**Chapter 11 — Discussion Questions**

**The Future of Sustainable Investment in Asia**

**A. Core Discussion Questions (Synthesis & Forward-Looking)**

**Q1**

Why is sustainability progress in Asia best understood as a combination of rapid gains and slow structural change rather than linear convergence with Western models?

**Q2**

Which sustainability issues are likely to advance fastest in Asia over the next decade, and which are likely to lag—and why?

**Q3**

Why is governance reform described as the decisive factor for long-term sustainability resilience across Asia?

**Q4**

How does intraregional trade and investment reshape Asia’s sustainability trajectory relative to dependence on Western markets?

**Q5**

Why is supply-chain due diligence becoming a strategic issue rather than a compliance exercise for companies operating in Asia?

**Q6**

Why is the recent ESG backlash in the United States unlikely to materially derail sustainability momentum in Asia?

**Q7**

How should investors distinguish between short-term sustainability “wins” and long-term structural progress in Asian markets?

**Q8**

What does a realistic, Asia-appropriate sustainability strategy look like for executives and investors over the next 10 years?

**B. Perspective-Based / Role-Specific Discussion Prompts**

**For corporate executives**

How should long-term sustainability strategies in Asia differ from global headquarters’ expectations?

**For global investors**

How should stewardship priorities evolve as Asian sustainability frameworks mature?

**For policymakers and regulators**

How can regulatory convergence improve outcomes without ignoring local institutional realities?

**For boards**

What capabilities and mindsets are required to oversee sustainability risk in Asia over the long term?

**Chapter 11 — Quiz Questions**

**Part A: Multiple-Choice Questions**

**Q1**

Which feature best characterises Asia’s sustainability trajectory?

A. Rapid and uniform convergence with Western ESG models  
B. Simultaneous progress and structural inertia  
C. Declining regulatory engagement  
D. Reliance on voluntary corporate action

**Q2**

Why is Asia’s sustainability momentum relatively independent of U.S. political dynamics?

A. Asian markets are insulated from global capital  
B. Sustainability is driven primarily by local regulation and economic priorities  
C. ESG is declining in importance globally  
D. Asian companies do not export to Western markets

**Q3**

Which sustainability area is most likely to show faster progress across Asia?

A. Corporate governance reform  
B. Social inclusion and labor rights  
C. Energy transition and climate disclosure  
D. Ownership structure reform

**Q4**

Why is governance reform expected to remain slow but critical in Asia?

A. Because it is unpopular with investors  
B. Because it depends on imported legal models  
C. Because it requires deep institutional and cultural change  
D. Because disclosure already solves governance issues

**Q5**

What is driving the shift toward mandatory supply-chain due diligence in Asia-Pacific?

A. Declining trade volumes  
B. Consumer boycotts  
C. NGO pressure alone  
D. Regulatory expectations and global trade integration

**Q6**

From a long-term investor perspective, which approach is most effective in Asia?

A. Short-term exclusion and divestment  
B. Uniform global ESG scoring  
C. Patience-based engagement grounded in local context  
D. Reliance on corporate self-reporting

**Part B: Short-Answer Questions**

**Q7**

Why is sustainability in Asia often described as a “marathon, not a sprint”?

**Q8**

Identify two strategic capabilities investors or executives must develop to succeed in sustainable investment in Asia.