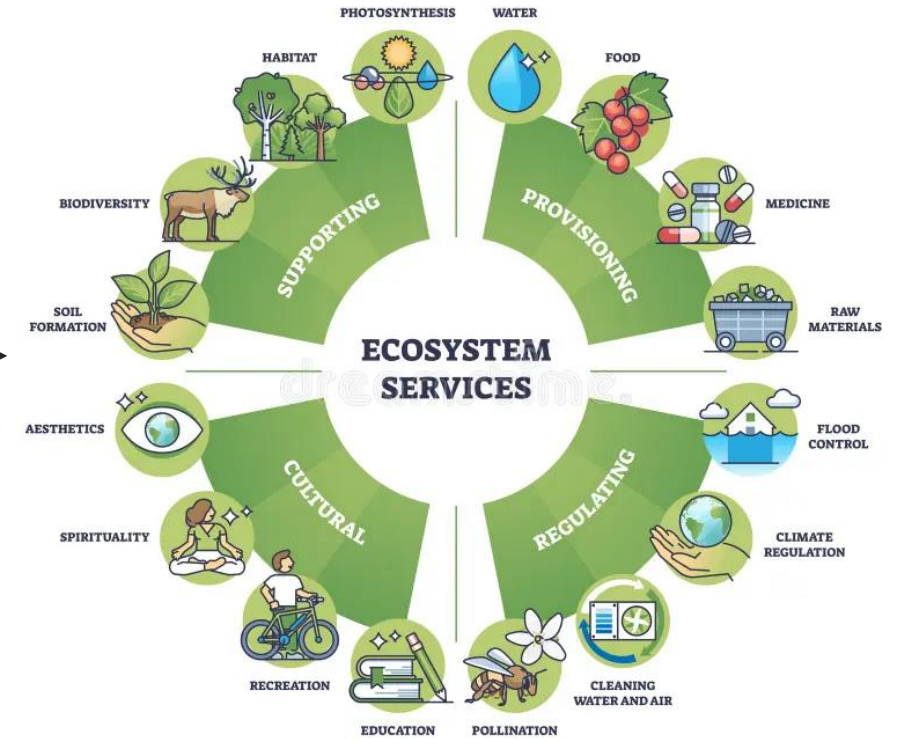


2-Environmental Studies:

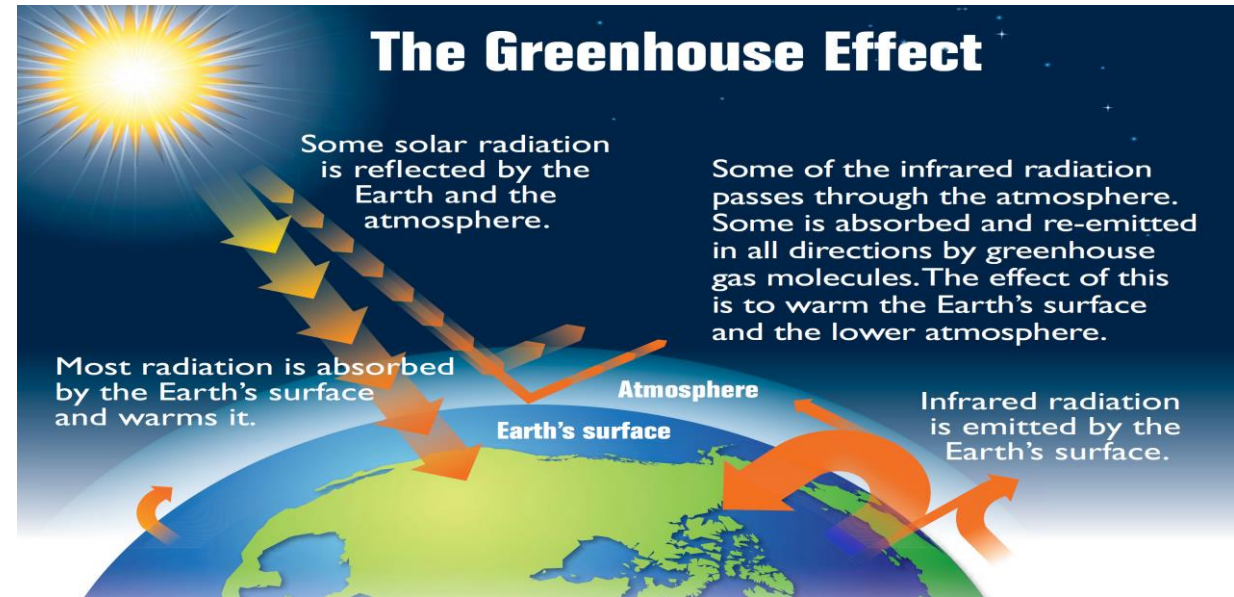
2-1-Ecosystem Services: The benefits that humans obtain from ecosystems, including provisioning services (e.g., food and water), regulating services (e.g., climate regulation), supporting services (e.g., nutrient cycles), and cultural services (e.g., recreation and spiritual benefits).



2-2-Deforestation: The clearing of forests, often for agriculture, logging, or urban development, which can have significant environmental and ecological impacts, including loss of biodiversity and disruption of the carbon cycle.



