**Physical geographical assets of Africa south of the Sahara.**

1. Nile River: The longest river in the world, the Nile flows through a number of African countries, including Egypt, Sudan, and Ethiopia, providing water for irrigation, transportation, and other uses.
2. Sahara Desert: While not technically a physical asset, the Sahara is a defining feature of the African landscape, covering much of Northern Africa. It has both positive and negative impacts on the region, influencing weather patterns and limiting development.
3. Mount Kilimanjaro: The highest peak in Africa, Kilimanjaro is located in Tanzania and offers a stunning natural landmark that attracts thousands of tourists every year.
4. Great Rift Valley: This geological feature runs through several African countries, including Kenya, Tanzania, and Ethiopia, and is a major source of geological and biological diversity.
5. Savannahs: The grasslands of sub-Saharan Africa are home to a wide range of wildlife and are important for agriculture and other human activities.
6. Rainforests: The tropical forests of Central Africa are also a source of biodiversity and are important for providing ecosystem services.
7. Mineral resources: Africa is home to a wealth of mineral resources, including gold, diamonds, and oil, which have fuelled economic growth in some countries.
8. Coastline: The African coast is extensive, providing important ports and fishing grounds, as well as areas for tourism and recreation.
9. Wildlife: Africa is known for its iconic wildlife, including elephants, lions, and giraffes, which are a major draw for tourism and safari activities.
10. Water resources: In addition to the Nile River, Africa south of the Sahara is home to a variety of other rivers, lakes, and water sources that are vital for human and economic activities.

**Human geographical assets of Africa south of the Sahara.**

* 1. Natural Resources: Africa south of the Sahara possesses a wealth of natural resources, including oil, natural gas, gold, diamonds, copper, and iron ore. These resources have driven economic growth in the region, providing opportunities for investment and development.
  2. Agricultural Land: The region is home to some of the most fertile land in the world, with vast areas available for agriculture. This land provides a foundation for food security and for the production of a wide range of crops and livestock.
  3. Water Resources: Africa south of the Sahara is home to several major rivers, including the Congo, the Niger, and the Zambezi, as well as other smaller rivers and lakes. These water resources are essential for irrigation, hydroelectric power, and freshwater supply for people and livestock.
  4. Mineral Resources: The region is rich in mineral resources such as coal, uranium, bauxite, and nickel. These minerals are important for industrial development and provide employment opportunities.
  5. Human Capital: The region has a young and growing population that is increasingly educated and skilled. The population of sub-Saharan Africa is projected to double by 2050, providing a large pool of human capital for development.
  6. Tourism: The region boasts diverse wildlife, stunning landscapes, and a rich cultural heritage, making it an attractive destination for tourists. Tourism provides opportunities for job creation and economic growth, particularly in rural areas.
  7. Strategic Location: The region’s location at the crossroads of trade routes between Europe, Asia, and the Americas has made it a hub for global commerce. This location, combined with improvements in infrastructure, provides opportunities for increased trade and investment.
  8. Cultural Diversity: The region is home to a rich diversity of cultures and traditions, including hundreds of languages and religions. This diversity is an asset for building social cohesion and creating a vibrant cultural economy.

**Problems and limitations affecting Africa south of the Sahara.**

1. Poverty

The region is home to some of the poorest countries in the world, with high levels of poverty and inadequate access to basic necessities such as food, water, and healthcare.

1. Limited access to education

Many children in the region do not have access to education, which limits their opportunities and perpetuates poverty.

1. Political instability

Many countries in the region suffer from political instability, conflict, and corruption, which hinder economic development and exacerbate poverty.

1. High levels of disease

The region is plagued by high rates of HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other infectious diseases, which further exacerbate poverty and health problems.

1. Limited infrastructure

Many countries in the region lack basic infrastructure such as roads, electricity, and sanitation, which hampers economic growth and development.

1. Climate change

The region is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which can lead to food insecurity, drought, and other environmental challenges.

1. Limited access to credit

Many entrepreneurs in the region struggle to access credit, which limits their ability to start or grow businesses and create jobs.

1. Limited technological development

The region lags behind in technological development, which limits its ability to compete in the global economy and hinders economic growth and development.

**Physical geographical assets of South Asia.**

1. Himalayas.

The world’s highest mountain range, the Himalayas, runs through South Asia, spanning over 2,400 km. The range is a significant source of freshwater, a vital requirement for human, animal, and plant life.

1. Rivers.

South Asia has some of the world’s most extensive river systems, including the Ganges, Indus, Brahmaputra, and Meghna. These rivers provide essential freshwater resources for irrigation, drinking, and hydroelectric power generation.

1. Islands.

The Maldives and Sri Lanka are islands located in South Asia. The Maldives island chain is renowned for its coral reefs and marine biodiversity, while Sri Lanka’s tropical forests, beaches, and wildlife attract tourists from around the world.

