

Types and Classification of Resources

Chapter 6: Resources and Development · Topic 1

Key Concept

Biotic resources come from living things, like forests and wildlife, while abiotic resources come from non-living things, like minerals, rocks, and water.

Renewable resources, like solar energy and forests (if managed sustainably), can be replenished, while non-renewable resources, like coal and petroleum, are limited and can't be quickly replaced.

Resources can also be classified by ownership - individual resources (privately owned land), community resources (public parks), national resources (within a country's boundary), and international resources (like oceanic resources beyond territorial waters).

Based on development status, resources can be classified as potential (not yet used, like unexploited energy sources) or developed resources (currently being used, like already-mined minerals).

Quick Revision Notes

- Resources are classified by origin, exhaustibility, ownership and development status.
- Biotic resources come from living things, like forests.
- Abiotic resources come from non-living things, like minerals.
- Renewable resources can be replenished, like solar energy.
- Non-renewable resources are limited, like coal.
- Ownership types include individual, community, national and international.
- Potential resources are not yet used.
- Developed resources are currently being used.

Practice Questions

- 1 Classify five resources by origin (biotic/abiotic).
- 2 Classify the same resources by exhaustibility.
- 3 Discuss an example of a community resource near you.
- 4 Explain the difference between potential and developed resources.
- 5 Research an international resource, like ocean minerals.
- 6 Create a chart classifying resources by different criteria.