

Agenda 21, adopted at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, emphasized the importance of environmentally sound technologies to sustainable development, particularly in moving business and industry further and faster to cleaner production and eco-efficiency. The United Nations General Assembly Special Session in June 1997 reinforced this, and industries will also have to adopt new technologies to meet the commitments made by governments at the Kyoto conference on climate change in December 1997.

But more needs to be done to accelerate the transfer, adoption and use of environmentally sound technologies so that industry, especially in the developing countries, can tackle the problems of pollution, waste management, energy efficiency, land degradation and climate change.

*Sustainable Business – Economic development and environmentally sound technologies* addresses these and other issues by:

- reviewing existing technologies for the control, reduction and elimination of pollution, waste management and recycling, water conservation, energy efficiency and cleaner production
- surveying increasingly important emerging technologies such as solar and wind power, and biotechnology
- identifying the major driving forces behind environmentally sound technologies, namely international and national legislation, financial incentives and corporate competitiveness, and
- examining the key issues of financing, technology transfer, assessment and information.

Complete with case studies of successful applications involving environmentally sound technologies, the book provides a resource for all those engaged in the challenge of accelerating the development, transfer and adoption of environmentally sound technologies. It is intended to strengthen the linkages between policy makers, producers and suppliers, users and funding institutions.

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