

UNIT II

AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

- Environmental Problems Associated with Agriculture : Loss of Productivity , Land Degradation and Desertification
- Uneven Food Production : Hunger , Malnutrition and Food Security
- Sustainable Agriculture Practices
- Environmental Problems Associated with Industries: Pollution , Global Warming , Ozone Layer Depletion and Acid Rain
- Sustainable Industrial Practices : Green Business and Green Consumerism and Corporate Social Responsibility

Factors Influencing Agriculture

- Some of the geographical factors influencing agriculture are
 - 1. Natural Factors
 - 2. Economic Factors
 - 3. Social Factors
 - 4. Political Factors!

1. Natural Factors:

- **The natural factors that affect agriculture most are:**
- (a) climate – mainly temperature and precipitation
- **Topography:/relief** determine the type of crop. Flat plains are some of the world's most fertile agriculturally productive lands .
- **Soil** : Soil is the layer on which crops grow . The structure and composition of the soil determines the type of crop grown e.g . Cotton grows well in black cotton soils.

2. Economic Factors:

- **Market:** Places near large centers of population generally develop market gardening and produce easily perishable goods which can be transported to the market for short distances without much damage.
- **Transportation Facilities:**
- **Labour:** Labour supply determines the character of agriculture. Intensive agriculture is essentially labour-intensive
- **Capital:** The modern mechanised farming has become capital-intensive to a large extent.
- **3. Social Factors:** Social factors affect farming in a number of ways. The type of farming practiced, be it shifting cultivation, subsistence farming, extensive cereal cultivation or mixed farming, etc., is always related to regional social structure.

- **4. Political Factors:** Political factors also play a vital role in agricultural development. The political system, i.e., capitalistic, communist or socialistic system determines the pattern of agriculture. For example in China, agriculture is fully controlled by government; similar was the case of former USSR. On the other hand, in USA, Canada and in most of the other countries of the world, agriculture is a private concern.

Main Impacts of Agriculture on Environment

1. Degradation of Land : The following are the kinds of land degradations taking place :

- (a) Deficiency of soil nutrients due to intensive cultivation.
- (b) Imbalance in soil nutrients particularly the deficiency of micro-nutrients.
- (c) Decline in the organic matter in the soil.
- (d) Deforestation and overgrazing of Pasture's causing exposure of soil to water and wind erosion.
- (e) Decline in underground water due to over exhaustion for high water using crops, increase in cropping intensity and increase in cultivated area especially is northern part of the sweet water zone.

- (g) High use of nitrogen and water have caused percolation of nitrogen up to water table thus polluting it even for human consumption.
- **Impact 2. Deforestation:** Deforestation is clearing the Earth's forests on a large scale worldwide and resulting in many land damages. One of the causes of deforestation is to clear land for pasture or crops.
Deforestation causes the loss of habitat for millions of species, and is also a driver of climate change. When trees are removed from forests, the soils tend to dry out because there is no longer shade, and there are not enough trees to assist in the water cycle by returning water vapor back to the environment. With no trees, landscapes that were once forests can potentially become barren deserts.

Impact 3. Biodiversity:

- India is a country with wide variety of agro-climatic conditions which harbour a wide variety of animals and plants. According to an estimate, India ranks 10th in the World and 4th in Asia in terms of plant diversity. As agriculture is becoming more and more commercialized, a number of plant and animal species are becoming extinct.
- The crops showing high profits are covering more area while the less profitable ones are rapidly declining, creating a number of environmental problems.

Impact 4. Pest Problem:

- With the shift in crop pattern, increase in area under irrigation and higher cropping intensity, the pest problem has become very severe. The seriousness of pests has further increased by way of indiscriminate and increased use of pesticides.
- The direct effect of high use of dangerous pesticides is on human and animal health.

Impact 5. Disposal of Agricultural Wastes:

- **Impact5. Disposal of Agricultural Wastes:** The use of by-products such as paddy straw and rice husk has not been made properly. The burning of such by-products creates increase in carbon dioxide and carbon-monoxide in the atmosphere resulting in respiratory problems for animals and human beings.

GLOBAL PATTERN OF NUTRITION AND HUNGER

- **HUNGER**

According to the UN Hunger Report, hunger is the term used to define periods when populations are experiencing severe food insecurity—meaning that they go for entire days without eating due to lack of money, lack of access to food, or other resources.