1. Forests.

South Asia is home to vast tropical and sub-tropical forests that provide habitat for a diverse range of plant and animal species. These forests also have significant ecological, economic, and cultural value, contributing to climate regulation and providing timber, fuelwood, and non-timber forest products.

**Human geographic assets of South Asia.**

1. Demography.

South Asia is the world’s most populous region, home to over 1.8 billion people. The region’s large youth population is a significant driver of economic growth, innovation, and social change.

1. Culture.

South Asia has a rich and diverse cultural heritage, rooted in centuries-old traditions and practices. The region is renowned for its arts, literature, music, dance, and festivals, attracting tourists from around the world.

1. Education.

South Asia has made significant progress in increasing access to education, with improved literacy rates and rising enrolments in primary, secondary, and tertiary education. This is seen as a key driver of human development and economic growth.

1. Entrepreneurship.

South Asia has a well-established entrepreneurial culture, as evidenced by its thriving small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and start-ups. The region’s entrepreneurial spirit is fueled by its youthful population, increasing digital connectivity, and supportive policy environment.

#### **Problems and limitations of geographic assets of South Asia.**

1. Geographical Constraints.

South Asian countries face significant geographical constraints due to their mountainous terrain and high variability in climate. These constraints limit the agricultural production and productivity in the region, making it difficult to strengthen their economies.

1. Water Scarcity.

South Asia is home to the largest delta in the world, which makes the region highly vulnerable to flooding. However, despite the abundance of water resources, the region also faces challenges of water scarcity and inadequate access to clean water. This creates health and environmental challenges.

1. Lack of Infrastructure.

The transportation infrastructure connecting the countries in South Asia is insufficient. This creates obstacles to regional trade and hinders the economic development of the countries in the region.

1. Natural Disasters.

South Asia is prone to earthquakes, floods, cyclones, and landslides. These natural disasters often result in loss of human life, economic damage and disrupt social dynamics.

1. Political and Social Instability.

The political instability and security concerns in countries like Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka have hindered the growth and prosperity of the region as a whole.

1. Biodiversity Loss.

The region is known for its rich biodiversity, but unsustainable agricultural practices, deforestation, and habitat loss continue to threaten the natural ecosystems of the region.

1. Energy Security.

The region faces energy security challenges with a high dependence on imported fuel resources. It arises environmental and economic challenges.

**Physical geographic assets of East Asia.**

1. Mountains: The region is characterized by several mountain ranges, including the Himalayas, the Kunlun Range, and the Japanese Alps. These mountains offer stunning views, ecological diversity, and serve as barriers against adverse weather conditions.
2. Rivers: Some of the world’s largest water bodies, such as the Yangtze, Mekong, and Yellow rivers, flow through East Asia. These rivers provide aquatic habitats, irrigation, and transportation to the region’s inhabitants.
3. Coastal zones: East Asia has a long coastline, with the Yellow Sea, East China Sea, and the Sea of Japan. These coastlines offer ample opportunities for fishing, as well as trading among neighbouring countries.
4. The Yangtze River, known as the longest and most significant river in Asia.
5. The Pacific Ocean bordered the eastern coast of East Asia. It is the largest ocean in the world, providing significant trade routes.

**Human geographic assets of East Asia.**

* 1. Cultural diversity: East Asia is home to diverse cultures, languages, and religions. The most dominant religions include Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. The region is also famous for its unique cuisines, traditional dress, and music.
  2. Education: Some of the world’s top-ranked universities, including Peking University, Tokyo University, and Seoul National University, are located in East Asia. These institutions attract thousands of international students to the region annually.
  3. Technological innovation: Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan are known for their technological advances in the fields of electronics, robotics, and automotive industries. These countries boast globally recognized companies such as Samsung, Toyota, and Sony.
  4. Tourism: East Asia is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world, boasting stunning natural and cultural attractions such as the Great Wall of China, Mount Fuji in Japan, and temples of Angkor Wat in Cambodia.

**Problems and limitations of geographic assets of East Asia**

1. Limited arable land.

East Asia, particularly Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, have limited arable land which restricts their agricultural production. The region is mostly mountainous, which makes it hard to cultivate crops.

1. Natural disasters.

The region is prone to natural disasters such as earthquakes, typhoons, and tsunamis which cause loss of life, destruction of property and affects the economy.

1. Landlocked countries.

Some countries in East Asia such as Mongolia are landlocked which means they do not have access to sea routes, making it difficult to transport goods through the ocean.

1. Limited natural resources.

East Asia also faces a scarcity of natural resources that can be exploited for economic gain. The region depends on importing resources such as oil, coal, and minerals.

1. Pollution.

Rapid industrialization in China, Japan and South Korea have affected and continues to affect the environment. Pollution levels have reached alarming heights, and the governments have taken measures to control it.

1. Overpopulation.

East Asia has a large population, and in some cities such as Tokyo and Shanghai, the population density is very high, which leads to overcrowding and puts pressure on the available resources.

1. Political instability.

The region’s political climate is volatile, and tensions continue to arise between countries, which affects trade relations, affecting the economy of the region.