

ECOSYSTEM

**Human society impact
on ecosystem.**

**Ecosystem degradation
is the deterioration of the
environment through
depletion of resources
such as air, water & soil.**

How human society causes ecosystem degradation

- Land Disturbance attributed by exotic species.
- Pollution e.g water, air & soil.
- Overpopulation. Rapid growth causes a strain on the resources
- Landfills destroys the outlook of the environment.
- Deforestation. Cutting down of trees makes the environment vulnerable to pollution

**A better environment a
better future**

Effects of human activities on plants, animals & ecosystem dynamics

Ecosystems are dynamic systems.

Humans are a natural part of the ecosystem. Humans use the ecosystem to meet their basic needs, such as to obtain food.

Human interaction can directly alter habitat size, the quality of available resources in a habitat, and the structure of habitat components.

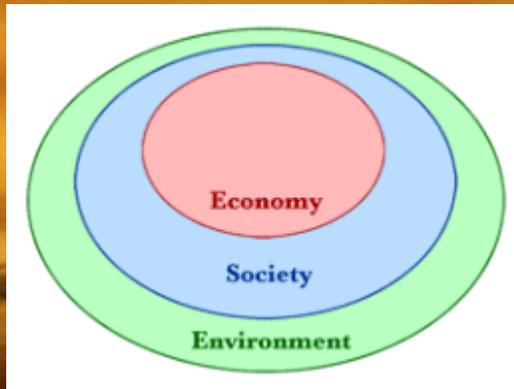
Such interactions can be positive and/or negative.

Human input can disturb the balance of populations that occur in a stable ecosystem.

These disturbances may lead to a decrease or increase in a population.

Since populations in an ecosystem are interdependent, these disturbances have a ripple effect throughout the ecosystem.

The interaction of humans with the dynamic ecosystem may lead to issues of concern for continued ecosystem health in areas such as water supply, air quality, energy production, and waste management



Economic decisions underlying conservation exploitation.

Conservation Economics is the use of **economics** to understand the costs and benefits of sustaining natural ecosystems.

Its purpose is to accomplish more widespread and lasting **conservation** by lowering its costs, revealing its benefits and fitting it within genuine **economic** development.

costs and benefits of human enterprise in terms of ecosystems .

- Purification and Detoxification: filtration, purification and detoxification of air, water and soils;
- Cycling Processes: nutrient cycling, nitrogen fixation, carbon sequestration, soil formation;
- Regulation and Stabilisation: pest and disease control, climate regulation, mitigation of storms and floods, erosion control, regulation of rainfall and water supply;
- Habitat Provision: refuge for animals and plants, storehouse for genetic material;
- Regeneration and Production: production of biomass providing raw materials and food, pollination and seed dispersal; and
- Information/Life-fulfilling: aesthetic, recreational, cultural and spiritual role, education and research

Actions that society can take to conserve the ecosystem

1. Government legislation
2. Nature preserves
3. Reducing invasive species
4. Habitat restoration
5. Captive breeding and seed banks
6. Research
7. Reduce climate change
8. Purchase sustainable products
9. Sustainable living
10. Education

A nation that destroys its soils destroys itself. Forests are the lungs of our land, purifying the air and giving fresh strength to our people.

