

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am very delighted to bring you our first summer edition of the Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa (JSDA). When JSDA was inaugurated in 1999, we decided to publish two issues in a year (one in the fall and another in the spring of each academic year). This year, we decided that it was necessary to add a third issue because of the large volume of excellent papers we have been receiving and the cooperation of our reviewers who have been very generous in giving their valuable time to comment on the papers and to provide me with invaluable information and guidance necessary to carry out my duties as the editor-in-chief. The contributors have benefited immensely in the partnerships that it takes to produce scholarly papers.

I have grown in my duties as the editor-in-chief over the past seven years in making decisions on which papers get published and in assisting contributors to hone in upon their topics so that their works can advance the knowledge in their disciplines and in the efforts to assist sustainable development dialogue and debates in Africa.

The challenge for JSDA is how to put together publications that address many facets of sustainable development so that those who are engaged in operationalizing sustainable development theories can find answers to their questions and find new ways of tackling new and emerging problems. It is my belief that we are beginning to organize the JSDA publication so that socio-political, economic and natural science concerns of sustainable development questions can be addressed. The first summer issue is clearly an effort to meet the modern day demands of solutions to problems pertaining to development in Africa. Agricultural, environmental, socio-political, and economic topics are addressed in this summer issue of JSDA.

I believe the readers will find this summer issue timely, informative and instructive. Please send me your comments and opinions. I hope that you find our first summer issue interesting and that it helps you in your research.

Valentine U. James
Editor-in-Chief