To be sustainable, development must protect and restore ecological systems, enhance the well-being of people and improve economic efficiency.

Our Vision
Better living for all—sustainably

Our Mission
To champion innovation, enabling societies to live sustainably

The International Institute for Sustainable Development is a non-profit, non-governmental research institute demonstrating how human ingenuity can sustainably improve the development of our global environment, economy and society. Our research, expert analysis and policy recommendations provide the knowledge needed by all citizens of the world working towards sustainable development. Based in Winnipeg, IISD works in Canada and internationally through our offices in Geneva, Ottawa and New York. In addition, our staff and associates are positioned throughout the world conducting research and providing expert knowledge and analysis. The Institute’s international Board of Directors includes recognized experts in the areas of business, environmental science, government, and international relations. IISD receives financial support from Canadian federal and provincial governments as well as other national governments, UN agencies, foundations, and the private sector. The Institute is a registered charity in Canada and has 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status in the United States.
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Sustainable Development

How can we ensure that tomorrow’s sustainable development leaders are ready today?

How can we make the transition to clean energy sources, low-emission economies and human systems that are able to adapt to and mitigate the impacts of a changing climate?

How can we promote policies that build resilient ecosystems, which sustain our well-being and help us adapt to global environmental change?

How can we ensure that international trade and foreign investment promote human well-being and environmental integrity?

How can we ensure that the transfer of critical information about sustainable development is available to all?

How can we enable the transparency of international negotiations needed for cooperation on sustainable development globally?

How can we develop assessment tools that accurately measure progress towards sustainable development?

How can we ensure that economic subsidies do not endanger our progress towards sustainable development?

How can we ensure that economic policies that will eliminate extreme poverty and still maintain a healthy environment?

How can we maintain human security in a world threatened by environmental degradation?

How can we provide producers in least-developed countries with fair access to global markets?

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Global access to IISD

Sustainable development requires global communication. www.iisd.org is one of the best-known sites on the Internet for research information about sustainable development with over 24 million hits a year. Our Linkages Web site at www.iisd.ca provides daily and summary reports of UN and other multilateral agencies’ international environmental and development negotiations. Posted on the Web site and offered through free mailing lists, this information increases transparency in the global development arena.
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