

Special Issue

Unconventional Resources and Sustainability

Message from the Guest Editors

Driven by concerns over the exhaustion of primary geological resources, the security of supply and the social acceptance of conventional mining, interest in unconventional mineral and energy resources is growing. Such resources potentially include low-grade and complex ores; previously discarded wastes; difficult to access and develop deep underground, seabed and polar deposits; resources in the outer space; and easily available but dispersed stocks accumulated above the ground within modern cities. Developing unconventional resources can help to expand the resources base and diversify supply, meeting the demand of a growing population and increasing living standards. Yet, it is important to stay within the ecological limits of the planet, and therefore sustainability considerations will be critical in defining the pathway towards the future of resources supply, use and circulation within a modern society. This Special Issue seeks submissions focusing on the sustainability of developing unconventional resources, from theoretical frameworks to practical case studies and from technical and environmental to broader socio-economic and regulatory aspects.

Guest Editors

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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. 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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