

Indicators for Sustainable Development in the Quang Tri Province, Vietnam

Le Trinh Hai^{1*}, Pham Hoang Hai¹, Nguyen Truong Khoa² and Luc Hens³

**1. Institute of Geography, Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology,
18 Hoang Quoc Viet, Cau Giay, Hanoi, Vietnam
E-mail: letrinhhai@yahoo.co.uk**

2. Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Dong Ha, Quang Tri, Vietnam

**3. Human Ecology Department, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Free University of Brussels
Laarbeeklaan 103, B-1090 Brussels, Belgium**

Telephone: +32-02-477.42.81; Fax: +32-02-477.49.64; E-mail: human.ecology@vub.ac.be

KEYWORDS Sustainable Development. Indicators. Experts. DELPHI Process

ABSTRACT Sustainable development is a universal concept. Indicators are a basis to measure sustainable development and to direct policies that aim to achieve a better quality of life. To determine the key indicators with specific emphasis on health and environmental aspects of sustainable development, for the Quang Tri province, Vietnam as a case study. The Delphi method was applied and relates to the situation from March 2007 to April 2007. A two-round questionnaire was organized for a team of experts who act as participants. 37 indicators were selected from 39 listed indicators. They include 17 related to the social aspects, 12 to the environmental aspects, 3 to the economic aspects, and 5 to institutional aspects. For 4 of these indicators, the necessary databases are not available. The Delphi technique also allows to address complex and uncertain aspects of the framework. The selected indicators should be applied in the province. However, this study should be continually improved e.g. through involving the opinion of local people.