

Sustainable Development and Planning II

Volume 1

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Sustainable Development and Planning II

Volume 1

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Preface

These volumes contain the contributions presented at the 2nd International Conference on Sustainable Development and Planning, held in Bologna, Italy, September 12 to 14, 2005. The series, which started in October 2003 in Skiathos, Greece, is organized by Wessex Institute of Technology, UK and sponsored by WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment.

The Conference addressed the subjects of planning and regional development in an integrated way as well as in accordance with the principles of sustainability. It has become apparent that planners, environmentalists, architects, engineers, policy makers and economists have to work together in order to ensure that development can meet our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations. In recent years, there has been in many countries, an increase in spatial problems that has led to planning crises. Planning problems are often connected with uneven development, deterioration of the quality of urban life and destruction of the environment. Furthermore, problems of environmental management and planning are not restricted to urban areas. Environments such as rural areas, forests, coastal regions and mountains face their own problems that require urgent solutions in order to avoid irreversible damages. The use of modern technologies in planning, such as geographical information systems and remote sensing, give us new potential to monitor and prevent environmental degradation.

Effective strategies for management should consider sustainable development and planning, and emphasise the need to handle these matters in an integrated way. The conference provided a common forum for all scientists, specialising in the wide range of subjects.

The scientific topics of Sustainable Planning and Development 2005 included:

1. City planning
2. Environmental impact assessment
3. Environmental legislation and policy
4. Environmental management
5. Waste management
6. Resources management
7. Geo-informatics
8. Transportation
9. Ecosystems analysis, protection and remediation
10. Regional planning

11. Rural development
12. A Multidisciplinary approach to territorial and environmental risk assessment and management
13. Social and cultural issues
14. Urban landscapes

The editors would like to thank all the authors for their presentations and in particular, the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee who helped to review the papers.

The Editors
Bologna, 2005

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