

SELECTED READINGS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

Jarita Duasa



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*Edited by
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Introduction	6
CHAPTER 1 Re-investigating the Tenability of Environmental Kuznets Curve for Carbon Dioxide Emission: An ARDL Cointegration Approach for Nigeria. <i>Abdus Salam Usman, Rafia Afroz, Jarita Duasa and Turkhan Ali Manap</i>	9
CHAPTER 2 Household solid waste characteristics and management in Gombak, Malaysia. <i>Muhammad Mehedi Masud and Rafia Afroz</i>	33
CHAPTER 3 Relationship between environmental performance and economic development <i>Jarita Duasa</i>	52
CHAPTER 4 Sustainable development from Islamic perspective <i>Izyani Zulkifli</i>	71
Biography of Contributors	97

CHAPTER 4

Sustainable development from Islamic perspective

Izyani Zulkifli

ABSTRACT

'Sustainable development' as a frequently used phrase in discourses on the state of the world and the challenges it might face in the future lacks conceptual clarity, consensus regarding its indicators and literature regarding the Islamic position on it. This paper looks evaluates what is meant by sustainable development from both the conventional and Islamic perspectives. While the former does not originate from the Islamic worldview, the latter requires reconsideration regarding its approach. Given that sustainable development is a modern-day problem, this paper opines that one should look at the issue from the modern context first and then go about supporting it (if possible) with Islamic principles.

Keywords: Sustainable development, conventional view, Islamic perspective.

4.1 INTRODUCTION

During the past two centuries, the rise of industrialism has distorted the planet Earth to such an extent that it would have taken natural processes and previous civilizations millennia to inflict. This rapid advancement has taken its toll on the environment and has given rise to fears of global environmental and ecological concerns (see Hasan, 1995 for the extent of output expansion). In response, requests