



Munich Personal RePEc Archive

Sustainable Livelihood Framework for Equitable Living in Crisis of Global Pandemic

Jackson, Emerson Abraham

Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, UK

6 February 2021

Online at <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/106951/>
MPRA Paper No. 106951, posted 03 Apr 2021 07:41 UTC

**SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD FRAMEWORK FOR EQUITABLE LIVING IN CRISIS OF
GLOBAL PANDEMIC**

REDUCED INEQUALITIES (SDG10) - ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE UN SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Emerson Abraham Jackson

Affiliation: 1. Doctoral Scholar in Sustainable Livelihood Diversification, Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham. 2. Senior Research Economist, Model Building Analysis Section, Research Department, Bank of Sierra Leone.

Email: EAJ392@bham.ac.uk / emersonjackson69@gmail.com / ejackson@bsl.gov.sl

Disclaimer: *Views expressed in this chapter are those of the author and do not reflect any of the named institutions for which he is associated.*

SYNONYMS

- Sustainable Living
- Livelihood Risk Assessment
- Livelihood Assets
- Equality of Opportunities

DEFINITION(S)

There are plethora of definitions ascribed to the term sustainable livelihood. Specifically, Scoones' (1998) has defined it as: ***'the capabilities, assets (including both material and social resources) and activities required for a means of living - a livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, while not undermining the natural resource base'***.

To add value to the (deconstructive) discourse of this chapter, the author has thought it worthwhile to expand on the highlighted definition by incorporating risk factor - hence, *"Sustainable livelihoods is the opportunities / capabilities for living beings (more so humans) to access much needed assets / capitals without prejudice, that are necessary for survival without recourse to measures that would be detrimental to the unstained depletion of assets in time of shock, while taking account of risks associated with unforeseen events to nature"*.

In view of the above definitional focus of the chapter, the remaining sections of the chapter will explore the concept of sustainable livelihoods as portrayed in the *"Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF)"*, while also taking into account a deconstructive approach in view of risks associated with human vulnerabilities during incidences of global pandemics, for example, COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION

In a more skillful parlance, sustainable livelihood thinking can be likened to the reality of sustainability agenda, which according to Mores et al. (2009) incorporate: *(i) A set of guiding principles for development intervention within communities or directed at individuals, which should be evidence-based through meaningful involvement of those directly affected; and (ii) An appreciation of available assets and their vulnerability, and the role of institutions in regulating access to assets, capable of helping thought stimulation on what 'is' and what 'can' be done in pursuit of livelihood needs analysis.*

As the incidence of COVID-19 unveil itself in the world economy, there is a need to focus attention in deconstructing discourses pertaining to the Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) in a bid to address ways of minimising human vulnerabilities in the world economy. The concept of sustainable livelihoods has dominated developmental efforts in under-developed economies, typically in Africa, Latin America and some parts of Asia (Cline-Cole and Robson, 2016; Clarke and Carney, 2008; Amalric, 1998; Cline-Cole, 1998). Decent living condition has been a challenge for people in the under-developed economies; this is partly due to the peculiarity of structural bottlenecks experienced by individual economies, which include poor management of state owned enterprises and institutionalized corruption that impede citizens' access to essential livelihood assets (Jackson and Jabbie, 2020; Jean, 2002; Thompson and Porter, 1997). In cognisance of these issues, poor people are mostly left to settle in shanty locations, usually associated with poverty, while the means of

access to livelihood assets like arable land and social capital are almost nonexistent for the poor to utilise (DFID, 2000).

The need for access to the core livelihood assets (Human Resources, Physical / housing, healthcare, financial and social network) as epitomised in Figure 1 became very apparent as the perturbed conditions of COVID-19 exposed the vulnerability of economies (both developed and under-developed) around the world, particularly with regard to their unpreparedness for the launch of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2030. COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic in March 2020 (Sohrabi et al, 2020); its impact has raised series of questions concerning human vulnerability, specifically risks to human health condition, which is required to pursue decent and sustained well-being for citizens across the global economy. More apparent in this situation is the need to ensure human beings have equitable access to decent health care systems to mitigate their vulnerabilities as the incidence of COVID-19 pandemic unfold itself across continental borders. This is also a test of the global economy's preparedness for future pandemics, which may not necessarily be about health concerns, but anything else that is capable of destroying global economic structures.

