

## FIRST GLOBAL SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND BIODIVERSITY „GLOSS 2008“ IN RAIPUR, INDIA



Professor Vitalija Rudzkienė, Dean of Economics and Finance Management Faculty, Mykolas Romeris University, participated in the First Global Summit on Sustainable Development and Biodiversity 2008 “Gloss 2008” (Raipur, India). The summit was organized by VRM Foundation and Chhattisgarh Environment Conservation Board in association with other agencies, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The purpose of the summit was to critically examine the replicability of viable practices in sustainable environmental governance, sustainable entrepreneurship, indigenous mechanism of biodiversity conservation, sustainable communication, critically assess the role of civil society organizations in safeguarding the biodiversity resources and protecting intellectual and cultural property right of local communities relating to threat of global warming. Scientists from a lot of countries and continents (India, USA, Canada, Malaysia, Pakistan, Namibia, etc.) participated in this international summit.

The participants of the summit “Gloss 2008” noticed that although a good number of International Conventions have been concluded to influence

formulation of policy at national level for bringing balance between social well-being and eco system through sustainable development approach, very little has been achieved in this direction. A gap between macro level policy and micro level issues and needs is widening. A small attempt has been made to understand the vision of the stakeholders and assess the time-tested technologies, values and mechanisms of conserving, regenerating and preserving the eco-system.

In the summit Prof. Vitalija Rudzkienė presented her paper “Sustainability during Transition and the Impact on Environment and Biodiversity” (co-author Marija Burinskienė, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University). The paper deals with cardinal changes that are observed during transition from the planned and closed system to the free market open economy. The theoretical models and analysis of the processes of inclusion of national economics into the global economy with regard to the sustainable development, and the impact of such processes on the environment and biodiversity were presented and discussed. The analysis revealed that greater openness of the national economy is accompanied by widening areas of intensive application of knowledge and technologies and by the transformation of public consciousness and models of thinking. The changes offer favourable conditions for the skilled population are apt to be concentrated in major cities and surrounding regions. Significant structural changes in the national economy and in the balance of the primary energy resulted in a decreased amount of greenhouse gas emissions. These changes reveal that the transition economy development direction adheres to the sustainable energy principles and grounds the economy growth not on expansive resource use but on application of more efficient technologies. Researches also revealed that even if the impact of human activities is eliminated, the impact of the global warming on the swamp ecosystem remains.