

# Sustainable Development 可持续发展

Shridath Ramphal (圭亚那) 著

外语教学与研究出版社

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Sustainable  
Development

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# 序 言

英语学习，除了在课堂内下工夫外，课外的阅读也很重要。课外除了读文学类的文章，也要读一些非文学类的文章。这套“小书”就是非文学类的文章，涉及文学以外的许多领域和学科。每本书都由一两个相关的主题构成，图文并茂，融知识性和可读性于一体。这些“小书”谈到的很多东西都和我们的日常生活息息相关；更重要的是“小书”体现了人类要与自然和谐发展的思想，这与我们社会和时代的发展是吻合的。读一些这方面的书不仅有利于学生提高英语水平，拓宽自己的视野，也符合当今大学生要全面发展的要求。在“复合型”人才越来越受重视的今天，我很乐意向大学生朋友推荐这套“小书”。

  
(郑树棠)

《新视野大学英语》总主编  
首届“国家级教学名师奖”获得者

## Introduction

**H**ow much population growth and economic development can planet Earth support without collapsing under the strain? Some environmentalists respond to the threat of environmental disaster by promoting the concept of sustainable development, a balance between the efficient use of resources and pursuit of economic growth that minimizes damage to the environment. The viability of sustainable development depends upon ongoing technological progress and the moral commitment to equitable distribution of limited resources among the rich and the poor.







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# Sustainable Development 可持续发展

**T**he concept of sustainable development encapsulates the idea of economic development with due care for the environment. It has received wide currency following the World Commission on Environment and Development, the Brundtland Commission, so called after the former Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland





of Norway, who then chaired it. In 1987, the commission recommended sustainable development as the way to achieve global environmental security. The term itself had been used before the Brundtland Commission endorsed it, notably in the “World Conservation Strategy,” jointly prepared by the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in 1980. The “Strategy” was put forward to help achieve sustainable development through conservation, which it defined as “the management of human use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations while maintaining its

