ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS (EOLSS) An Integrated Compendium of Twenty One Encyclopedias

EOLSS is regarded as the World's largest professional publication — a virtual dynamic library with high quality, state-of-the-art peer reviewed content, developed under the auspices of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) carrying contributions from thousands of scholars from over 100 countries and edited by well over 300 subject experts, for a wide audience: pre-university/university students, educators, professional practitioners, informed specialists, researchers, policy analysts, managers, and decision makers. A source of knowledge for sustainable development and global security to lead to fulfillment of human needs through simultaneous socio-economic and technological progress and conservation of the Earth's natural systems. This archive is now available at http://www.eolss.net_as an integrated compendium of twenty one component encyclopedias:









- **1. EARTH AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES**
- 2. MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
- 3. BIOLOGICAL, PHYSIOLOGICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES
- 4. BIOTECHNOLOGY
- 5. LAND USE, LAND COVER AND SOIL SCIENCES
- 6. TROPICAL BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT
- 7. SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES
- 8. PHYSICAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 9. CONTROL SYSTEMS, ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION
- 10. CHEMICAL SCIENCES ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 11. WATER SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 12. DESALINATION AND WATER RESOURCES (DESWARE)
- 13. ENERGY SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 14. ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 15. FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES
- 16. HUMAN RESOURCES POLICY, DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT
- 17. NATURAL RESOURCES POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
- 18. DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC SCIENCES
- **19. INSTITUTIONAL AND INFRASTRUCTURAL RESOURCES**
- 20. TECHNOLOGY, INFORMATION AND SYSTEM MANAGEMENT RESOURCES
- 21. AREA STUDIES (Africa, Brazil, Canada and USA, China, Europe, Japan, Russia)

Within these twenty one on-line encyclopedias, there are hundreds of Themes, each of which has been compiled under the editorial supervision of a recognized world expert or a team of experts such as an International Commission specially appointed for the purpose. Each of these 'Honorary Theme Editors' was responsible for selection and appointment of authors to produce the material specified by EOLSS. On average each Theme contains about thirty chapters. It deals in detail with *interdisciplinary* subjects, but it is also *disciplinary*, as each major core subject is covered in great depth by world experts.

EOLSS is the result of an unprecedented global effort involving over 300 Subject Editors and over 10000Authors from over 100 countries. From 1996 thousands of scientists, engineers and policy-makers began meeting just to define the scope of the project, before discussing the details of the contributions. Regional workshops were held in Washington DC, Tokyo, Moscow, Mexico City, Beijing, Panama, Abu Sultan (Egypt), and Kuala Lumpur, to develop a list of possible subjects and debate analytical approaches for treating them.



UNESCO-EOLSS JOINT COMMITTEE

The EOLSS project is coordinated by the UNESCO-EOLSS Joint Committee (<u>http://www.eolss.net/eolss_international.aspx</u>) and sponsored by Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (EOLSS). Through many and diverse consultation meetings around the world, the EOLSS has benefited immensely from the academic, intellectual, and scholarly advice of each and every member of a large International Editorial Council (<u>http://www.eolss.net/eolss_international.aspx</u>), which includes Nobel and UN Kalinga Laureates, World Food Prize Laureates, and several fellows of academies of science and engineering of countries throughout the world.

INTERNATIONAL EDITORIAL COUNCIL (IEC)

The EOLSS International Editorial Council was established thus: Board of General Advisors (BGA), Honorary Editorial Advisory Board (HEAB), and Honorary Academic Editorial Board (HAEB) as a large editorial advisory body with several hundreds of expert members chosen to advice on the development of the Encyclopedia. The Configuration Control Board is a high-level body with membership chosen from the International Editorial Council (IEC). Several individuals advised and contributed to the development of the EOLSS Body of Knowledge through meetings, discussions and communications.

A SAMPLE OF OPINIONS ON THE EOLSS PROJECT Distinguished Persons

"Scientific curiosity and technological endeavors are deeply rooted aspects of human nature. They are responsible for the development of human society and welfare. But they are also responsible for much of the environmental problems we are facing today. Solutions for these shortcomings are inconceivable without full scientific and technological support. EOLSS has the goal to provide a firm knowledge base for future activities to prolong the lifetime of the human race in a hospitable environment." **Richard R. Ernst, Nobel Laureate- Chemistry**

"The EOLSS is not only appropriate, but it is imaginative and, to my knowledge, unique. Much of what we can write about science, about energy, about our far-ranging knowledge base, can indeed be found in major encyclopedias, but as I understand your vision, never as a central theme; the theme of humanity, embedded in nature and constrained to find ways of maintaining a relationship with nature based upon understanding and respect." Leon M. Lederman, Nobel Laureate in Physics

"The population of our planet and its development over the ages sets the scene for considering all global problems and it is reasonable to begin their discussion with population growth. ... Thus we are dealing with an interdisciplinary problem in an attempt to describe the total human experience, right from its very beginning. But without this perspective of time it is not possible to objectively assess what is happening today and provide an objective view of the present state of development, the challenge now facing humanity." S.P. Kapitza, UNESCO Kalinga Prize Winner

"In the coming decades, the need for working together, across countries, is essential. We need to bring 3 billion poor into society and make it possible for them to lead healthy lives, to get the health interventions that we all take as something as self-evident. It can be done. It is within reach. We need to invest in the future. We need to invest in the health of all people worldwide." Gro Harlem Brundtland, Director General, WHO, in an interview with Patricia Morales



United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization



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