

# DEPLETION OF NATURAL RESOURCES



There are two types of natural resources on Earth:

- **Renewable natural resources:** they don't run out, like the sun or the wind.
- **Non-renewable:** they exist in limited quantities and can run out.

## WHAT IS IT?

The depletion of natural resources is due to the fact that they regenerate at a slower rate than they are consumed, meaning that there will come a time when they are exhausted completely.

## CAUSES

Using  
disposable  
(plastic)  
products

Indiscriminate  
logging

Consumerist  
life model

Planned  
obsolescence

High energy  
consumption

Constant  
increase of  
the global  
population

# CONSEQUENCES

- Fragmentation and destabilization of the ecosystems.
- Extinction of animal and plant species.
- Pollution of land and water ecosystems.
- Social conflicts caused by the depletion of non-renewable resources, in addition to affecting our health .
- Impact on the capitalist and social system we're currently familiar with.

# HOW TO AVOID IT?

- Look for inexhaustible, clean energy substitutes.
- Reinforce waste management systems to be able to recycle as many materials as possible in order for them to be used to produce other products without the need to obtain new raw materials.
- Prohibit planned obsolescence and opt for more lasting technologies.
- Switch from a capitalist economy to a circular economy, which opts for reducing, reusing and recycling.



## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



1. Give examples of renewable and non-renewable resources:

**RENEWABLE**



**NON-RENEWABLE**

2. What's planned obsolescence?

3. True or False:

- The use of disposable products is the basis for the circular economy.
- The pollution of land and water ecosystems is one of the consequences of the depletion of natural resources.
- Finding inexhaustible, clean energy substitutes wouldn't solve anything.

