

Dear Friends:

The events of September 11, 2001 which occurred in New York City and Washington D.C., will forever change our lives wherever we are in the world. The world's social, economic and environmental systems have been impacted in some very negative ways. The challenge for us is to find better ways of continuing in our quest for maintaining our social, economic and environmental systems. This challenge means that we have to seek lasting solutions to our crippling political and economic problems confronting us as people occupying Mother Earth. As custodians of the resources of our world, it behooves us to restore the damaged "systems" and to make the systems better for future generations. By so doing we would be able to fulfill the promise of inter-generational equity.

We are delighted to bring you the Fall/Winter 2001 issue which covers concerns of international dimension such as oil and gas exploitation in Niger Delta of Nigeria, bilateral development issues, and globalism through communication. In sustaining our resources and communities, there is no doubt that the answers lie at three levels: local, national, and international arenas. Collaboration is of critical importance in order to achieve sustainability. The articles in this issue are of great importance because they address theoretical and applied dimensions of sustainability. Please enjoy the debates in this issue and do not hesitate to forward your comments to us. I join the editorial board in extending our warmest regards.

Valentine James
Editor-in-Chief