FOREWORD

We live in a society defined as the "Information Society" or as the "Knowledge-based Society" that tries to emphasize that the most valuable asset is investment in human and social capital and that the key elements are knowledge and creativity. By the end of the 20th century, science and knowledge became essential parts of our everyday lives. Scientific knowledge is not only the result of our curiosity; it is a powerful means of understanding human nature, society and environment. Advancing in science means to contribute to the social and economic development of society in the country.

People should be offered permanent education, subsequently; Lifelong Learning – new and rather old concept – implies investment in people and knowledge. It promotes the acquisition of basic, intermediate and advanced skills, broadening opportunities, innovative forms of learning. As we already know, the aim of education is to provide people equal high-quality learning opportunities to a variety of learning experiences as we are confronted with new problems, we have to adapt ourselves to them and to train specialists for responding to the new demands.

Therefore, the Leonardo da Vinci RO/04/B/F/PP – 175016 C*OMPLETE - New Strategies of COMPetence Acquisition for Lifelong Learning in Energy – Transport - Environment Engineering* was created. Its main goal is to train the specialists in energy, transport and environment through using modern teaching methods for Lifelong Learning.

The use of innovative and interactive teaching methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance and galvanize the efforts to achieve the human development.

This book is designated to be a resource for improving the quality of training in these fields.

The book is structured in three parts and wants to respond to the specialists' present and future needs for training.

The first part focuses on the problems encountered by using alternative fuels for fuelling vehicles' engines.

The second part presents theoretical and practical aspects on conducting environment evaluation impact studies

Reducing pollution through using active and/or passive methods at vehicles is investigated in the third part of this book. Each chapter has a rich list of references.

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