind power technologies within the last decade.

3.2.4 Renewable Energy Neglect

This following section investigates if there Are there repercussions associated with excluding renewable energy endeavors? The outcomes of this omission have downstream effects on environmental preservation and advancements towards overall economic development. For instance, inadequate funding in the development of renewable energy structures and frameworks, poor politico-legal frameworks that support the development of renewable energy options' capacity are inefficient policies that deter efforts aimed at preventing climate change and adopting clean energy resources. Exploiting these failures, we examine the implications of the non-implementation of renewable energy sources for employment, technological advancement, investment, and energy security. In this instance, we highlight the significant importance of investing in renewable energy sources in order to further the SDGs and offer a better world for future generations.

Indeed, the Trump administration took the opposite stand from its lip-service to fossil fuels and exhibited the least commitment to renewable energy compared to all the other administrations. The administration proposed to axe some public funds towards the efficient renewable energy initiatives like the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. These cuts would have brought the studies and development of renewable energy technologies to a halt, which provided a result of poor transition of energy economy towards the clean side with the imposition of the tariffs on solar panels and other renewable energy components, which raised the costs of the renewable energy projects and waned investors' interest, investment in the green sector abated. The administration worsened the situation by favoring protectionism and neglecting of renewable energy, which in turn led to the growth of fossil fuels and the reduction of infrastructure related to renewal energy.

Along with that, the administration's inconsideration and ignorance toward renewable energy was another handicap for a low carbon future. Through restricting the investment in clean technologies and projects, the administration locked the investors and the companies into fossil fuels resulting in a long lasting usage of the same non-renewable and environmentally detrimental energy sources.

When the government under the Trump administration handed out subsidies and support to the fossil fuels rather than the sources of renewable, it became clear that they wanted to rule the energy market on the basis of the short-term economic benefit ignoring the long-term ecological stability. Through revoking legislations, conferring subsidy grants and avoiding encouraging alternative energy systems the administration preserved the dominance of fossil fuels while they come for the alternative ways of cleaner energy sources. Thus, onto future plans period, legislators ought to apply first energy renewable development, and later, formulate policies which cause the transition to carbon-neutral and sustainable energy system happen fast.

Therefore, it can be concluded that the current administration has left its imprint on the attitudes of not only the global political world but also climate cooperation because it decided to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and expounded concerns about the ability to achieve the long-term global emissions goals. Also, environmental deregulation such as easing on carbon emission standards, and shrunk the protected land and water, among others have been a cause of the climatic change and deterioration of air and water quality.

Further, the administration economies policies have also deepened the divide in social economic status, seen from the trump tax reform bill, that benefited the super-rich and the cuts to social welfare programs. Failure in formulating coherent economic policies has contributed in increasing and expanding the wealth inequality which affects mainly the poor and minorities. In

addition, globalization, deregulation and liberalization of trade, privatization, decline in labor rights safeguards and curtailing of minimum wages also affected workers' rights and bargaining power, thus deepening the gap between the rich and the poor. It has, therefore, become more imperative to address the issues of climate change as well as the economic disparity since the global problem solution entails embracing sustainable and equitable economic development, and renewable energy as opposed to cases of the federal subsidization of fossil fuels, and the deregulation of the energy industries.

Chapter 3

Impacts of Trump Agenda on SDG Efforts

Introduction

The SDGs were adopted in September 2015 by United Nations; these goals are among the most ambitious set of objectives meant to solve some of the most rising global crises by the end of the year 2030. All these practices are encapsulated under the 17 sustainable development goals that range from eradicating poverty, providing quality education for everyone, promoting gender parity and combating climate change. These and other objectives are only possible if all nations contribute to the effort as prominently as largest economies such as the US. Hence, it is clear that specific policies and actions undertaken by the US government do affect both domestic and international advancement in the realization of these objectives.

From January 2017 to January 2021, the Trump administration came up with many policies that have effected the SDG. These changes included reductions in global commitments, significant reductions in spending, and changes in fashion rules. Various policies that was being taken by the administration including the climate change policy, policy on foreign aid, policy on education, and economic policies that were being embraced had a drastic effect on the fulfillment of the SDGs not only in the united states but also other parts of the world.

