

WHAT DO WE NEED?

A sustainable human society is one that functions so well that it can continue indefinitely. There is no toxic pollution build-up, and resources are used and reused so there's no waste. Social, political and economic systems are organised responsibly so that people can meet their needs while leaving enough resources for future generations.

1. What does a human being need in order to survive?

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2. How many of these factors rely on a healthy, functioning natural environment?

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We can assess the sustainability of our society using indicators. These are things that can be measured repeatedly over time to see how conditions are changing.

3. List some environmental indicators we could use to measure our environmental wellbeing.

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4. List some social indicators we could use to measure our social wellbeing.

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5. List some economic indicators we could use to measure our economic wellbeing.

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Useful resources:

- Sandra McEwen, *EcoLogic: creating a sustainable future*, Powerhouse Publishing, Sydney, 2004, pp 81–82
- www.sustainablemeasures.com/indicators