Editorial

> *Every political and economic decision and all its implications (planning, building, regulating, directing, investing...) must move from a short to a long-term perspective; a decisive element to be taken into account must be an accurate and rigorous evaluation of the environmental, social and generational impact. Any decision that does not take it into account must be denounced as dangerous, irresponsible and illegitimate.*
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> *Alexander Langer*, ecologist, pacifist, MEP

Since the '70s the need to reconcile *economic growth* and *equitable distribution of resources* into a new model of development, based on the awareness that the concept of classic development, linked exclusively to economic growth, would have caused the collapse of natural systems. Economic growth by itself is not enough, development is real and sustainable if and if only it improves the quality of life in a lasting way.

In its broadest sense, the concept of sustainability implies the ability of a development process to sustain over time the reproduction of the world "capital" made up of economic, human/social and natural capital. Accordingly, sustainability is, therefore, not to be understood as an immutable state or vision, but rather as a continuous process, which recalls the need to combine the three fundamental and inseparable dimensions of development: Environmental, Economic and Social.

It is therefore essential to guarantee economic development compatible with social equity and ecosystems, thus operating in an environmentally balanced regime, in compliance with the so-called equilibrium rule of the three "*E*": *Ecology, Equity, Economics*. Economic growth has promised to create on the one hand welfare and on the other the removal of the factors of poverty, but at the same time it has damaged natural resources and negatively

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impacted the dynamic balance of ecosystems, deeply undermining the regenerative bases and assimilative capacities. All this then leads to the definition of "*unsustainability*" of the current development model, as reiterated in September 2015 by the UN. In addition to defining the current model of "*unsustainable*" development, in the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, the United Nations has also declared that all countries are called to contribute to the definition of a sustainable development strategy that is fundamental the involvement of all the company's stakeholders, in particular of the *Research and Training systems*.

In order to guide the stakers towards the sustainable path, in this issue, initially presents an analysis of the state of Italian scientific research on the subject of sustainability, in particular from those of Economics and of Management, highlighting their main character in terms of Authors, scientific papers, topics most frequently dealt with, relationships between them. The network analysis is provided adapting methods of bibliographic mapping and clustering of scientific production.

In addition, the magazine has addressed three issues that certainly constitute fundamental challenges to the Sustainability of development:

- inequalities;
- job;
- environmental dimension.

With respect to the theme of inequality, the magazine publishes an article that analyze institutional and environmental channels of income inequality influence on economic growth and sustainable development.

The "job" question, on the other hand, is dealt with in an interesting article in which the authors focus their attention on the definition of "Sustainable jobs", with a view to improving the quality of work aimed at achieving the objective of contributing to sustainable development. applying the principles of the Circular Economy, presenting an application to the tourism sector.

The "environmental dimension" is analyzed, in this issue, with four articles.

In the first a new indicator is presented, the "Ecological Human Imprint (EHI)", that is a new index that is of important measure in calculating the human demands and impacts on our global environment.

In a second article, the author presents a rereading of the complexity of agriculture assessed with respect to environmental performance of Italian agriculture according to the set of indicators chosen to monitor progress towards the Agenda 2030 SDGs and with regard to this it will offer some reflections on what the best ways to improve it can be.

The third article studies the consequences that the integration of the agricultural world with the food industry involved in the production, processing and marketing of food products.

The fourth paper presents emerging technologies that can be used to maximize energy and water savings in agricultural irrigation and more specific on electric centrifugal pumps. The work is focused on two technologies that can be easily implemented on existing pumping stations, their use is simple enough for the average farmer to understand and manage and they require relatively low investment cost.

We close this issue of the Review of Studies on Sustainability with a "Forum" dedicated to analysis of fluctuations in agricultural commodity markets and speculative activities on them.

Eva Maria Pföstl