

ELQ Geography

Entry Level Geography

Unit 5: Development Issues



Unit 5: Development Issues



Learning Outcome 1:

Recognise the development gap

Learning Outcome 2:

Understand how globalisation can help and hinder development

Learning Outcome 3:

Recognise sustainable solutions to unequal development

Guidance notes

This resource includes information and suggested tasks relating to Entry Level Geography. This booklet has been produced to meet the requirements for Entry Level 3 but teachers may amend the material to suit the needs of their learners.

The list of resources is neither prescriptive nor exhaustive.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/development/contrasts_development_rev1.shtml

http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/GCSE/AQA/Development_Gap/What_is_Dev/What_is_Development.htm

<http://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/world-development-indicators>

For Globalisation:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/globalisation/globalisation_rev1.shtml

<http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Development%20&%20Globalisation/Globalisation/Globalisation.htm>

<http://nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/globalization/>

For Fairtrade and Aid

<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/en/what-is-fairtrade>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/development/trade_rev2.shtml

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/standard/geography/international_issues/aid/revision/1/

http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/GCSE/AQA/Development_Gap/Aid/Aid.htm

Introduction - The development gap

The gap between rich and poor countries is getting bigger, the rich are getting richer and developing faster and the poor are getting poorer and remaining undeveloped. In order to get a clear picture of how developed or undeveloped a country is and to establish if a country is a **MEDC** (More Economically Developed Countries) or a **LEDC** (Less Economically Developed Countries), we look at data for every country. These are known as **DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS**. Geographers use development indicators to compare the development of one region against another.

Examples of development indicators include:

- Adult Literacy rate - The % of people aged 15 and over who can read and write a simple sentence – a social indicator.
- Life expectancy - How many years a new baby can expect to live on average – a social indicator.
- Infant mortality rate - The number of babies born alive who die before they reach 1 year old per 1 000 live births – a social indicator.
- GNP per capita - or Gross National Income per person, simply the wealth of the country divided by the population – an economic indicator.
- Unemployment - this is the number of people who cannot find work – an economic indicator.

Table 1: Development Indicators for Selected Countries

Country	Death rate (per 1000)	Infant Mortality rate (%)	GNI (pc)	Urban (%)	Life Expectancy (at birth)		Population under 15 years (%)
					M	F	
Algeria	4	22	15,050	73	77	78	29
Bangladesh	5	28	4,040	37	70	73	29
Brazil	6	11	15,160	86	72	79	24
Chad	13	72	1,920	23	52	54	47
Egypt	6	15	11,360	43	71	74	34
Haiti	8	59	1,830	55	62	67	33
India	6	34	7,060	34	67	70	28
Mexico	6	17	17,740	73	75	80	27
UK	9	3.9	43,160	83	79	83	18
USA	9	5.6	60,200	82	76	81	19

Understanding how globalisation can help and hinder development

Globalisation is the process by which the world is becoming increasingly interconnected. This is due to large businesses, industries and organisations trading and operating on an international scale across all countries across the globe. Countries are becoming increasingly linked by trade, technology and ideas.

Industries that have branches in many countries around the world are called **Multinational Corporations (MNCs)**. Many MNCs are household names – Coca Cola, Nike, McDonalds and Apple are just a few. MNCs are often richer than the countries in which they operate.



Fig 1: An Interconnected World

Globalisation means that decisions taken in one country can quickly affect other countries. It also means that economic power is increasingly concentrated in a few global companies or MNCs. Countries are increasingly interdependent because they need to trade with one another and to exchange goods. This means that the lives and actions of people in one country are increasingly linked with the lives of people thousands of miles away.



Fig 2: A Container ship

Globalisation can help and hinder development (make it difficult) as the table below suggests:

