

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

It is with the ultimate excitement that I welcome you to a new academic year and to offer you our new fall issue of the *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa* (JSDA) which covers a number of sustainability issues. This is truly a new era of globalization and internationalization in which all corners of the world are impacted by world events. African countries are certainly impacted by the global trends, which sometime marginalize them or negatively impact them economically. But it should be pointed out that there are some signs of progress.

The *Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa* (JSDA) effort of attempting to be really interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary in dealing with matters of sustainable development and sustainability is clearly indicated in this issue where matters of natural science, social science and humanities have been pivotal in the debates. The breadth and depth of the discussion clearly offer the reader an opportunity to move from the philosophical debates to economic, social and environmental debates of sustainability and sustainable development in Africa.

This century would be remembered as being the most pivotal in African history because of many of the major global events taking place. Environmental degradation continues to grow, global warming is gaining more attention and economic development of the developing nations is a concern of the Group of 8 countries (Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, The United States of America, and Russian Federation.) The countries of Europe and Asia are making tremendous strides and those of South America are edging their ways into the economic bonanza ushered in by globalization. Although the activities of globalization have been around for centuries, the phenomenon of globalization is more pronounced in recent years than ever before. Businesses are taking advantage of the highly educated masses in India, China and other parts of the developing world, but Africa is yet to benefit proportionately from the so called benefits of globalization. The boom and burst of globalization is a concern and more importantly, the environmental problems of globalization pose some concerns.

One of the articles in this issue discusses the environmental problems caused by oil exploration. Perhaps, there are lessons here for how to sustain economies and the environment in the era of massive globalization. Creating a global condition where the majority of developing countries prosper is a desired goal. To do so, a more sustained global environment and economy is needed.

The articles in this issue shed light on theoretical and applied aspects of sustainable development and some of them operationalized the theoretical concepts of sustainable development. The case studies from Zimbabwe and other countries like Nigeria and Cameroon offer great examples of what some African countries are doing to sustain their economy, natural resources, environment and socio-cultural systems. Please continue to send us your comments and suggestions.

Best Regards,



Editor-in Chief