

SESSION 9:

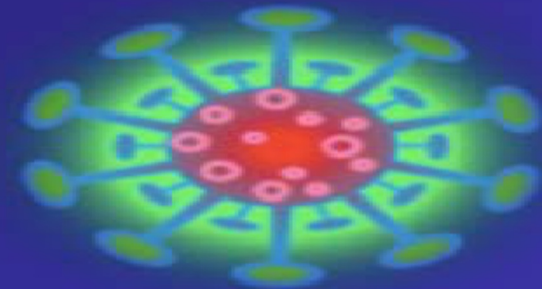
Green Recovery Approaches

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COVID-19

UNDP's Integrated Response



Post COVID-19: environmental concerns continue

1. Global CO₂ emissions: Post COVID-19, continues to climb rapidly
2. Air pollution is reported to be again rising
3. Water pollution is increasing after economic activity has resumed
4. Waste management challenges has increased significantly with major increases in medical waste, increased demand for single-use packaging plastics (food delivery, healthcare, e-commerce), near collapse of recycled plastics market
5. Human interference with biodiversity: deforestation, habitat degradation and fragmentation, agriculture intensification, wildlife trade and climate change are back to pre-pandemic levels

Recovery creates space for a paradigm shift

1. The pandemic and the ensuing economic crisis have underscored the importance of environmental health and resilience as a critical complement to public health.
2. Better air quality, improved water quality, effective waste management, and enhanced biodiversity protection will reduce the vulnerability of communities to pandemics, and improve overall societal well-being and resilience
3. Strong recognition of the Interconnected of systems forcing coordinated action
4. Opportunity to use fiscal stimulus packages to address social and environmental risks increasing resilience and addressing the bigger threat of Climate Change

Key Recovery strategies from pandemic

1. **Health first:** Saving Lives through increased health spending and vaccination coverage
2. **Protecting the most vulnerable:** Social Insurance and Social Assistance programmes
3. Ensuring **food security** and expanding agriculture production
4. Enabling **digitalization** in the economies
5. **Livelihood assistance** : jobs creation; Rebuild skills, nurture and increase women's participation in the workforce, increase food production and distribution
6. **Longer Term Measures:** Improved supply chain management , improved infrastructure, reimagining space

