

1. Record Nr.	UNISALENTO991003214889707536
Autore	Hall, Charles A. S.
Titolo	Quantifying sustainable development [e-book] : the future of tropical economies / edited by Charles A.S. Hall ; associate editors, Carlos Leon Perez, Gregoire Leclerc
Pubbl/distr/stampa	San Diego : Academic Press, c2000
ISBN	9780123188601 0123188601
Descrizione fisica	xxvii, 761 p. ; 24 cm. + 1 computer disk (4 3/4 in.)
Altri autori (Persone)	Hall, Charles A. S. Perez, Carlos Leon Leclerc, Grégoire
Disciplina	338.9270913
Soggetti	Sustainable development - Tropics Sustainable development - Costa Rica Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Risorsa elettronica
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index
Nota di contenuto	Contributors -- Foreword by Lester C. Thurow -- Preface -- Section I: Introduction: The Tropics-Paradise Imperiled? -- 1. The Changing Tropics -- 2. A Brief Historical and Visual Introduction to Costa Rica -- Section II: Development and Sustainability -- 3. The Theories and Myths that Have Guided Development -- 4. Data on Sustainability in Costa Rica: Time Series Analysis of Population, Land Use, Economics, Energy, and Efficiency -- 5. Land, Energy, and Agricultural Production in Costa Rica -- Section III: Adding a Spatial Dimension: Tools for Dynamic Geographical Analysis -- 6. The Derivation and Analysis of National-Level Geographical Information: A New Model for Accessibility and an Easy-to-Use Micro GIS Program -- 7. Geographical Modeling: The Synthesis of a GIS and Simulation Modeling -- Section IV: Building a Geographical Database for Costa Rica -- 8. Developing a Nationwide Topographical Database -- 9. Synthesis of Costa Rican Meteorological Information in a Geographical Context -- 10. Properties, Geographic Distribution, and Management of Major Soil Orders of Costa Rica -- 11. Remote Sensing and Land Use Analysis for Agriculture in Costa Rica --

Section V: Application to Sustainability Issues for Costa Rica's Natural Resources -- 12. Temporal and Spatial Overview of Costa Rican Agricultural Production -- 13. Biophysical Agricultural Assessment and Management Models for Developing Countries -- 14. Geographical Synthesis of Data on Costa Rican Pastures and Their Potential for Improvement -- 15. The Extent and Economic Impacts of Soil Erosion in Costa Rica -- 16. Land Use and Cover Change in Costa Rica: A Geographic Perspective -- 17. Gradient Analysis of Biomass in Costa Rica and a First Estimate of Countrywide Emissions of Greenhouse Gases from Biomass Burning -- 18. Forestry in Costa Rica and an Estimate of Energy Potentially Available from Forests -- 19. Assessing the Role of Parks for Protecting Forest Resources Using GIS and Spatial Modeling -- Section VI: Biophysical Analysis of Major Components of the Economy -- 20. The Costa Rican Banana Industry: Can It Be Sustainable? -- 21. The Costa Rican Coffee Industry -- 22. Costa Rican Industry: Characteristics, History, and Potential for Sustainability -- 23. The Internationalization of the Costa Rican Economy: A Two-Edged Sword. -- 24. An Assessment of the Effectiveness of Structural Adjustment Policies in Costa Rica -- 25. Comparative Estimates of Sustainability: Economic, Resource Base, Ecological Footprint, and Energy -- 26. The Myth of Sustainable Development -- Appendix I: Low Cost Mapmaking -- Appendix II: A Free Micro GIS Program -- Supplement: CD-ROM of Pictures, Programs and Data

Sommario/riassunto

Until recently, the phenomenal economic development of the Asian tigers, Chile, and Malaysia, as well as the sustained economic growth of the United States, painted a very desirable and optimistic picture of free markets, fiscal responsibility, and, more generally, the entire dogma of neoclassical economics. As of the fall of 1998, however, the economies of many tropical countries have contracted severely, and the enthusiasm of the developing tropics for the free market and all of its ancillary policies is decidedly cooler. Have our traditional approaches to economics been failing the developing world? This interdisciplinary book covers the conditions of the developing tropics, the resistance of some of their problems to earlier attempts at solutions, and the use of new tools to develop a much more comprehensive and empirical framework for analysis and decision making. It also presents the development of cutting edge technology that links GIS and modeling approaches with extensive databases on meteorology, soils, agricultural production, and land use. The book discusses whether development is sustainable through a synthesis of demographic, economic, and resource-specific considerations. Costa Rica is uniquely suited to this study because of its size, stage of development, democratic institutions, and national databases. A CD-ROM containing all data and programs, color images, animated models, large data tables, and references accompanies the book. Key Features * Links economic and biophysical analyses of sustainability * Presents new tools and approaches for analysis and decision-making * Includes a CD-ROM containing data and programs, color images, animated models, and references