

**Master of Arts in Sustainability Science  
(MASS)**

**Assignments (ASSIGNMENT NO.: MASS/2023)  
(For First Year MASS and PGDSS)**

**(2023)**



**School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies  
Indira Gandhi National Open University  
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi -110068**

Dear Learner,

You will have to do one assignment for each course. Each assignment carries 100 marks. **Irrespective of the year of registration you need to submit the latest assignments uploaded on the website.**

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the detailed instructions about assignments given in the Programme Guide.
2. The first page of your response sheet should look like this:

Programme code : MASS/PGDSS  
Enrolment No.....  
Name & Address (with e-mail and mobile number) .....  
Course Code and Title.....  
Regional Centre ( code) .....  
Study Centre ( code) .....

3. **Second page should be photocopy of your IGNOU I-Card**
4. **Third Page should be the Assignment Questions.**
5. Use A-4 size papers for responses, write on both sides with margin, and secure all the pages carefully.
6. Write the question with each answer. **Each question to be answered in around 500 words in your own handwriting.**
7. **Last date for submitting the assignments for June Term End Examination is 30<sup>th</sup> March and for December Term End Examination is 30<sup>th</sup> September.** (check [www.ignou.ac.in](http://www.ignou.ac.in) for latest announcement)
8. Submit the assignment responses to the Coordinator,

Programme Coordinator  
Master of Arts in Sustainability Science (MASS)  
School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies  
Swami Vivekananda Bhawan, Ground Floor, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110068

### GUIDELINES

1. **Planning:** Read the assignments carefully. Go through the self learning material on which they are based. Make some points regarding each question and then rearrange them in a logical order.
2. **Organization:** Give attention to your introduction and conclusion. The introduction must offer your brief interpretation of the question and how you propose to develop it. The conclusion must summarize your response to the question. Make sure that your answer is: logical and coherent; has clear connections between sentences and paragraphs, and ; is written correctly giving adequate consideration to your expression, style and presentation.
3. **Presentation:** Once you are satisfied with your answers, you can write down the final version for submission. Write each answer neatly and underline the points you wish to emphasize.

**Please contact the Programme coordinator for any academic help / clarification**  
[mass@ignou.ac.in](mailto:mass@ignou.ac.in)

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### **MSD-011: Sustainability Science**

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**Course Code: MSD-011**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Write a short essay on Brundtland Report.
  2. Define Human Development Index. Explain its role in achieving sustainable development.
  3. Conserving the river Ganga is the basic key to livelihood improvement in India. Elaborate the statement.
  4. Briefly explain how the modern Information and Communication Technology can be effectively used in Environmental Education in India.
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### **MSD-012: Ecosystem and Natural Resources**

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**Course Code: MSD-012**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Why decomposition is the key to proper functioning of ecosystem? Explain
  2. Define soil fertility. What are the major categories of soil available in India? Briefly explain.
  3. What is mineral deposit? Explain the different types and grouping of mineral resources.
  4. Define agrobiodiversity. Discuss the role of agrobiodiversity in achieving food security in India.
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### **MSD-013: Socio-cultural System**

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**Course Code: MSD-013**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. What is Ethnography? Explain the role of ethnographic studies in cross-cultural studies.
2. Discuss the role of NGOs in the institutionalization of environmental movements across the world with suitable examples.
3. Explain the role played by traditional social organisations in sustainable management of resources in India with suitable examples.

4. Write an essay on man-animal conflict in India.

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**MSD-014: Ecological Economics**

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**Course Code: MSD-014**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Explain the economy-environment linkages with suitable examples.
2. Discuss the economics of waste generation with suitable examples in your locality.
3. Explain any available natural resource based livelihood system in your state or region?
4. Explain the different steps involved in the valuation of ecosystem services of an urban lake.

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**MSD-015: Institution, Governance and Policies**

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**Course Code: MSD-015**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Write an essay on Rio+20.
2. What are the major challenges of governance in present day India? Explain.
3. What is Sustainable Development Goals? Briefly explain the different goals.
4. Define Strategic Impact Assessment. How it is different from EIA?

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**MSD-016: Strategies and Models for Sustainability**

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**Course Code: MSD-016**

**Maximum Marks: 100**

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**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Explain the concept and components of India's Smart City project.
2. What is ENVIS? Explain its major objectives and function in India.
3. Define 'biovillage'. How will it help in poverty alleviation and food security in India?  
Explain

4. What is Cultural Landscape? Explain with suitable examples in India.

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### MSD-017: Challenges to Sustainable Development

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**Course Code: MSD-017**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. What are the major objectives of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change? Explain
  2. Define 'Energy Crisis'. Explain the major effects of energy crisis in achieving sustainable development in India?
  3. Write an essay on India's Rural Sanitation Programme with special reference to your state or region.
  4. Discuss the problems and impacts of land degradation in India at different scale.

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### MSD-019: Global Strategies to Sustainable Development

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**Course Code: MSD-019**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. Define the term poverty. Write a brief note on SDG 1 and India's achievement.
  2. What are the major targets and indicators of SDG-3?
  3. Why gender equality is important for Sustainable Development? Discuss the major India's challenges for achieving SDG -5
  4. Explain the different dimensions of development in context of SDG 11.

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### MSD-020: Population, Health and Sustainability

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**Course Code: MSD-020**  
**Maximum Marks: 100**

**Note: This assignment is based on the entire course. Please answer in your own words; do not copy from the course material.**

**Answer all the questions. All questions carry 25 marks each.**

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1. "Empowering women is the key to control the population growth." Discuss.
  2. What environmental factors are likely to increase the frequency and intensity of the outbreak of epidemic diseases in future? Explain in detail.

3. Why is it difficult for cities and urban areas to address the relationship between food, nutrition and health? Establish the relationship between nutrition and sustainable development.
4. The World Population hit 8 billion on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022. What does this mean in terms of advantages and challenges?