

# Design for Sustainability

September 2006



# “Sustainable development” has 2 widely agreed upon definitions

**Brundtland:** “...meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”  
Our Common Future, 1987

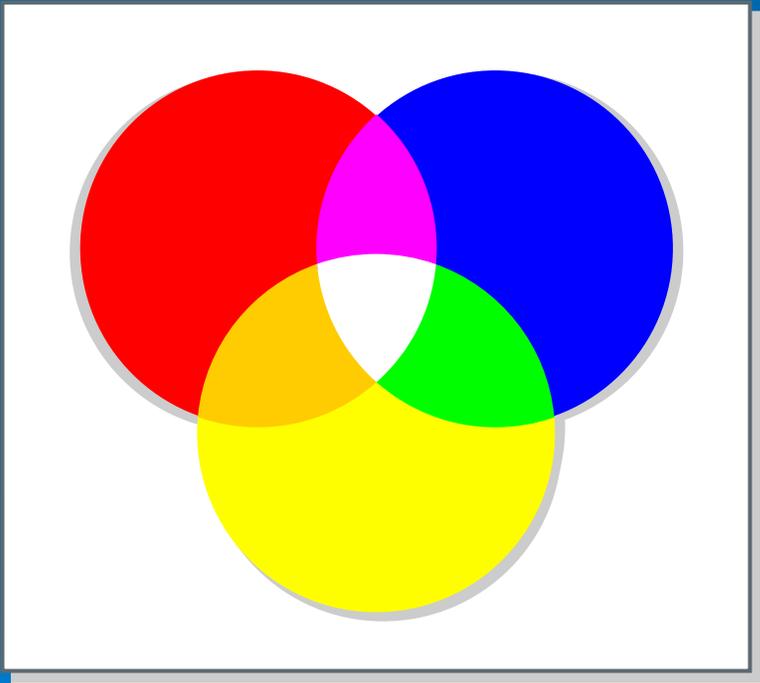


Figure by MIT OCW.

**Balance:** economic, social,  
environmental aspects

# Assessment Measures

- LEED
- Life Cycle Assessment
- Ecological Footprinting

# Ecological Footprint

- The area of land and water needed to sustain a person or population (including home, places of work and play, materials needed to build and maintain these places, vehicles and transportation systems, food, waste treatment, etc.)
- Some criticisms
  - focuses only environment
  - ignores multiple land uses
  - downplays population issues
- Widely used

# First Assignment: Ecological Footprint Quiz

[www.myfootprint.org](http://www.myfootprint.org)

(Earth Day 2002)



Image courtesy of Kober-Kümmerly+Frey Media AG.

Take the quiz. If time, explore sensitivity. We'll discuss in class next week.