

Editorial

The transition to sustainability requires overcoming the current model of development through a radical paradigm shift by all the stakeholders of the economic system in the various territories.

Global challenges to sustainability such as, for example, climate change, demographic dynamics, unequal access to capital stocks and innovation, require responses both from Institutions (top down approach) and private subjects (bottom up approach).

The solutions to these challenges cannot come, in fact, only through a “segmented approach” to the single challenges, nor solely through command and control policies and/or public incentives. A fundamental new approach must be based on a radical change in the behavioral models of businesses, citizens and Knowledge System (Research, Training, Communication).

To the scientific world, in particular, the task of advancing the frontier of knowledge with respect to the main economic, social, environmental and institutional problems, so as to offer sustainable solutions to Policy Makers, Companies and Consumers.

In this issue of the *Review of Studies on Sustainability* we open with an essay by Safwat H. Shakir Hanna and Gian Paolo Cesaretti, entitled *The Theory of Sustainable Development: A Review*, which highlights the complexity of the concept of sustainable development and its fundamental determinants.

Between these:

- ✓ the balancing human population with economic growth;
- ✓ the overcoming of inability for the government to provide goods and services to their citizens.

The institutional component of sustainability consists in the capacity of supranational and national governments to guarantee, in particular, stability, democracy and justice. The paper of Aliya Kassymbek, Lazzat Zhazylbek, Zhanel Sailibayeva, Kairatbek Shadiyev, Yermek Buribayev,

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entitled *The role of parliament in the sustainable development of the country: Agenda for Kazakhstan*, highlights how, in Kazakhstan, the lack of advent of a multiparty system is not conducive to the formation of political and ideological diversity. This situation does not ensure the sustainable functioning of political system and the state apparatus.

Financial sustainability is a fundamental determinant to pursue development in the various economic systems.

The authors, Zoia Sokolovska, Oksana Klepikova, Tetiana Cherkasova, in the paper *An insurance company as an element of sustainable development of the state socio-economic system: Ukraine insurance companies case study*, present a very in-depth analysis aimed at demonstrating as an efficient insurance system it constitutes a fundamental driver of sustainable development of the state socio-economic system in Ukraine.

The environmental challenge requires that all stakeholders are engaged for new behavioral models that are increasingly able to make use of renewable and clean natural resources; to use them more and more efficiently; to acquire a growing awareness of the anthropological impact on climate change.

The essay by Kateryna Kononova and Anton Dek, *Bitcoin mining electricity consumption and carbon footprint* highlights how the use of new cryptocurrencies, as a consequence of a market globalization not accompanied by universal rights and rules, generates strong negative environmental externalities in terms of electricity consumption and carbon footprint.

The essay by Francesca Scafuto, *Climate risk for the self and community: the role of Nature Relatedness, Personal Control and Mindfulness* deals with the centrality of mindfulness, the relationship with nature (the role of Nature relatedness) and personal control as factors determining the perceived risk for climate change. Combating climate change without a fundamental acquisition of awareness that present individual and collective behaviors are unsustainable, becomes a “mission impossible” in the current state of affairs.

The essay by Bitkova TV, Volkova OF, entitled *Study of the water supply in the megapolis: System dynamics approach* deals with one of the environmental challenges that in the near future, if not ruled according to efficiency and equity on a planetary level, risks to become one of the main obstacles to sustainable development: water supply in the megapolis.

As evidenced by the authors, the United Nations estimate that water demand should increase by 55%. The accelerated pace of urbanization and expansion of municipal water supply systems make a significant

contribution to increasing this demand. However, water management continues to be irrational. The essay, in particular, addresses this issue with respect to the case study of Ukraine.

Finally, Vincenzo Sequino, Chiara Salerno, Alessandra Pesce, in the paper *On innovation, cooperation and agriculture: some reflections on these topics*, tackle the central role of innovation for an increasingly sustainable evolution of agriculture.

I would like to thank the authors for their enthusiasm in participating to this number of our journal and the reviewers for their comments. My special thanks go also the journal staff and its editorial board.

Eva Maria Pfostel