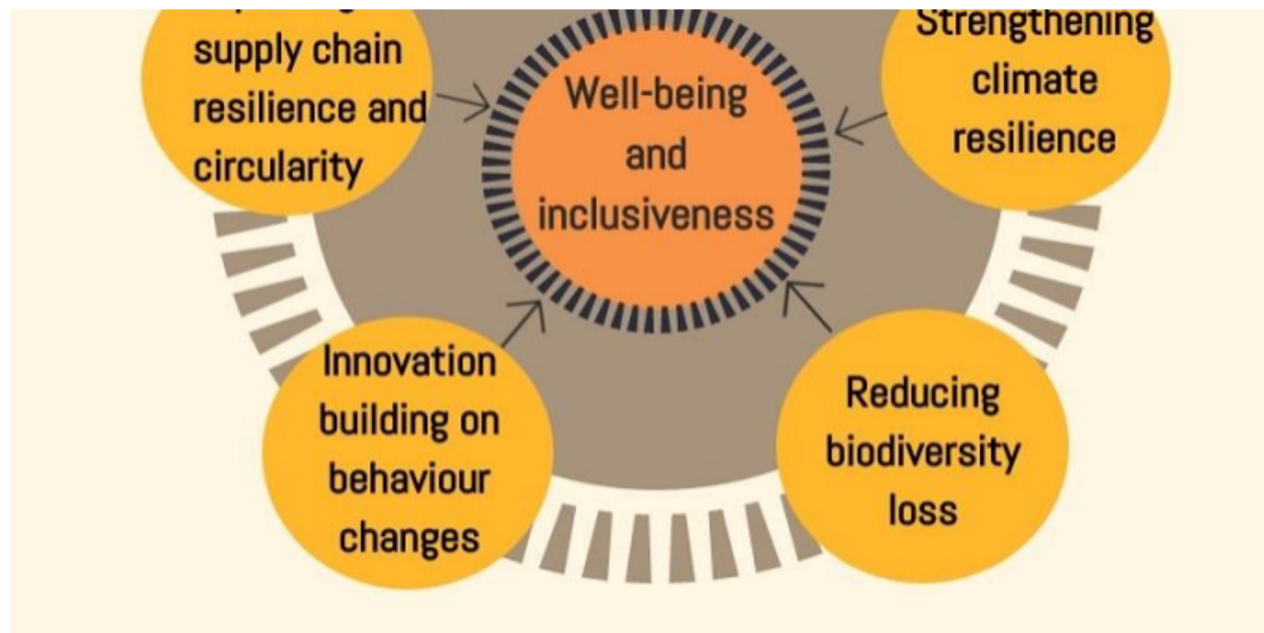
Green Recovery Opportunities

1. **Sustainable and resilient agriculture:** Green recovery improves
 - i. long-term productivity, sustainability, and resilience of global food systems
 - ii. encourages use of natural resources, lowers emissions, enhances climate change adaptation
2. **Unleashing innovation:** Creation and diffusion of new products, processes and methods to create new businesses and jobs, increasing productivity.
3. **Creation of “green jobs”** in various sectors and activities such as renewables, which is much needed for post COVID-19 socio-economic recovery
4. **Towards fairer, greener economies:** Fundamental restructuring of sectors, activities
 - i. supports transition to low-emission, climate-resilient and resource-efficient economies

Scope for Greening and BBB in Recovery

1. Various “green” sectors and activities offer significant prospects for job creation.
(ecosystem restoration; renewable energy, organic farming, reskilling)
2. New Investments in water and sanitation; access to transportation; affordable and reliable energy; digital connectivity and E commerce platforms
3. Diversified and localized production and shorter supply chains in selected sectors
4. Decongestion of cities to larger rural spaces in Developed Economies, need for improved space and energy efficiency in housing as people WFH, better use of public transport infrastructure and shift from cars to electric scooters and bikes with space to accommodate such traffic, space for enhancing exercise and leisure activities

Examples of Action (2 of 4)



Examples of Action (1 of 5): South Africa

SOUTH AFRICA RECOVERY STRATEGY

PRESERVE

- Respond to the health crisis
- Support 8.2 million who are already food insecure
- Remember informal workers, women, children and other vulnerable groups.
- Leave no one behind.

RECOVER

- Support small, medium and micro enterprises
- Build the nexus between agriculture and food security
- Resume education and provide non temporary sanitation with public works programmes

PIVOT

- Plant the seeds of growth now
- Use expanded public works to invest in green economy
- Provide sanitation in schools and communities
- Bridge the digital divide. Build back better.

Examples of Action (2 of 5): Eswatini

REDUCE VULNERABILITY & INEQUALITY

Strengthen Community Care Points to serve the most vulnerable

Improve the delivery of education to include blended learning

State funded education for students from low-income households

Continuing education for learners lost

Vaccinate the public and restore public health services, increase health budget

Social protection to informal and other excluded workers;

Ensure shock responsive social protection

ECONOMIC GROWTH

Re skilling of Women Farmers- provide support in-kind

Youth Entrepreneurship training for re-orientation and diversification of 10 000 (over 3 years) enterprises

Focus on agri-business and agro-processing; develop links with global value chain to increase incomes & create decent jobs

Support micro and small businesses with credit, entrepreneurship orientation, training, capacity building, handholding support.

NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS

Introduce Community Gardens to provide food & to ensure sustainability among the poorest

Improve techniques for water harvesting at the community level

Install solar powered submersible hand pumps, to reduce the risk of contracting COVID at collection centres

Increase water access for hygiene promotion + Awareness and sensitization

Fast track implementation of energy efficient programmes meant to drive socio-economic recovery of households

GOOD GOVERNANCE

Encourage Public, Private Sector partnership (PPP) to develop digital infrastructure for e-Governance and connectivity at schools and communities

