



Editorial

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AND MANAGEMENT (ICEEM) AN EVENT AT ITS 3rd EDITION

In September 2002, the staff members of the Environmental Engineering and Management Department organized the **1st International Conference on Environmental Engineering and Management (ICEEM01)** hosted by the Faculty of Chemical Engineering within the "Gheorghe Asachi" Technical University of Iasi. The whole Conference was designed considering that sustainable development can be achieved only by taking into consideration the ideas of multidisciplinarity, international co-operation and effective communication of the scientific, technological, educational and managerial achievements in the environmental field.

So far, ICEEM tradition to gather scientists from various countries each 2 years was kept in **2002 (ICEEM01), 2004 (ICEEM02) and 2006 (ICEEM03)**, with the mention that in 2006 the Conference was jointly organized by *Department of Environmental Engineering and Management* (Technical University of Iasi, Romania) and the *International Institute of Industrial Environmental Economics* from Lund University, Sweden.

These international conferences, apart from their scientific importance, bring an added value in terms of creating links (people and networks), enabling communication and further research co-operation, providing cultural diversity and respect for humanistic values, issues that are fundamental not only from an European perspective, but also at the global level in the knowledge based society.

All ICEEM events used **English** as official conference language and the accepted papers were reviewed mainly by the International Scientific Committee and published in the **Environmental Engineering and Management Journal** (<http://omicron.ch.tuiasi.ro/EEMJ/>), an international journal currently under evaluation for ISI quotation.

The **3rd International Conference on Environmental Engineering and Management (ICEEM03)** took place from **September 21 to September 23, 2006** in Iasi and brought together **106** representatives from Universities, research institutes, policy makers, governmental and non-governmental organizations from **18 countries** (a total of **52** foreign participants from: Sweden, The Netherlands, France, Hungary, Germany, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Italy, Denmark, USA, New Zealand, Thailand, South Africa, Brasil, South Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania).

As we look back, this statistics is encouraging, since it evolved from **45** participants (6 foreign) for ICEEM01 in 2002, to **91** participants (27 foreign) for ICEEM02 in 2004. Some of our foreign and Romanian colleagues were in ICEEM03 last September at their **3rd** or **2nd** participation, a fact that is always encouraging for the organizers.

ICEEM03 major sessions were grouped by taking into consideration contributions from the following fields:

- *Environmental Pollution and Monitoring*
- *Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment*
- *Environmental Modelling, Simulation and Optimisation*
- *Air Pollution*
- *Waste Management*
- *Environmental Impact and Life Cycle Assessment*
- *Environmental Integrated Management and Risk Management*
- *Sustainable Production and Consumption*
- *Sustainable and Integrated Water Management Workshop (SIWMANET CEEX project).*

As in all ICEEM conferences so far, the presentations and discussions between participants were stimulating for both national and international co-operation partnerships. To give only one example, a co-operation project *Knowledge transfer and institutional capacity building for cleaner production in Romania* that started in 2002, having as partners the International Institute of Industrial Environmental Economics from Lund University, Sweden and the Department of Environmental Engineering of Iasi has now enriched with other 4 new Romanian universities: Politehnica University Bucuresti, Transilvania University of Brasov, Politehnica University Timisoara, and Babes Bolyai University of Cluj.

ICEEM03 had a very special event included in its closing ceremony: **Professor Dr.eng. Yusuf Chisti** from Massey University, New Zealand was awarded the *Doctor Honoris Causa* title of the Technical University of Iasi as a follows up of a proposal initiated by the Department of Environmental Engineering and Management. Professor Chisti an internationally recognized specialist in Biotechnology had received this title in a truly international environment.

The *4th International Conference on Environmental Engineering and Management (ICEEM04)* has been initiated; it will take place between **12 - 15 September 2007** in Iasi and will have as major topic the *Sustainable Use of Natural Resources*. You may find more about this conference from its leaflet published in this journal or from www.ch.tuiasi.ro/iceem04/

Looking back at the first *ICEEM* in 2002, we hope that these events were not only the place for disseminating excellent scientific results, but also the starting points for other research co-operations or educational projects, while maintaining an internationally recognized standard for the *ICEEM* communications and Proceedings publications.

We hope very much to continue this tradition and we are looking forward to receive new contributions for this year at *ICEEM04*....

Prof.dr.eng. Carmen Teodosiu
Department of Environmental Engineering
and Management
Faculty of Chemical Engineering,
“Gheorghe Asachi” Technical University of Iasi