Capitalists' drive towards championing globalisation seem to have lost credence during this time of health pandemic as even the most talked about developed economies, for example the USA, Germany and UK also felt the pressure of having to utilise scarce resources to sustain lives. The spiteful description of what was initially referred to as '*China crisis*', then resulted in global health pandemic (Yu et al, 2020), with its impact resulting in an almost complete closure of the world economy, in a bid to save lives (Jackson, 2020a). Every aspects of what was considered to be the foundation of livelihood asset creation (e.g., educational establishments, hospitals and even banks) were almost left dysfunctional as governments all around the world stumbled to get to grips with the reality of the pandemic. Lives were traumatized and resources depleted at an alarming rate never seen in the 21st century. Response packages from institutions like central banks and governments alike, made it possible to neutralize human fears connected with the collapse of institutions. This also witnessed distortion to market system, with escalating prices of goods and services on account of bottlenecks to supply-chain network and many more (Ozili and Arun, 2020; Loayza and Pennings, 2020; Gentilini et al, 2020).

The inability of human beings to seek decent means of access to asset acquisition during the COVID-19 pandemic made it quite obvious for vulnerable people to be placed in an unequal state of well-being. It is quite obvious that the most vulnerable individuals were going to be left in a state of championing the exploitation of core assets like the forest, marine resources and land-based activities (e.g., Stone-quarrying and sand-mining) as a way of affirming their resilience in meeting addressing livelihood needs as the pandemic continue to unearth itself (Brown and Crawford, 2012).

With the emergent occurrence of COVID-19, human vulnerability has become more exposed and this is also reinforcing the need to ensuring equality of access to the core assets for human living is echoed as an essential part of the SDG goals. Economies that are resourcefully endowed on account of their transparent democratic governance structures, for example developed economies like the UK and Germany took pre-emptive strides in authorizing local authorities or councils to provide immediate sheltered accommodation for the homeless (Homeless Link, 2020). Equally in in the USA, contingent packages like Cheques were paid to eligible residents. These are obviously worthwhile in combatting the distressed state of vulnerabilities and inequalities as analysed in the Sustainable Livelihood Framework (SLF) section.

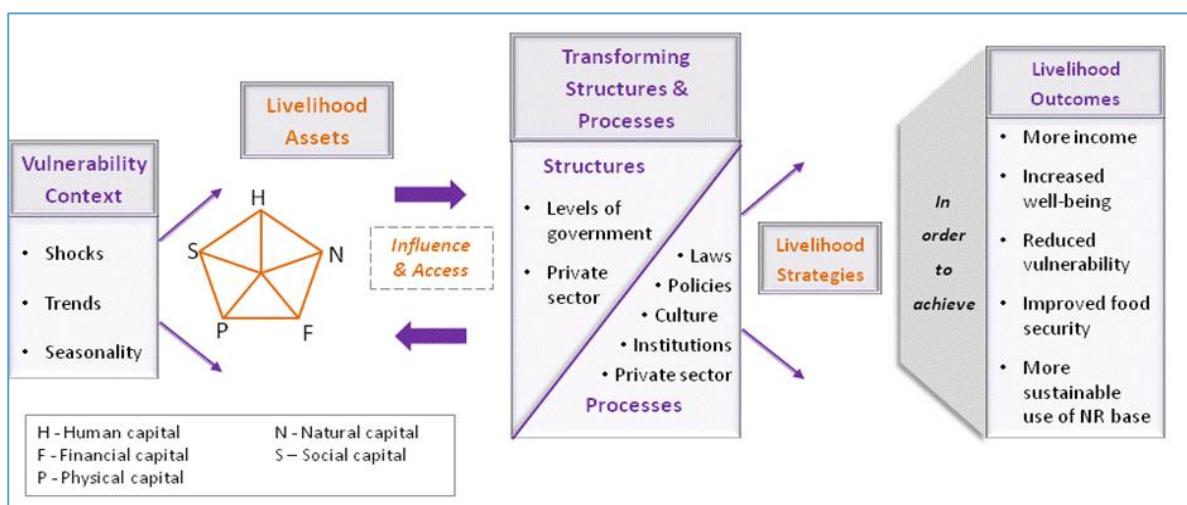
DECONSTRUCTING THE SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD FRAMEWORK (SLF)

The sustainable livelihood framework (SLF) as epitomised in Figure 1 below consist of different components. This then makes it possible to decipher complexities associated with risks to human livelihoods. The SLF architecture is modelled on the composition of assets (also referred to as capitals in some contexts), which are required to support decent and sustained living conditions for human beings. In addition, the SLF architecture also consist of transforming structures / processes, symbolized by institutions like the private sector and (non)government establishments (both local and nationally initiated), law enforcing bodies that set policies in determining the use of natural resources and finally, strategies to support sound outcomes for individual and household's livelihood needs. Excerpt from de Haan and Zoomers (2006: 127), epitomizes the effort of researchers and institutions in critiquing the SLF architecture as comprehensively captured below:

