Special Issue

Methodological Innovations in Operations Research for Sustainable Resource Allocation

Message from the Guest Editors

Sustainable resource allocation demands decisions that balance environmental integrity, social equity, economic viability, and population health—often under deep uncertainty, tight public budgets, heterogeneous needs, and sparse data. Existing approaches may lack predictive power and transparency across these dimensions. To advance practice toward the Sustainable Development Goals, decision-makers require methods that are both evidence-driven and participatory, ensuring that the priorities of families and communities are explicitly represented. We particularly welcome frameworks that reconcile trade-offs across environmental (e.g., emissions, biodiversity), social (e.g., access, equity), economic (e.g., affordability, resilience), and health outcomes; that support transparent, auditable decisions; and that embed stakeholder engagement throughout the analytic pipeline. By uniting theory, methods, and applications, this Special Issue positions interdisciplinary, applied OR at the core of sustainability science and outlines a practical, scalable pathway to more effective, robust, and accountable decisions in sustainable resource allocation.

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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