**A definition of sustainability**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainability

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| **Word / phrase** | **Translation** | **Usage / memory aid** |
| **pillar** | Säule | Commonly used schematics of sustainability are three **pillars** or three **intersecting** or **nested** circles. |
| **intersecting circles** | sich überschneidende Kreise |
| **nested circles** | verschachtelte Kreise |
| **social sustainability** | soziale Nachhaltigkeit, Sozialverträglichkeit | **Social**, **economic** and **environmental sustainability** are the three pillars of sustainability. |
| **economic sustainability** | wirtschaftliche Nachhaltigkeit |
| **environmental sustainability** | Ökologische Nachhaltigkeit, Umweltverträglichkeit |
| **biodiversity** | Artenvielfalt, Biodiversität | **Biodiversity** or biological diversity is the variety and variability of life on Earth, including plants, bacteria, animals, and humans. |
| **ecosystem services** | Ökosysstemdienstleistungen = Nutzen / Vorteile, den / die Menschen von Ökosystemen beziehen | **Ecosystem services** are the many and varied benefits to humans provided by the natural environment and healthy ecosystems. |
| **land degradation** | Bodenverschlechterung, Bodendegradierung | **Land degradation** is the loss of the productive capacity of land or soil. |
| **planetary boundaries** | planetare Grenzen | **Planetary boundaries** are the limits within which humanity can continue to develop and thrive for generations to come. |
| **sustainable development** | nachhaltige Entwicklung,  zukunftsfähige Entwicklung | **Sustainable development** is how we must live today if we want a better tomorrow, by meeting present needs without compromising the chances of future generations to meet their needs. |
| **fertility rate** | Geburtenrate | **fertility rate** = birth rate |
| **renewable energy** | erneuerbare Energie | **Renewable energy** is energy from a source that is not depleted when used, such as water, wind or solar power. |
| **fossil fuels** | fossile Brennstoffe | **Fossil fuels** such as coal, mineral oil and natural gas are made from the decayed remains of plants and animals. |
| (to) **tackle** | in Angriff nehmen, angehen, bewältigen | * Measures to **tackle** carbon emissions, such as planting trees, also support efforts to maintain and enrich biodiversity. * (to) **tackle** = (to) address, (to) take forward |
| (to) **be equipped with** sth. | ausgerüstet / ausgestattet sein mit | Many students **are** not sufficiently **equipped with** technical and research skills to address climate change relevant topics. |
| (to) **enforce** | durchsetzen, erzwingen | The government must create and **enforce** laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution. |

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| **Word / phrase** | **Translation** | **Usage / memory aid** |
| **sanctioning mechanism** | Sanktionsmechanismus | * A **sanctioning mechanism** is a measure to stop or prohibit certain actions or behaviour. * Enforcing global agreements is often inefficient due to the lack of suitable **sanctioning mechanism**s. |
| **flora and fauna** | Flora und Fauna | * **flora and fauna** = plants and animals * Cruise ships endanger the **flora and fauna** of coral reefs. |
| (to) **safeguard** | sichern, schützen, (be)wahren | * (to) **safeguard** = (to) protect, (to) keep safe * The natural resources of the earth must be **safeguard**ed for the benefit of present and future generations. |
| **buzzword** | Modewort, leeres Schlagwort | Unfortunately, sustainability has become a **buzzword**. |
| **Sustainable Development Goals** | Ziele für nachhaltige Entwicklung | * There are two sides to the United Nation’s **Sustainable Development Goals** (SDGs), which appear at risk of **contradiction**. One calls for humanity to achieve “harmony with nature” and to protect the planet from degradation. The other calls for continued global economic growth. * contradiction *(n.)* 🡪 contradictory *(adj.)* 🡪 (to) contradict *(v.)* |
| **contradiction** | Widerspruch |
| **beneficial** | vorteilhaft, nützlich, förderlich | * The reduction of meat consumption would be **beneficial** for the climate. * **beneficial** = helpful, useful, advantageous * **beneficial** *(adj.)* 🡪 (to) benefit *(v.)* 🡪 benefit *(n.)* |
| **policy**  **environmental policy** | Politik (im Sinne von “politisches Gesamtkonzept“ / „politische Methode / Linie / Strategie / Vorgehensweise“)  Umweltpolitik | * **policy** = a course of action that has been officially agreed and chosen by a government, political party, business, or other organization * Effective environmental **policy** strategies are needed to secure sustainable development. * 🗲 politics = political activities / actions |
| **greenwashing** | Greenwashing | **Greenwashing** is the act or practice of misleading consumers by making a product, service, policy, activity etc. appear to be more sustainable than it really is. |
| **deceptive** | irreführend, trügerisch, täuschend | * Greenwashing is a practice of **deceptive** marketing. * **deceptive** = misleading * **deceptive** *(adj.)* 🡪 (to) deceive *(v.)* 🡪 deception *(n.)* |
| **recyclable** | wiederverwertbar | * Both **recyclable** and renewable resources will aid in making the planet safer, greener, and better for future generations. * **recyclable** *(adj.)* 🡪 (to) recycle *(v.)* 🡪 recycling *(n.)* |