

DEFINE IT!

CONFIRM IT!

IDEATE IT!

CREATE IT!

VALIDATE IT!

MASTER IT!

MARKET IT!

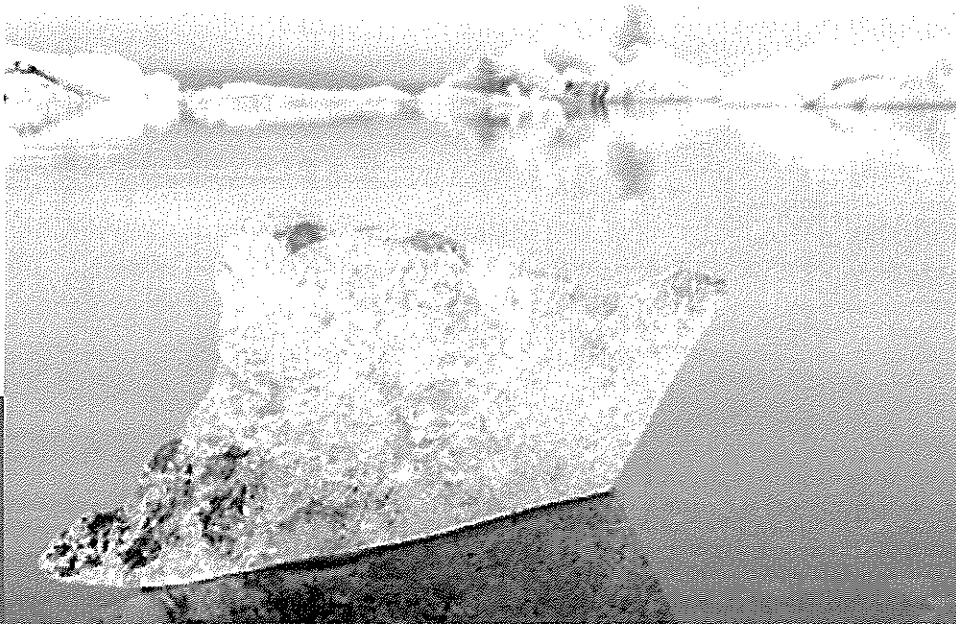
PITCH IT!

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.



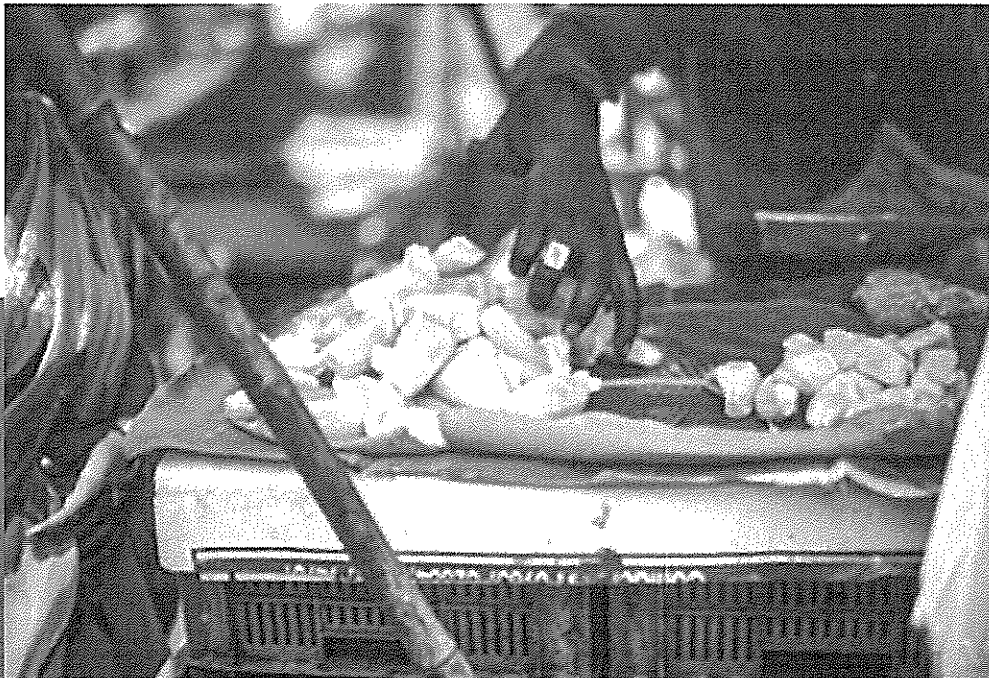
2. Lack of employment for young people

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.



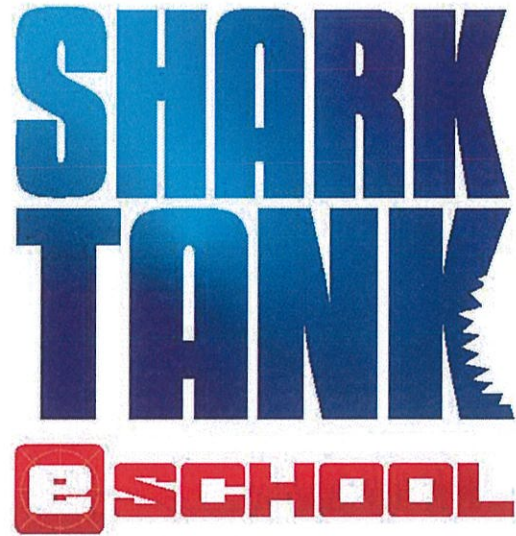
5. Sustainability

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.



Case study: Food Waste



You recently visited your local supermarket at closing time in a last minute effort to get some groceries before the weekend. To your dismay, you noticed that all fresh produce that had reached its sell-by date, was thrown out without further inspection or consideration. Although there were no signs of rotting or decay, the supermarket still decided to discard the excess food.

Upon your return home, you did some further research on food waste from a supermarket perspective. There are strict rules that regulate food disposal. You learned that the amount of waste is largely dependent on the supply and demand of the fresh produce. You also learned that under the strict regulations, supermarkets are not allowed to deliver excess produce to charities to help feed the homeless and the hungry. In your research, you see a growing movement of anti-food waste (particularly from people in their own homes) however, the problem around food waste from a supermarket perspective, seems to be growing.