

1. What are the potentials/opportunities, as well as limits for global economic growth and convergence given the environmental planetary boundaries? What are the implications for economic policies?
2. What are the factors affecting the job prospects for the youth today in various parts of the world? In your country? How should governments and private sector respond?
3. What the particular sustainable development challenges and opportunities facing your country? What are the promising strategies that can promote sustainable development (think in terms of the four dimensions) and how can these best be implemented?
4. What are the potentials and limitations of social entrepreneurship in promoting inclusive economic development? Discuss a specific example of social entrepreneurship and the potential of such an approach in your country or in developing countries.
5. What are the present strategies or models for valuing ecosystem services? What are the potentials and limitations of these models and how can they be realistically implemented? Illustrate with a case from your country, or from an Asian country.
6. How can businesses or corporations play a role in inclusive economic development? Many multinational corporations are making the transition from Corporate Social Responsibility to Sustainability. What are the differences between these approaches and can you provide a critique of how business/corporations have performed with respect to sustainable development?
7. The Food and Agriculture Organization has declared 2014 as the International Year of Family Farming. What are the challenges and opportunities for small-holder farmers? What does sustainable development mean for small-holder famers and what are potential strategies for making sustainable development effective for this sector?
8. What is link between peace and poverty? Can a country be too poor for peace? Or, is it the other way around: is peace a pre-condition for economic development? Illustrate your argument with examples.

9. The World Economic Forum releases a World Risk Report on an annual basis. Based on WEF's report, what is the risk outlook for the next 10 years and what impact will this have on the global efforts on sustainable development? What is your own assessment of the risks presented by the WEF and what do you see as the possible ways forward?

10. Given the increasing frequency and intensity of disaster events in the past ten years, what are the challenges to governments, business, and local communities in terms of climate change mitigation and adaptation? In the absence of a global agreement, how can local stakeholders respond to the challenge of climate change? Illustrate with examples.

11. What are the factors involved in achieving food security for a growing population - what are the challenges and what are the opportunities? How do you think food security can be achieved, and what policies are needed to facilitate this? Illustrate with examples.

12. The concept of sustainable development was introduced in 1987 (Brundtland Report). Twenty years after Rio, what is your analysis or critique of how sustainable development has been implemented? If you were to prepare a draft set of Sustainable Development Goals (keeping in mind the 4 dimensions of sustainable development), what would you propose and what would be your strategy for achieving the goals?

13. Water is high on the list of global risks. What are three main challenges with respect to water in your country? What are the current strategies for managing these challenges? How do these strategies incorporate the different dimensions of sustainable development?

14. Economic development/growth is resulting in rapid urbanization. What are the top three issues facing the major cities in your country? Given the many challenges and impact of urbanization, how can this growth be sustained? How can sustainable development be addressed in terms of urbanization?

15. In what situations or contexts in your country is there a significant lack of peace or human security? What are the drivers of conflict? Who are the most affected or vulnerable? How does lack of peace affect development

in your examples? What do you see as effective ways to bring about peace?

16. What is your assessment of the focus on green economy? What are the strengths and limitations of the approach? What do you think the green economy means for your country? How do you propose that the “green economy” approach be developed or implemented in your country?
17. Sustainable livelihood is a challenge facing many communities. But how do communities participate in the global economy? What does inclusive economic development mean to you, and how can it be achieved: what policies, frameworks and conditions must be present to ensure inclusive economic development?
18. Identify the top 3 existing or emergent environmental/natural resource management threats in your country; assess the current and potential impacts on human development among affected people or communities; and propose recommendations to strategically address the impacts or threats to environmental sustainability, equity and/or human development.
19. In the past 20 years there has been some progress in terms of gender equality. Where have the most significant gains been made? What are the barriers to gender equality and what do you feel are the important concerns with respect to gender and sustainable development? Illustrate with examples.
20. Explain the links/relationships of climate change, justice and human rights. What are the implications of climate change on human rights, and how can human rights be safeguarded in light of climate change? What is a possible policy framework that can integrate the dimension of social justice in relation to climate change? Illustrate with examples.
21. There are different schools of thought with respect to poverty alleviation: some believe in increasing development aid, while others say that aid does more harm than good. What is your assessment of how financial aid is being delivered to developing countries? Give examples of successful and unsuccessful interventions and try to answer the question: what is the most effective way to help the poor?

22. What changes need to be made if we are to develop within the planetary boundaries and safe operating space for humanity? What does this new model of economic and social development look like? Reflect on these questions for your own country and illustrate the kinds of transformations that are necessary to achieve development within planetary boundaries.
23. What is the role of the youth in sustainable development? How are the youth being integrated into the sustainable development agenda? What are the challenges they face and how can they be better prepared to take on these responsibilities? Illustrate with examples.
24. What has the development experience been in Asia? In your country? How has development impacted on the environment and natural resource base of your country? What are the primary strategies or approaches for management and governance of natural resources in your country? Are these contributing to greater human security? Environmental sustainability?
25. What is your assessment of how your country has fared in terms of the Millennium Development Goals? (If you are not from a developing country, select a case country for your analysis/assessment.) Where did the country fare well or poorly? What were the conditions that enabled or hindered its progress? Can you propose a better approach for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, post-2015?
26. What do you think the level of awareness is in your country about sustainable development? Give examples to support your conclusion. What are the key messages/challenges in terms of sustainable development for your country and how can these be effectively communicated? What is the role of media in sustainable development?
27. What are the roles and responsibilities of civil society in relation to sustainable development? In your country, how has civil society been engaged in the dialogue or discussion on sustainable development? What is your assessment and how do you think civil society can move forward with a new sustainable development agenda? Illustrate with examples.
28. What is your own assessment of the theory of the "tragedy of the commons"? Discuss an example of how a "tragedy of the commons" situation happened--or did not happen--either from your country, from

your experience or from your research. What are your recommendations for the governance of common property resources--how can they best be managed?

29. There are many perspectives on human security. What is the dominant view today in terms of human security and what are the national strategies and programs for ensuring security? Give examples. Present your own concept of human security and a framework for ensuring this, in light of the dimensions of sustainable development.

30. There has been very limited success in achieving global agreements on the environment. What is your analysis of the failure of these international treaties? What are three main concerns that have prevented the development of a global agreement on climate change? At this point, do you think that a global agreement is still necessary?