How globalisation can help development:	How globalisation can hinder development:
<p>Globalisation allows businesses in LEDCs to become part of international production networks. This will create many jobs for people in LEDCs. Workers in LEDCs will have the opportunity to learn new skills especially in the manufacturing industry.</p> <p>As a result of globalisation, well known large businesses will operate across the world and in many LEDCs. The money/capital that is generated can be spent on improving the services in the LEDC, for example improving health and education.</p> <p>As a result of globalisation people will experience different cultures and new foods. They will also be able to access new goods that would usually not be available to them.</p> <p>Globalisation also means that people can become more aware of global issues. For example, they may become aware of the most recent earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis and can help the people in these countries recover faster through aid.</p>	<p>There is no guarantee that wealth generated as a result of globalisation will stay in the LEDC. Most profits are 'leaked' back to the MEDC where large businesses have their headquarters. Many local people in LEDCs do not gain financially from the increased trade.</p> <p>Unfortunately the role of LEDCs in relation to globalisation is usually just to provide the cheap workers/labour force or raw materials for the large business.</p> <p>People fear that cultures will be lost as a result of globalisation as the world merges into one distinct culture.</p> <p>As a result of globalisation, industry may be thriving in the LEDCs. However, this may mean the closure of factories in MEDCs. This means unemployment could rise in the MEDCs.</p>

Sustainable solutions to unequal development

As mentioned already, when it comes to world trade (in relation to globalisation), LEDCs usually lose out. Wages are often low which means people in LEDCs struggle to afford a good standard of living, their homes are small, they find it hard to afford to send their children to school and they have little money to spend on luxury items.

FAIRTRADE FOUNDATION

One solution to this level of unequal development was the introduction of the Fairtrade Foundation. The aim of the Fairtrade Foundation is to make sure that the producers in the LEDCs receive a fair price for the goods that they produce and sell. This means that there are advantages for the people living in the LEDCs:

- they will have more money to improve the quality of life for themselves and their family;
- with more money, the producers can spend the extra income on local services which improves the local economy.

It is thought that producers in 58 countries across the world benefit from the Fairtrade Foundation. There are many Fairtrade products that we can buy that include food products and non-food products. The list includes:

- bananas
- beauty products
- chocolate
- coffee
- cool drinks and juices
- cotton
- flowers
- herbs and spices
- rice and cereal
- sugar, spreads and oils
- sweets and snacks
- tea
- wine

For more information log on to: <https://www.fairtrade.org.uk/Buying-Fairtrade>.



(a) Coffee beans



(b) Sugar



(c) Bananas



(d) Tea

Fig. 3 Fairtrade products

These goods are usually higher priced but we know when we buy these goods that producers in the LEDCs are better off financially.

AID

Aid distribution is another means of helping solve the unequal level of development across the globe. **Aid** is when countries in need (usually LEDCs) receive help and support from another country (usually MEDCs) or charity organisation. Aid can either be classified as **short term aid** or **long term aid**.

- **Short term aid** is usually given the aftermath of an emergency, such as after the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami or after a hurricane disaster. Money, tents, blankets, food, water and medically trained staff are among the things that are sent to these countries to help people survive and for the country to recover.
- **Long term aid** is provided to a country for economic and social development. Its purpose is to improve the quality of life for people living in LEDCs. An example would be supporting a community to introduce new agricultural techniques.

The table below describes the benefits and problems associated with aid in LEDCs.

The benefits of aid in LEDCs include:	The problems of aid in LEDCs include:
<p>Short-term aid helps save lives as people receive medical help, food to eat and water to drink.</p> <p>Aid can improve the country's economy. If locals are provided with the tools to produce food, they can farm and sell the food and make money.</p> <p>The health of the people in the country improves as a result of aid. If people are provided with access to water for example, this will ultimately improve sanitation so the health of the population improves. This means death rates will drop and life expectancy will increase.</p>	<p>A lot of the long term aid projects are run by MEDC companies. This means that profits are leaked out of the country and back to the country where the company is based. This means that the locals in the LEDC do not gain financially.</p> <p>Some aid that is sent, does not reach the people who are most at need so this means they may go without supplies that they need for their survival.</p> <p>LEDCs can sometimes become too dependent on the MEDCs for aid supplies.</p>

Recognising the development gap

Activity 1

Recognising the development gap.

Use Table 1 to help you describe the development gap in your own words.

Activity 2

Describe one social development indicator and one economic development indicator.

Social development indicator:

Economic development indicator:

Globalisation can help[and hinder development

Activity 3

What is meant by the term '**globalisation**'.

Describe two ways in which globalisation can **help** development.

One way that globalisation can help development is

Another way that globalisation can help development is

Describe two ways in which globalisation can **hinder** development.

One way that globalisation can hinder development is

Another way that globalisation can hinder development is

Sustainable solutions to unequal development

Activity 1

State the aims of the Fairtrade Foundation. _____

Activity 2

Complete the table below by listing two Fairtrade food products and two Fairtrade non-food products. Use the Internet to find a picture of each product.

