MEKI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Grade 12 Geography Exam Based Short Note

"Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, but from what you do consistently. Study hard today, so your future self will thank you tomorrow." 🚀📚

Prepared By Student Habtamu Tefera

Unit Five: Challenges of Economic Development

Issues in Sustainable Development III (Pages 123–151)

Overview

Unit Five focuses on the multifaceted challenges that hinder economic development, particularly in the context of sustainable development. It explores poverty, globalization, regional imbalances, corruption, and global health crises as critical barriers. These topics are vital for understanding how economic progress interacts with social, environmental, and governance issues, especially in developing nations like Ethiopia.

Learning Objectives

By the end of this unit, students should be able to:

1. Explain the concept of poverty and its implications for development.
2. Analyze the advantages and disadvantages of globalization.
3. Assess the growing economic imbalances between regions and countries.
4. Evaluate the impact of corruption on economic development.
5. Examine the effects of global health crises on economies and development efforts.

5.1 Multiple Faces of Poverty and Implication to Development

(Pages 124–129)

Key Concepts

- **Definition of Poverty**: Poverty is not just a lack of income but a multidimensional issue involving deprivation in health, education, living standards, and access to opportunities.
- **Types of Poverty**:
  - **Absolute Poverty**: A fixed level of deprivation where individuals lack basic necessities (food, shelter, clothing) regardless of location. Measured globally as living below $1.90/day (World Bank standard).
  - **Relative Poverty**: A comparative measure where households earn 50% less than the average income, varying by country and economic context.
- **Measurement Tools**:
  - **Gini Coefficient**: Measures income inequality ($0 = $ perfect equality, $1 = $ perfect inequality).
  - **Lorenz Curve**: Graphs income/wealth distribution against population percentiles.

Characteristics of Poverty

- Lack of access to basic needs (food, water, sanitation).
- Limited education and healthcare opportunities.
- Vulnerability to economic shocks and environmental disasters.
- Social exclusion and lack of empowerment.

Implications for Development

- **Economic Growth**: Poverty reduces human capital productivity, limiting economic output.
- **Social Stability**: High poverty levels can lead to unrest and conflict.

- **Environmental Impact**: Poor communities often overexploit natural resources for survival, hindering sustainability.
- **Cycle of Poverty**: Lack of education and health perpetuates poverty across generations.

Examples

- **Ethiopia Context**: Rural areas face absolute poverty due to subsistence farming and drought, while urban relative poverty emerges from income disparities.
- **Global**: Sub-Saharan Africa has high absolute poverty rates, while developed nations face relative poverty issues.

Exam Tips

- **Key Terms**: Absolute poverty, relative poverty, Gini Coefficient, Lorenz Curve.
- **Question Types**: Define poverty types, explain their impact on development, interpret Gini Coefficient values.

5.2 The Advantages and Disadvantages of Globalization

(Pages 129–134)

Key Concepts

- **Definition of Globalization**: The process of increased interconnectedness among countries through trade, investment, technology, and cultural exchange.
- **Drivers**: Multinational corporations (MNCs), trade liberalization, and technological advancements.

Advantages of Globalization

1. **Economic Growth**: Access to larger markets increases trade and investment (e.g., Ethiopia's textile exports).

2. **Technology Transfer**: Developing nations gain advanced tools and knowledge (e.g., mobile banking in Africa).
3. **Job Creation**: MNCs create employment opportunities.
4. **Cultural Exchange**: Promotes diversity and global awareness.

Disadvantages of Globalization

1. **Economic Inequality**: Benefits often favor developed nations or elites (Global North vs. Global South).
2. **Job Losses**: Local industries may collapse due to foreign competition (e.g., Ethiopian artisans vs. cheap imports).
3. **Environmental Degradation**: Resource exploitation by MNCs (e.g., mining in Africa).
4. **Cultural Erosion**: Loss of indigenous traditions to Western influence.

Ethiopia-Specific Insights

- **Advantages**: Growth in export sectors like coffee and flowers.
- **Disadvantages**: Dependence on foreign aid and imports, vulnerability to global market fluctuations.

Exam Tips

- **Key Terms**: Globalization, MNCs, trade balance, Global North/South.
- **Question Types**: List advantages/disadvantages, analyze Ethiopia's globalization experience, discuss trade-offs.

5.3 The Growing Imbalance Between Regions and Countries

(Pages 134–138)

Key Concepts

- **Economic Imbalance**: Disparities in wealth, infrastructure, and development between regions (urban vs. rural) and countries (developed vs. developing).

- **Global North vs. Global South**: North (e.g., USA, Europe) is industrialized; South (e.g., Africa, parts of Asia) is less developed.

Causes of Imbalance

1. **Historical Factors**: Colonialism left uneven development legacies.
2. **Resource Distribution**: Unequal access to natural resources (e.g., oil-rich vs. arid regions).
3. **Globalization**: Benefits accrue to already developed areas.
4. **Policy Failures**: Poor governance and lack of investment in lagging regions.

