



Editorial

Sustainability Indicators and Intelligent Decisions

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The sustainability concept is evolving with a deeper comprehension that knowledge and technology created by man's intellect influence the survival processes of civilization no less than abundance of natural resources. For the last ten years, dozens of communities, states and nations have begun to implement sustainability indicator initiatives. But despite a great deal of activities and momenta, there is a wide recognition among indicator practitioners and experts that indicators must be better designed to support and drive decisions that improve the community's environment, economy and society.

To address these issues the International Conference "Sustainability Indicators and Intelligent Decisions (SIID-2003)", held in Vilnius, Lithuania, on October 9-11, 2003, got together academicians, policy experts, managers and system modellers from 24 countries to present and discuss recent works on theoretical aspects and practice of sustainability indicators. The presentations were focussed on the following topics aimed at overviewing the trends and gaining a common attitude towards:

- the problems caused by unsustainable development: situation analysis and case studies,
- sustainability indicators on global, national, and local levels,
- developing intellectual potential and strategies for sustainability education and sustainable education,
- social-economic tools in the sustainable development policy for building up a civil society,
- information technologies for decision making in the sustainable development policy

The current issue contains the papers presented at the SIID-2003, covering significant frameworks of sustainability indicators and intelligent decisions, tracking links for knowledge-based and economic technologies.