Fairtrade food products include:	Fairtrade non-food products include:

Activity 3

Describe two advantages of Fairtrade for LEDCs.

One advantage of Fairtrade for LEDCs is:

Another advantage of Fairtrade for LEDCs is:

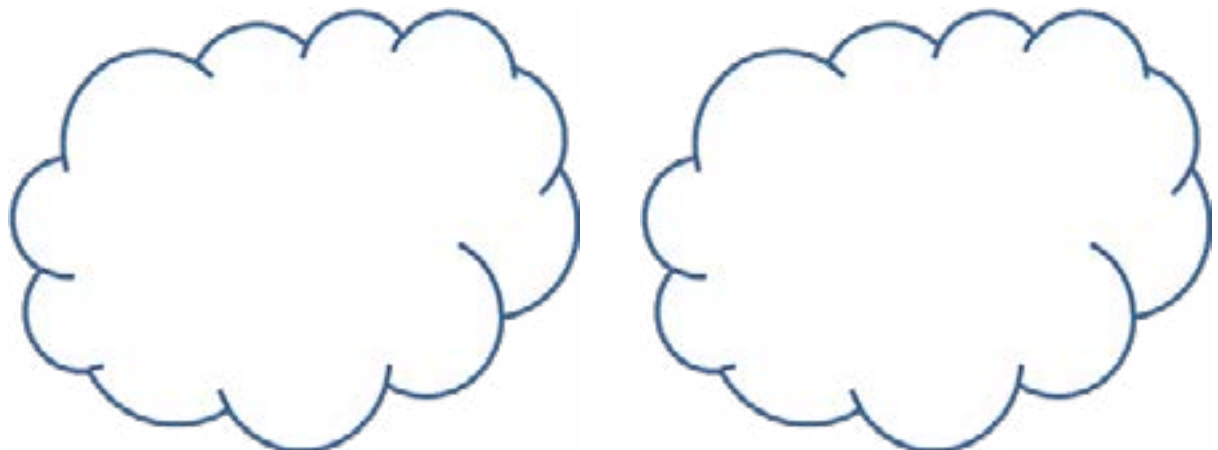
Activity 4

Explain what is meant by '**short term aid**'. Give an example of short term aid in your answer.

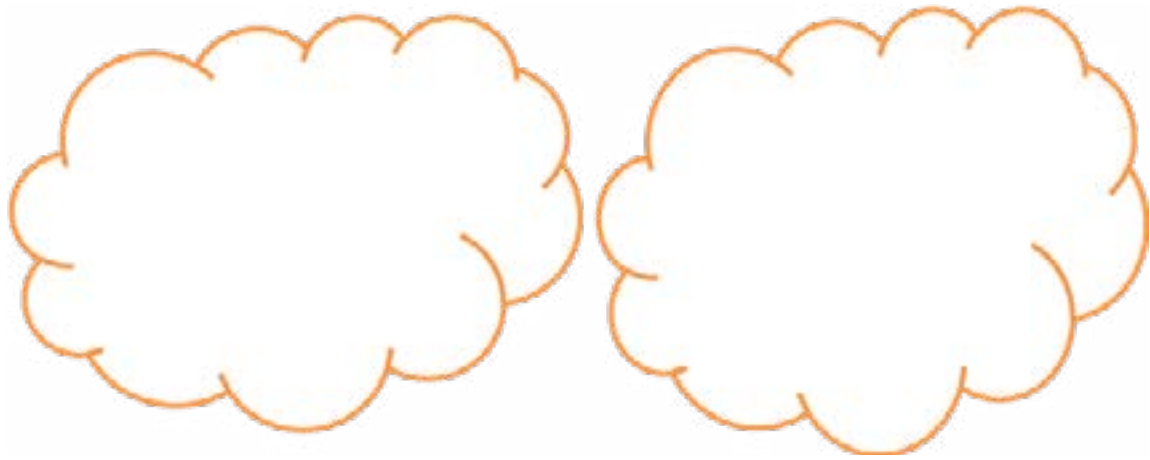
Explain what is meant by '**long term aid**'. Give an example of long term aid in your answer.

Activity 5

Complete the bubbles below by describing two benefits and two problems associated with aid in LEDCs.



Two benefits of aid for LEDCs



Two problems of aid for LEDCs