“Not intended to depict reality in any specific setting..... (but) rather as an analytical structure for coming to grips with the complexity of livelihoods, understanding influences on poverty and identifying where interventions can best be made. The assumption is that people pursue a range of livelihood outcomes (health, income, reduced vulnerability, etc.) by drawing on a range of assets to pursue a variety of activities. The activities they adopt and the way they reinvest in asset-building are driven in part by their own preferences and priorities. However, they are also influenced by the types of vulnerability, including shocks (such as drought and other occurrences such as the recent COVID-19 incident [Jackson, 2020a]), overall trends (in, for instance, resource stocks) and seasonal variations. Options are also determined by the structures (such as the roles of government or of the private sector) and processes (such as institutional, policy and cultural factors), which people face. In aggregate, their conditions determine their access to assets and livelihood opportunities and the way in which these can be converted into outcomes. In this way, poverty, and the opportunities to escape from it, depends on all of the above’ (Farrington et al. 1999:1)”.

The above excerpt depict the complexity of SLF concept, which stresses the importance of assets in creating sustained livelihoods for the poor, and more so the ability of people to become resilient during condition of shocks. In general, communities around the world have been seen to pursue different approaches in meeting basic livelihoods needs.

Figure 1: DFID's Sustainable Livelihood Framework (DFID 1999: 1)



Source: DFID, 1999

In view of the emergence of COVID-19, one will be poised to be a devil's advocate by taking a deconstructive tactic to explore the usefulness of the SLF in a bid to address livelihood capabilities for people across the world (notably, the most vulnerable). It is most vital that the notion of livelihood strategy is constructively disentangled to address tangible ways of curbing human vulnerabilities. This should not only be confined to poor communities, but also made topical to developed economies alike, where vulnerable groups have been equally exposed to risky circumstances on account of the incidence of COVID-19 pandemic (Marmot, 2007; Barton et al, 2003). In view of the need to reduce inequalities, policy makers should endeavour to formulate strategies that embed risk assessment in the SLF architecture to mitigate shocks for the good of those in dire conditions associated with incidence of pandemic like COVID-19.

In the current age of technology, there is high demand placed on Research and Development (R&D) to support human innovation at the highest level. Governments across the world economy must also endeavour to champion the way forward in ensuring human skills are harnessed in the best possible way that support creativity, more so in dealing with varied types of shocks (Jackson 2020b). Such an approach could be seen through the lenses of Schumpeter's Creative-Destruction concept in a bid to ensuring human creativity is robustly explored to support the most vulnerable. In this regard, the current structure of the SLF could be extended to address the relevance of R&D as a way of ensuring society become better prepared to stand the time of a global pandemic. This could technically involve up-skilling of human potential / entrepreneurial ability to take cognisance of new technologies that support flexible means of capacitating people's ability to maintaining secure means of livelihoods.

In view of the above discourse, there is a need for the SLF assets components to be equally accessible to all in society. Notably, gender equality should be seen as taking a centre stage, which is perceived to champion huge economic gains to society (Jackson and Jackson, 2020; Jahn et al, 2017; Jackson, 1996). It is very important to note that the incorporation of gender equality as an important element in the SLF architecture will make it possible for society to move in the direction of acknowledging the importance of both male and female contribution in pursuit of livelihood capabilities. The old thinking of the SLF, which portrayed women in poor rural communities as components of low-skilled agricultural workers or job-seekers should be eradicated (Kabeer, 1990). Empowerment (incorporating formal and vocational training) should be encouraged in ensuring human capital is equitably explored in the best interest of all gender groups. This would certainly bring about huge economic gains to society, where income of women (married or co-habiting) are also incorporated in expanding the financial strength of households (Jackson and Jackson, 2020).

Expanding the deconstructive discourse, health asset within the SLF architecture seem not to have gained prominent attention. This could be partly due to the fact that the SLF was intentionally designed to address livelihood capabilities for poor and deprived economies, with much of its emphasis placed in exploring the complex nature of healthy living as core in the pursuit for sustained livelihoods. In reality, the SLF is considered vital in its application across continental borders. The pandemic of COVID-19 has taught the world memorable lessons. This is particularly true for an economy like the USA, where access to health facility is considered a private asset, given the attitude of capitalists to amass wealth by charging high fees to take up health (Ridic et al, 2012). This in itself breeds inequality in society, as millions of USA citizens were not covered given their low ability to pay for health insurance. In developing countries around Africa, Latin America and some parts of Asia for example, access to decent health facilities are almost non-

existent on account of poor management of state institutions and the pervasiveness of corruption as highlighted by Thompson and Porter (1997).