HUNGER FAST FACTS

- There is more than enough food produced in the world to feed everyone on the planet.
- About 690 million people worldwide go to bed hungry each night.
- Small farmers, herders, and fishermen produce about 70 percent of the global food supply, yet they are especially vulnerable to food insecurity – poverty and hunger are most acute among rural populations.
- Conflict is a major driver of hunger: The UN estimates that 122 million of 144 million stunted children live in countries affected by conflict.
- An estimated 14 million children under the age of five worldwide suffer from severe acute malnutrition, also known as severe wasting, yet only 25 percent of severely malnourished children have access to lifesaving treatment.
- Chad is the [world's hungriest country](#) as of 2020

Causes of Hunger

- **1. POVERTY**

Poverty and hunger exist in a vicious cycle. Families living in [poverty](#) usually can't afford nutritious food, leading to undernourishment. In turn, undernourishment makes it difficult for people to earn more money so that they can afford healthy food. Families living in poverty might also sell off their livestock or tools to supplement their income. This buys short-term relief, but perpetuates a longer-term pattern of hunger and poverty that is often passed down from parents to children.

• 2. FOOD SHORTAGES

There are a number of social factors causing food shortages. The rate of population increase is higher than increase in food production. The world is consuming more than it is producing, leading to decline in food stock and storage level and increased food prices

Increased population has led to clearing of agricultural land for human settlement reducing agricultural production .

Environmental factors have greatly contributed to food shortage. Climatic change has reduced agricultural production.

3. WAR & CONFLICT

- War and conflict are also among the leading contributors to world hunger. In [South Sudan](#), civil war has led to mass displacement and abandoned fields. The result is crop failure which, combined with a soaring inflation rate that makes imported food unaffordable, has left 6 million people food-insecure.
- **4. CLIMATE CHANGE** Too much, or too little, rainfall can destroy harvests or reduce the amount of animal pasture available. Extreme climate patterns also tend to affect the poorest regions of the world the most. The World Bank estimates that climate change has the power to push more than 100 million people into poverty over the next decade.

• 5. POOR PUBLIC POLICY

Systemic problems, like poor infrastructure or low investment in agriculture, often prevent food and water from reaching the world populations that need them the most.

6. FOOD WASTE

According to the [World Food Programme](#), 1/3 of all food produced — over 1.3 billion tons of it — is never consumed. What's more, producing this wasted food also uses other natural resources that have a ripple effect in the countries that are already hit hardest by hunger, poverty, and [climate change](#). Producing this wasted food requires an amount of water

GENDER INEQUALITY

- In its Sustainable Development Goal , the UN reveals: “If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, **the number of hungry in the world could be reduced by up to 150 million.**” Female farmers are responsible for growing, harvesting, preparing, and selling the majority of food in poor countries. [Women are on the frontlines of the fight against hunger](#), yet they are frequently underrepresented at the forums where important decisions on policy and resources are made.
- . **FORCED MIGRATION** Beyond war and conflict, a number of factors contribute to the [causes of forced migration](#). This includes hunger, but forced migration can also be a cause of hunger. Many refugees living abroad live in neighboring countries with limited resources to begin with

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES

- The goal of sustainable agriculture is to meet society's food and textile needs in the present without compromising the ability of present and future generations to meet their own needs.

What Are The Different Sustainable Agriculture Practices?

- **1. Rotating Crops** : Monoculture, a widespread practice in many developing countries, is the primary cause of increased super-weeds and poor soil which results in decreased productivity. Planting different varieties of crops can be quite beneficial to your farm. Rotating crops helps improve pest and weed control, and leads to healthier soil.
- **2. Embracing Diversity**

Although planting numerous plant species is a great sustainable farming method, it is not an option for commercial farmers with a market for specific crops. Therefore, instead of substituting their main crop, a farmer can plant diverse varieties of the same plant. Farming different varieties make your crop stronger since they are genetically distinct. Crop diversity protects the crops from pests and diseases that favor a specific crop variety.

