

# SUSTAINABILITY and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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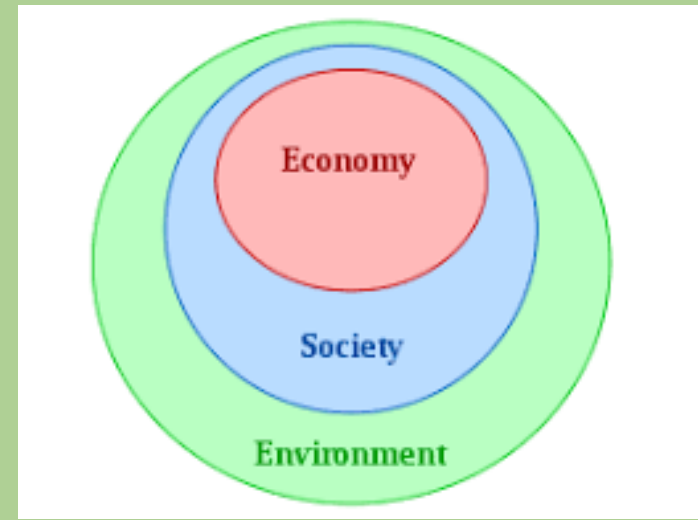


## SUSTAINABILITY and SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Sustainable development** has been defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

For sustainable development to be achieved, it is crucial to harmonize **three core elements**: 1) economic growth, 2) social inclusion and 3) environmental protection.  
**“3 Ps”** : These principles are also informally used as **profit, people and planet**.

These elements are interconnected and all are crucial for the well-being of individuals and societies.



# SUSTAINABILITY

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Cooperating to Empower Rural Communities in Sustainable Development



## SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is **important** for many reasons including:

Environmental Quality – In order to have healthy communities, we need clean air, natural resources, and a nontoxic environment. ...

Healthcare – Sustainability and healthcare are intricately related since the quality of our environment affects public health.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Environmental sustainability doesn't mean living without luxuries but rather being aware of your resource consumption and reducing unnecessary waste.

Reduce household energy use

Eat locally

Dispose with disposables

Plant seeds

Recycle

Resell and donate items

Drink from the tap

Save water



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## SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is studied and managed in many different areas, types of time scales and by many environmental, social and economic organizations.

The focus ranges from the total carrying capacity (sustainability) of planet Earth to the sustainability of economic sectors, ecosystems, countries, municipalities, neighbourhood, home gardens, individual lives, individual goods, and services. This includes the use of natural resources prudently to meet current needs without affecting the ability of the future generation from meeting their needs.



## SUSTAINABILITY

The ecological footprint measures human consumption in terms of the biologically productive land and sea area needed to provide for all the competing demands on nature, including the provision of food, fiber, the accommodation of urban infrastructure and the absorption of waste, including carbon from burning fossil fuel.

In 2019, it required on average 2.8 global hectares per person worldwide, 75% more than the biological capacity of 1.6 global hectares available on this planet per person (this space includes the space needed for wild species).

The resulting ecological deficit must be met from unsustainable extra sources and these are obtained in three ways: embedded in the goods and services of world trade; taken from the past (e.g. fossil fuels); or borrowed from the future as unsustainable resource usage (e.g. by over exploiting forests and fisheries).

## SUSTAINABILITY

The underlying driver of direct human impacts on the environment is human consumption.

This impact is reduced by not only consuming less but also making the full cycle of production, use, and disposal more sustainable.

Consumption of goods and services can be analysed and managed at all scales through the chain of consumption, starting with the effects of individual lifestyle choices and spending patterns, through to the resource demands of specific goods and services, the impacts of economic sectors, through national economies to the global economy.



## SUSTAINABILITY

Education for sustainable development (ESD) is commonly understood as education that encourages changes in knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to enable a more sustainable and just society for all.

ESD **aims** to empower and equip current and future generations to meet their needs using a balanced and integrated approach to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

The concept of ESD was born from the need for education to address the growing environmental challenges facing the planet.