There is a need for funding to be made an essential part of research and development agenda in the fight against the continued spread of deadly pandemics like COVID-19, which on the whole is capable of impeding human scope of exploring diversified avenues of maintaining sustained livelihoods. Good health and well-being are considered vital here; this makes it very essential for risk strategies to be incorporated into the profile of building health capacity to combat a near collapse of the world economy as revealed in the case with COVID-19 pandemic. Risk assessment should be made an essential part of the sustained well-being and opportunities for accessing livelihood assets. In this regard, the SLF in its current state could be deconstructed so as to factor the relevance of risk assessment where asset utilisation is concerned.

RELEVANCE FOR HUMAN SUSTAINABLE LIVING (BENEFITS AND LIMITATIONS)

There are myriad of benefits and limitations that can be ascribed to the current state of the SLF architecture in addressing sustained livelihoods for people in the global economy. When one takes a look at the SLF architecture developed by agencies like the Department for International Development (DFID), it seem quite comprehensive in exploring modality around asset / capital acquisition capable of supporting decent living for human beings in their environment. Issues around vulnerability is overtly attested within the SLF architecture, but a lot still needs to be done in terms of addressing the full extent of risks associated with on-going trends in human state of perturbed conditions. As addressed by Kranz (2001), sustainable livelihood concept and more so the SLF framework has provided the means for exploring issues of poverty in its entirety. In this situation, even though the use of the word poverty may be highly linked to under-developed economies in particular, the issues is now considered a global concern given the state of things with COVID-19. This in reality can be measured in light of the outlook connected with GDP per capita, which is now seen to be taking a downward (negative) trajectory across the world economy, and in the foreseeable future if intervention in scientific innovation in curative is not addressed as a priority.

As addressed by Kranz (2001: 2), the approach to decent well-being is not just about low income determination, but also measured on factors like poor health condition, illiteracy and lack of access to social welfare. These attributes are very uncommon to developed economies given the presence of transparent governance and management of institutions for those in public services. In the current state of global health pandemic as unearthed through COVID-19, one could easily be inclined to judge the state of high deaths to poverty, which is purely a subjective assessment. In economies like the UK and the USA, where the social service and health sectors are made integral part of life, human vulnerabilities were highly exposed, with recorded high death rates never seen in the 21st century. The incidence of COVID-19 brought with it new ways of assessing human vulnerabilities, which is now seen as a global phenomenon that threatens lives, irrespective of status in society.

High incidence of deaths for the elderly in many of the care homes in the UK for example, is not a reflection of neglect. This to a greater extent has thrown doubts about the level of priority attached to caring for the elderly as witnessed with COVID-19 (Plimmer and Clark, April 24, 2020). Such occurrences would certainly cast aspersion on the approach to asset management as utilised in the SLF architecture. In this regard, one would certainly affirm that the SLF is not sufficiently guided on how best to identify risks associated with incidences of shocks. The emergence of COVID-19 came as a surprise to

the world economy, which demonstrate the unpreparedness of economies to face the threat of a global health pandemic. One way in which risks associated with the limitations of SLF can be addressed is to ensure risk assessment procedures are vividly incorporated within the framework, with consideration given to the peculiarity of individual economies. Such operation will need to be monitored by international institutions like the United Nations as spearheaded in the launch of the SDG agendas in 2030.

EQUALITY DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD APPROACH AND RELATIONS WITH THE SDG FRAMEWORK

It is very essential that the approach to addressing sustainable livelihood is sufficient in making the ecosphere an equitable place to live, irrespective of age, sex, ethnicity and religious background. COVID-19 has brought with it some underlying challenges across the world in dealing with human pursued efforts on sustained well-being. For example, in a country like the UK, risks to ethnic minority front-line staff (Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics and many more) became very prominent during the fight against COVID-19. On account of this, the UK government was quite honest in its approach to commissioning detailed research in addressing the concerns, which is associated with the drive of reducing inequalities to human race (The Health Foundation, May 2020). It was quite clear that ethnic minorities in many of the developed economies are more exposed to risks, given their thirst to pursue work or livelihood activities that are geared towards sustaining well-being for families, both in the domicile nations and country of origin (Open Democracy, 8th May, 2020).