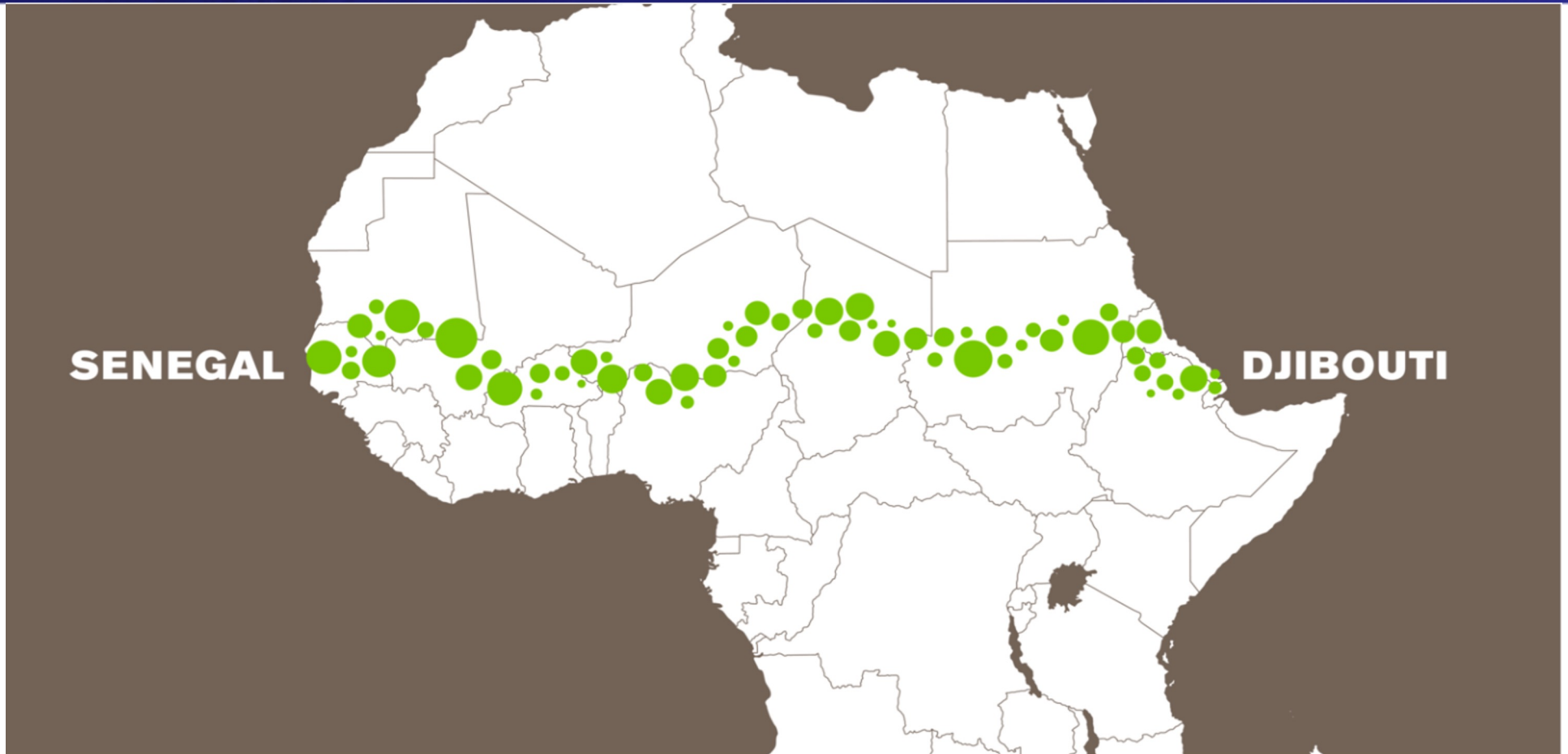
Strengthen data collection, sharing, and management processes

Enable digital access services to strengthen business continuity

Strengthen COVID-19 surveillance in case management

Strengthen cross-border collaboration to support accelerated procurement processes of goods

Examples of Action (3 of 5): Great Green Wall in Africa



GREAT GREEN WALL INITIATIVE: Launched in 2007 by the African Union, the game-changing African-led Great Green Wall initiative aims to restore the continent's degraded landscapes and transform millions of lives in the Sahel. It resulted in plantation of 8,000 kms of trees, land regeneration, better food security, livelihoods and improved water services.

Examples of Action (4 of 5): Africa Green Recovery Plan

1. Supporting renewable energy, energy efficiency and national **Just Transition** programmes
2. **Nature based Solutions (NbS)** and focus on biodiversity through work on sustainable land management, forestry, oceans and ecotourism
3. **Resilient agriculture**, by focusing on inclusive economic development and creating green jobs
4. **Green and resilient cities**, including a focus on water (flooding and water resources management); enhancing adoption of ICT.

Examples of Action (5 of 5): Kerala, India

Post Floods 2018, “Green Habitat” recovery initiative by Kerala Govt, India.

1. Concept necessitated by: danger posed by unscientific construction practices, scarcity of conventional building materials.
2. Buildings, under this concept, to use maximum natural sunlight and wind, reduce usage of electricity, promote use of roof-top solar.
3. Adopt eco-friendly, reusable building materials.
4. A rainwater harvesting or natural water storage system would be a sure feature of such 'green' buildings, where even kitchen and drainage water would be recycled and reused for other household purposes.

Discussions