

ENSURE SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

Unsustainable consumption and production are driving the "big three" planetary crises: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

NOTICING

The rate at which humans are extracting and processing the Earth's natural resources is outpacing both population and economic growth. This contributes to about half of total global greenhouse gas emissions and more than 90% of biodiversity loss and water stress. The environmental consequences further reduce the quality and quantity of natural resources available.

INTERPRETING/EMPATHIZING

Current extraction and production processes contributes to a linear "take, make, waste" economy that allows systems of exploitation to prosper, sheltered from view. The environmental impacts of unsustainable consumption and production also threaten livelihoods and food security, drive conflict and war, and harm human health. The world's poorest people, who are most directly dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, have the least means and support to cope with the environmental consequences, which worsens inequality.

TAKING ACTION

Compassionate frameworks can help make visible again the interconnectedness with one another and with the natural world. We need to respect the biophysical boundaries of the planet and move from linear to circular consumption patterns through a combination of extended product life cycles; intelligent product design; and reuse, recycling, and remanufacturing. With the right resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production policies in place, global resource use can slow significantly and waste can be reduced while still accelerating global economic growth—especially for LMICs.

12 RESPONSIBLE
CONSUMPTION
AND PRODUCTION



17%

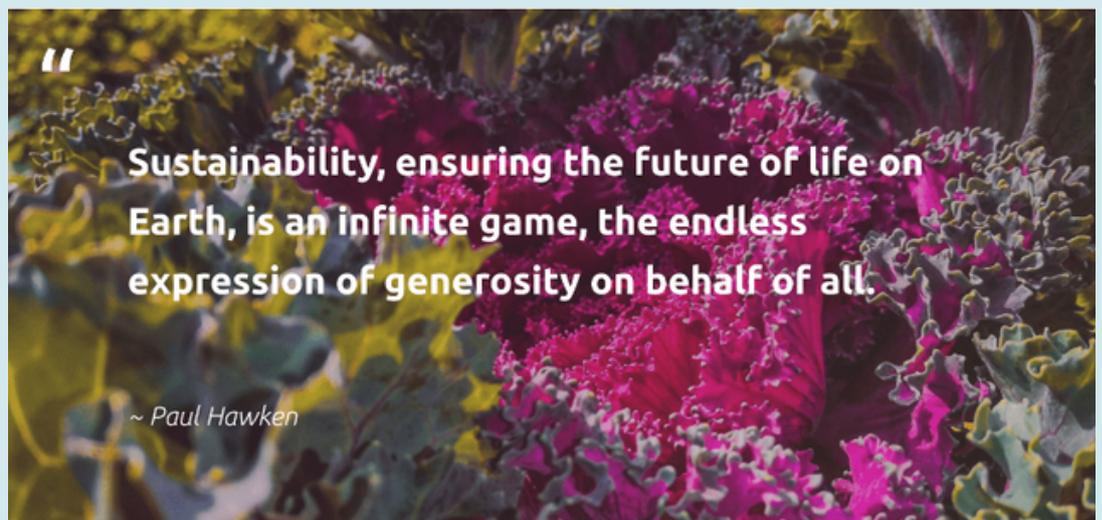
OF THE
WORLD'S FOOD
IS WASTED AT
THE CONSUMER
LEVEL

2 BILLION

METRIC TONS OF
WASTE ARE
GENERATED
GLOBALLY
EVERY YEAR.
ONE-THIRD IS
NOT MANAGED
IN AN
ENVIRONMENTALLY
SAFE MANNER.

98%

OF SINGLE-USE
PLASTIC
PRODUCTS ARE
MADE FROM
FOSSIL FUELS



“

Sustainability, ensuring the future of life on Earth, is an infinite game, the endless expression of generosity on behalf of all.

~ Paul Hawken