On a general note, the sustainable livelihood concept as exemplified in the SLF architecture is a perfect base for addressing all of the SDG components earmarked for full implementation in 2030. On account of the incidence of COVID-19, reducing poverty (core element of SDG) should and will continue to be a highly focused discourse for communities around the world economy. Despite the overwhelming pressure experienced by governments (particularly in countries most highly affected by the crisis), the emphasis was highly focused in ensuring those considered vulnerable are protected through accessible livelihood capabilities. Such capabilities incorporated direct means of cash disbursement to citizens in the USA (Hardy an Ziliac, March, 2020) and mandatory sheltered accommodation for the homeless as announced by the UK Prime-minister, Boris Johnson – an essential component in addressing SDG2 and SDG3 (Homeless Links, March 2020). Such packaged support is a welcoming boost, but the critical contention here is to do with its continuity in protecting those considered to be vulnerable, rather than being seen as a '*one-off action*'.

In the process of addressing equality and minimising risk to lives during the difficult time of COVID-19 pandemic, schools and educational institutions were mandated to close in almost every country in the global economy. Given the importance of human resource development as emphasised on the SLF architecture, it is but certain that attention is paid in ensuring education is continuously pursued as the engine to addressing people's present and future well-being.

In order to ensure equality of educational provision is made accessible to all, educational institutions (including schools and universities) in developed economies opted to delivering lessons and exams via dedicated online learning platforms, which is well in supports of the SDG5 agenda. One would be very much inclined to question the efficacy of the approach, but in reality, given the prevailing circumstances of restricted access in public places, the idea of Schumpeter's Creative-destruction theory is sure to take centre stage in diluting the adverse impact of COVID-19 pandemic (Jackson, 2020b).

As the calamity of COVID-19 continue to unfold itself (adversely) from mid-March 2020, so too was the relevance of addressing risk posed to loss of livelihoods on account of extended lockdown to economies. This was seen as a mandatory means to saving lives, particularly the vulnerable. The benefit of the SLF architecture meant that, capabilities like (personalized) physical assets, associated with sheltered accommodation and technology gadgets (notably, personal laptops or desktop computers) were considered highly valuable to protect people's livelihoods through access to remote work opportunities. In addition, the use of fiscal stimulus packages provided by governments across the globe also helped in safeguarding vulnerable groups from continued risks posed to well-being and the prolongment of lives (essential element of SDG8, 9, 10 and 11).

The need for continuous research and development to fight against the spread of a global pandemic like COVID-19 is now seen as the most essential part of governments' effort across the global. This is epitomised as a global challenge in protecting life on land (an essential element of SDG15). The effort to protect citizens' lives is still part of the equality agenda for governments. Despite the slow-pace approach of children returning to traditional form of classroom learning, it is very essential that robust risk assessment modalities are set in place to prevent a resurgence of the crisis. As initially emphasised with the shortcomings of the SLF architecture, governments are now making efforts to encapsulated risk assessment as part of their strategies for the safe return of people to normal life. Highlights of such strategies include return to work, religious faiths of worship in Churches and Mosques for example, and finally, the children returning to normal mode of classroom learning (Menoni and Schwarze, 2020). To address future calamities, risk assessment should be made part of the stride to implementing the SDGs by the year 2030 and also, an additive to the current SLF architecture.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD ON EQUITABLE LIVING CONDITIONS

The SLF architecture in its current state by no doubt has proved very useful in addressing pertinent concerns around the essentials of maintaining sustained livelihoods for people, particularly in the under-privileged regions of the world economy. As already highlighted, the SLF is not very well designed to accommodate the realities of pandemic – the incidence of COVID-19 inadvertently exposed the unpreparedness of the world economy to embrace large-scale pandemic in general.

The relevance of addressing the core livelihood asset requirements for human sustained livelihoods and security has been very well captured in the current profile of the SLF. With a critical dissection of it, there is certainly a need to ensure thorough risk assessment profile is incorporated within the SLF in a bid to support the resilience and sustainability of human endeavours and prolonged well-being. COVID-19 is a real test of how best human beings can cope in time of distress, particularly when the situation is more about natural disaster. While efforts are continuously being made to support humanity from an escalating spread of COVID-19, the extent of vulnerabilities people are exposed to in some parts of the world (owing to the lack of tangible assets) is a real attestation of humanity's continued exploitation of the ecosphere in pursuit of meeting basic livelihood needs.

