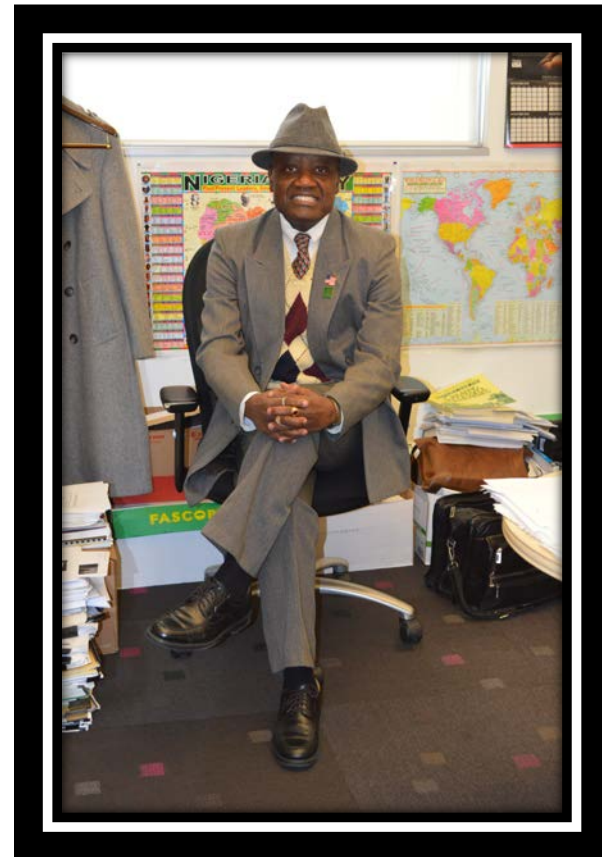


FALL 2016--LETTER FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

My Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am quite delighted to bring you this issue of the JOURNAL OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (JSDA). This issue has, somehow, managed to take on the concerns of sustainable development central to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the Post MDGs of the United Nations. The articles in this issue cover the concerns of: microfinance institutions' products and microfinance policy framework; Chinese Investors to the sustainable production capacity and industrialization in the mining sector in Zimbabwe; The West African Economic and Monetary Union; Determinants and levels of community participation in agricultural development programs in South Ethiopia; Implications of agricultural and industrial sector linkages on sustainable development in Nigeria; Improving Industrial Waste Management in Africa; Environmental Health Implication of Urbanization and Ecological Degradation of Water Resources in Nigeria; Health Sector Reforms and Sustainable Development in Nigeria; Improving Government Security Policy for Sustainable Development in Lagos State; Youth Empowerment and Security: A Panacea for National Development. and Hazardous Waste Problems in Africa



The articles in this issue have provided country specific examples and Africa-wide sustainable development and sustainability issues that need attention at all levels of governments--local, regional, national, continental and international in which efforts of non-governmental organizations would be required to tackle the problems.

The paper on hazardous waste problem is an example of an article that traced the problem to several domestic and international levels and the significance of conventions and protocols in wrestling international problems. More importantly, this article highlights some pitfalls in efforts to tackle environmental problems that are multidimensional in perspective.

In dealing with sustainable development matters, it must be emphasized that the building blocks must continue to be: Human Resources, Natural Resources and Cultural Resources. Three articles in this issue

that make the argument abundantly clear are: 1) Improving government security policy for sustainable development in Lagos State of Nigeria 2) Youth Empowerment Security: A panacea for National Development and 3) Implications of Agricultural and Industrial Sector Linkages on Sustainable Development in Nigeria.

I believe that the JSDA readership and researchers that stumble upon any of the articles in this issue would find the articles to be very informative, instructive and thought provoking. Please do not hesitate to send us your papers for consideration for possible publication. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Valentine Udoh James
Editor-in-Chief
Professor of Environmental Management, Planning and Policy