Greenhouse Effect: The natural process by which certain gases in the Earth's atmosphere trap heat from the sun, preventing it from escaping into space. Human activities, such as burning fossil fuels, have enhanced this effect, leading to global warming and climate change.



Sustainable Development: Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It encompasses economic, social, and environmental dimensions.



Ecological Footprint: A measure of the environmental impact of an individual, community, organization, or country in terms of the resources consumed and waste produced, typically expressed in terms of global hectares.

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

The ecological footprint is a way of measuring human impact on the environment.

DEFINITION

"[Ecological footprint] measures the human impact on the biosphere by estimating the amount of biologically productive land and water area required to sustain the consumption of a population or economic system and to absorb the wastes generated by its production and consumption activity"
(Wackernagel & Rees, 1996)

EXAMPLES

- **Transportation:** You use of energy to transport yourself contributes to your ecological footprint.
- **Food production:** The amount of water, land, and other resources used to generate food for you contributes to your ecological footprint.

HELPFULPROFESSOR.COM

The Ecological Footprint

MEASURES

how fast we consume resources and generate waste



Energy

Settlement

Timber & Paper

Food & Fiber

Seafood

COMPARED TO

how fast nature can absorb our waste and generate new resources.



Carbon Footprint

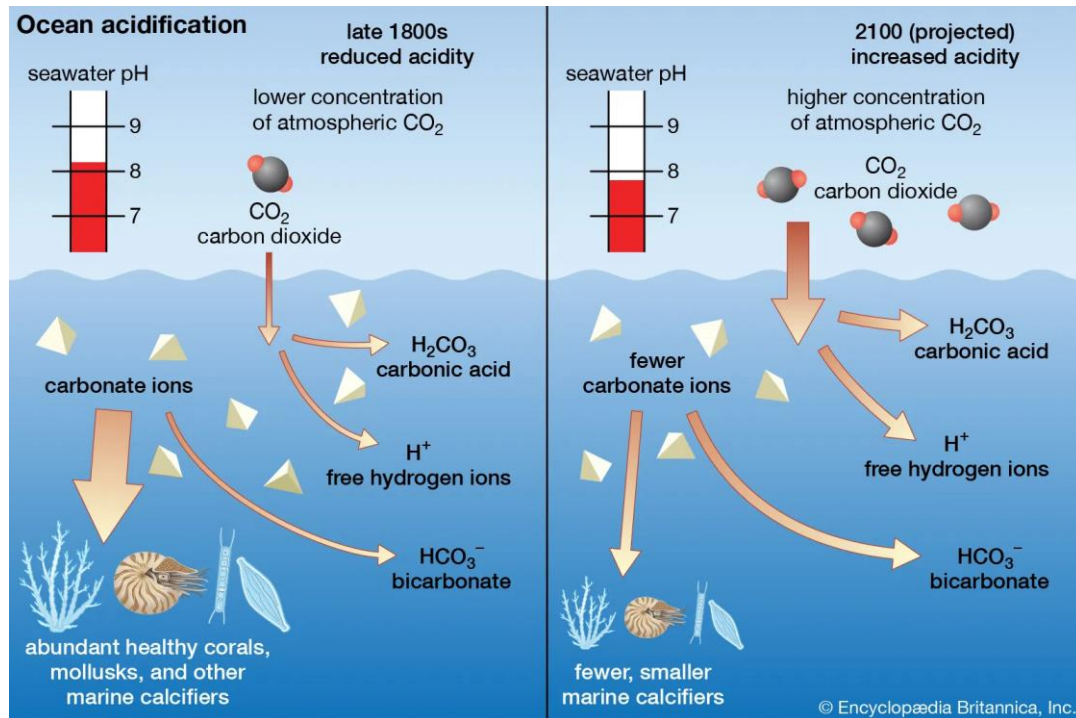
Built-up land

Forest

Cropland & Pasture

Fisheries

Habitat Destruction: The process of altering or destroying natural habitats, often leading to the displacement or extinction of species. It can result from activities like urbanization, mining, and agriculture.



Ocean Acidification: The ongoing decrease in the pH of the Earth's oceans due to the absorption of excess carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. It has adverse effects on marine life, particularly organisms with calcium carbonate shells or skeletons.

Environmental Justice: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, in the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Environmental justice is a way of looking at environmental issues through the lens of social inequality, and it seeks to ensure that everyone has access to clean air, water, and land.

DEFINITION

Environmental justice is the "fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies" (US EPA, 2019).

EXAMPLE

Pollution hot spots: Certain communities are disproportionately impacted by air and water pollution, resulting in higher rates of disease and health problems. It is particularly true for communities of color, which are disproportionately located near industrial facilities and other sources of pollution due to historical intergenerational poverty..

Eco-Tourism: Tourism that promotes responsible travel to natural areas while conserving the environment and improving the well-being of local communities. It aims to minimize negative impacts on ecosystems.



These terms provide a deeper understanding of the concepts and issues studied in the fields of Geography and Environmental Studies, which are crucial for addressing environmental challenges and managing our planet's resources sustainably.