Critically speaking, there is a need for world leaders to make it a matter of urgency to address areas of importance that are critical for the sustained survival of the human race, irrespective of status in society. Highlighted areas of the sustainable development goals that needs special attention in maintaining the hope of assured and sustained

livelihoods for citizens in the global community should encapsulate: SDG3, SDG4, SDG5, SDG8, SDG9 and SDG16 (notably, Good Health, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure and finally, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions respectively). These in part, are highly linked to the SLF architecture, with its embodied components comprising “Vulnerability Contexts, Livelihood Assets, Transforming Structures and Processes, and Livelihood Strategies”. These are considered essential in ensuring successful livelihood outcome is achieved in the global community.

As emphasised earlier, proactive effort must be stepped up by governments and development agencies globally to ensure those considered highly at risk or vulnerable, for example women, children and the disabled are availed special attention in order to alleviate their condition as revealed with COVID-19 (UNDP, May 21, 2020). It is on this note, that the UN then made an effort in committing itself towards ensuring institutions and governments across the world pursued concerted efforts in embracing the achievement of the SDGs by the year 2030, despite the continued threat of COVID-19. On that note and more so in the fight to reduce inequalities for vulnerable groups like women, the Deputy Executive Director, Åsa Regnér expressed that: “*The United Nations – and our global network of country offices -- will support all Governments to ensure that the global economy and the people we serve emerge stronger from this crisis*” (UN, 23rd March 2020).

On a very important note, it is highly recommended that working partnership is established so that both the SDGs and SLF architecture are reviewed to accommodate space for cooperative actions, in ensuring the focus of the 2030 SDG target is achieved. In this regards, those working in the frontline of delivering the scope for people to realise their potential of accessing assets (as specified in the SLF) are able to do so through dedicated research activities. In this regard, development agencies and governments must seek to provide necessary resources (financial in this case) to make sure those with specialist knowledge utilise available strategies connected with mixed methodologies in exploring ways of combating risks to human vulnerability during pandemic. COVID-19 is a real test of human resilience and strengths to understand nature, while at the same time making it possible for human ingenuity (connected with research and development) to mitigate adverse impact of shocks to human sustained well-being.

In view of the highlighted definition from Scoones and that of the authors risk component, there is a need for ‘equality’ to be incorporated as essential element in the fight against global pandemic. This brings to light, the relevance of building or strengthening institutions, notably “*social services and community network operations*” (Jackson and Jackson, 2017), which people have leveraged on throughout the turmoil of COVID-19 in supporting those without the relevant capabilities or required assets (namely, financial, physical as in housing, health assets). COVID-19 is a real test of human conscience, particularly on the understanding that natural pandemic can expose the vulnerability of people, institutions and governments in particular, regardless of social, ethnic background or wealth status. This now makes it mandatory for those in governance to promote equality of access to the essential requirements of life, already epitomised in the SLF architecture. This requires attention in embedding risk assessment components in every part of human endeavours, notably the current SLF architecture and the SDG framework to enable people to secure relevant assets to cope in time of distress or shock. It is also very important to note that those needing specialised asset(s) to protect their safety, for example, sheltered accommodation are equitably supported

through social housing schemes to minimise their state of vulnerability, not only during periods of pandemic, but throughout the year in a bid to reducing inequalities.

On the way forward, COVID-19 has proved to be a real test of resilience for the world economy, particularly state leaders and those in governance of international institutions to think critically through the proposed implementation of the SDGs in the year 2030. The reality of how best to cope in the aftermath of such devastating state of calamity (possible recession and depression in some regions of the world economy) are yet to be unearthed as already predicted by economists around, with governments already in an overwhelming state to open or relax lockdown measures in a bid to keeping economic activities moving (Baldwin and Mauro, 2020; Fernandes, 2020; Lucas, 2020). Despite distress people have faced across the global economy, relaxing lockdown measure is very much needed in a bid to help people explore a range of livelihood opportunities that has already being missed. This is also relevant to support essential revenue channels for governments to execute their duty of care to citizens, more so those considered to be highly at risk (in term so of medical conditions and many more). The most important of these as the situation unveil itself is resource capacity to invest in research and development operations in a bid to explore possible cure for COVID-19, while at the same time, exploring ways and means of mitigating risks to human existence that could likely impede their access to diversified means of livelihood assets. In this situation, there is a need for postmodern thinking to act swiftly in deconstructing the current SLF architecture such that Human Capital for example, could address risks associated with health and well-being, separately. As revealed in the situation with COVID-19, high quality manpower skillset or educational background is no guarantee for sustained and secure livelihood(s) when the emergence of a pandemic is capable of placing people in high risk of vulnerability. Therefore, there is a need for concerted and collaborative efforts from development agencies and the UN in particular to make sure the SLF architecture and SDGs incorporative of risk assessment profile. This will help minimise human exposure to high level of vulnerability in the event that another wave of global pandemic (not only limited to COVID-19) is to unearth itself in the face of the world economy. The world economy will ever continue to be at risk as human beings explore variety of means to sustain decent living conditions, given the continued rate of growth in the world's population. Economics is at play here and this is to do with the insatiability of resources to support the ever-growing needs of a rising human race or population. The most important and assured way of protecting lives in the world is to make sure those in authority do not relent in addressing risks to human exploration, as currently addressed in the caution against climate change catastrophe, and in addition, concerns connected with events like cyber-attach.