Specifically, the chapter in question seeks to discuss the effects of various policies of the Trump administration on the SDG initiatives. It will examine how the administration's approach to global cooperation, particularly the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, affected international climate action and SDG 13: Climate Action. The chapter will also explore the domestic impacts of budgetary decisions, focusing on education funding cuts and their implications for SDG 4: Quality – Education. Additionally, it will address how economic

policies that favored deregulation and tax cuts for the wealthy exacerbated income inequality, countering the goals of SDG 10: This goal could be achieved under the theme of reduced inequality.

Besides, the chapter will also analyze how the administration of trump has declined the roles of scientific research and its effects on scientific-policy linkages for policy decisions to support the sustainable development goals. It will also cover the reduction in U. S. foreign aid and its consequences for global development initiatives, highlighting the effects on SDG 17 : In many cases the project will involve collaboration and the following is a partnership for the goals.

1.Undermining US Role in Global Cooperation

US foreign policy and international cooperation during the Trump administration was characterized by drastic changes as compared to the participation of the United States as a world leader. This transition was marked by a decreasing focus on multilateral cooperation and beginning of the isolation, which negatively impacted the strength and trust of the key allies. For instance, the Trump administration's decision to pull out of the Paris Climate Accord, the Iran Nuclear Deal, and its polarizing of international organizations like the WTO signaled to the world that it was time to unravel global cooperation.

This shift had profound consequences on the place of the U. S. in the system of international cooperation. Therefore, through the consequences of the administration's actions, other countries started to distrust the U. S. This diminished the role of the United States as the global leader in terms of trade and as the guarantor of the rule of law. Thus, for example, the U. S. trade policies, including tariffs on allies and the withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership, undermined the U. S. as the key trading partner and the power that can lead

and promote global trade cooperation. Likewise, the administration's actions and policies in security matters including the decertification from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty and NATO criticism contributed to the reduction of credibility and power of the U. S. in these areas.

1.2. Reduction in Foreign Aid

Trump administration cuts for foreign aid addressed new consequences for worldwide efforts to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The administration called for major reductions to foreign aid, which has remained mostly a low-skill, low-concept resource. Aid was often activated in a punitive fashion with cut in sight to alter the policies of the recipients for example aids to the Central American was cut in an effort to stop immigrants; aids to the West Bank and Gaza was preempted to force negotiations in the peace process.

Such cuts eroded core American values reflected in support of development around the world and weakened America's ability and willingness to respond to humanitarian crises, fund global health initiatives, and fight poverty. Majority of SDG targets are to be met in developing countries and therefore the aid from developed countries is an essential component of assisting these nations to meet the goals (foreign aid is crucial towards meeting the fundamental needs and structures required for pushing the goals in developing countries).

Moreover, no clear strategic approach for foreign assistance was defined and implemented during the Trump administration; thus, various decisions were made proceeding in an ad-hoc manner, which means that decisions were made based on specific appointments of political officials who may have pursued different goals. This inconsistency caused confusion and

hampered the steady and continuous advancement toward achieving the targets of the SDGs by halting or causing difficulties to several large-scale development initiatives.

The current Biden administration has Indicated the United States' intention to return back to the SDGs and has vowed to increase its support towards the implementation of the goals on the global realm. This shift is important in rejuvenation of the international relations cooperation and to continue advancing the process of the SDG implementation.

1.2.1. Impact on Global Health

Foreign aid remains to be an essential tool in enhancing health standards in the world through policy and funding for health facility's increase, control of diseases and treatment. Even with reductions in foreign aid budgets, scaling back or even lowering the standards of healthcare services becomes a major reality especially in the third world countries. For instance, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is one of the agencies that has been actively participating in advancing global health through funding and spearheading programs such as President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. However, the decrease in the global health budget has been observed, and it was even threatened by the Trump's administration cuts in 2018 which may bring sanctions for these programs.

