

Preface

The 3rd International Interdisciplinary Scientific Conference on Digitalization and Sustainability for Development Management: Economic, Social, and Environmental Aspects, which was held this year in London, UK, 14-15 October 2023, has come to an end. As always, first of all, we would like to thank all the organizers and participants for their efforts, time, and in general, active life stance. This year's conference was actively supported by The London Academy of Science and Business (London, UK).

The conference theme remains pertinent, aligning seamlessly with the ongoing trends in the transformation of the global economic system. Current determinants include the evolution of information and communication technologies, challenges within the capitalist framework, advocacy for human rights, and environmental preservation efforts. Consequently, structures emblematic of a network society and information economy have emerged. The rationale behind these occurrences forms the foundation for conceptualizing and advancing specific strategies related to digitalization and sustainability. This integration is recognized as a crucial phase in the management and development of the global economy.

Digitalization, the all-encompassing integration of digital technologies into various societal and economic realms, stands as a transformative force with profound implications for sustainable development management. This intricate relationship between digitalization and sustainable development spans economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

In the economic sphere, the digitalization of the economy catalyzes efficiency, innovation, and economic growth. Smart technologies optimize processes, elevate productivity, and give rise to innovative business models. Within the realm of sustainable development, digitalization facilitates the emergence of green technologies, optimizes resource utilization, and fosters the adoption of circular economy practices. A notable example is the advent of blockchain technology, which is instrumental in establishing transparent and accountable supply chains crucial for sustainable resource management.

Furthermore, digitalization acts as a democratizing force, providing marginalized communities with access to economic opportunities. Online platforms and digital marketplaces empower these communities, fostering inclusive economic growth. E-commerce, remote work, and digital financial services bridge geographical divides, enabling developing regions to actively participate in the global economy.

In the social domain, digitalization addresses challenges and promotes human development. Digital tools in education facilitate distance learning, skills development, and knowledge sharing. Social media platforms amplify voices, unite communities, and spark social movements, fostering a sense of global citizenship.

However, it is essential to acknowledge challenges such as the digital divide, as unequal access to digital resources can exacerbate existing social inequalities. Ensuring equal access

to technology and promoting digital literacy becomes crucial for leveraging digitalization as a tool for social development.

Turning to environmental considerations, the impacts of digitalization are dual-faceted. On the one hand, the production and disposal of electronic devices contribute to e-waste and environmental degradation. Conversely, digital technologies enable the monitoring, management, and mitigation of environmental issues.

Examples such as smart grids, precision farming, and environmental sensors showcase how digital technologies enhance environmental sustainability. Big data analytics and artificial intelligence contribute to informed decision-making for environmental preservation. However, striking a balance is imperative to mitigate the environmental impact of digital technologies.

The synergy between digitalization and sustainability is evident in development management. Fully harnessing the potential of digital technologies demands a strategic approach prioritizing economic development, social inclusion, and environmental equilibrium. Collaboration between policymakers, businesses, and communities is paramount to navigating challenges and capitalizing on opportunities in the digital age.

Aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals, digitalization has the potential to pave the way for a more inclusive, efficient, and environmentally friendly future. A comprehensive understanding of the economic, social, and environmental dimensions is crucial in the transformation process, ensuring that the benefits of digitalization are optimized for the collective well-being of present and future generations.

Hence, this conference proposes a noteworthy level of collaboration in global scientific cooperation, fostering engagement between scholars and practitioners in amalgamating digitalization and sustainability within development management. The escalating pace of scientific and technological advancements renders science increasingly interdisciplinary, unveiling novel perspectives for scholarly contemplation. The exchange of perspectives and the organization of knowledge serve as pivotal elements in pinpointing developmental priorities, streamlining processes, and navigating critical junctures across various scales and facets of economic, social, and environmental development.

This year's conference was attended by more than 200 participants from 21 countries. Presentations were made on the following conference topics:

- ✓ Theory of sustainable economic development in the context of digitalization.
- ✓ Digitalization and sustainability in regional and global economic development.
- ✓ Digital marketing for sustainable economic development.
- ✓ Artificial intelligence and cognitive technologies in sustainable development.
- ✓ Energy management and sustainable economic development.
- ✓ Digitalization and sustainability in the education system.
- ✓ Environmental aspects of sustainable development in the digital economy.
- ✓ Digitalization and sustainability through COVID-19.
- ✓ Smart Grid, information technologies and energy systems of the future.
- ✓ Energy security and the process of globalization.
- ✓ Innovation management in the energy sector.
- ✓ Marketing for the development of green energy.
- ✓ Sustainable development and sustainability in the livestock system.

- ✓ Sustainable development and sustainability in the crop production system.
- ✓ Legal aspects of sustainable development.

The Organizing Committee of the Conference extends its sincere appreciation to all publishing houses, specifically acknowledging the editors and reviewers who actively contributed to the article processing phase during the conference review.

Postconference, the works of participants which successfully underwent the review process have been featured in dedicated journal issues affiliated with the conference, incorporating select papers presented during the event.

In conclusion, we are optimistic that the conference in 2024 will prove to be equally captivating in terms of scholarly contributions and fruitful discussions.

With warm regards,
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On behalf of the Conference Organizing Committee
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