CROSS-REFERENCES

- Sustainable Livelihoods
- Sustainable Development Goals
- Equity and Equality

REFERENCES

- Amalric F (1998) *The Sustainable Livelihoods Approach: General Report of the Sustainable Livelihoods Project 1995–1997*. Society for International Development, Rome.
- Baldwin R, di Mauro BW (2020) Introduction. In: Baldwin R, di Mauro BW (ed) *Mitigating the COVID-19 Economic Crisis: Act Fast and Do Whatever It Takes*, Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) Press, London.
- Barton H, Grant M, Guise R (2003) *Shaping neighbourhoods: A guide for health, sustainability and vitality*. Taylor and Francis Books, Spon Press, London and New York.
- Brown O, Crawford A (2012) *Conservation and Peacebuilding in Sierra Leone*. International Institute for Sustainable Development. http://www.iisd.org/pdf/2012/iisd_conservation_in_Sierra_Leone.pdf. Accessed 13th June 2020.
- Clarke J, Carney D (2008) *Sustainable livelihoods approaches – what have we learned?* Background paper, ESRC Livelihoods Seminar, 13 October 2008. Livelihoods Connect. Institute of Development Studies (IDS, Brighton).
- Cline-Cole RA, Robson E (2016) *West African Worlds: Paths Through Socio-Economic Change, Livelihoods and Development*. Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group, UK.
- Cline-Cole R (1998) Knowledge Claims and Landscape: Alternative Views of the Fuelwood-Degradation Nexus in Northern Nigeria. *Journal of Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 16(3): 311-346. doi: 10.1068/d160311.
- de Haan LJ, Zoomers A (2006) How to Research the Changing Outlines of African Livelihood. *Africa Development*, XXXI(4): 121–150.
- DFID (2000) *Eliminating World Poverty: Making Globalisation Work for the Poor*, White Paper on International Development. Stationery Office, London.
- DFID (1999) *Sustainable Livelihoods and Poverty Elimination*. Department for International Development, London.
- Farrington J, Carney D, Ashley, Turton C (1999) '*Sustainable livelihoods in practice: early application of concepts in rural areas*', *Natural Resources Perspectives* 42. Overseas Development Institute, London.
- Fernandes N (2020) Economic effects of coronavirus outbreak (COVID-19) on the World Economy. SSRN Working Paper 3557504.
- Gentilini U, Almenfi M, Orton I, Dale P (2020) Social protection and jobs responses to COVID-19: A real-time review of country measures. World Bank Live Document. <https://www.ugogentilini.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/global-review-of-social-protection-responseto-COVID-19-2.pdf>. Accessed 28th May 2020.

- Hardy B, Ziliac JP (2020) Money, Money, Money: The fiscal response to COVID-19. <https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/03/24/money-money-money-the-fiscal-response-to-covid-19/amp/>. Accessed 27th May 2020.
- Homeless Link (2020) COVID-19 and homelessness: Actions for Government. <https://www.homeless.org.uk/connect/blogs/2020/mar/24/covid-19-and-homelessness-actions-for-government>. Accessed 27th May 2020.
- Jackson C (1996) 'Rescuing Gender from the Poverty Trap', *World Development* 24(3): 489-504.
- Jackson EA (2020a) Emerging innovative thoughts on globalization amidst the contagion of COVID-19. In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Özuyar P., Ozuyar, P.G. (ed.) *Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-71059-4_131-1.
- Jackson EA (2020b) Fostering sustainable innovation through creative destruction theory, In: Leal Filho W., Azul A., Brandli L., Özuyar P., Ozuyar, P.G. (ed.) *Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham (in press).
- Jackson EA, Jackson HF (2017) 'The role of Corporate Social Responsibility in improving firms' business in the directions of sustainable development, accountability and transparency'. *African J. Economic and Sustainable Development* 6(2/3): 105–118. doi: 10.1504/AJESD.2017.089942.
- Jackson EA, Jabbie M (2020) Twin Deficits hypothesis as an indication of government failure in Sierra Leone: An empirical investigation (1980 – 2018). *Journal of Economic Policy Researches* 7(1): 43-68. doi: 10.266R658440.
- Jackson EA, Jackson J (2020) Global Perspectives on Gender Sensitivity and Economic Benefits. In Walters L, Filho et al (eds.). *Gender Equality: Encyclopedia of Sustainable Development Goal*, Springer Nature Publisher. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-70060-1_61-1.
- Jahn I, Bornhorst C, Gunther F, Brand T (2017) Examples of sex/gender sensitivity in epidemiological research: results of an evaluation of original articles published in JECH 2006-2014. *Health Research Policy and Systems*, 15(11): pp. 1-10. doi: 10.1186/s12961-0174-z.
- Jean MF (2002) Corruption in Neo-Patrimonial States of Sub-Saharan Africa In: Heidenheimer AJ, Johnston M (eds), *Political Corruption: Concepts and Contexts*, Transaction, New Brunswick, 379-402.
- Kabeer N (1990) 'Poverty, purdah, and women's survival strategies in rural Bangladesh', In: Bernstein B, Mackintosh CM, Martin C (eds), *The Food Question. Profits Versus People?* Earthscan Preess, London.
- Kranz L (2001) *The Sustainable Livelihood Approach to Poverty Reduction: An Introduction*. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

