

⇒ Definition of Ecosystem ::

- (i) According to Odum, "The ecosystem is the basic fundamental unit of ecology of both the organisms and their non-living ~~environment~~ environment, each influencing the properties of the other and each is necessary for the maintenance of life."
- (ii) According to S. Mathavan, "The ecosystem is the sum total of living organisms, the environment and the processes of interaction between the various units of the system."
- (iii) An ecosystem is a natural unit of living and non-living components that always interact to produce a stable and dynamic system, in which the exchange of materials between the living and the non-living components takes place in a circular path.