

Social

Buildings are built for people. Healthy well-being and livability in buildings are important aspects to be addressed in a sustainable strategy to strive towards the goal of ensuring a positive quality of life for present and future generations. Furthermore, buildings impact social fabric of any city. While the structure may vary in complexity and use, the goal of each building is to provide a positive human interaction within that building. Each user must accomplish their goals in using the building and the user's health, safety and welfare during that period must be ensured. To achieve sustainability, Dubai has identified the following aspects as important social considerations.

- **Protect health** - Sustainable buildings in Dubai aims to protect the health and well-being of buildings occupants. This level of sustainability is achieved through the implementation of low VOC paints and coatings, ensuring adequate ventilation and restricting the use of asbestos containing materials.
- **Ensure comfort and livability** – A positive quality of life in and around the building is important for sustainability. Buildings must be livable and promote comfortable surroundings with both active and passive systems. Thus, in Dubai, this aspect of sustainability includes measures such as lighting and thermal controls, views from the building and good acoustical control.
- **Heritage and Community** - The social aspect includes sensitivity to Dubai specific culture and heritage. It also ensures that building is accessible to everyone in the community. For buildings in Dubai, this include ensuring enabled access for People of Determination and incorporation of indigenous plants that are less water consuming. The social aspect also includes encouraging responsible use of resources by the community and instilling conservation ideals.

Sustainability Aspects are Interrelated

As shown in fig. 101.03(2), all aspects of sustainability are interrelated. The interdependence of these principles reflects the interdependence of the building, the systems within the building and the site on which the building is located. Each of the regulations impacts all three areas of the triple bottom line, as well as all the various aspects described above.

Impacts occur during every phase of a building life cycle from site development to deconstruction. This practice guide identifies impacts as they related to sustainability (within the “significance” section of each regulation) and therefore recognises the cross-correlation of these principles and aspects. Sustainability is the pathway on which the regulations are built and they seek continuous improvement in building development for its entire life cycle.

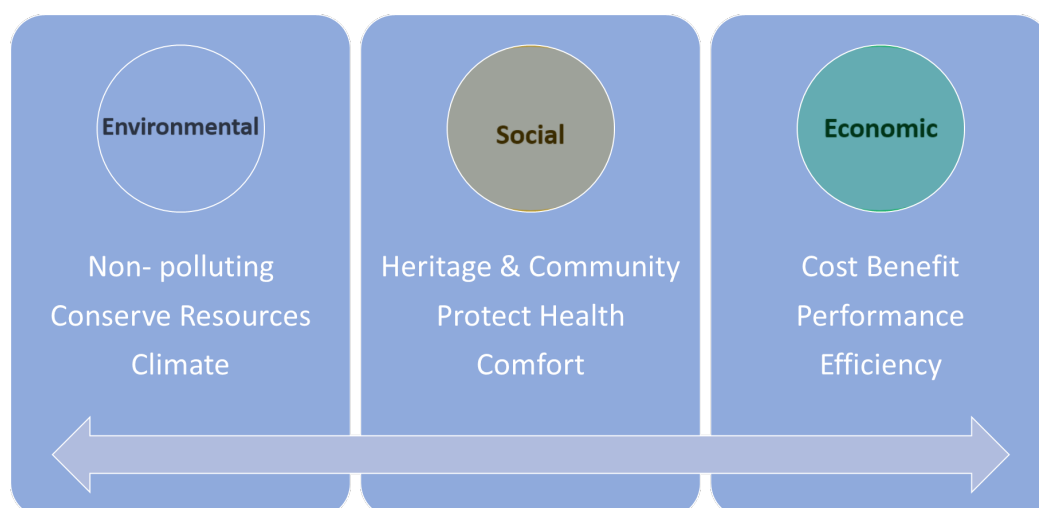


Fig 101.03(2): Interrelated Sustainability Aspects