

Special Issue

Small and Medium-Size Towns Across the World: From the Past into the Future (SMTs)

Message from the Guest Editors

A first part of the SI comprehends a theoretical discussion on the concepts of physical distance and relational flows and the limits for agglomeration economies under technological innovation. The second and central part of this publication provides evidence of numerous and diverse case-studies. These should discuss Small and Medium Size Towns' (SMTs) intrinsic characteristics and their bonding to own path dependencies which may support their future progress. Authors of these chapters should emphasize different aspects of historical settings and their influences on recent developments. Pointing to attractiveness, traditional skills, historic protagonists or governance systems, precious information should be provided to readers helping them to realize why such SMTs have survived, eventually grown-up, became prosperous, and still play an important role in the memory or in the life of many. The third and last part of the SI will be focused on the comprehensive nature of sustainability and change. The intention is to conclude, confirming that many of those SMTs while resilient socio-economic survivors are historical and natural jewels of change.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Teresa de Noronha
International Consultant, LaSalle, ON, Canada

Prof. Dr. Eric Vaz
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Ryerson
University, Toronto, ON M5B 2K3, Canada

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Sustainability
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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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. *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

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