Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Clarion, Pennsylvania

WINTER A: LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Winter has descended upon us with a bang but our small working group has been busy on the Winter issues of the JSDA. We are very delighted to bring you this issue which highlights matters germane to the sustainable development of African communities. It is in response to the changing environmental and economic conditions on the continent that the authors of the articles in this issue have dedicated their efforts to addressing the prevailing concerns of the people of Africa. These articles are not only theoretical but their underpinnings offer some very practical perspectives for wrestling with economic, environmental, educational, and sociocultural problems within the context of sustainable development and the sustainability of programs and projects designed to offer possible solutions.

The papers are relevant to the works of a community planner who is interested in implementing aspects of comprehensive plans or other short range plans of municipalities in Africa. The need to empower communities so that they can grow sustainably has been the focus of local, state, national, regional, and global entities. These articles offer the



window to understanding the steps that can be taken to achieve such lofty goals but more importantly, they offer suggestions as to the sort of partnerships and collaborative ventures necessary to undertake endeavors for sustainable development. It is quite interesting to see how the authors deal with matters concerning the obstacles for sustainable development.

I would like to take this opportunity to make two very important announcements that are somehow related to the work of the *JSDA* and the efforts of the Editor-in-Chief of the JSDA:

- IFRA NIGERIA: Nigeria SSH Bibliographical Update--An IFRA-Nigeria Project has begun to list articles about Nigeria which appear in the JOURNAL OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (JSDA). The link to view the bi-monthly publication is: http://infra-nigeria.org/biblionigeria/ It is a watchtower for all articles and books published about Nigeria in the social sciences and the humanities.
- The second announcement is about the fact that the Editor-in-Chief of the *JSDA* (Valentine Udoh James) has been appointed as the Editor-in-Chief of the *JOURNAL OF GEOSCIENCE AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION*--A Scholarly Peer-Reviewed Open Access Journal. Please see the link and if you have papers that deals with matters concerning the Geosciences and environmental protection do not hesitate to send them to the e-mail address:

 http://www.scirp.org/journal/gep Email: gep@scirp.org

In the meantime, do enjoy the articles in this issue of the JSDA. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Valentine Udoh James, Ph.D.; CEI; CAQS Professor of Environmental Management, Planning and Policy Certified Environmental Inspector Certified Air Quality Specialist Clarion University of Pennsylvania