

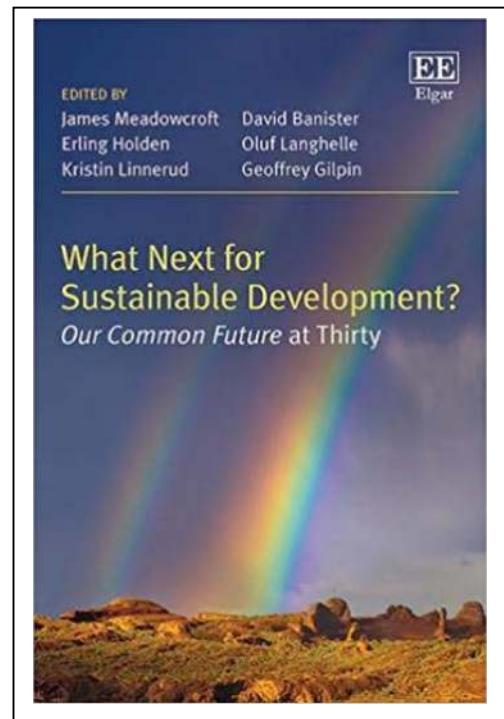
What Next for Sustainable Development? Our Common Future at Thirty.

by [James Meadowcroft](#) (Author, Editor), [David Banister](#) (Editor), [Erling Holden](#) (Editor), [Oluf Langhelle](#) (Editor), [Kristin Linnerud](#) (Editor), 2019.

FROM AMAZON...

https://www.amazon.com/What-Next-Sustainable-Development-Common/dp/1788975219/ref=sr_1_4?hvadid=3527197741&hvbm=be&hvdev=c&hvqmt=e&keywords=our+common+future&qid=1570719826&sr=8-4

Sustainable development brings together a series of normative themes related to negotiating environmental limits, to addressing equity, needs and development, and to the process of transformation and transition. To mark the 30th Anniversary of *Our Common Future* (1987), that first placed sustainable development on the global agenda, the editors have brought together a group of international scholars from a range of social science backgrounds. They have discussed these same themes looking backwards in terms of what has been achieved, assessing the current situation with respect to sustainable development, and looking forwards to identify the key elements of the future agenda. This book presents a series of critical reflections on these enduring themes. The overriding concern is with the present and with the future as the editors seek to explore the question: What next for sustainable development?



FROM...

Global Environmental Change

[Volume 26](#), May 2014, Pages 130-139

Sustainable development: *Our Common Future* revisited

Author links open overlay pane | [ErlingHolden](#) ^a[KristinLinnerud](#) ^b[DavidBanister](#) ^c

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0959378014000727>

No clear definition of sustainable development exists to guide politicians in solving challenges at the global or regional levels. Rather, the concept's use has increasingly reflected socially desirable attributes of solutions to local- and project-level problems, but these ignore the global challenges that the concept was meant to address.

We return to the original definition of sustainable development used in the Brundtland Report and

suggest an assessment method to determine whether countries currently meet the threshold values of four equally important primary dimensions: safeguarding long-term ecological sustainability, satisfying basic needs, and promoting intragenerational and intergenerational equity. We also define indicators and threshold values for each of these dimensions; in addition, we show how 167 countries compare in meeting these threshold values. Currently, no country meets all four thresholds. Even so, we propose that, with the use of technology and behavioural changes, it will be possible to reach the threshold values by 2030.

THE ORIGINAL REPORT...

The Brundtland Report 'Our Common Future'

To view the report in full, [click here](#).

Following the 1983 World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), chaired by Gro Harlem Brundtland, a 1987 report named 'Our Common Future' was published, defining Sustainable Development as:

'development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs''

The report highlighted three fundamental components to sustainable development: environmental protection, economic growth and social equity. The concept of sustainable development focused attention on finding strategies to promote economic and social advancement in ways that avoid environmental degradation, over-exploitation or pollution, and sidelined less productive debates about whether to prioritize development or the environment.