

Q. What are the five elements of sustainability (5 Ps)?

Sustainable development is development that is grounded in five dimensions, which have been expressed through the “5 Ps” or five pillars of sustainable development as people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership.

Q. Sustainability could be divided into two categories: weak and strong sustainability.

Weak sustainability assumes that everything is substitutable and assumes that total capital stock should be non-decreasing, so the contributions of the natural world to economic production (‘natural capital’) and to manufactured capital are substitutable.

Strong sustainability focuses on keeping the resource stock constant over time and focuses on the optimal scale of economic activity.

There are some criticisms of both. Weak sustainability only depends on labor and reproducible capital and fails to consider the necessity land and resources, thereby causing it to be probably be feasible for just the short-term. As for strong sustainability, it focuses too much on economics and the market. However, in comparison to weak sustainability, strong sustainability would be feasible for a longer time period.

Q. What is the different between weak and strong sustainability?

Weak sustainability postulates the full substitutability of natural capital whereas the strong sustainability demonstrates that this substitutability should be seriously limited due to the existence of critical elements that natural capital provides for human existence and well- being.