

## United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship

### Assignment A – SDG Goal 8.3 (POS120 or 285) (group)

**SDG Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

**Target 3:** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services.

Access to credit is an overlooked but vital component to economic growth. The more barriers there are to credit, the harder it is for the poor to lift themselves out of poverty through starting small enterprises. This also creates a drag on the economic growth of the larger economy. These barriers are summarized by the World Bank: <https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/five-challenges-prevent-financial-access-people-developing-countries>.

The United Nations is concerned that these barriers are only growing with the COVID crisis: [https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2020\\_Page\\_15.png](https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-07/The-Sustainable-Development-Goals-Report-2020_Page_15.png).

It is quite difficult to find reliable information on access to credit in rural parts of the developing world. To get an appreciation of how intractable these barriers are, we will evaluate access to credit in rural areas of a developed country, namely rural Arizona.

**Assignment:** As a group, you are to create a resource hub of local resources that support access to capital in rural and poor communities in Arizona and that encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises. This resource hub will be shared publicly as an OER resource.

The hub can be a simple list of nonprofit groups or NGOs that specialize in promoting access to credit or it can be a fully functioning website with visuals and links to these organizations. The list should be annotated, with a description of the organization, the strategies it uses to promote access to credit and/or the growth of new businesses, its area of operations, and at least one case study or example of the resource in operation. Your list will have a minimum of 3 sources, with an A paper containing at least 5 sources.

#### Rubric (50 pts)

Description of organization -15	Provide example for 5 or more resources – 15
List and annotate 5 or more resources – 15	Provide example for 3-4 resources – 10
List and annotate 3-4 resources – 10	Provide example for 1 resource - 5
List and annotate 1 resource - 5	Professionalism - 5
Description of strategy - 15	Citations provided and few typos – 5 pts
Outline strategy for 5 or more resources – 15	No citations or lots of typos – 3 pts
Outline strategy for 3-4 resources – 10	This is truly embarrassing – 0 pts
Outline strategy for 1 resource - 5	
Example or case - 15	

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### Assignment B – SDG Goal 8.5 – 8.8 (POS 120 or 285) (individual)

**SDG Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

**Target 5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.

**Target 6:** By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

**Target 7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labor in all its forms.

**Target 8:** Protect labor rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

An important part of sustainable development is ensuring that all members of a society have access to opportunities for meaningful employment under respectful conditions. Targets 5 through 8 offer ambitious objectives for the global community. It is tempting to think that only developing countries need worry about these targets, but every country continues to struggle with them, including the United States. A deeper look at one of these targets in a local context will uncover some of the many barriers to progress on these targets.

**Assignment:** Research and analyze a current state, county, or city statute, regulation, or policy that impacts (1) wages (from a lens of gender, race, age, ability equity), (2) work-related injuries, (3) agricultural workers, (4) child labor, **or** (5) workers with disabilities. In a two page well written paper, provide an analysis on the pros and cons of the statute, regulation, or policy, including suggestions on how to improve language or explain why the language is effective. Your paper will be made available as an OER tool for others.

#### Rubric (50 pts)

##### Identify statute - 15

- Statute reference is specific and documented - 15
- Statue is referred to informally and generally - 10
- No evidence the statute actually exists - 5

##### Analysis- 15

- Rich description, erudite analysis - 15
- Basic description, some analysis - 10
- Poor description, no analysis - 5

##### Criticism or defense- 15

- Pros and cons of statute are given, clear position taken - 15
- Pros and cons of statute are given or clear position taken, but not both -10
- Treatment is one-sided or student position is unclear - 5

##### Professionalism – 5 pts

- Citations provided and few typos – 5 pts
- No citations or lots of typos – 3 pts
- This is truly embarrassing – 0 p

## United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship

### Assignment C – SDG Goal 8.4 (POS 120 or 285) (group or individual)

**SDG Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

**Target 4:** Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavor to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead

Part of the effort to “decouple” economic activity from environmental impact is to reduce or even eliminate the carbon or material footprint of a business or activity. Carbon footprint is relatively easy to determine by measuring the energy required to produce or good or service or engage in an activity, then compare that with the carbon cost to produce that energy locally. But what does “material footprint” mean? This is a larger measure of the inputs required to make a good or service or engage in an activity. These include not just energy, but raw materials, human labor, even the opportunity cost of the space being used.

**Assignment:** Assess the material footprint of a local business. List all of the input costs for the main product or service marketed by the business. Identify any way to reduce the material cost by increased efficiencies or replacing inputs with less costly substitutes (in material terms). Conclude with a discussion of whether any of the costs associated with the material footprint are uncaptured externalities, and any policy implications your findings suggest.

#### Rubric – 50pts

- List of the material costs of inputs - 15 pts
  - The list is comprehensive and well-sourced. – 15
  - The list is partial or not well-sourced -10
  - The list is both partial and not well-sourced.-5
- Proposal to reduce material cost of inputs – 15 pts
  - Plan is viable – 15
  - Plan is possible – 10
  - Plan relies on rainbows and unicorns – 5
- Externality Policy Plan – 15 pts
  - Rich description, erudite analysis - 15
  - Basic description, some analysis - 10
  - Poor description, no analysis - 5
- Professionalism – 5 pts
  - Citations provided and few typos – 5
  - No citations or lots of typos – 3
  - This is truly embarrassing – 0

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