3. Planting Cover Crops

- Although traditional plowing methods prevent weed problems and also help prepare the farm for planting, plowing causes soil loss. Therefore, instead of plowing your farm before planting, you can use reduced till or no-till farming methods. By inserting all the seeds directly into the unplowed farm you can improve the quality of the soil while preventing soil erosion.

5. Applying Integrated Pest Management Methods

- Although pesticides help with pest management and improve crop production, over-usage of specific pesticides results in a resistant breed of pests. You can employ the use of numerous biological and mechanical pest control methods while reducing the use of pesticides. Different plants attract various insects and birds among other creatures; some of these small animals can prey on the bugs destroying crops. A farmer can release a group of numerous beneficial insects like lacewings and ladybugs into the farm to help control pests. Planting trees around the farm will attract birds who will nest there and even feed on the insects, thus controlling the population of insects

6. Integrating Crops And Livestock

- Industrial agriculture keeps animal and plant production separated with the livestock grazing away from the farm and the crops away from the manure. Although keeping the animals away from the crops can protect the crops from being consumed by the animals, evidence shows that smart integrating of livestock and crop production can be a perfect recipe for a more efficient and profitable farm. Managed grazing can also be a great way of crop rotation. Instead of alternating crops, you can allow your livestock to graze on different pastures on your farm . Moving the livestock is also perfect for the soil since the increased footfall will help compact the soil thus preventing soil erosion while the manure left behind will help fertilize the farm.

NUTRITION

- Nutrition is a matter of quality of food rather than quantity of food .
- We may find that there is sufficient production of food but the balance of food intake is missing .
- Balance diet includes carbohydrates(rice , wheat etc) , proteins(pulses ,meat , egg etc) , vitamins (leafy vegetables ,fruits) , fats and minerals .
- According to FAO , 3100 calories are available per day on average in developed countries and 2200 in developing

- **7. Adopting Agroforestry Practices**

The addition of shrubs and trees in the farm can help provide shelter and shade to the plants, water resources, and animals. Trees and shrubs can help prevent soil erosion while potentially giving the farmer an additional income if they bear fruit. Planting trees around your water source can help prevent loss of water through evaporation during the dry seasons.

MALNUTRITION

Malnutrition is also defined as any shortfall in the quantity and or quality of food intake .

- **DISEASE due to Malnutrition**
- **Kwashiorkor** : It is the result of malnutrition.
- **Marasmus** : It is caused due to deficiency in proteins and poor calorie intake .
- **Beri –Beri** : It is caused due to deficiency in Vitamin B .
- **Rickets** : It is caused due to lack of vitamin D.
- **Anaemia** : It is caused due to deficiency in Iron , the haemoglobin levels in the blood is lowered person suffers from Anaemia .

Environmental Problems Associated with Industries

Air Pollution

- Air pollution is a mixture of solid particles and gases in the air.

Some air pollutants are poisonous. Inhaling them can increase the chance you'll have health problems. People with heart or lung disease, older adults and children are at greater risk from air pollution. Air pollution isn't just outside - the [air inside](#) buildings can also be polluted and affect your health.

Types of Air Pollutants

- There are two types of air pollutants:
- Primary Pollutants
- The pollutants that directly cause air pollution are known as primary pollutants. Sulphur-dioxide emitted from factories is a primary pollutant.
- Secondary Pollutants
- The pollutants formed by the intermingling and reaction of primary pollutants are known as secondary pollutants. Smog, formed by the intermingling of smoke and fog, is a secondary pollutant.

CAUSES OF AIR POLLUTION

- **Combustion of fossil fuels**, like coal and oil for electricity and road transport, producing air pollutants like nitrogen and sulfur dioxide
- **Emissions from industries and factories**, releasing large amount of carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon, chemicals and organic compounds into the air
- **Agricultural activities**, due to the use of pesticides, insecticides, and fertilizers that emit harmful chemicals
- **Waste production**, mostly because of methane generation in landfills

- **Transportation**

Vehicle pollution is the major contributor to air pollution, especially in urban cities. When the car burns gasoline, it emits pollutants in the air which is as harmful as smoking 10 cigarettes a day. Vehicle emits carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxide, and particulate

Construction and Demolition

With the rise of population in the city, construction and demolition is a part of the ever going development phase of the national capital. Several construction sites and raw materials such as bricks and concrete cause haze and foul air which is hazardous for the people especially, children and elderly citizens.

