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State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?

Worldwatch Institute, ed.



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Worldwatch Institute, ed. *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?* Washington: Worldwatch Institute, 2013.

Every day, we are presented with a range of “sustainable” products and activities—from “green” cleaning supplies to carbon offsets—but with so much labeled as “sustainable,” the term has become essentially sustainababble, at best indicating a practice or product slightly less damaging than the conventional alternative. Is it time to abandon the concept altogether, or can we find an accurate way to measure sustainability? If so, how can we achieve it? And if not, how can we best prepare for the coming ecological decline?

In *State of the World 2013: Is Sustainability Still Possible?* scientists, policy experts, and thought leaders tackle these questions, attempting to restore meaning to sustainability as more than just a marketing tool. Experts try to define clear sustainability metrics and examine various policies and perspectives, including geoengineering, corporate transformation, and changes in agricultural policy, that could put us on the path to prosperity without diminishing the well-being of future generations.

If these approaches fall short, the final chapters explore ways to prepare for drastic environmental change and resource depletion, such as strengthening democracy and societal resilience, protecting cultural heritage, and dealing with increased conflict and migration flows. (Text from [Worldwatch](#)

[Institute's website](#))

Related links:

- Worldwatch Institute's site featuring this book
<http://www.worldwatch.org/bookstore/publication/state-world-2013-sustainability-still-possible>
- State of the World 2013: Table of Contents (with excerpts)
<http://blogs.worldwatch.org/sustainabilitypossible/state-of-the-world-2013/>
- Worldwatch Institute: State of the World Reports
<http://www.worldwatch.org/bookstore/state-of-the-world>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://www.worldwatch.org/bookstore/publication/state-world-2013-sustainability-still-possible>