

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

Dr. Marta Sánchez

Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering, University of Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain

Dr. Pedro Ferreira-Santos

Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Science, University of Vigo, Ourense, Spain

Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 June 2026



Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



mdpi.com/si/252956

Sustainability
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
sustainability@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
sustainability](https://mdpi.com/journal/sustainability)





Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



[mdpi.com/journal/
sustainability](https://mdpi.com/journal/sustainability)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review 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

Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario
Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5, Canada

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE and SSCI (Web of Science), GEOBASE, GeoRef, Inspec, RePEc, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Environmental Studies) / CiteScore - Q1
(Geography, Planning and Development)