

A Roadmap to Establishment of Global Citizens' Investment Fund for Full Attainment of SDGs ; Towards a Global Citizens' Movement to Persuade the Ultra-High-Net-Value-Individuals, and to Let the Global Power Elites Act

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Based on the following facts and possibilities, an investment fund called the Global Citizens' Investment Fund for Full Attainment of SDGs can be created in order to control the dominant Transnational Corporation Finance Group (TNCFG), and to promote full attainment of SDGs.

The facts are as follows: 1) The TNCFG, or a group of less than 20 gigantic private investment funds which connect each other by mutual shareholding, dominates almost all major transnational corporations (TNCs) including Mega-Banks, GAFAM, Lockheed-Martin, etc., as big activist shareholders, and promotes the TNCs to seek maximum profit instead of SDGs attainment. 2) The global power elites, or a community of top elites of politicians, military-forces, information-media, and TNCs are supporting such acts of TNCFG. 3) The TNCFG are dominated by their shareholders, which are mainly the High-net-worth-individuals (HNWIs), or super rich. 4) The human society and SDGs attainment is in crisis, while wealth and population of HNWIs have increased steadily since 2015 instead of slight decline in 2022.

The possibilities are as follows: 1) Shareholders of an investment fund can control management of the corporations, using proxy advisors as their agents at each corporation's annual general meetings. 2) Such an investment fund can be a big transnational holding company which can control all TNCs towards SDGs attainment. 3) The fund can be organized according to the following criteria: a) Purpose as full SDGs attainment with UN Principles of Responsible Investment. b) Open to all human-beings above 18 and willing to pursue the purpose of the fund. c) Funded by donations from all major TNCFG, TNCs and individuals. d) Pass-through of portfolio income to shareholders in equal proportion on a regular basis. e) Shareholders would not be allowed to buy, sell or bequeath their shares. f) Fund administrators cannot trade the stocks in its portfolio but must hold them indefinitely. g) Shareholders can vote the share of each company's stock held in its portfolio.

A global citizens' movement should be organized accordingly by all NGOs to persuade the Ultra-High-Net-Value-Individuals, and to let the Global Power Elites act.

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Domestic and International Trends on the SDGs from an NGO Perspective

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The Civil Society Network on SDGs (SDGs Japan), to which the author belongs, is a network of civil society organizations (CSOs) that aim to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Network has focused on policy advocacy activities since establishment in 2016.

Implementation of the SDGs has been stagnant or regressive since 2020; the COVID-19 pandemic has widened the gap; gender inequality and global warming have also contributed to widening disparities.

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023 which was prepared for the High-Level Political Forum in July 2023, looks at about 140 of the 169 assessable targets and finds that only 15% are "on track," and 37% are "stagnant or regressing", compared to the 2015 baseline, and 48% are "moderately or significantly off track".

Amid widening disparities and stagnation in the realization of the SDGs, SDGs Japan has emphasized the importance of poverty and disparity measures based on human rights guarantees in order to realize a society in which "no one is left behind". In the revision of the SDG implementation guidelines for 2023, SDGs Japan is playing a leading role in submitting its public opinions to the government.

SDGs Japan will continue to pick up the voices of women, children, the elderly, the disabled, immigrants, and others who are often left behind, and work to protect the rights of those who are placed in vulnerable positions.

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