



UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

BDS 308 : SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DATE: 17TH DECEMBER, 2020

DURATION: 2 HOURS

MAXIMUM MARKS: 70

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Write your registration number on the answer booklet.
2. **DO NOT** write on this question paper.
3. This paper contains **SIX (6)** questions.
4. Question **ONE** is compulsory.
5. Answer any other **THREE** questions.
6. Question **ONE** carries **25 MARKS** and the rest carry **15 MARKS** each.
7. **Write all your answers in the Examination answer booklet provided.**

QUESTION ONE

Read the Case Study below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

NATIONAL ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN KENYA

Kenya is characterized by a rapidly growing population, rapid urbanization and growing urban poverty, water scarcity, falling food production and low resilience to climate change. The combined effects of climate change and rapid population growth are increasing food insecurity, environmental degradation and poverty levels in Kenya. Kenya has been a pioneer in instituting policies and programmes to address population challenges. The country was also among the first in setting up a climate change response strategy. The 2013-2017 implementation plan for the country's development blueprint, Vision 2030, has identified population dynamics and climate change among key priorities. However, the two issues are not strongly linked in current policies and intervention programs to address them are implemented separately.

While Kenya's economy is undoubtedly growing, we can at the same time see signs of environmental degradation and pollution. Forest area has declined, wetlands have decreased and wildlife numbers have fallen. Water and land shortage are widespread, other renewable and non-renewable natural resources are being rapidly depleted. We also see a growing use of toxic chemicals, and discharge of waste and effluent into the soil, water and air. These changes all send signals that Kenya's natural resource base is slowly being depleted and degraded. Resource depletion and degradation are not just environmental issues, they are also economic issues. Environmental degradation is largely caused by economic activities, it also gives rise to economic costs which may prejudice future growth, income and equity in Kenya.

Kenya is responding to these danger signals. There has been in recent years a process of national environmental reform, as outlined in the recent Policy Framework Paper which aims to tighten environmental management, policy and legislation within the country. At

the international level, Kenya is also signatory to a range of international conventions to protect the environment, such as the Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biodiversity and the RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands.

The future challenge for Kenya is to continue to achieve economic growth and to generate employment and income at the same time as conserving her natural resource base. As we will describe below, it makes good economic sense to do this, and will give rise to wide scale economic costs if not. Although environmental conservation involves action in, and implications for, a range of domains, economic issues and aspects form a key part of this process.

Addressing population growth and climate change together should be a top development priority if Kenya is to achieve sustainable development. In order to enhance integrated responses, the government of Kenya, donors and program implementers should harmonize roles of various climate change coordination entities, integrate population dynamics in all climate change policies and strategies (and vice versa), secure financial and other resources for climate change and population responses, and enhance local technical capacity in multidisciplinary program design and research.

If Kenya's environment is conserved it will continue to provide these economic benefits and support human production and consumption in the future. If it is destroyed or environmental quality declines, such goods and services will decrease and the Kenyan economy will suffer as a result. A major problem in conventional definitions of economic costs and benefits is that the link between the environment and economic activity is not recognized. Because many environmental goods and services are free, or underpriced, their exploitation is not considered to constitute an economic or social cost which must be weighed against the economic benefits of the production and consumption goods they generate. There has been a tendency to consider only the direct benefits of environmental resources, without looking at their wider values. By doing this, a large

part of the value of environmental resources has been omitted, and a large part of the economic costs of environmental degradation ignored.

Source: **African Wildlife Foundation**

Required:

- a) Briefly explain the impact of population growth on environment degradation in Kenya **(10Marks).**
- b) Briefly explain six reasons to adopt climate change in Kenya **(6Marks).**
- c) Examine the role of economic and political equity in ensuring sustainable development. **(9Marks).**

QUESTION TWO

- a) Briefly explain five pillars of sustainable development **(10Marks).**
- b) Discuss the contribution of natural environment plays in supporting economic development **(5Marks).**

QUESTION THREE

- a) Briefly explain ecosystems services framework provided by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment of 2005 **(5Marks).**
- b) Describe the ecological foot print from global perspective **(10Marks).**

QUESTION FOUR

- a) Evaluate the controversy surrounding the product and the processing of production such as the GMO **(7Marks).**
- b) Briefly explain how trade impact domestic as well as international policy **(5Marks).**
- c) Illustrate three benefits of regulation of ecosystem processes **(3Marks).**

QUESTION FIVE

- a) Evaluate solutions that would reduce emissions while also providing benefits in terms of economic and social development **(8Marks).**
- b) Discuss the core principles of the sustainable livelihoods approach **(7Marks).**

QUESTION SIX

- a) Evaluate the contribution of the third world countries to global bioenergy demand **(8Marks).**
- b) Analyze the role of corporate social responsibility and sustainability in economic development **(7Marks).**