1.2. 2. Impact on Education

Foreign aid also relates to education programs more specifically to education programs in developing nations where educational opportunities are lacking. Inability to continue meeting the foreign aid budgets specified when promises are made can translate into poor educational programs and offerings, thereby reducing the quality and accessibility of education services. For instance, the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) exists as an international organization that

seeks to increase education quality in the developing world. However, the funding on this organization has been reducing in the recent past and if this is to continue then it could reverse fortunes on education sector of these countries.

1.2. 3. Impact on Poverty Reduction

Foreign aid is also needed in poverty relieving programs which is a strategy of working to eradicate causes of poverty and instead focus on economic progression. Budget reductions to foreign aids also serve as a major blockage of the initial progress made in poverty reduction hence leading to high and even worsening poverty and income disparity. For instance, the Poverty and Inequality Platform from the World Bank is showing that foreign aid has helped a lot in decreasing poverty rates all around the developing world. Nevertheless, latest cuts in foreign aid budgets seem to threaten these improvements or altogether worsen poverty.

1.2.4. Undermining Multilateral Institutions

Despite its consequences on globalization that was described in the literature, the Trump administration had a significant influence on the key governance systems that are required for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Some changes that were made by his administration, such as the abandonment and condemnation of international organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) erode such systems, thus hampering the collective pursuit of goals contemplated under the sustainable development agenda.

Trump's reaction was to remove the USA from the WHO for example, which remains an egregious attack on global health governance. The WHO currently has the challenge of overseeing and coordinating international responses to health emergencies, maintaining the standards of Existing Health System Globally, and offering support with advisory among others to its member nations. This was apparent when Trump decided to pull out of the organization at

the peak of the coronavirus pandemic thus crippling WHO's efficiency in handling key health issues such as COVID-19 pandemic.

In addition, the critical stance of Trump to the WHO and other global organizations also contributed to developing the climate of distrust and demonization of the latter. As trust was eroded, organizations like those mentioned above lost their capacity to mobilize and foster international cooperation in preparing and enforcing of common opinion on global health and development.

While analyzing the actions of Trump's administration it is possible to find out whether it influenced SDG advancement or not, it is necessary to underline the fact that quite frequently, the impacts of Trump's measures were dual: positive within certain sectors and industries, negative in the general view of the development of the SDG advancement. His decision to leave and cease funding to the international organizations such as the WHO undermined global institutions that are crucial for the achievement of SDGs that entail extensive cooperation among nations. Second, the same level of Trump's criticism shaped people's distrust in these institutions and, as a result, weakened the ability of countries to progress toward the achievement of global SDG goals.

Finally, it was possible to establish that punitive measures that Trump implemented impacted greatly the global governance structures through which key SDG goals are enforceable. The author described his actions of withdrawal and criticism of the international organizations inclusive of the WHO as working against these structures thus coming in the way of global goals of attaining the SDGs.

2. Slowing Domestic Progress on Key Benchmarks

The Trump administration measures' impact on the US in terms of progress made toward the attainment of goals set under the SDGs has been a reversion. The SDGs were formally ratified by all United Nations Member States in 2015 introducing the agenda of sustainable development that is to be globally implemented in the present and future generations. Still, the domestic policies adopted throughout Trump's presidency negated the global goals more often than not, especially when it came to environmental conservation, universal health care, and poverty reduction.

Because of Trump's presidency, the U S experienced a reversal of essential environmental protection policies, thus slowing the progress of SDG 13 on Climate Change and SDG 15 on Life on Land. For example, the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement which is a universal treaty with goals and commitments to reduce green house emissions negatively impacted the global and nations' efforts to control green house emissions. Additionally, the decimation of the Clean Power Plan aimed at regulating carbon emissions in power plants even halted progress in sustainable energy and environmental protection goals (Davenport, 2019).

For the year focusing on the SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), Trump's policies created issues in the sphere of healthcare. The actions of the current administration posing to eliminate and replace the ACA made millions of Americans lose their healthcare coverage, heightened the inequalities in healthcare and restricted their access to key health services (Gruber & Sommers, 2019). Such polices directly affected the drive and capacity of the nation to support the health of the population and wellbeing of people of all ages. SDG 10 focuses on Reduced Inequality and proving this; not much improvement was made due to Trump's taxation policies that enriched the affluent and widened is the gap of economic inequality. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 offered copious amounts of tax cuts to corporations and wealthy people and only a

fraction of tax cuts for middle and lower-income individuals (Congressional Budget Office, 2018). This policy approach not only widened the economic gap but also hindered efforts to create a more equitable society.

