

## What are Natural Resources?

**Natural Resources** are any biological, mineral, or aesthetic asset given by nature **without human** intervention that can be used for some form of benefit, whether material (economic) or immaterial. Some examples of assets that can be considered natural resources include:

- |                 |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| a) forests      | f) sunlight         |
| b) water        | g) air              |
| c) land & soil  | h) sand & limestone |
| d) minerals     | i) animals          |
| e) fossil fuels | j) plants           |

## What are the different types of natural resources?

Based on the availability are two types of natural resources:

1. **Renewable:** resources that are available in large quantities and can renew or regenerate in a fast manner and are used repeatedly. Example: Forest, wind, water, etc.
2. **Non-Renewable:** resources that are limited in abundance due to their non-renewable nature and are depleted faster than they can regenerate. Its availability may run out in the future. Example: Fossil fuels

## The difference between renewable and non-renewable resources

<b>Renewable Resource</b>
• It can be renewed as it is available in quantity
• Sustainable in nature
• Some are low cost and environment-friendly
• Replenish or regenerate quickly

### **Non-renewable Resource**

Once completely consumed, it cannot be renewed due to limited stock

Exhaustible in nature

Some have high cost and less environment-friendly

Replenish slowly or do not replenish naturally at all

### **Products Made from Natural Resources**

People use an abundance of resources to survive in a continually developing world. Globally, however, some people live simpler lifestyles than others and therefore use fewer resources. This table list some natural resources and some products and services people produce from them.

<b>Trees</b>	<b>Paper, furniture, fuel, pharmaceuticals</b>
<b>Cotton</b>	<b>Clothing</b>
<b>Oil/Petroleum</b>	<b>Plastic, Fuel</b>
<b>Natural gas</b>	<b>Fuel</b>
<b>Iron</b>	<b>Steel Products (cans, car parts)</b>
<b>Sand</b>	<b>Glass, plastics, computer chips</b>
<b>Limestone</b>	<b>Paint, textile, glass, rubber, paper</b>