

Special Issue

Sustainable Food Systems and the Reuse of Food Waste

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue addresses the pressing challenge of agri-food waste management in a circular food economy. We seek contributions that convert these liabilities into assets through resource-efficient valorization: green extraction of high-value compounds (polyphenols, dietary fibres, proteins/peptides, lipids, pigments); microbial and enzymatic conversions to biochemicals, biopolymers, biofertilizers, and bioenergy; and integrated biorefinery strategies that cascade products and close loops. We also welcome work on fermentation of side streams with probiotic or starter cultures; synbiotic designs coupling probiotic strains with prebiotics recovered from wastes (e.g., pectins, arabinoxylans, resistant starch); process solutions to preserve viability (encapsulation, gentle drying) and tailor functionality (postbiotics, metabolites); and evaluations of safety, stability, and efficacy.

Key topics include feedstock characterization and pretreatment, process and reactor design, low-impact separation and purification, quality of recovered ingredients, and integration with food and feed supply chains, alongside techno-economic and life-cycle assessments.

Guest Editors

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I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in Sustainability, an international open access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full articles) and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

Editor-in-Chief

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