2.1. Rollback of Environmental Regulations

The action taken by the previous administrations, mainly during the Trump era, to attenuate environmental protection provided substantial setbacks to several sustainable development goals, including goal 7 (Energy affordability and clean energy) and goal 15 (Life on land). Among those distinctive activities, one of the boldest was the decision to pull out of the Paris Agreement, an international treaty aimed at countering climate change by mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. This withdrawal hampered global endeavors to mitigate or adapt to climatic changes and marked the US's reduced invisibility regarding environmental responsibility (United Nations, 2019). Also, the withdrawal of a program known as Clean Power Plan, which was to help shift away from carbon sources in electricity generation, set back the transformation to clean energy hence underpinned backwards progression of SDG 7 (Davenport, 2019)

Furthermore, many environmental standards were removed by administration. This includes many regulations that protect natural habitats and biodiversity which is necessary part of the SDG 15. For instance, the acts were altered to influence policy decision in a way that endangered species and ecosystems are at risk more than before due to the easier approval of industrial projects (Plumer, 2019). These rollbacks undermined not only the initial negative environmental impacts of regulations but also weakened long-term positive trends in sustainable land use and species conservation.

As a result of these actions to deregulate and undermine the power of the federal government to make environment-friendly legislation and policies, the United States has been

putting more efforts backwards and far away from its sustainable environmental goals. The policies implemented by the administration to support short-term economic benefits meant for enduring negative repercussions on the environment and a loss in global influence towards sustainability.

2.2. Healthcare Policy Changes

Attempts to repeal the ACA created barriers to essential healthcare services for many citizens, thus disrupting the progress of SDG 3 on Health and Wellness. ACA enacted in 2010 was designed to increase the number of people with health care coverage, decrease costs of healthcare and enhance the capacity of the US healthcare system. While the overall historical assessment of insurance competition under the ACA is positive, the Trump administration's efforts to repeal and replace the ACA repeatedly introduced significant uncertainty and instability into the market. President Trump's administration managed to make significant changes into healthcare, notably, the individual mandate that required people to get health insurance or face a penalty was eliminated, with this change contributing to an increased number of the uninsured in millions (Cohen et al., 2019). This change in policy also helped further exacerbate distressing inequality in accessing healthcare, especially in the low income and minorities.

Furthermore, the administration's approval of state work requirements under the Medicaid program entailing able-bodied adults compounded the situation for the vulnerable groups as they lost their access to healthcare services as well. Many states, with Trump's approval, pursued or enacted work reporting or work requirements for #Medicaid which meant that thousands of people lost their health insurance because of not finding work or not reporting (Rosenbaum & Rothenberg, 2020). All these policy changes went against the grain of promoting the social

determinants that are expected to enhance the achievement of targets on SDG 3 that seeks to promote healthy lives and wellbeing for all. The rise in the uninsured population and the subsequent limited access to health services made the health status of the population worse and exacerbated the disparities in health status between the population groups as a result of such policies, which clearly showed the negative impact of these policy changes on the progress of the nation toward the goals set in advancing global health.

2.3. Education Budget Cuts: impact on Quality Education

The Trump–era policies that influenced the federal funding for education muted the improvements in public schools and disadvantaged learners, thus undermining the overall advancement toward goal 4 – Quality Education. These cuttings gave rise to numerous adversities such as dearth in provisions, diminished assistance to teachers, and closures of opportunities for education to the ostracized lot.

As has been determined by the National Education Association (NEA), many schools across the country lost their personnel through layoffs in the wake of the bust, in addition to having large classes. These changes exerted pressure not only on the quality of education but also on teachers' working conditions and environment, which were already strained by scarcities and difficulties reported in prior years.

