

## Definitions of Sustainability

Sustainability is a societal goal related to people's ability to co-exist on Earth for a long time safely. Definitions of this term are difficult to agree on and have varied with literature, context, and time.<sup>1</sup>

### The Environmental Protection Agency defines sustainability:

*“Sustainability is based on a simple principle: Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment. To pursue sustainability is to create and maintain the conditions under which humans and nature can exist in productive harmony to support present and future generations.”<sup>2</sup>*

### Sphera defines environmental sustainability:

*“Environmental sustainability is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and wellbeing, now and in the future. Because so many decisions that impact the environment are not felt immediately, a key element of environmental sustainability is its forward-looking nature.”<sup>3</sup>*

## Allodium's Sustainability Statement

*We strive to provide leadership in our community in terms of environmental stewardship and incorporate sustainability principles into our operations and business practices. We hope to offer our services and operate our firm with sustainable practices that protect the environment. We are thoughtful about how our individual decisions will impact the environment and strive to be energy efficient, reduce waste and pollution, and choose to recycle whenever possible.*

## Allodium's Commitment to the Environment

We provide a fiduciary standard of care for our clients and aspire to achieve the same standard of fiduciary care for our environment. Allodium's vision is to be the best investment management consulting firm in the eyes of our constituents, including our community. Serving our community includes striving to be responsible stewards of the environment for the benefit of future generations. We focus on minimizing our carbon footprint, eliminating plastic and reducing paper use when digital documents are available. We also recycle paper products, cardboard, cans, bottles, and outdated office equipment. Allodium has participated in the B Impact Assessment, which has helped us choose impact areas of focus and set concrete goals. We strive to continually assess our impact on stakeholders and aim to leave our community and the surrounding environment better off for having come into contact with us. We believe that striving to be a sustainable firm is not only good for the environment but good for business as well.

1. Ramsey, J. L. (2015). *On Not Defining Sustainability*. *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*. 28 (6): 1075–1087.
2. Environmental Protection Agency. <https://www.epa.gov/sustainability/learn-about-sustainability>
3. Sphera. <https://sphera.com/glossary/what-is-environmental-sustainability/>

© 2023 Allodium Investment Consultants

The information provided is for educational purposes only and is not intended to be, and should not be construed as, investment, legal or tax advice. Allodium makes no warranties with regard to the information or results obtained by its use and disclaim any liability arising out of your use of or reliance on the information. The information is subject to change and, although based upon information that Allodium considers reliable, is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. Past performance is not a guarantee or a predictor of future results of either the indices or any particular investment.