- **Use of chemical and synthetic products**

We always consider outdoor air pollution dangerous for our lives but never talk about indoor air pollution. [Household products cause indoor air pollution](#) which is 10 times more harmful than outdoor air pollution. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) found in paints, cleaners and personal care products such as perfume and deodorants are a reason for common health issues. Risks like asthma or other respiratory issues and lung disease are other issues caused by inhaling poor house air quality.

Global Warming

- Global warming is the slow increase in the average temperature of the earth's atmosphere

What are the most important greenhouse gases(GHGs)

- CO₂ or carbon dioxide is produced any time something is burned. Of the greenhouse gases, carbon dioxide (CO₂) is the most prominent. Carbon dioxide is assigned a GWP or Global Warming Potential of 1.
- Methane or CH₄ is produced in many combustion processes and also by anaerobic decomposition, for example, in flooded rice paddies, pig and cow stomachs, and pig manure ponds . Methane (CH₄) is the second most important greenhouse gas. CH₄ has a GWP of 28-36.

- Nitrous oxide (laughing gas). Agricultural activities, such as fertilizer use, are the primary source of N₂O emissions. Fossil fuel combustion also generates N₂O. Nitrous oxide lasts a very long time in the atmosphere, but at the 100 year point of comparison to CO₂, its GWP is 265-298.
- **Water vapor** : The warmer the surface, the greater the evaporation rate of water from the surface. As a result, increased evaporation leads to a greater concentration of water vapor in the lower atmosphere capable of absorbing infrared radiation and emitting it downward.

- Chlorofluoro Carbons (CFC) : CFC is entirely produced by human activities . It is widely used in all cooling agents , such as AC , refrigerators , cold storages etc . Its effect ozone layer .
- Ozone : Ozone is another important greenhouse gas .

EFFECTS OF Global WARMING

- **Melting Ice** :Projections suggest climate change impacts within the next 100 years, if not sooner, the world's glaciers will have disappeared, as will the Polar ice cap, and the huge Antarctic ice shelf, Greenland may be green again, and snow will have become a rare phenomenon.
- **Rising Sea Levels** :Climate change impacts rising sea levels. Average sea level around the world rose about 8 inches (20 cm) in the past 100 years; climate scientists expect it to rise more and more rapidly in the next 100 years as part of climate change impacts.

- **Torrential downpours and more powerful storms** : climate change impacts the amount of water in the atmosphere and will increase producing violent downpours instead of steady showers when it does rain.
- **Heatwaves and droughts** : Despite downpours in some places, droughts and prolonged heatwaves will become common.
- **Changing ecosystems** :As the world warms, entire ecosystems will move.

Already rising temperatures at the equator have pushed such staple crops as rice north into once cooler areas, many fish species have migrated long distances to stay in waters that are the proper temperature for them.

- **Reduced food security** : One of the most striking impacts of rising temperatures is felt in global agriculture.
- Different crops grow best at quite specific temperatures and when those temperatures change, their productivity changes significantly.
- The productivity of rice, the staple food of more than one third of the world's population, declines 10% with every 1^o C increase in temperature
- Expectations are that in Thailand, the world's largest exporter of rice, however, future increases in temperatures may reduce production 25% by 2050.

- [Pests](#) and [Disease](#)
- Rising temperatures favor agricultural pests, diseases and disease vectors.
- [Pest populations are on the rise](#) and illnesses once found only in limited, tropical areas are now becoming endemic in much wider zones.
- In Southeast Asia, for example, where malaria had been reduced to a wet season only disease in most areas, it is again endemic almost everywhere year around.

Water Pollution

Water pollution occurs when harmful substances—often chemicals or microorganisms—contaminate a stream, river, lake, ocean, aquifer, or other body of water, degrading water quality and rendering it toxic to humans or the environment.

Various Causes of Water Pollution

- 1. Industrial Waste

Many industries, not having a proper [waste management](#) system, drain the waste in the [freshwater](#), which goes into canals, rivers, and later into the sea.

The toxic chemicals may change the color of water, increase the number of minerals, called [eutrophication](#), change the temperature of the water, and pose a severe hazard to water organisms.

