

## Sustainable progress? – Glossary

**accelerate** verb [intransitive/transitive]  
to happen or make something happen at a faster rate

**according to** preposition  
used for saying where information or ideas have come from

**assess** verb [transitive]  
to carefully consider a situation, person, or problem in order to make a judgment  
*We tried to assess his suitability for the job.*

**bottom of the pile, the** phrase  
the last in status, income, or advantages  
*Welfare cuts have reduced the income of those at the bottom of the pile.*

**climate change** noun [uncountable]  
the changes that are thought to be affecting the world's weather so that it is becoming warmer

**easier said than done** phrase  
INFORMAL used for saying that something is a good idea but will be difficult to achieve  
*Some people want the UN to withdraw, but that's easier said than done.*

**economic** adjective [usually before noun]  
relating to money  
*Such projects offer social and economic benefits to our local communities.*

**emission** noun [countable]  
a substance, especially a gas, that goes into the air  
*New regulations are aimed at reducing vehicle emissions.*

**greenhouse gas** noun [countable]  
a gas such as carbon dioxide that stops heat from escaping from the atmosphere and causes the greenhouse effect, adding to *global warming* (an increase in the Earth's temperature)

**income** noun [countable/uncountable]  
money that someone gets from working or from investing money  
*Most of the villagers rely on farming for income.*

**inequality** noun [countable/uncountable]  
a situation in which people are not equal because some groups have more opportunities, power, money etc than others

**life expectancy** noun [countable/uncountable]  
the length of time that someone is likely to live

**livelihood** noun [countable/uncountable]  
something such as your work that provides the money that you need to live  
*a development that threatens the livelihood of local small farmers*

**needless to say** phrase  
used for saying that something is already known or understood  
*Needless to say, I was very upset about the whole thing.*

**pose** verb [transitive]  
to create a difficult or dangerous situation

**poverty** noun [uncountable]  
a situation in which someone does not have enough money to pay for their basic needs  
*Half the world's population is living in poverty.*

**publish** verb [transitive]  
to make information available for everyone to read  
*The results of the crime survey were published in June.*

**seek** verb [transitive]  
FORMAL to ask for something, or to try to get something

**sub-Saharan** adjective  
in the part of Africa that is south of the Sahara Desert

**sustainable** adjective  
capable of continuing for a long time at the same level  
*sustainable economic growth*

**tend** verb [intransitive]  
to usually do a particular thing  
*We tend to take technology for granted nowadays.*

**threat** noun [countable/uncountable]  
a situation or an activity that could cause harm or danger

**threaten** verb [transitive]  
to be likely to harm or destroy something  
*the cancer that now threatens his life*