



University of Puerto Rico on Humacao

English Department

Part #2: Written group Research Essay



Basic English 3102-005

Prof. Jesús López

Nairylee Ortiz, Pahola A. Guzman, Jack Cradona Basora

Students Numbers: 842-20-6365 (Nairylee), 842-20-7253 (Pahola), 842-20-9271 (Jack)

Emails: nairylee.ortiz@upr.edu, pahola.guzman@upr.edu, jack.cardona@upr.edu

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Sustainable Development Goal #15: Life on Land

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future (The 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development, s.f.). At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries developed and developing in a global partnership (The 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development, s.f.). They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand in hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests (The 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development, s.f.). Like you can see from the title, we are going to talk about the 15th SDG, that is life on land and like we said in past group works, we are interested in this SDG because of many reasons that we think that are going to help Puerto Rico a lot in these aspects. Many of these reasons are the goals of this SDG, which are to protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

The company that our group selected and that contributes with the 15th SDG would be “Danone one Planet, one Health”. We chose this company because we think it works directly to the SDG that we selected. At Danone one Planet, one Health company, they aim to inspire healthier and more sustainable eating and drinking practices, also reflecting a strong belief that both the health of people and the planet are interconnected (Danone S.A., 2018). Danone’s businesses are directly linked to nature and agriculture (Danone S.A., 2018). Climate change impacts natural cycles of water, soils, as well as biodiversity and ecosystem services that play a

vital role in the food system including forests (Danone S.A., 2018). They contributed to tackle this huge challenge; it is critical for our ability to strengthen the resilience of our global food system (Danone S.A., 2018).

The 15th SDG targets to which Danone contributes are the following. Target #15.2: by 2020, that promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally (Danone S.A., 2018). Target #15.3: by 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation neutral world (Danone S.A., 2018). Target #15.4: by 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development (Danone S.A., 2018). Not only Danone contributes with the 15th SDG, they also target much more SDGs but, we will speak more of the one we have selected. We took 3 examples of the projects that Danone has contributed with the 15th SDG and even more, these are “Madre Tierra”, “Araku 2”, and “Farming for Generations” which we will explain ahead (Danone S.A., 2020).

Madre tierra is a project with small strawberry producer in Mexico and Danone funded with other private and public players for this project (Danone S.A., 2020). It was developed with the objective to regenerate soils and develop and protect natural resources and farmer’s communities (Danone S.A., 2020). With an investment of 500,000 euros over 4 years (2019-2023), the project has the objective to empower farmers communities through an innovative set of training, technologies, etc., to strengthen the capacity of producers (Danone S.A., 2020). While protecting the soil and reducing the use of pesticides and water waste, the new methods of

operation should also allow producers to access new markets and increase their net income (Danone S.A., 2020). Araku 2 is a project where lands that were degraded now function as a forest for a tribe and the Naandi foundation partnered up with Danone who started working in the Araku Valley 17 years ago (Livelihoods, 2020). Within the Livelihoods- Araku project, the communities themselves have planted 3 million fruit trees to restore their degraded forests and an additional 3 million coffee plants for income (Danone S.A., 2020). The health and nutrition issue the Adivasi communities were facing were linked to the fact that they did not have access to forests anymore and the solution was to support these communities rebuild their forest (Livelihoods, 2020). Danone is part of Farming for Generations, a new alliance of agricultural sector leaders who come together in a unique project to support farmers to adopt regenerative agricultural practices that preserve and renew our planet's resources, respect animal welfare and ensure the long-term economic viability of farms for the next generations (Danone, 2020). The last example is that Danone initiated the project and decided to join forces with other leaders from the whole agricultural value chain (Danone S.A., 2019). Recognizing that the food system needs to change to address a range of environmental and health challenges, the alliance is convinced that agriculture is part of the solution, and that dairy farming specifically has a key role to play in building the sustainable food systems of tomorrow (Danone S.A., 2019). Finally, they are determined to help overcome these challenges by developing new agricultural models that can regenerate the planet while feeding a global population that is set to surpass 9 billion people by 2050 (Danone S.A., 2019).

We hope that every people that read this work of ours, can help to make sure that we meet the global goals of the SDG that we selected. That why, we recommend these twelve targets mentioned before and others as well included, to create action to protect and restore life on land. Target #1: conserve, restore terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems (Goals, 2021). Target #2: end deforestation and restore degraded forests (Goals, 2021). Target #3: end desertification and restore

degraded land (Goals, 2021). Target #4: ensure conservation of mountain ecosystems (Goals, 2021). Target #5: protect biodiversity and natural habitats (Goals, 2021). Target #6: promote access to genetic resources and fair sharing of the benefits (Goals, 2021). Target #7: eliminate poaching and trafficking of protected species (Goals, 2021). Target #8: prevent invasive alien species on land and in water ecosystems (Goals, 2021). Target #9: integrate ecosystem and biodiversity in governmental planning (Goals, 2021). Target #10: increase financial resources to conserve and sustainably use ecosystem and biodiversity (Goals, 2021). Target #11: finance and incentivize sustainable forest management (Goals, 2021). Target #12: combat global poaching and trafficking (Goals, 2021). If we could accomplish all of this target's step by step, we can make this world a better place with more good life on land, but there is something important that we should never forget, that is that we need to always work together, and while working together we can make a better place for all of us, but we need to start making these changes with our part first and demonstrating are example around the world.

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