

Sustainable Development and Planning IV

Volume 1

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Volume 1

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PREFACE

This fourth International Conference on Sustainable Development and Planning builds upon a series of conferences that began in October 2003 in Skiathos (Greece) and evolved to another two conference meetings in 2005 in Bologna (Italy) and in 2007 in Algarve (Portugal).

It is with great pleasure that we host this subsequent fourth conference in Cyprus, a relatively recently EU-accessed country facing many challenges and opportunities for sustainable development and planning; both as a Mediterranean island with the associated particularities on climate and environment as well as on the policy and planning levels. It is also an honour for us, as University of Cyprus, to host and to have been invited to co-organise this conference together with the Wessex Institute and the University of Thessaly.

Sustainable Development and Planning 2009 brings together scientists and other stakeholders from across the globe to discuss the latest scientific advances in our understanding of sustainable development, as well as to seek and highlight developments in management strategies and assessment tools for policy and decision makers on the planning level. This volume presents a collection of abstracts and papers presented at this Conference including:

- City planning
- Regional planning
- Social and political
- Rural development
- Cultural heritage
- Transportation
- Safety of users in road evacuation: modeling and DSS
- Ecosystems analysis, protection and remediation
- Environmental management
- Environmental impact assessment
- Indicators of sustainability
- Sustainable solutions in developing countries
- Sustainable tourism
- Waste management

- Flood risk management
- Resource management

A Special Session dedicated to *Sustainable Built Environment*, a topic attracting particular attention and activity in Cyprus, has also been initiated. This special session has aimed to bring together local and international researchers, practitioners and planners to discuss problems and issues that are of current major concern in Cyprus. We hope that this discussion proves a creative and fruitful platform for future related initiatives.

Finally, we wish to thank all the authors and participants for their contributions, as well as the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee who helped to review the papers.

The Editors, Cyprus 2009

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