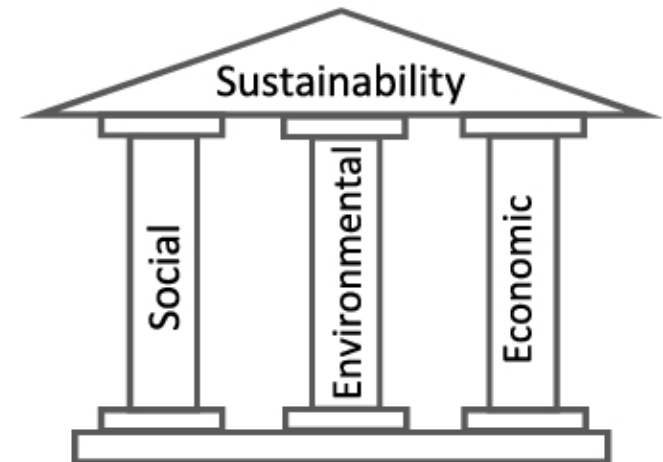
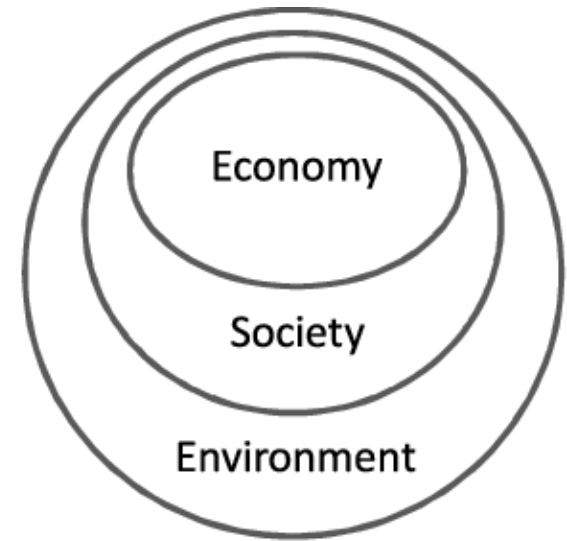
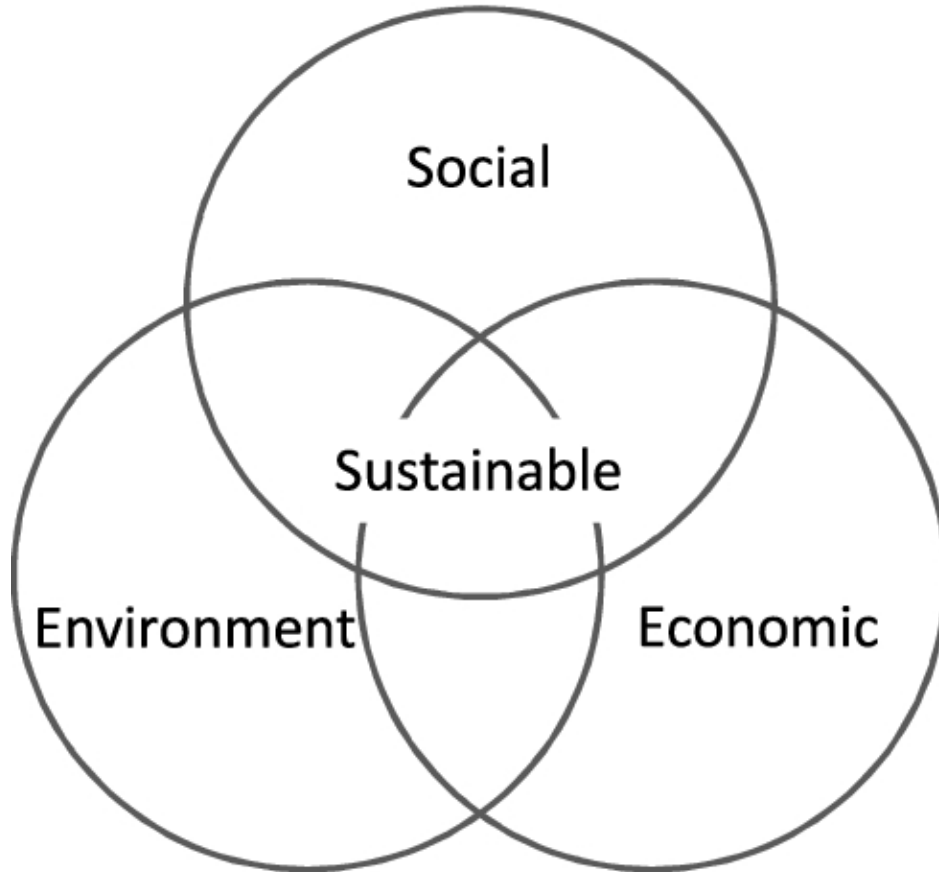