Consequences

- **Migration**: Rural-to-urban or South-to-North movement strains resources.
- **Conflict**: Competition over scarce resources (e.g., water disputes).
- **Development Gaps**: Widening Gini Coefficients globally and nationally.

Ethiopia Context

- Urban centers (Addis Ababa) prosper while rural areas lag in infrastructure and services.
- Regional disparities (e.g., Tigray vs. Somali region) reflect ethnic and geographic challenges.

Exam Tips

- **Key Terms**: Economic imbalance, Global North/South, migration.
- **Question Types**: Explain causes of imbalance, discuss Ethiopia's regional disparities, evaluate solutions.

5.4 Corruption

(Pages 138–145)

Key Concepts

- **Definition of Corruption**: Abuse of entrusted power for private gain.
- **Types**:
  - **Grand Corruption**: High-level misuse of power harming many (e.g., embezzlement by officials).
  - **Petty Corruption**: Small-scale abuse by low-level officials (e.g., bribery for services).
  - **Patronage Corruption**: Favoritism in appointments or contracts.
- **Measurement**: Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) by Transparency International ($0 = $ highly corrupt, $100 = $ clean).

Causes of Corruption

- Weak governance and institutions.
- Low public sector salaries.
- Lack of transparency and accountability.

Impacts on Development

1. **Economic Loss**: Diverts funds from development projects (e.g., infrastructure).
2. **Inefficiency**: Poor service delivery (e.g., healthcare delays due to bribes).
3. **Inequality**: Benefits the corrupt elite, worsening poverty.
4. **Investment Deterrence**: Discourages foreign direct investment (FDI).

Ethiopia Context

- Corruption in land allocation and public procurement has been noted.
- Efforts like anti-corruption commissions aim to address it, but challenges persist.

Exam Tips

- **Key Terms**: Grand corruption, petty corruption, CPI.
- **Question Types**: Define corruption types, analyze impacts, suggest anti-corruption measures.

5.5 Global Health Crises

(Pages 145–150)

Key Concepts

- **Definition**: Widespread health emergencies affecting economies (e.g., pandemics).
- **Examples**: HIV/AIDS, Ebola, COVID-19, malaria.

Impacts on Development

1. **Economic Disruption**: Lockdowns and healthcare costs reduce GDP (e.g., COVID-19).
2. **Human Capital Loss**: High mortality and morbidity reduce workforce productivity.
3. **Resource Diversion**: Funds shift from development to crisis response.
4. **Social Effects**: Education disruptions and increased poverty.

Specific Diseases

- **HIV/AIDS**: Affects working-age populations, straining healthcare (prevalent in Africa).
- **Ebola**: Localized but severe economic impacts (e.g., West Africa 2014–2016).
- **COVID-19**: Global supply chain disruptions and tourism collapse.
- **Malaria**: Endemic in tropical regions like Ethiopia, reducing labor capacity.

Ethiopia Context

- Malaria remains a challenge in lowland areas.
- COVID-19 impacted urban economies and exports.

Exam Tips

- **Key Terms**: Global health crisis, HIV/AIDS, COVID-19.

- **Question Types**: List health crises, explain economic impacts, discuss Ethiopia's response.

Unit Summary

(Page 150)

- **Poverty**: Multidimensional, hindering growth and sustainability.
- **Globalization**: Offers opportunities but increases inequality.
- **Imbalance**: Historical and structural factors widen gaps.
- **Corruption**: Undermines development through inefficiency and loss.
- **Health Crises**: Disrupt economies and human capital.

Review Questions

(Page 151)

(Sample questions adapted for exam prep)

1. **Multiple Choice**:
   - What is absolute poverty? A) Income below average
     B) Lack of basic necessities
     C) Social exclusion only
     D) Relative to neighbors
     Answer: B
2. **Short Answer**:
   - Define the Gini Coefficient and explain its significance.
   - List two advantages and two disadvantages of globalization for Ethiopia.
3. **Essay**:
   - Discuss how corruption affects economic development in developing countries, using Ethiopia as an example.
   - Analyze the impact of a global health crisis like COVID-19 on sustainable development.

Additional Exam-Ready Notes

Diagrams and Illustrations

- **Lorenz Curve**: Draw and label axes (population vs. income/wealth), show perfect equality line vs. actual curve.
- **Plateaued Development**: Sketch urban vs. rural infrastructure disparity in Ethiopia.

Case Studies

- **Ethiopia's Flower Industry**: Globalization success but vulnerable to external shocks.
- **COVID-19 in Ethiopia**: Export declines and urban unemployment spike.

Revision Checklist

- Memorize definitions and examples.
- Practice explaining cause-effect relationships (e.g., corruption → economic loss).
- Prepare regional disparity examples from Ethiopia.

"Success doesn't come from what you do occasionally, but from what you do consistently. Study hard today, so your future self will thank you tomorrow." 🚀📚

Prepared By Student Habtamu Tefera