

Abstract of Presentation

Note: This paper should be typed in “Times New Roman” of 12pt.

Presentation Title(Should be no more than 20 words):

Environmental Sustainability for Future Generations

Abstract (Should be no more than 150 words):

An example of environmental sustainability or its susceptibility is described by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA). The four main findings of the Assessment are:

- Humans have changed ecosystems more rapidly and extensively in the last 50 years than in any other period. This was done largely to meet rapidly growing demands for food, fresh water, timber, fiber and fuel. Scientists said that this resulted in a substantial and largely irreversible loss in diversity of life on Earth.
- Ecosystem changes that have contributed substantial net gains in human well-being and economic development have been achieved at growing costs in the form of degradation of other services. Scientists say that these problems will substantially diminish the benefits for future generations.
- The degradation of ecosystem services could grow significantly worse during the first half of this century and is a barrier to achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals.
- The challenge of reversing the degradation of ecosystems while meeting increasing demands can be met under some scenarios involving significant policy and institutional changes. However, these changes will be large and are not currently under way.

Given these alarming findings, follow-up strategies are needed in the dissemination of outcomes, integration of findings into national plans and strategies.