



**SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & SOCIAL SCIENCES**  
**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY**  
**END OF SEMESTER EXAMINATION**  
**BDP 4107: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**DATE: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**TIME: 10:30 – 12:30**

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**Instructions**

1. This examination consists of **FIVE** questions.
  2. Answer **Question ONE (COMPULSORY)** and any other **TWO** questions.
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**QUESTION ONE:**

*Read the following excerpt from the 'Brundtland Commission Report' and answer the questions that follow:*

Humanity has the ability to make development sustainable to ensure that it meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The concept of sustainable development does imply limits - not absolute limits but limitations imposed by the present state of technology and social organization on environmental resources and by the ability of the biosphere to absorb the effects of human activities. But technology and social organization can be both managed and improved to make way for a new era of economic growth. The Commission believes that widespread poverty is no longer inevitable. Poverty is not only an evil in itself, but sustainable development requires meeting the basic needs of all and extending to all the opportunity to fulfil their aspirations for a better life. A world in which poverty is endemic will always be prone to ecological and other catastrophes.

- a) Using any three examples from a country of your choice, discuss the relationship between poverty and ecological catastrophes (9 marks)
- b) Discuss any two challenges to sustainable development caused by technological constraints. (4 marks)
- c) Explain the global political-economic context of the Brundtland Commission (5 marks)
- d) Using three examples from Kenya, discuss the role of social capital in environmental protection (9 marks)
- e) Outline three development activities that have negative environmental impacts (3 marks)

**QUESTION TWO:**

- a) Discuss the relationship between oil drilling and sustainable development in the Niger Delta, Nigeria in regard to the following:
  - i. Social equity (3 marks)
  - ii. Environmental protection (3 marks)
  - iii. Economic viability (3 marks)
- b) Discuss two aspects of the 'Dutch disease' using an example from any developing country (6 marks)

**QUESTION THREE:**

The Encyclical ‘Laudato Si’ states that, “The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet.”

Using any two examples from African countries, discuss the relationship between the human and natural environment as pertains to each of the following:

- i. Forced migration (5 marks)
- ii. Gender-based violence (5 marks)
- iii. Livelihoods (5 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR:**

- a) Pastoral communities globally have faced disproportional challenges in sustainable development. Discuss any three reasons for these disparities using examples from any country. (9 marks)
- b) Outline three environmental agreements that Kenya has ratified. (6 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE:**

Wangari Maathai received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 and her views on issues pertaining to environmental governance remain pertinent. Explain her views on the following, using any two examples from any country:

- a) Culture and environmental protection (5 marks)
- b) Social equity and environmental protection. (5 marks)
- c) Governance and environmental protection. (5 marks)