The words 'global village' have been used to describe the world in the 21st century. The term indicates that instead of individuals, small groups and countries relying on their own ability to provide for their needs and wants, people are more reliant on the whole world, its resources and each other. This is a far cry from the days of early civilisations when people were confined to small geographic areas and little was known about who lived on the other side of the hill, let alone on the other side of the world. Developments in transport, technology and communication have broken down the barriers of distance and time to a situation where the people of the world rely on many others from distant countries. They have indeed formed a global village.

