

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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

World Commission on Environment and Development,
Our Common Future, 1987

THE REQUIRED DISTINCTION BETWEEN *DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH*

Goodland, et al. (1991)

to grow means to increase in size by the assimilation or accretion of materials

to develop means to expand or realize the potentialities of; to bring to a fuller, greater or better state. When something grows it gets quantitatively bigger; when it develops it gets qualitatively better, or at least different. (p.2)

Qualitative improvements in services, welfare and the value of output -- through such means as technological advance, increased efficiency, conservation, and increased equity -- are certainly desirable, *sustainability requires that this must be accomplished* without quantitative increase in physical inputs or outputs.