

Dear Friends & Colleagues:

I am indeed very delighted to bring you our first issue in the 2005-2006 Academic year. The Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa has continued to gather momentum in covering matters concerning the development needs of Africa. It is indeed our humble hope that the theoretical and applied perspectives detailed in this journal will continue to inform and influence development matters in Africa and inform the classrooms across the globe.

This issue is quite comprehensive in two major areas: (1) Natural Resource Conservation and Protection; and (2) Economic Development. The following topics are addressed: (1) Institutional Success and Conservation Outcomes; (2) Water Resources Management; (3) Soil Productivity; (4) Commercial Banks; (5) Baboon Products; (6) Natural Resource Management; (7) AIDS; (8) Universities Roles in Development; (9) Pesticide Use by Farmers; (10) Legumes; (11) Trade Policy and Poverty Alleviation ; (12) Ambient Dust Speciation; and (13) Sustainability and the Role of Biodiversity.

One area of research that has not received enough attention in Africa is the environmental/natural resources area. The impact of development on the environment has been devastating and continues to grow. It behooves planners, developers, scientists and policy makers to work together in order to maximize the use of natural resources while minimizing waste. Many of the articles in this issue deal with resource management matters. Economic development has always been the concern of governments in Africa. Some of the articles in this issue deal with country specific economic matters, but there are lessons to be learned from the case studies.

I welcome JSDA Readership to an exciting issue packed with great ideas. Please send in your comments to me as always.

Best Regards

Valentine U. James
Editor-in-Chief