2. Sewage and Wastewater

- The [sewage](#) and [wastewater](#) that is produced in each household are treated chemically and released into the sea along with fresh water. The sewage water carries pathogens, a typical water pollutant, other harmful bacterias, and chemicals that can cause serious health problems and thereby diseases .
- 3. Mining Activities
- Mining is the process of crushing the rock and extracting coal and other minerals from the underground. These elements, when extracted in the raw form, contain harmful chemicals and can increase the number of toxic elements when mixed up with water, which may result in health problems. Mining activities emit a large amount of metal waste and sulfides from the rocks, which is harmful to the water.

4. Marine Dumping

- The [garbage](#) produced by households in the form of plastic, aluminum, rubber, glass, is collected and dumped into the sea in some countries. These items take 2 weeks to 200 years to decompose.
- When such things enter the sea, they not only cause water pollution but also harm animals in the sea.
- 5. Accidental Oil Leakage
- [Oil spill](#) poses a huge threat to marine life when a large amount of oil spills into the sea and does not dissolve in water. It causes problems for local marine [wildlife](#), including fish, birds, and sea otters.

5. Chemical fertilizers and pesticides

- Chemical fertilizers and pesticides are used by farmers to protect crops from insects and bacterias. They are useful for the plant's growth. However, when these chemicals are mixed up with water, they produce harmful pollutants for plants and animals.

Also, when it rains, the chemicals mix up with [rainwater](#) and flow down into rivers and canals, which pose serious damages for aquatic animals.

6 Global Warming

- An increase in the earth's temperature results in [global warming](#) due to [the greenhouse effect](#). It increases the water temperature and results in the death of aquatic animals and marine species, which later results in water pollution.

7 Radioactive Waste

The nuclear [waste that is produced by radioactive](#) material needs to be disposed of to prevent any nuclear accident. Nuclear waste can have serious [environmental hazards](#) if not disposed of properly.

Acid Rain

- Acid rain, or acid deposition, is a broad term that includes any form of precipitation with acidic components, such as sulfuric or nitric acid that fall to the ground from the atmosphere in wet or dry forms. This can include rain, snow, fog, hail or even dust that is acidic.

What Causes Acid Rain?

Acid rain results when sulfur dioxide (SO_2) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x) are emitted into the atmosphere and transported by wind and air currents. The SO_2 and NO_x mix with water and other materials before falling to the ground.

The major sources of SO_2 and NO_x in the atmosphere are:

- Burning of fossil fuels to generate electricity. Two thirds of SO_2 and one fourth of NO_x in the atmosphere come from electric power generators.
- Vehicles and heavy equipment.
- Manufacturing, oil refineries and other industries.

Forms of Acid Deposition

- **Wet deposition** - refers to acidic rain, fog, and snow. As this acidic water flows over and through the ground, it affects a variety of plants and animals.
- **Dry Deposition** -If the wind blows the acidic chemicals in the air to the areas where the weather is dry, the acidic pollutants slip into dust or smoke and fall to the ground as dry particles.

Effects of Acid Rain

1. Effect on Aquatic Environment : Acid rain either falls directly on aquatic bodies or gets run off the forests, roads and fields to flow into streams, rivers and lakes. Over a period of time, acids get accumulated in the water and lower the overall pH of the water body.

The aquatic [plants and animals](#) need a particular pH level of about 4.8 to survive. If the pH level falls below that the conditions become hostile for the survival of aquatic life.

2. Effect on Forests

- It makes trees vulnerable to disease, extreme weather, and insects by destroying their leaves, damaging the bark and arresting their growth. [Forest damage](#) due to acid rain is most evident in Eastern Europe – especially Germany, Poland and Switzerland.

• 3. Effect on Soil

The soil needs to maintain an optimum pH level for the continuity of biological activity. When acid rains seep into the soil, it means higher soil pH, which damages or reverses soil biological and chemical activities. Hence, sensitive soil microorganisms that cannot adapt to changes in pH are killed.

5. Effect on Architecture and Buildings

- Acid rain on buildings, especially those constructed with limestone, reacts with the minerals and corrode them away. This leaves the building weak and susceptible to decay. Modern buildings, cars, airplanes, steel bridges and pipes are all affected by acid rain. Irreplaceable damage can be caused to the old heritage buildings.

