

RESOURCE 6.1: THEMES OF CURRENT WORLD PROBLEMS

The following themes have been identified by millennials as the most pressing problems that require solutions – fast! There are others including factory farming, overpopulation, ocean-clean up – just to name a few.

1. Climate change

Climate Change is considered the biggest world problem that requires urgent solutions as identified by students. This that this an urgent issue that will affect almost everything, including, but not limited to, weather, sea levels, food security, water quality, air quality, sustainability and much more.



2. Lack of employment for young people

With fast-paced changing technology and new skills required to find jobs post-school, is a growing concern for all generations. Technology is taking over from human skills and it has been said that what students learn at school and at university will be obsolete by the time they reach the workforce.



3. Food insecurity

Food insecurity is defined as the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. A recent statistic shows that more than 800 million people live every day with hunger or food insecurity.



4. Health in developing countries

Every year around ten million people in poorer countries die of illnesses that can be very cheaply prevented or managed, including malaria, HIV, tuberculosis and diarrhoea.



5. Sustainability

This is an extremely global issue that affects everything from energy, to food, to resources, economics, health, wellness and more. Students are becoming more and more aware that our very future as a species depends on how we address sustainability challenges. They are aware that this challenge requires new ways of thinking, new priorities, new standards and new ways of doing things.

Sustainability is all about future innovation.

