**LITERATURE SURVEY:**

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002 was a landmark in the business of forging partnerships between the United Nations, governments, business and NGOs to gather resources for addressing global environment, health and poverty challenges. The Johannesburg Summit reconfirmed the Millennium goals and complemented them by setting a number of additional ones such as halving the proportion of people lacking access to basic sanitation; minimizing harmful effects from chemicals; and halting the loss of biodiversity. Some authors consider the summit a “progress in moving the concept [of sustainable development] toward a more productive exploration of the relationship between economic development and environmental quality” (Asefa, 2005, p. 1).

The WSSD “fills some gaps in the Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals and addresses some newly emerging issues, including to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation by 2015; to use and produce chemicals by 2020 in ways that do not lead to significant adverse effects on human health and the environment; to maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield on an urgent basis and where possible by 2015; and to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity” (Nelson, 2007, p. 166). The Johannesburg Conference confirmed a trend, which appeared since the 1992 Conference, of the increasing importance of the socioeconomic pillars of sustainable development. The environmental agenda at the two previous UN conferences had been sustained by peaks in the public ‘attention cycle’ of major developed countries. WSSD incorporated the concept of sustainable development throughout its deliberations and was initially dubbed “the implementation summit.” Inevitably, “demands for additional financial resources and technology transfer continued but much of the debate had already been pre-empted by the establishment of the Millennium Development Goals in 2000” (Vogler, 2007, p. 439).

In that period the concept of sustainable development acquired political momentum “through rising public concern in the developed countries over the new and alarming phenomenon of global environmental change, and in some ways it replaced fears of nuclear war that had prevailed in the early 1980’s” (Vogler, 2007, p. 435)