

Principles of Sustainable Development

As stated, the purpose of this National Sustainable Golf Strategy is to ensure that environmental and social issues are positioned as integral to the growth of golf in Saudi Arabia. In this way, they sit alongside other economic and golfing drivers – not secondary to them as has been the case in other regions.

The three traditional pillars of conventional sustainable development are Economic, Environmental and Social. Through this lens golf in Saudi Arabia will unite key fundamentals:

Economic	Environmental	Social
Efficient, popular, profitable and resilient facilities	Respecting sites, enhancing ecosystems and biodiversity, minimizing resource use and emissions, maximizing carbon storage	Providing diverse employment opportunities and careers, plus wide ranging services and benefits to communities

All of these things contribute to the core golfing goals of:

Providing a diversity of enjoyable and memorable courses that provide access at all levels of the sport, domestically and internationally.

In fact, the environmental opportunities and constraints are fundamental, underpinning the volume, locations and types of golf being provided. In this way Golf Saudi are looking beyond the historic models of sustainable development as typified by the ‘balancing’ of social, economic and environmental issues, to the now widely recognised principles and approach where environmental issues are fundamental to thriving communities, and of which the economy is a function.

Such an approach allows for issues such as site sensitivity, biodiversity protection, ecosystem regeneration, water dependencies, clean energy and low emissions to dictate how golf develops.

