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Abstract

The book entitled "Environment and Sustainable Development" examines the concept of sustainable development focusing on the environmental dimension, illustrating the role of sustainability in crucial environmental sectors. Sustainable development has been a dominant concept in the scientific community for more than thirty years, but still remains current: evolving, redefining, and readjusting its goals. The turn towards sustainability is a modern solution promoted in the international policy level in order to address environmental problems. Issues that have historically been of great concern to the international community in the struggle for environmental protection are investigated in the book and the readers are introduced to the concept of sustainability and its three pillars. Sustainability is examined in relation to natural resources, as well as to the primary sector of production. Tools for measuring sustainable development are presented, with particular reference to sustainable development indicators, while the impact

of the role of scale is considered as well. In addition, Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are analyzed, focusing on their implementation in the European Union. The contribution of international organizations in sustainable development policy is investigated, designating the most important institutions that play a central role in the decision making at global level in the fields of environment and sustainable development. The impact of development and consumption on the natural environment and natural resources is analyzed, while the concept of sustainability is investigated in relation to development. Renewable Energy Sources and their importance to the promotion of sustainable development and the fight against climate change are presented. The connection of sustainable development to materials use, waste management, recycling and the impact of pollution are also examined. Furthermore, two special issues of sustainable development are presented: circular economy and corporate social responsibility.

