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### SDGs for All Newsletter - November 2021 In Retrospect

#### The Outbreak of Omicron: Scientists and Leaders Call for Collaboration with Africa



By Reinhard Jacobsen

BRUSSELS (IDN) — International scientists and leaders have urged a "global response of collaboration with Africa on COVID-19 following Omicron outbreak". Over a hundred academics and leaders from Europe, Africa, the US among others say in a joint letter

to the European Commission and the World Health Organization ([WHO](#)) that they are "concerned with the lack of action for vaccination in Africa and solidarity with Africa".

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#### Tajikistan: Young Girl Out to Save The Community from Pollution



By Sharofat Shafieva

KHOROG, Tajikistan (IDN) — The city of Khorog is generally clean, but it has a problem with waste management. Residents leave their garbage on the

streets and especially in public places. The central market is one of the places where there is a large garbage dump.

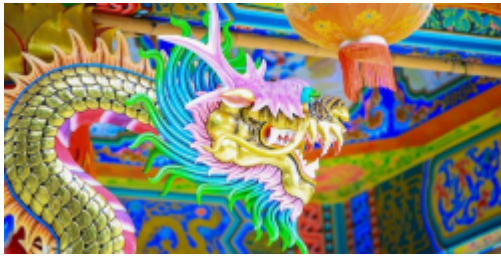
"Passing by garbage is very unpleasant. No matter how much the administration cleans the garbage, it still collects in one day. It is especially terrible in summer when a very bad smell appears," notes Shafiat Jafoeva a regular visitor to the market. "The waste mostly belongs to the merchants, and it would be good if the sellers of the market find a better way to manage their waste", she adds.

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## Are We Heading for a Cold War with China?

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*In recent months, we have often heard that the return of the Cold War is imminent, this time with China. How great is this danger? Some developments point at a dangerous confrontation; others are completely different from the times of the Cold War with the Soviet Union and its allies.*

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## Universities Need to Be More Accessible Instead of a Privilege

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By Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — If we are going to create a better world in the post-pandemic era higher education (HE) systems need to be more flexible and accessible, and governments need to be made to understand that funding the public university sector is essential

to creating more equitable and socially stable societies. This is the message that came out clearly from the [World Access to Higher Education Day \(WAHED\)](#)—a day-long virtual conference coordinated from London and held on November 17 titled “Who will go to University in 2030?”. (P24) [CHINESE](#) | [HINDI](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT](#)  
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## COP26: Final Communiqué Fails To Address Climate Change Impact On Food Security

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Viewpoint by Kalinga Seneviratne

SYDNEY (IDN) — About a third of global gas emissions come from agriculture and land use, yet, the final communiqué of COP26 failed to make

any direct reference to the relationship between climate action and the world’s food systems. This is at a time, when the [World Food Program \(WFP\)](#) has warned that up to 45 million people in 43 countries are on the brink of a famine. (P23) [ARABIC](#) | [GERMAN](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT](#)  
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## As Political Leadership Falters, SGI Proposes Annual UN Youth Climate Summits

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By Kurt Reynolds

LONDON (IDN) — As the COP26 climate summit in Scotland was winding down, the long-term pledges and bountiful promises made by world leaders seemed never-ending—stretching all the way to 2070.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres issued a global roadmap to achieve a radical transformation of energy access and transition by 2030, while also contributing to net zero emissions by 2050. (P22) [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [PORTUGUESE](#) | [SPANISH](#)

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## Thailand: Devoted Monk Helps COVID Affected People to Embark on A New Sustainable Livelihood



By Pattama Vilailert

SISAKET, Thailand (IDN) — With a series of COVID-19 lockdowns, many workers in Bangkok and other major business cities like Pattaya, Phuket, Chiang Mai, and Samut Prakarn flocked to their hometowns. They are forced to seek ways to begin their new lives and rationalise how to live sustainably in the long term.

In Thailand, it is common to see laypeople giving alms to monks in the morning all over the country as part of merit-making before starting their day. However, during the COVID-19 pandemic, some monks have reversed roles in merit-making. (P21) [CHINESE](#) | [JAPANESE TEXT VERSION PDF](#) | [THAI](#)

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