The budgets cuts have particularly negative impacts to disadvantage students, especially those in low income families and students with disabilities. The practices have led to reduction in the funds and the services that are necessary to assist such learners to perform well academically. Thus, the gap between the non-favored students and their counterparts has stretched considerably, thereby jeopardizing the potential of making quality education accessible and available to all.

Therefore, this paper concludes that the cuts in federal education financing during Trump administration caused dilution of public school and disadvantaged learner's improvement that hampers the progress of SDG 4. To start, addressing these funding cuts and investing in education will help to guarantee that all students are able to receive quality education.

3. Signaling lack of commitment to SDGs

Often actions of the Trump administration generated political indicators of no compliance with the SDGs. One notable example was the withdrawal from the Paris Agreement in 2017, which undermined global efforts to combat climate change (SDG 13: For example, search terms such as 'Climate Action' will receive a higher score if the image associated with it is tagged 'Climate,' 'Action,' and 'Live workshop' rather than just 'Action.' This paved the way on showing the world that the U. S will not give importance to international climate commitments thus hampering the effort on international cooperation in sustainability projects. The administration's budget proposals also have proposed deep cuts in aid for overseas and international development goals thereby affecting SDGs 1-No Poverty and 2-Zero Hunger. These activities raised questions and concerns as to the stance that America had taken in opposition to leadership it had earlier provided for sustainable development around the globe.

Such policies argued critics as driven by an overall policy of downgrading sustainability through returning the US from ambitious policies and deals surrounding environmental and, in general, developmental agendas, including the SDGs. Fewer commitments to the new global health initiatives, education programs, and other related activities still pointed to a post-2015 world moving away from mutual cooperation that can contribute to SDG achievement. These commitments are maintaining an international leadership drive, which though diluted by the administration, is required to tackle global problems effectively (Stiglitz, 2020; Sachs, 2019).

3.1. Absence from Global SDG Forums.

The Global SDG Forum has advantages for a country or organization in terms of contributing to and participating in global initiatives towards sustainability but participation is also necessary and failure to participate in the forum has its downsides. This absence implies that organizations and stakeholders are unable to participate in important debates, collaborations and deployments geared towards solving global problems such as poverty, unequal distribution of wealth and resources, and climate change, among others. This means that without the engagement of the stakeholders, they may be left behind in achieving what is needed to meet the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development hence the striving for the sustainability of both national and International community.

3. 2. Policy Focus on Nationalism

The policy of 'America first', which was very popular during the Trump administration, put the country's needs before those of the international community on climate change, thus undermining the Paris Agreement. Because of this policy on nationalism, there was less support from the United States on international goals, such as the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The administration's policy of 'America First' which placed the interests of America above every other nation further compounded the issue by isolating the United States globally and resulting in minimization of international cooperation in tackling various issues.

3. 2. 1. Nationalism and the SDGs

The Trump administration aversion to globalism less engagement in topical world bodies and forums touching on sustainable development. This limited participation restricted the United States' contributions toward assisting nations in shaping SDGs as well as reducing its leadership

in international relations. The US's retreating from leading important discussions and negotiations left a political vacuum that other countries increasingly filled: this led to the development of an international sustainable development agenda that was increasingly set around the priorities of other countries.

3. 2. 2. Impact on International Cooperation

Hence, the "America First" policy that was characterized by nationalist sentiment led to a reduction of the country's presence in multinational bodies and treaties. This caused withdraw from international cooperation and thus impacted how global concerns such as climate change, economic disparity, and social justice were addressed. The Trump administration approached diplomacy with skepticism and disdain for multilateral organizations and bilateral agreements undermined the governing structures and acumen of the international bodies that are required to solve global, transnational issues.

3. 2. 3. Nationalism and Global Sustainability

Trump and nationalism also sparked a shift in the foreign policy of the USA where local interest was more important than world redistribution for sustainable environmental preservation. The approach weakened cooperation at the global level and slowed down work on the achievement of the SDGs especially the climate change mitigation, the poverty eradication, and the economic growth goals. The administration's policies were antithetical to the goal of sustainable development as it sought to undo the environmental gains made in recent years through rolling back environmental protections, withdrawing from the Paris Agreement and championing the fossil fuel industries' interests so as not to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda as envisioned by the global community.

