

## Group 1. San Francisco, California

**Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Discuss this article among your groupmates and then answer the guide question that follows below.

### SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

It is home to some of the most innovative companies in the world, such as Airbnb, Uber, and Twitter; the Bay Area cities of San Francisco scored the highest on the 2019 US Cities Sustainable Development Report (Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2019). The city is known for technology innovation and energy efficiency improvement, which have helped them become one of the leaders of sustainable and clean energy.

San Francisco's public transit system is its best example. More than half of the buses roaming in the city are hybrid-electric, and light rails are zero-emission (Djouklakian, 2016). Meanwhile, the city's goal this year is to transition the other half to hybrid diesel. Additionally, San Francisco has introduced more than 700 cleaner air vehicles since 1999. These vehicles are compressed natural gas, hybrid, and electric.

In reaching the goal of becoming a zero-waste city, San Francisco also banned the use of plastic bags and offered compostable bags as an alternative. Residents have cut their water consumption as well, which was reduced to around 49 gallons of water per day (Djouklakian, 2016).

**Guide Question:** Does Vancouver's environmental activism help them in its contemporary practice of sustainable development? If yes, cite examples that can support your answer.

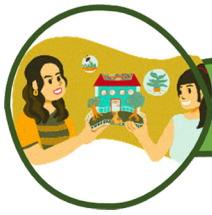
**Answer:**

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## Group 2. Vancouver, Canada

**Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Discuss this article among your groupmates and then answer the guide question that follows below.

### VANCOUVER, CANADA

Vancouver has a rich history of environmental activism and has been at the forefront of it for decades (Hower, 2016). The famous worldwide environmental organization, Greenpeace, was founded there in 1971 and had tried stopping a US nuclear weapon test. On its way to becoming the greenest city in 2020, Vancouver knows that more needs to be done; its target goals include reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality (Chan, 2019). Certainly, this was not possible without the city's developed Greenest City Action Plan securing public engagement and multiple stakeholders in the accomplishment of implementation of sustainability policies.

In addition, their city has what it takes and is extremely dedicated to getting 100 percent of its energy from renewable sources before 2050 (City of Vancouver, n.d.). Not just electricity, Vancouver's plan covers all forms of energy including heating, transport, etc. (Danko, 2015).

**Guide Question:** Does Vancouver's environmental activism help them in their contemporary practice of sustainable development? If yes, cite examples that can support your answer.

**Answer:**

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## Group 3. Stockholm, Sweden

**Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Discuss this article among your groupmates and then answer the guide question that follows below.

### STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Known for its beauty and proximity to water, Stockholm seeks to be an attractive city in Sweden and go green at the same time. In 2010, the European Commission recognized the city as the first “European Green Capital” for its holistic vision of combining growth and sustainable development for the benefit of its 800,000 citizens (European Commission, 2010).

Stockholm aims to be fossil-fuel-free by 2050 in reaching the city’s goal of growing and developing sustainably (Stockholm, A Sustainably Growing City, n.d.). Sweden’s shift of energy from oil to district heating since the early 1990s makes achieving of its goal possible (7 examples of Sustainability, 2016). It has been reducing its greenhouse gas emissions in recent years since it started to use recycled heat from industries.

Furthermore, a major reason for the city’s success in being green is its climate-smart locals, where environment-friendly living is encouraged to be a natural part of living, especially in urban lifestyle (Stockholm, a Sustainably Growing City, n.d.).

**Guide Question:** How does Stockholm manage to grow without compromising sustainable development? Cite the city’s goals and achievements in becoming sustainable.

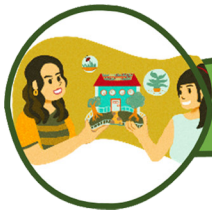
**Answer:**

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## Group 4. Singapore

**Members:** \_\_\_\_\_

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### SINGAPORE

Singapore is considered one of the most densely populated cities in the world with more than five million people (Countries by Density 2020, 2019). But this city-state is also the most sustainable among Asian countries and ranked four worldwide (Lim, 2018). Singapore has developed a sustainable blueprint and has since made progress on the Agenda 2030 for 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), according to Prime Minister Lee Hsien Hoong (Towards a Sustainable and Resilient Singapore, 2018).

The targets include Green Buildings ensuring that at least 80 percent of their total buildings will be green by 2030. Today, more than 80 percent of households live within a 10-minute walk to a park and train stations, according to a 2018 Singapore’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs Report.

Singapore’s transportation has improved its sustainability as well by limiting car ownership among its residents. Compared to the USA and Europe, Singapore has a relatively low car ownership rate which is 11 percent, a 69 percent difference in the USA and a 39 percent difference in Europe (Car Ownership Singapore, 2019). The pollution and crowding problem of Singapore citizens has improved.

**Guide Question:** Why is Singapore considered the most sustainable city in Asia? Should the Philippines adapt Singapore’s blueprint? Why or why not?

**Answer:**

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