# Sustainability

## Definition

*Sustainability is meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

# Three pillars of sustainability



## People, Planet, Profit

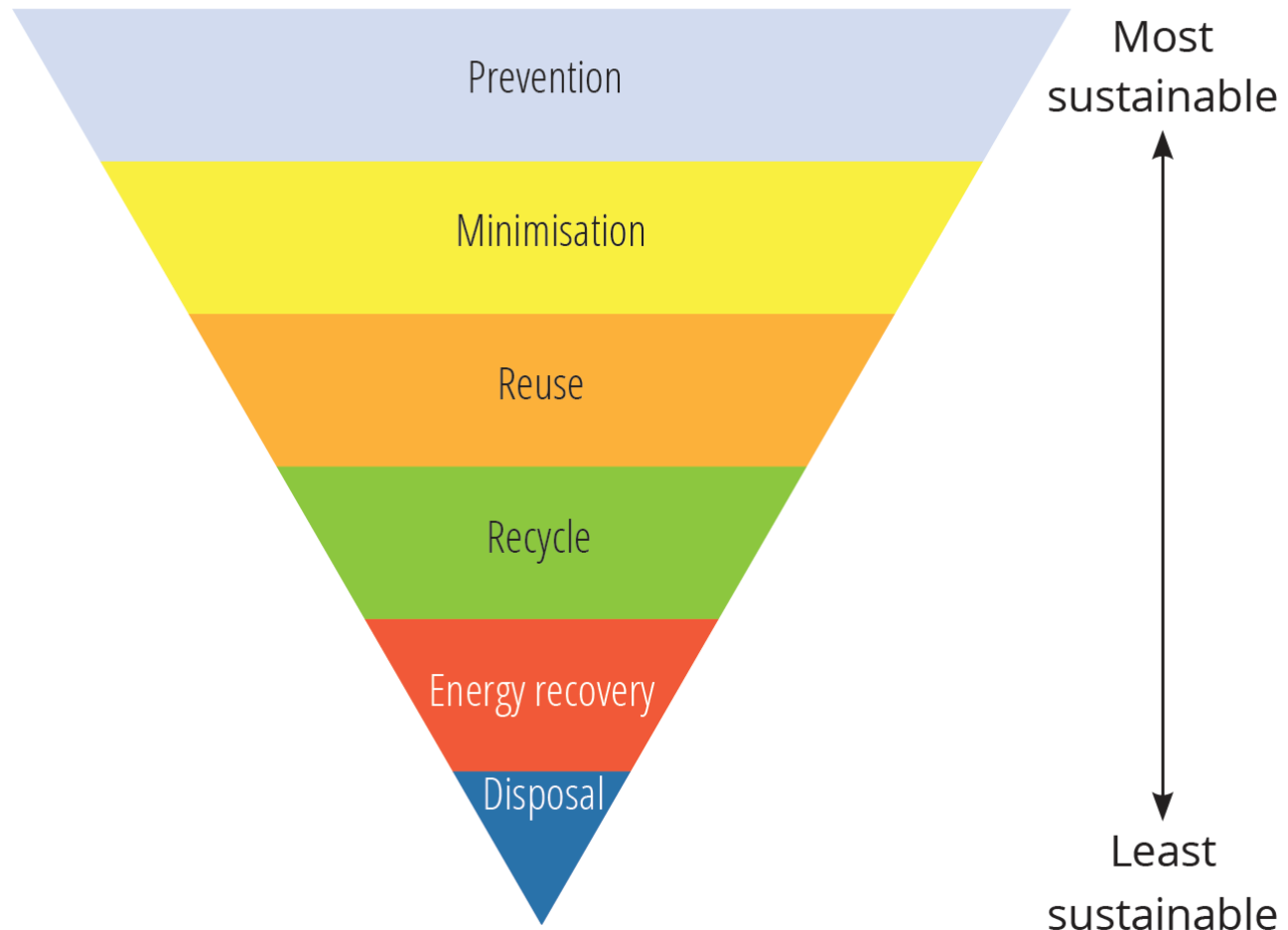
- **Social Sustainability** is the ability of society, or any social system, to persistently achieve a good social well being. Achieving social sustainability ensures that the social well being of a country, an organisation, or a community can be maintained in the long term.
- **Environmental Sustainability** means that we are living within the means of our natural resources. To live in true environmental sustainability, we need to ensure that we are consuming our natural resources, such as materials, energy fuels, land, water...etc, at a sustainable rate.
- **Economic Sustainability** requires that a business or country uses its resources efficiently and responsibly so that it can operate in a sustainable manner to consistently produce an operational profit. Without an operational profit a business cannot sustain its activities. Without acting responsibly and using its resources efficiently a company will not be able to sustain its activities in the long term.

