

### 101.03: LINK TO SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability is a complex concept which has rapidly developed in the past few years. Founded in the Brundtland Report 'Our Common Future' the concept of Sustainable Development addresses the environmental and social issues in the contest of economic growth. In the context of the built environment and climate change, sustainability has become the benchmark terminology for the response required from human influenced activities. Dubai examined the traditional definition of Sustainable Development as defined by the Brundtland Commission in 1987, which states that:

*"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own need"*

Dubai also reviewed the common principles of sustainability, often referred as the 'Triple Bottom Line'. This concept is a way of going beyond just the economic aspects of any product, project or programme. It includes three aspects: Social, Environment and Economic and is often viewed as interlocking circles as depicted in fig. 101.03(1).

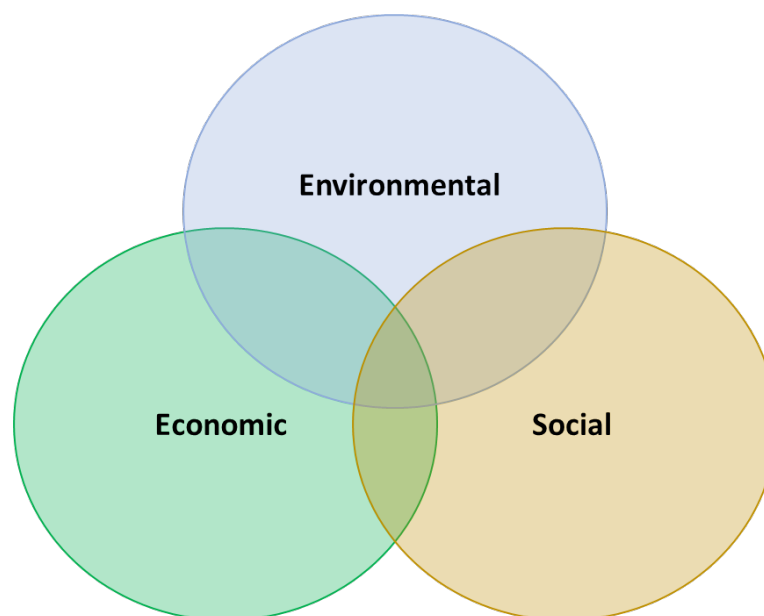


Fig 101.03(1): Three Pillars of Sustainability

It was the intent of Dubai that in developing the 'Al Sa'fat - Dubai Green Building System' that they were lined to the higher principles of Sustainability. With Al Sa'fat, Dubai wishes to balance the opportunities and challenges of each aspect in the 'triple bottom line' ensuring a positive outcome for all. Al Sa'fat aims to deliver a built environment that delivers environmental improvement and a better quality of life for the people and visitors of Dubai and in support for future economic growth.

The goal is to apply sustainable principles to the tasks of building design, construction, operation, maintenance, change of use and deconstruction in Dubai.

#### Environmental

Buildings has many impacts on the environment. From materials that is manufactured, to the multiple facets of construction, to the long term operation and maintenance period and to the final disassembly and disposition of components, a building have an impact on the environment.