

Needs and wants

Need

Something individuals must have to ensure their survival.

Also applies to businesses

Want

Something we desire to make life more comfortable and enjoyable

Economic agents



Consider what prevents each economic agent from satisfying their needs and wants....

Not enough resources

What are the implications of this?...

We have to make choices which lead to an opportunity cost

* (to)over ADVANCE specialisation

The Basic Economic Problem

- The basic economic problem is about scarcity and choice.
- There are only a limited number of resources available to produce the unlimited goods and services that are desired by individuals.
- All societies have to decide what to produce, for whom to produce and how to produce.

Opportunity Cost

The cost of the best next forgoing alternative
The cost of the next best alternative
foregone when making a choice
A result of unlimited wants and scarce
resources

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