

EDITORIAL NOTE

The Covid-2019 pandemic related health crisis that has persisted for a year, has slowed down, if not blocked, some initiatives of this Journal for the year 2020. These initiatives were relying on receiving a sufficient number of valuable articles to be published in two special issues, focused on specific topics, and that it is hoped they will be published in 2021.

This first 2020 ordinary issue, therefore collects articles of various contents. However, these articles have in common the fact of being consistent with the objectives of the Journal, of promoting and publishing analyses and proposals on problems of substantial relevance for the sustainable development (i.e. progress) of territorial systems, of various geographical scales and decisional levels.

The first three articles relate to some central issues of the eco-sustainability of development: the first one investigates the issue of soil erosion and deals specifically with its measurement; the second article, in the context of the enormous problem of conservation and use of water, focuses on the case of river contracts; the third contribution highlights the importance of new technologies to adapt agriculture to climate change, in particular how the Internet of Things (IoT) allows “optimizing the wine production and quality and, at the same time, preserving the environment by lowering the carbon footprint, reducing water and electricity use and recycle vine and wine waste, thus promoting an effective agroecological transition”.

The last two papers deal with other themes which are also essential for the sustainable development of territorial communities, respectively: the conservation and improvement of the health of human resources, that is the foundation to achieve any progress; the earnings management practices by capital firms, whose investments are an essential factor sustaining the economic progress of almost all the current territorial communities. In particular, the fourth article deals with the issue of “nervous system injuries and disorder; which every year affect millions of people worldwide, causing a significant and, unfortunately, rising incidence of social and health costs among all the countries”. The fifth contribution, on the other hand, offers empirical evidence showing that Italian private firms manipulate their financial reporting process in order to benefit from capital subsidies, and how their earnings management practices distract European development funds.

Francesco Adamo