3.3. Inconsistent Reporting on SDG Progress

As mentioned earlier, there is less reliability reported as it pertains to tracking results towards the achievement of the SDGs. Thus, the lack of clear distinctions as well as a constant focus on the subject of changed perspectives or not meeting progress towards the goal of the United States practices confuses stakeholders and hinders accountability. This is an issue that is most apparent in the Asia-Pacific region, this is because very little data is available or provided erratically making it impossible to determine progress accurately. For instance, the recent United Nations report on the Asia-Pacific least developed countries on the SDG progress in 2017 shows that only reliable environmental data hampered the region's progress as per the climate action target and life below water indicators. Likewise, the recently published UNECE report on the SDG assessment of the 2023 year mentioned that a third of the goals in the document cannot be addressed with accurate measurements for the region due to various reasons including lack of data.

These discrepancies create problems that can be critical at times due to variance in standards of reporting. They can cause the deterioration of responsibility of governments and other investors towards their populations, as well as a lack of openness in the processes that are supposed to bring all populations towards the achievement of the SDGs. It also implies that basic problems like climate change and inequality are likely to go unaddressed while the world focuses on lofty goals of sustainable development.

To resolve this problem, it is mandatory that all the governments and other stakeholders should pay proper attention in collecting and sharing the relevant and precise data information. This can be done by improving statistical capacities and applying sets of indicators to track progress in achieving the SDGs. Also, further efforts are needed to increase government and other stakeholders' awareness and guarantee that the reporting on progress in achieving SDG is

more regular and unified, which will create additional chances to get more precise understanding of potential gaps and further advancement needed.

4. Deterioration of Confidence in Science/ Data

The Trump administration policies on science and the use of evidence affected negative changes on the population's confidence in these aspects. During the years of Trump's presidency and his administration's operation, multiple instances of disregarding scientists and official scientific facts were observed. This was especially seen in the case of climate change where the administration pulled out of many environment protection policies and denied climate change science (Plumer & Davenport, 2020). Apart from frustrating the progress towards environmental sustainability they also gave rise to distrust of science in policy decisions.

One of the most distinguishable signs of this trend was the way the administration dealt with the COVID outbreak. Although available information and recommendations from the health sector pointed towards that, there were many occasions where government figures provided disinformation or messages that directly contradicted each other. The minimization of the virus dangers, and the encouragement of ineffective cures were also demonstrated as a disregard of scientific information. This resulted in mixed perceptions and beliefs on the part of the people on how serious the virus is and whether the protective measures are necessary or not.

This erosion of trust translated to more than a sheer public health crisis of eradicating diseases and enhancing the health of people. It also affected broader efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly those related to health (SDG 3 : The Launched Sustainable Development Goals include ; SDG 3 which is good health and well-being and SDG 13 which is climate action. Lack of trust in Science and Data adversely affects peoples' willing to support the implementations of evidence-based policies and consequently limits

peoples' capabilities to address numerous complex issues that affect the world (Michaels, 2020). To bring the society back to trusting scientific institutions, as well as to redistribute focus onto evidence-based decision making in the future administrations, these spheres are crucial to reconstruct.

4. 1. Discrediting Scientific Research

The Trump administration often delegitimized the authority of science by ignoring or outright denying the conclusions of experts in favor of the president's personal opinion, which drastically damaged the perception of science-based policy. These forms of climate change denying campaigns had wide-impact, especially on SDG 9, that include Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure since they depend of accurate and professional scientific and technology reinforcement.

Some of the most striking cases included the regulation of climate change policies. Thus, while the overwhelming majority of scientists acknowledged the existence and imminence of the climate change, the administration would always play it down. President Trump once dismissed climate change as a « hoax, » and has in his administration repealed over one hundred environmental policies, several of which were crafted with scientific information on climate change in mind (Plumer & Davenport, 2020). It was not just the process of stopping any decision on policies related to the climate but it also made common people disbelieve in most of the science discoveries.

