

Sustainable development strategies: A resource book

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National Strategies for Sustainable Development 2002

http://www.nssd.net/res_book.html#contents.



This book is a cornerstone resource for a wide range of organisations and individuals concerned with sustainable development at national and local levels, as well as for international organisations concerned with supporting such development. While the focus is on integrated strategies for sustainable development, the approaches and methods covered are equally relevant to poverty reduction, environmental and sectoral strategies, programme development and review. Agenda 21 called for all countries to develop sustainable development strategies. For such strategies to be effective there needs to be a real commitment. In every country, government at all levels, the private sector and civil society must work together in a true partnership, in transparent ways which enable genuine stakeholder participation. The necessary mechanisms and processes need to be coordinated to enable continuous learning and improvement. This resource book provides flexible, non-prescriptive guidance on how to develop, assess and implement national sustainable development strategies. It sets out principles and ideas on process and methods, and suggests how these can be used. It is based on an analysis of past and current practice, drawing directly from experience in both developed and developing countries. Following a discussion of the nature and challenges of sustainable development and the need for strategic responses to them, the heart of the book covers the main tasks in strategy processes. Individual chapters offer a rich range of guidance, ideas and case studies on:

- The nature of sustainable development strategies and current practice
- Key steps in starting, managing and improving sustainable development strategies
- Analysis of and for sustainable development

- Participation for sustainable development
- Information, education and communications
- Strategy decision-making frameworks and procedures
- The financial basis for strategies
- Monitoring and evaluation systems

The book includes a free CD-Rom of full text and extensive related material. The book is downloadable in sections from http://www.nssd.net/res_book.html#contents.

Based on the book Business Strategy for Sustainable Development: Leadership and Accountability for the 90s, published in 1992 by the International Institute for Sustainable Development in conjunction with Deloitte & Touche and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development. Sustainable development: a business definition. It also highlights business's dependence on human and natural resources, in addition to physical and financial capital. It emphasizes that economic activity must not irreparably degrade or destroy these natural and human resources. This definition is intended to help business directors apply the concept of sustainable development to their own organizations.