

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

- **Climate change** – This refers to long-term changes in temperature and weather patterns, especially due to human activity. Many governments are taking action to prevent its effects. Using less fossil fuels will help stop climate change.
- **Global warming** – This is the gradual increase in the Earth's temperature caused by greenhouse gases. Melting ice caps are a result of global warming. It is caused by the burning of fossil fuels and these fuels contribute to global warming. However, the sources state that global warming is not caused by natural factors alone
- **Sustainability** – Using resources in a way that does not harm the environment and can continue over time is considered sustainable. Using renewable energy is described as a more sustainable way of living. The sources also mention that the current use of fossil fuels is not sustainable.
- **Sustainable development** – This is economic development that is conducted without depletion of natural resources. The sources state that sustainable development aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising future generations.
- **Circular Economy:** An economic system aimed at eliminating waste and the continual use of resources. It involves designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and regenerating natural systems.
- **Recycling** – To recycle means to convert waste into reusable material. It involves reusing and repurposing materials. The sources state that recycling programs are being promoted and that recycling means converting waste into something new and useful.
- **Waste** – This refers to unwanted materials or substances left after something has been used. Reusing materials and reducing waste are considered key aspects of sustainability.