Trust in scientific research and the related decisions also declined in connection with the administration's measures taken in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. The discrepancy in the perspective presented by the scientific community and that of the administration led to a lot of confusion and doubt among the people. This was especially unfortunate because this took place

during a public health crisis for which the public needed accurate, evidence-based information and policies to contain (Michaels, 2020).

4. 2. Misinformation Campaigns

The use of fake news especially on climate change and public health contributed towards a major setback in attaining the SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being). Trump's administration was filled with examples of misinformation campaigns with the negative impacts on scientific facts and population understanding of the issues.

The most significant case study would be the modulation of this administration to matters concerning climate change. Although the information about the climate change being caused by human activities is supported by numerous scientific facts, the information spread by the administration of this country claimed that climate change was fake or did not exist. Besides influencing the public in the wrong way regarding the issue of climate change hence denying it the necessary support it would require to meet SDG number 13 as well as the impact the climate change has on the environment as well as the society, this misinformation campaign also worked to slow down all the efforts that could be put in place in order to counter the effects of climate change.

Misinformation was also well seen in the extended management of the COVID-19 pandemic by the administration. If the authorities saw the specifics of the virus and its transmission, there were cases where the president and other officials lied or gave misleading information about the virus and its treatment. The following is an analysis of the impact of this misinformation and how it interfered with the operation of producing health and safety measures towards the prevention of the virus (Dawson, 2020).

The effects of mis/disinformation campaigns were not only limited to the policy-making domain but also influenced people's trust in institutions and media outlets. This loss of trust undermines the possibilities of presenting the relevant information that would enable the people involved to act cohesively toward sustainable development (Kahan et al., 2012). Combating fake news and ensuring that the decision-making process is based on scientific evidence will be essential to prepare future governments for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as to create a society that is less vulnerable to false information.

4.3 Cuts to Scientific Agencies

The Trump administration's decision to reduce budgets for scientific organizations such as the EPA and NOAA affected scientific investigation as well as environmental surveillance necessary for sustaining development. For instance, the EPA's budget was reduced by 31% from 2010 to 2019, leading to a decline in research and monitoring programs essential for addressing SDG 15: On the fifth aspect, ecosystem commons are covered by Life on Land and SDG 14, which is Life Below Water. Likewise, the budget of NOAA, the federal agency that is mainly responsible for the monitoring and study of the condition of oceans was reduced to 12% between the year 2017 and 2019 thus limiting its capacity to work towards the realization of SDG 14. These cuts not only hampered the nation's capability for engaging emergent ecological challenges but also eroded the dominant position of the United States as the world's premier laboratory and protector of the environment.

Much as the Sustainable Development Goals started achieving some progress, the Trump administration policies had negative impacts on the achievement of the said goals. The American particularism and the isolationism as seen from its decisions such as the "America First" policy and the decision to abandon the Paris Agreement on climate change weakened the overall

response to global threats and hindered the SDGs that are dependent on cooperation among nations. A nationalist outlook negatively impacted the subject of SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) as it also creates a signal for the other nations and maybe weaken the climate change cooperative action.

Domestically, Trump administration's policies were similar in effect to what was seen internationally an example is the increase in military expenditure. Policy rollbacks, including deregulating environmental protections, and weakening support for the renewables and ending protections for climate science, increased greenhouse gases, and stalled climate action. Deregulation adaptable policies threatened human's right for water and elongated sanitation (SDG 6), and life on land (SDG 15) escalated social inequity and impacted the environment negatively.

Restrictions on the education and foreign assistance affected the achievement of the goals stipulated in SDG 4 which is on Quality Education as well as the SDG 17 on Partnership. This raised a red flag as it gave a signal of complacency on the part of the administration toward the realization of the SDGs. The decision to withdraw from the UN Human Rights Council and cut down the foreign aid actually undermined the role of the US as a truly global actor and an active member of international community working on sustainable development. This call for the imperative for the US or any country to work towards sustainable development and other present development challenges in the world**.**

Conclusion

The final statement of this dissertation emphasizes how various and far-reaching the effects of the Trump administration's policies on the advancement towards the SDGs set by the United Nations are. As a result of the aforementioned comprehensive analysis of various policy domains, one can conclude that the actions of Trump's presidency have not only halted advancement but also actively rolled back progress in major areas of global sustainability.

