



Environmental Sustainability

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Environmental sustainability is the key to human well-being in the present and future. The only way to reverse climate change and avoid climatic disasters is to live in harmony with nature. By compromising the planet, we are compromising our growth, development, and even survival

Environmental sustainability is the ability to maintain an ecological balance in our planet's natural environment and conserve natural resources to support the wellbeing of current and future generations. Environmental sustainability is the responsible use of natural resources to ensure they will be around in the future. It is important because the Earth is a finite place, with limited land, water, and wildlife. Sustainable resource use is the only way to make sure future generations will have what they need to survive. According to the United Nations (UN) World Commission on Environment and Development, environmental sustainability is about acting in a way that ensures future generations have the natural resources available to live an equal, if not better, way of life as current generations.

While it may not be universally accepted, the UN's definition is pretty standard and has been expanded over the years to include perspectives on human needs and well-being, including non-economic variables, such as education and health, clean air and water, and the protection of natural beauty.



1. **Alternate definition:** Environmental sustainability is the capacity to improve the quality of human life while living within the carrying capacity of the earth's supporting ecosystems.
2. **Alternate definition:** Environmental sustainability is about stabilizing the currently disruptive relationship between earth's two most complex systems: human culture and the living world.

The Importance of Environmental Sustainability

When we're feeling stressed or out of touch, many of us instinctively go for walks. We search for forests, parks, beaches, and country roads to feel more at peace connected to nature. Given that fact, it's no surprise that human well-being is intrinsically linked to the health of the environment. About 24% of global human deaths are caused—directly or indirectly—by avoidable environmental factors. To live long and healthy lives, we need and deserve unpolluted air to breathe, clean water to drink, and to live in places free of toxic substances.

As the global population grows and we begin to experience the long-term consequences of excessive energy use and industrial growth, we must prevent further damage. It is our job to ensure our future generations have healthy places to live and minimize our damage to the earth's biodiverse ecosystems. For businesses, sustainability means running a business through sustainable practices and securing future growth potential without causing too much damage to the environment. The three pillars of sustainability involve economic, social, and environmental development.

1. Economic sustainability is the responsibility of businesses and communities. Here, they are encouraged to use their resources responsibly and efficiently. Economic sustainability is designed to support long-term economic growth without harming the environmental, social, and cultural aspects of our global community.
2. Social sustainability benefits people. Living sustainably as individuals, families, communities, and countries means healthier air and less money needlessly spent on healthcare. Using renewable energy sources can reduce droughts, as they require less water and energy to maintain. The eventual goal is that sustainable development will



also reduce hunger and poverty, and generally provide a better global quality of life, promoting fairly distributed education and healthcare.

3. Environmental sustainability focuses on the state of the planet. It encourages individuals to live in a way that creates minimal waste and even regenerates some of the resources we use every day.

In conclusion, embracing environmental sustainability is imperative for safeguarding the planet's health and ensuring a prosperous future for generations to come. By prioritizing conservation, renewable energy, waste reduction, and mindful consumption, we can mitigate climate change, preserve biodiversity, and foster a more equitable and resilient world. It is our collective responsibility to take meaningful action today to preserve the Earth's natural resources and create a sustainable legacy for tomorrow.

Reference

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