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## **Foreword**

*Today, we are living in a rather different world than our ancestors. This wonderful planet Earth is dramatically changing and nothing has remained the same as 10 -20 years ago. Should we search for behind-the-stage reasons and people to blame, the Economic Development is found to play a crucial role. Moreover, this Economic Development heavily depends on natural resources and nowadays their scarcity is a cruel reality. Their exploitation followed the 'as-needed basis' principle, with no respect towards the Environment. And the consequences are too visible today.*

*Humankind has constantly meddled with the Environment and most of the time it resulted into wastage and loss of the nature's balance. What next? The future generations are doomed to live in a more and more hostile Environment. The question is: are we fully aware of the responsibility we bear concerning the future of this wonderful Planet Earth?*

*The human society keeps moving forward and the Economic Development helps humankind build a better and comfortable life. The truth is that only the fortunate ones are taken into account. But, what is the price to pay? While looking at the people in the undeveloped countries, a sure thing is that Economic Development brings about many disparities. Is it possible that we agree to the fact that some people are scrambling to take care of their daily needs?*

*In 1998, John Brett Elkington defined the triple bottom line of the 21st Century : People- Planet- Profit<sup>1</sup> starting from the same universal concern : to preserve and to protect what he have, to respect and to create a better place under the sun for all the people of the Planet and to be able to balance all this with the main economic goal- making a good profit.*

*The Journal of Economic Development, Environment and People aims to be a forum to deal with 'hot' topics related to the People, Planet and Profit triangle, thus providing the scholars and professionals with the opportunity to voice their worries, to launch debates and to point out at solutions with the explicit purpose to put together a 'better world' for us and for the next generations.*

*Prof. Manuela Epure, PhD  
Editor en-chief*

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<sup>1</sup> John Brett Elkington – *Cannibals with Forks: The Triple Bottom Line of 21<sup>st</sup> Century*,