

SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS AT WORK
A FIVE SESSION DISCUSSION GUIDE

“At the end of the day, the role of business is to generate prosperity and a better quality of life for everyone” —Ray Anderson

Five sessions of discussion where one can:

- Evaluate the current economic model and consider the case for change
- Examine the concept of sustainability from an organizational perspective
- Evaluate principles and frameworks for guiding a vision
- Identify tools and strategies for implementing a framework
- Develop an action plan to advance organizational change

SESSION 1..... SEEING THE BIG PICTURE

Session One gives an overview of the emerging shift toward a more sustainable way of doing business. The readings describe the challenges and opportunities organizations will face as they confront the realities of a finite Earth.

SESSION 2..... TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

As more organizations attempt to become “green,” how do we evaluate their efforts? Session Two delves into the complexities of sustainability, exploring its meaning, challenges, and opportunities.

SESSION 3.....FRAMING SUSTAINABILITY

Having considered the global challenges and the complexities of sustainability, Session Three then moves into frameworks and strategies. The three which are considered in depth are: the triple bottom line, The Natural Step, and the natural capitalism approach.

SESSION 4.....SEEING IT THROUGH

Session Four provides advice, both practical and philosophical, on making the transition to sustainability a reality. The readings offer ideas, examples, and inspiration for change whether you are a business leader, an employee or a member of a green team.

SESSION 5.....FOCUSING ON ACTION

Session Five provides a time and structure for identifying and clarifying your group’s priorities and setting realistic goals for your organization.

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