Perhaps one of the most considerable failures has lately been observed in climate change. The action of the Trump administration to pull out from the Paris accord could be regarded as a turning of the back on global collaborative approaches towards reversing climate change impacts. This action combined with the presumption of the reduction of some of the most important environmental laws led to the higher GHG emissions and the boost of fossil fuel consumption. These actions have led to the hindrance of both national and international effort to limit the amount of global warming thus contributing to the non-achievement of SDG 13 on climate action. These policies are the means through which the administration has communicated to the world the lowering of their intentions to respond to this existential threat frankly undermining the need to fight climate change.

Thus, as for economic impurity, Trump had implemented tax reforms that catered largely to the upper class, and the social welfare had been slashed. All these measures have not only worsened the economic inequality within the United States but have also worked against the achievement of SDG 10 (Reduced Inequality). The composting of basic services and least provision of social services there has been worsening of poverty and lock in of disadvantageous economic status hence the systematic discriminations. This has implied the order's rejection of inclusiveness and equity, which are the basis of sustainable development.

That is why the modern policy, pursued by the Trump administration, has led to a significant detriment of the United States in terms of cooperation on the international level. Since the Universal victory –II period up to the present time America has been at the forefront of global approach towards challenges. However, nationalist and isolationist policies fostered by the administration have led to the deterioration of partnerships and the nation's roles in various organizations. Conversely, the following is the negative implication of this retreat; other countries, have had reasons to ponder over the reliability and particularly the sincerity of the United States in partnership concerning universal goals and objectives. Lack of respect and cooperation reduces the progress on several goals focusing on; the sustainable development goal 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong institutions.

Stretching the above Issues further, the administration has lately chosen to reduce the Foreign Assistance. Hence, restrictions of funding for development programs for developing countries indicate that the US also contributed to the deceleration of the achievement of SDGs within the main framework. These cuts have been especially maker in health, education and infrastructure development, sectors which are socially critical in the development of any country. As a result, those causes which did not gain support could not be supported by other countries or organizations thereby hampering the realization of set international development goals.

In his own home country, however, some sustainable development goals have rolled-back under Trump's administration. These are directly associated with such ideas as deregulation, privatization and primacy of economic liberalization no matter the social cost it incurs on environmental degradation and other social losses have brought forth situation where short term gains dominate long term goals. The support of the outer administration in energy subsidies and

support of fossil fuel industries has caused a negative impact on the availability of resources as well as the focus on the development of renewable energy sources. This paradigm shift has however hampered the development of key solutions for the seventh sustainable development goal, SDG 7 hence limiting the capability of the United States to transition to a more energy efficient society.

However, a negative signal is given on this account by the administration that lack commitment to the SDGs. A recent survey has also indicated that by negating some of these goals and withdrawing from policies that favored sustainable development, the Trump administration has shown the world that, they are not very much bothered about the wellbeing of our planet. This lack of commitment has also been demoralizing the domestic and international stakeholders with the impact of slowing down the base momentum for the SDG goals. Dismantlement of policy frameworks aimed at promoting sustainable development agenda has reached adverse conditions that subsequent governments find hard to set out and steer the AGENDA 2030.

The experience of the Trump administration entails the combination of these measures and negatively affects the achievement of the goals set within the framework of the SDGs. The following apparent rollbacks of the environment, rise in economic inequality, current limited international cooperation, and lack of commitment to sustainability, have rolled back the chances of attaining these important global goals. However, global challenges like climate change, poverty, and inequality cannot wait, while the policy orientations provided in this period have taken the US as well as the global community back from achieving such goals.

Altogether, it is possible to conclude that the Trump administration undermined the chances for international sustainable development. The rollback on environmentalism, deepening

of economic inequality, fracturing of international relations, and communicating a lack of seriousness towards the SDGs have all set back some of the world's most important goals. Thus, for the developing world, it becomes pertinent to admit such challenges and continue the endeavor to integrate policies with the tenets of sustainable development. It is only when people of different fields, countries and organizations join together for the common goal and for the long-term that the objectives of the SDGs can be met.

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