https://www.sida.se/contentassets/bd474c210163447c7963d77c64148a/the-sustainable-livelihood-approach-to-poverty-reduction_2656.pdf. Accessed 28th May 2020.

Loayza NV, Pennings S (2020) Macroeconomic policy in the time of COVID-19: A Primer for Developing Countries. World Bank eLibrary. doi: 10.1596/33540.

Lucas B (2020) Impact of COVID-19 on Inclusive Economic Growth in Middle-income Countries. <https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/handle/20.500.12413/15310>. Accessed 30th May 2020.

Marmot M (2007) Achieving health equity: From root causes to fair outcomes. *The Lancet*, 370(9593): 1153-1163. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(07)61385-3.

Menoni S, Schwarze R (2020) Recovery during a crisis: Facing the challenges of risk assessment and resilience management of COVID-19. *Environment Systems and Decisions*, (Online First): 1-10. doi: 10.1007/s10669-020-09775-y.

Morse S, McNamara N, Acholo M (2009) Sustainable Livelihood Approach: A Critical Analysis of Theory and Practice. Geographical Paper No. 189. Department of Geography, University of Reading.

Open Democracy (2020) In times of crisis, diaspora groups know what to do. <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/north-africa-west-asia/times-crisis-diaspora-groups-know-what-do/>. Accessed 31st May 2020.

Ozili PK, Arun T (2020) Spillover of COVID-19: Impact of the Global Economy. Social Science Research Network (SSRN), Paper No 3562570.

Plimmer G, Clark P (2020) Inside UK care homes: Why the system is failing its coronavirus test? <https://www.ft.com/content/86d9807e-2a47-47v2-8dff-8ab50b16e036>. Accessed 31st May 2020.

Ridic G, Gleason S, Ridic O (2012) Comparisons of health care systems in the United States, Germany and Canada. *Materia socio-medica*, 24(2): 112-120. doi: 10.5455/msm.2012.24.112-120.

Scoones I (1998) 'Sustainable Rural Livelihoods: a framework for analysis'. IDS Working Paper No 72.

Sohrabi, C., Alsafi, Z., O'Neill, N., Khan, M., Kerwan, A., Al-Jabir, A., Iosifidis, C., and gha, R. (2020). World Health Organisation declares global emergency: A review of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19). *International Journal of Surgery*, Vol. 76(2020): pp. 71-76. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijsu.2020.02.034>.

The Health Foundation (2020) Emerging findings on the impact of COVID-19 on black and minority ethnic people. <https://www.health.org.uk/news-and-comments/charts-and-infographics/emerging-findings-on-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-black-and-min>. Accessed 30th May 2020.

Thompson B, Porter G. (1997) Governmental corruption in Africa: Sierra Leone as a case study. *Crime, law and social change*, 28(2): 137-154. doi: 10.1023/A:1008216425456.

UNDP 2020 COVID-19 sparks urgency around justice for women, new report calls for action.

https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2020/COVID19_sparks_justice_for_women_new_report_calls_action.html. Accessed 29th May 2020.

Yu M, Li Z, Yu Z, He J, Zhou J (2020) Communication related health crisis on social media: A case of COVID-19 outbreak. *Current Issues in Tourism*: 1-7. doi: 10.1080/13683500.2020.1752632.