

# Sustainable Development and Planning III

Volume 2

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Volume 2

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## PREFACE

This volume contains scientific papers presented at the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Sustainable Development and Planning, held in Algarve, Portugal. Previous conferences of the series were held in October 2003 in Skiathos, Greece and in September 2005 in Bologna, Italy. The meetings were organized by the Wessex Institute of Technology, UK and the University of Thessaly, Greece.

The conference addressed the subjects of sustainable development and regional planning in an integrated way keeping in mind that the present generations have to find the appropriate way to satisfy their needs without compromising the ability of future generations. It has become apparent that planners, environmentalists, architects, engineers, policy makers and economists have to work together in order to ensure that sustainable development and planning can be achieved. The increase in spatial problems that can be seen in many countries has led to planning crises. Planning problems are often connected with uneven development, deterioration of the quality of urban life and environmental pollution. The increasing urbanisation of the world coupled with the global issues of environmental pollution, resources shortage and economic restructuring demand that we make our cities places worth living in. However, 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 damage. The use of modern technologies in planning gives us new potential to monitor and prevent environmental degradation.

Effective strategies for management should consider planning and regional development, two closely related disciplines, and emphasise the demand to handle these matters in an integrated way. This conference provided a common forum for all scientists specialising in the range of subjects included within sustainable development and planning.

The scientific topics presented at the Sustainable Development and Planning 2007 meeting included:

- City planning
- Ecosystems analysis, protection and remediation
- Environmental economics
- Environmental impact assessment

- Environmental legislation and policy
- Environmental management
- Regional planning
- Resources management
- Rural development
- Social and cultural issues
- Sustainable tourism
- Transport issues
- Urban landscapes
- Waste management

The success of this series of conferences has led to the launching of the “International Journal of Sustainable Development and Planning” (<http://journals.witpress.com/pages/jsus/>), which is an interdisciplinary publication covering the above subjects amongst others.

The editors would like to thank all the authors for their contributions, as well as the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee who helped to review the papers.

The Editors,  
Algarve, 2007

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