

# ***The SDG Challenge as of Mid-2017***

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The World Economy is now \$127 Trillion (IMF), Enough to End Poverty, Invest in Low-Carbon Energy, Stop Killer Diseases, and Build a 21st-Century Infrastructure.

2,043 Billionaires have \$7.7 Trillion of Net Worth (Forbes).

Violence and Conflict cost an Estimated \$13.6 Trillion per Year (World Peace Index)

Tax Havens have > \$20 Trillion in Deposits (Tax Justice Network)

## **Five Great SDG Challenges**

Quality Health (SDG 3) and Education (SDG 4)

Sustainable and Resilient Land Use (SDG 2, 6, 11, 12, 14, 15)

Decent Jobs and Infrastructure (SDG 1, 8, 9)

Decarbonization of Energy System (SDG 7, 13)

Good Governance (SDG 5, 10, 16, 17)

## **The Greatest Opportunities**

Deployment of Information Technologies  
(e-Health, e-Education, e-Finance, e-Commerce, e-Governance)

Building Modern Infrastructure  
(One Belt, One Road; Africa Mega-Infrastructure)

Deploying Massive Renewable and Hydroelectric Energy Scale-Up

Mobilizing Global Knowledge Pool (universities, businesses)

## **The Biggest Obstacles**

Coal, Oil and Gas Lobby (resisting decarbonization)

The Super-Rich (resisting taxation and accountability)

Belligerent leaders in ongoing conflicts

Lack of Bold Strategies

Insufficient Financing

The Coal, Oil, and Gas Lobby in the United States, Led by Koch Industries, spent more than \$100 Million in the 2016 Election (OpenSecrets.Org) to elect the Republican Congressional majority, in part to provoke the US withdrawal from the Paris Climate Agreement. This the most consequential act of political corruption worldwide, though legal under US law.

## **Strategic Next Steps**

Global Compliance by the Oil and Gas Industry

ESG/PRI Investing by Asset Managers

SDG Fund for Low-Income Country Health and Education

Debt-for-SDG Swaps by Multilateral Institutions

Tax on Offshore Tax-Haven Accounts

UN Security Council Enhanced Responsibility for SDGs

Polluter-Pays Funding for Losses and Damages

Technology Roadmaps for SDGs (academia, business)