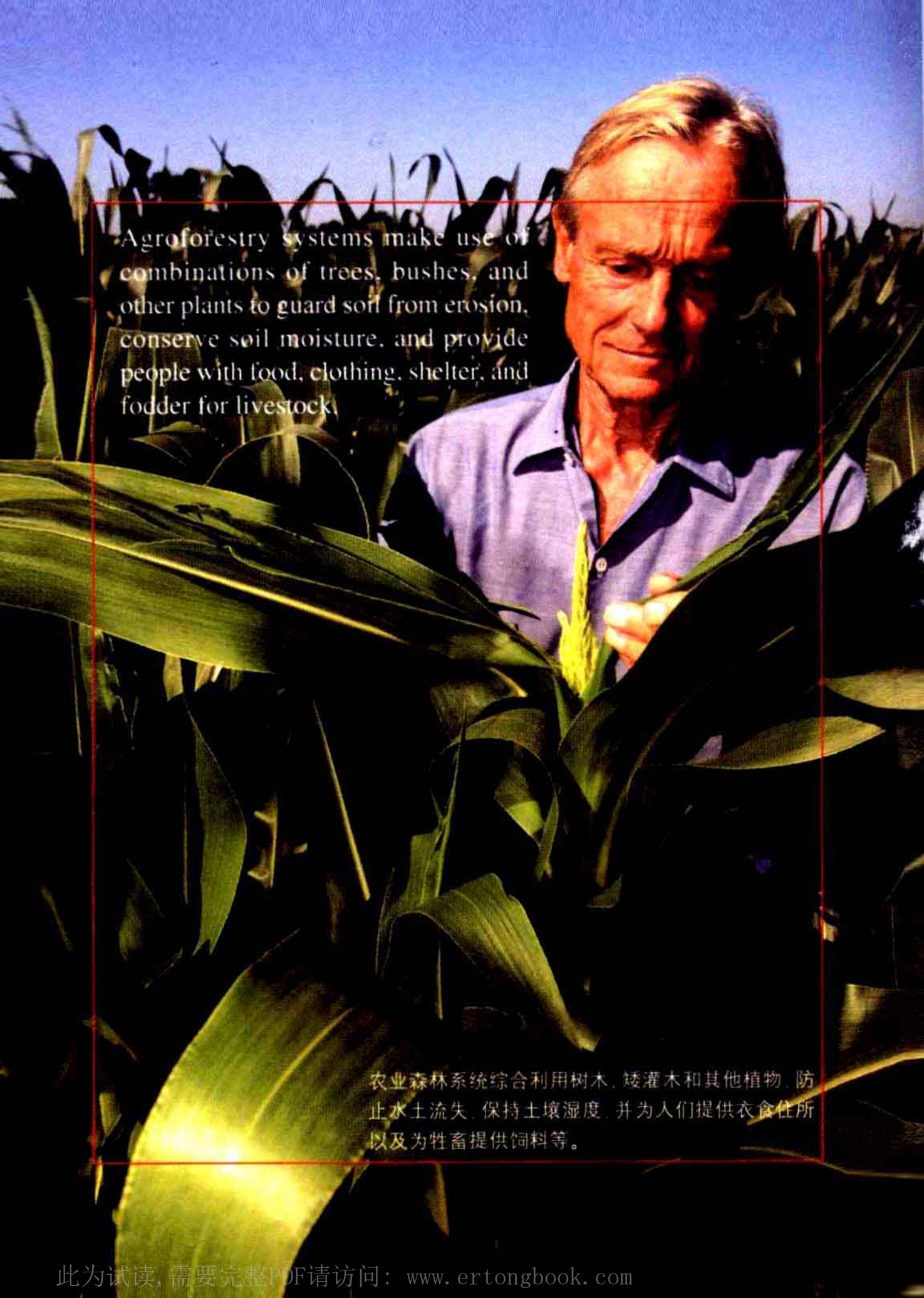


potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations.”

所谓可持续发展，概括地说是  
指在发展经济的同时，对环境  
予以充分的关注。自世界环境  
与发展委员会成立以来，这一  
概念广为流传。世界环境与  
发展委员会也称布伦特兰委员会，  
以该委员会当时的主席、前挪  
威首相格罗·哈莱姆·布伦特兰  
的名字命名。1987年，该委员会  
提议将可持续发展作为实现全球  
环境安全的途径。其实，可持续  
发展这个概念早在布伦特兰委员  
会提议之前就已被使用。1980  
年，在由世界自然保护联盟、联  
合国环境规划署和世界自然基金  
会共同起草的《世界保护战略》  
这份文件里，就曾出现这一概





A photograph of a middle-aged man with light brown hair, wearing a blue button-down shirt, standing in a cornfield. He is looking down at a corn plant, with his hands near its yellow tassel. The corn leaves are large and green, and the background shows more corn plants under a clear blue sky. A red rectangular border is superimposed over the image, enclosing the text and the man.

Agroforestry systems make use of combinations of trees, bushes, and other plants to guard soil from erosion, conserve soil moisture, and provide people with food, clothing, shelter, and fodder for livestock.

农业森林系统综合利用树木、矮灌木和其他植物，防止水土流失，保持土壤湿度，并为人们提供衣食住所以及为牲畜提供饲料等。

念。推出该战略，旨在通过环境保护来实现可持续发展。文件把可持续发展定义为“对人类利用生物圈的行为进行管理，使之持续为当代人创造出最大利益，同时又维护其潜力，以满足子孙后代的需求和愿望”。

The Brundtland Commission, which presented a detailed case for sustainable development in its report, “Our Common Future,” was similarly guided by considerations of intergenerational equity. It described sustainable development as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”







布伦特兰委员会在其提交的《我们共同的未来》这份报告中，对可持续发展作出了详细说明。该报告也从一代人与另一代人之间应该均衡发展的角度出发，认为可持续发展是“在满足当今人类发展需求的同时，并没有以牺牲子孙后代满足其自身的发展需求为代价”。

Several individuals and organizations have offered alternative definitions of sustainable development from the perspective of their disciplines or interest, generally with a view to being more specific. The World Conservation Union and its two partner organizations, in “Caring for the Earth,” their 1991 successor to the “Strategy,” provided this definition: “improving the quality of

human life while living within the carrying capacity of supporting ecosystems.” While the task of making the definition more precise has attracted interest, the concept itself has been widely endorsed by the United Nations and international agencies like the World Bank, as well as by governments. The Group of Seven leading industrial countries, for instance, in the economic statement issued at their July 1989 summit, said: “In order to achieve sustainable development, we shall ensure the compatibility of economic growth and development with the protection of the environment.” Sustainable development has begun to displace the unqualified maximization of economic growth as the professed aim of economic policy.



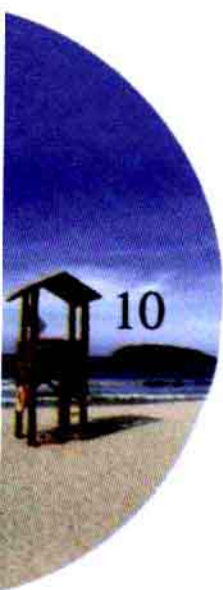












也有一些个人和组织为了使这一概念更具体，从各自的学科或兴趣出发，对可持续发展进行了不同的诠释。世界自然保护联盟及其两个合作组织继《世界保护战略》之后，又于1991年推出了后续报告《关心地球》。这份报告把可持续发展定义为“在支持我们生存的生态系统的承载容量之内来提高人类的生活质量”。当人们还纠结于如何更准确地定义可持续发展时，这个概念本身已在联合国、世界银行等国际组织和政府中得到了广泛运用。例如，七国集团这个由七个最发达的工业化国家组成的组织就在其1989年7月的峰会上发表的经济公报中表示：“为了实现可持续发展，我们将保证协调经济的增长和发展与环境保护之间的关系”。可