

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The scope of our sustainable development work and the debates surrounding the sustainability of global resources have grown tremendously since we entered the new millennium. The number of publications focusing on sustainability and sustainable development has increased exponentially. Of particular interest have been the contributions of marginalized groups to the debates surrounding the sustainability of natural resources. The contribution of women to sustainable development has begun to receive the needed attention and as such governmental and non-governmental organizations are providing the necessary resources to encourage women in their efforts to improve their communities and themselves. Many of the articles in this issue focus on the role of African women in sustaining their societies. The challenges that African women face in their efforts are monumental as their hard works are sometimes hampered by the haphazard development efforts which degrade the environment and as such the exacerbation of the interruption of African women's progress.

As always, please enjoy the current issue and send me your comments.

Valentine U. James
Editor-in-Chief