How to Prevent Acid Rain Pollution

- **Energy conservation** :The biggest step that you can take to prevent acid rain is to decrease your energy consumption. Whenever you're not using an electrical appliance, simply shut it off to conserve energy.
- **Transportation** Because cars are a major contributor to acid rain pollution, it's important to find alternate modes of transportation in an effort to decrease our reliance on fossil fuels. By using public transit, carpools, bikes and even your feet, you're helping reduce auto emissions.
- **Alternative fuels** An excellent way to prevent acid rain is to stop using nonrenewable fuels and switch over to renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind and water energy.

Ozone Layer Depletion

- ***“The ozone layer is a region in the earth’s stratosphere that contains high concentrations of ozone and protects the earth from the harmful ultraviolet radiations of the sun.”***
- Ozone layer depletion is the thinning of the ozone layer present in the upper atmosphere

Causes of Ozone Layer Depletion

- Chlorofluorocarbons : Chlorofluorocarbons are the most abundant ozone-depleting substance. It is only when the chlorine atom reacts with some other molecule, it does not react with ozone. One chlorine can destroy 100,000 molecules of ozone. It is destroyed more quickly than it is created.
- Unregulated Rocket Launches : The unregulated launching of rockets result in much more depletion of ozone layer than the CFCs do. If not controlled, this might result in a huge loss of the ozone layer by the year 2050.

- Ozone Depleting Substances

Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)	Refrigerators, air-conditioners, solvents, dry-cleaning agents, etc.
Halons	Fire-extinguishers
Carbon tetrachloride	Fire extinguishers, solvents
Methyl chloroform	Adhesives, aerosols
Hydrofluorocarbons	Solvent cleaning, fire extinguishers, solvent cleaning

Effects of Ozone Depletion

- Effects on Eyes

The major cause of blindness in this world is cataracts. There would be 0.3% - 0.6% increase in risk of cataract if there will be 1% decrease in Ozone level . Eye lens can be damaged by oxidative agents. Oxidative oxy-gen produced by UV radiation can severely damage eye lens and cornea of eye is also badly damaged by UV radiation .

- Effects on Skin

Exposure to UV radiations can cause skin cancer . Depletion of ozone layer leads to both Sun burn and skin cancer [20]. UV radiations are also responsible for breast cancer and leukemia .

- Effects on Human Immunity

Exposure to UV radiations can also result in suppression of immune response to skin cancer, infectious diseases and other antigen .
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- . Effect of Food Shortage on Human Population

Depletion of ozone layer is also causing the problem of food shortage to humans. UV radiations are disturbing developmental and physiological processes which is decreasing the productivity of crops.

Green Consumerism

- Green consumerism refers to a state in which consumers demand products and services that have undergone an [eco-friendly production](#) process or one that involves recycling and safeguarding the planets' resources.
- It aimed at encouraging people to be more aware of the firms' production processes and only to buy or use products and services that [do not harm the environment](#).

Importance of Green Consumerism

- Reduced waste in packaging : the preference to purchase loose products like vegetables and fruits instead of pre-packaged products. Also, it encourages reuse of paper and plastic packaging bags and tins that often [cause environmental degradation](#).
- Increased energy efficiency : Green consumerism attitudes advocate for the efficient use of energy, which ultimately helps in [saving money](#), reducing utility bills, lowering emissions of greenhouse gas
- . Consumption of more healthy foods : Through green consumerism advocacies, there has been an increasing need for more eco-friendly food production.
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How To Start Green Consumerism

- Role of Government
- Role of Industry and Business
- Role of NGOs
- Role of General Public

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS OR GREEN BUSINESS

- A sustainable business, or a green business, is an enterprise that has minimal negative impact or potentially a positive effect on the global or local environment, community, society, or economy
- The words “sustainable businesses” may sound contradictory, but it *is* possible for businesses to have [less impact on the environment](#). And it’s not only possible, but it’s also highly necessary. Sustainable businesses will and need to be the future.
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- There are many different ways a business can become sustainable: reducing waste, preventing pollution, adopting clean energy, conserving water, greening the planet by planting trees, using sustainable materials, making their products sustainable, and by adopting sustainable business travel policies