Everyone can make a positive impact on the environment through sustainable behaviours and attitudes.

Consider the following questions:

- What does sustainability mean to you?
- What are you doing now to protect the planet, and what should you be doing?

## The Waste Hierarchy



- **Your home energy use and waste production.** This includes factors like how much electricity, natural gas, and other fuels you use as well as whether you recycle or send your waste to landfill/incineration.
- **Travel.** Your footprint will vary depending on whether or not you have car/motorbike, as well as how often you use it. Similarly, your use of public transport contributes.
- **Your diet.** The types of food you eat and where you source it from can play a central role in your overall carbon footprint. The more energy-intensive it is to produce and ship your food, the worse for the environment it generally is.
- **Your shopping habits.** Another factor is how often you purchase new products such as electronics, household goods and clothing. The lifespan of these items, as well as where and how they're produced, can play a role in your carbon emissions.



1. Reduce
2. Reuse
3. Recycle
4. Repair



**"SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**  
*is that which*  
**MEETS THE NEEDS**  
*of the ----->* **PRESENT**  
**WITHOUT COMPROMISING**  
*the ability of*  
*future generations to*  
**MEET THEIR OWN**  
**NEEDS"**

This definition of sustainable development comes from Gro Harlem Brundtland, Prime Minister of Norway and author of Our Common Future (1987).

**the most environmentally friendly product is the one you didn't buy.**  
- JOSHUA BECKER

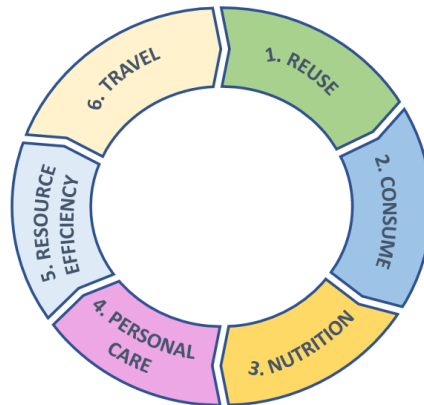


"We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect."  
ALDO LEOPOLD

**We just can't consume our way to a more sustainable world.**



Sustainability Quotes  
www.geckoandfly.com



**"The Earth is what we all have in common."**  
- Wendell Berry