

# Sustainable cities



# 11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Cities are hubs for ideas, commerce, culture, science, productivity, social development and much more. At their best, cities have enabled people to advance socially and economically.

- **Sustainable cities, urban sustainability, or ecocity (also "ecocity") is a city designed with consideration for social, economic, environmental impact (commonly referred to as the triple bottom line<sup>[1]</sup>), and resilient habitat for existing populations, without compromising the ability of future generations to experience the same. The UN Sustainable Development Goal 11 defines sustainable cities as those that are dedicated to achieving green sustainability, social sustainability and economic sustainability. They are committed to doing so by enabling opportunities for all through a design focused on inclusivity as well as maintaining a sustainable economic growth. The focus also includes minimizing required inputs of energy, water, and food, and drastically reducing waste, output of heat, air pollution – CO  
2, methane, and water pollution.**



Cities occupy just 3 percent of the Earth's land but account for 60 to 80 percent of energy consumption and at least 70 percent of carbon emissions. Thus, creating safe, resilient and sustainable cities is one of the top priorities of the Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>[4]</sup> The Adelaide City Council<sup>[5]</sup> states that socially sustainable cities should be equitable, diverse, connected, democratic, and provide a good quality of life. Priorities of a sustainable city include the ability to feed itself with a sustainable reliance on the surrounding natural environment and the ability to power itself with renewable sources of energy, while creating the smallest conceivable ecological footprint and the lowest quantity of pollution achievable. All of this is to be accomplished by efficiently using the land in ways such as composting used materials, recycling, and/or converting waste-to-energy. The idea is that these contributions will lead to a decrease of the city's impact on climate change.

**Cities are a puzzle for some and inspiration for others. As engines of economic growth, they are also hubs of rapid urbanization, a rising middle class, and a growing population. These three mega-trends drive global environmental degradation yet are only part of the important challenge facing cities today.**



- **WHILE CONSUMING OVER TWO-THIRDS OF GLOBAL ENERGY SUPPLY AND EMITTING 70% OF ALL CARBON DIOXIDE, CITIES ARE ALSO UNIQUELY VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE CHANGE. FOURTEEN OF THE WORLD'S 19 LARGEST CITIES ARE LOCATED IN PORT AREAS. WITH SEA LEVEL RISE AND INCREASED STORM ACTIVITY, THESE AREAS ARE LIKELY TO FACE COASTAL FLOODING, DAMAGE TO INFRASTRUCTURE, AND COMPROMISED WATER AND FOOD SECURITY. UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, MEETING URBAN POPULATION'S GROWING PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION NEEDS FOR FOOD, ENERGY, WATER, AND INFRASTRUCTURE WILL OVERLOAD RURAL AND URBAN ECOSYSTEMS.**



Informations: [Wikipedia](#)  
Video: [GloballyGreat](#)

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