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W Sustainability - Wikipedia

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## Sustainability


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*For the journal, see [Sustainability \(journal\)](#).  
"Sustainable" redirects here. For the AKB48 song, see [Sustainable \(song\)](#).*


**Sustainability** is the ability of a [system](#) to exist constantly at a cost, in a [universe](#) that evolves towards thermodynamic equilibrium, the state with maximum [entropy](#). In the [21st century](#), it refers generally to the capacity for the [biosphere](#) and human [civilization](#) to coexist. It is also defined as the process of people maintaining change in a [homeostasis](#) balanced [environment](#), in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.<sup>[1]</sup> For many in the field, sustainability is defined through the following interconnected domains or pillars: environment, economic and social,<sup>[2]</sup> which according to [Fritjof Capra](#)<sup>[3]</sup> is based on the principles of Systems Thinking. Sub-domains of sustainable development have been considered also: cultural, technological and political.<sup>[4][5]</sup> According to [Our Common Future](#), [Sustainable development](#) is defined as development that "meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."<sup>[6][7]</sup> Sustainable development may be the [organizing principle](#) of sustainability, yet others may view the two terms as paradoxical (i.e., development is inherently unsustainable).<sup>[8][9][10]</sup>

Sustainability can also be defined as a [socio-ecological](#) process characterized by the pursuit of a common ideal.<sup>[11]</sup><sup>[*self-published source?*]</sup> An ideal is by definition unattainable in a given time and space. However, by persistently and dynamically approaching it, the process results in a sustainable system.<sup>[11]</sup> The study of ecology believes that sustainability is achieved through the balance of species and the resources within their environment. To maintain this equilibrium, available resources must not be depleted faster than resources are naturally generated.

Modern use of the term sustainability is broad and difficult to define precisely.<sup>[12]</sup> Originally, sustainability meant making only such use of natural, renewable resources that people can continue to rely on their yields in the long term.<sup>[13]</sup> The concept of sustainability, or



Achieving sustainability will enable the Earth to continue supporting life.



boundaries. Transgressing even one of them can be dangerous to sustainability. Those boundaries are:

Planetary Boundaries <sup>[314]</sup>					
Earth-system process	Control variable <sup>[315]</sup>	Boundary value	Current value	Boundary crossed	Preindustrial value
1. Climate change	Atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration (ppm by volume) <sup>[316]</sup> <i>See also: Tipping point (climatology)</i>	350	400	yes	280
	Alternatively: Increase in radiative forcing (W/m <sup>2</sup> ) since the start of the industrial revolution (~1750)	1.0	1.5	yes	0
2. Biodiversity loss	Extinction rate (number of species per million per year)	10	> 100	yes	0.1–1
3. Biogeochemical	(a) anthropogenic nitrogen removed from the atmosphere (millions of tonnes per year)	35	121	yes	0
	(b) anthropogenic phosphorus going into the oceans (millions of tonnes per year)	11	8.5–9.5	no	–1
4. Ocean acidification	Global mean saturation state of aragonite in surface seawater (omega units)	2.75	2.90	no	3.44
5. Land use	Land surface converted to cropland (percent)	15	11.7	no	low
6. Freshwater	Global human consumption of water (km <sup>3</sup> /yr)	4000	2600	no	415
7. Ozone depletion	Stratospheric ozone concentration (Dobson units)	276	283	no	290
8. Atmospheric aerosols	Overall particulate concentration in the atmosphere, on a regional basis	not yet quantified			
9. Chemical pollution	Concentration of toxic substances, plastics, endocrine disruptors, heavy metals, and radioactive contamination into the environment	not yet quantified			

## SUSTAINABILITY and tourism

**Sustainable tourism** is the concept of visiting somewhere as a tourist and trying to make a positive impact on the environment, society, and economy.

Tourism can involve primary transportation to the general location, local transportation, accommodations, entertainment, recreation, nourishment and shopping. It can be related to travel for leisure, business and what is called VFR (visiting friends and relatives).

There is now broad consensus that tourism development should be sustainable; however, the question of how to achieve this remains an object of debate.

## SUSTAINABILITY and tourism

Destinations and tourism operations are endorsing and following "**responsible tourism**" as a pathway towards sustainable tourism.

Responsible tourism and sustainable tourism have an identical goal, that of sustainable development. The pillars of responsible tourism are therefore the same as those of sustainable tourism – environmental integrity, social justice and economic development.

The major difference between the two is that, in responsible tourism, individuals, organizations and businesses are asked to take responsibility for their actions and the impacts of their actions.