

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS FOR GREEK LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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ABSTRACT

Sustainable development is a complex process that calls for structural changes in the technological, social/political, economic and legislative context of production, in an attempt to integrate new concepts concerning the protection of the environment. This paper aims at creating an efficient mechanism for the monitoring of development processes at the local level. In this direction, the main objective is the creation of sustainable development indicators that describe the social, economic and environmental identity of the Greek Local Authorities. The proposed system of indicators, focuses on the description of the development process that apply to Greek Local Authorities, as well as on the projection of future trends. By providing Local Authorities with a means of measuring sustainability, it targets at becoming a useful tool for monitoring, evaluating and improving strategic development decision making. Furthermore, the paper proposes an alternative scenario of sustainable development indicators, which ranks and divides Greek Local Authorities into separate groups, on the basis of their demographic, geographic, economic, environmental and other characteristics.