

Special Issue

Sustainable Communities: Economic, Social and Environmental Dimensions

Message from the Guest Editors

As pointed out by the World Bank, the increase of urban population and urbanized land in the world, especially in developing countries, is creating new opportunities for an improvement of the quality of life, at the same time as creating new challenges to overcome growing economic inequalities, social exclusion, environmental risks, and institutional problems. In order to tackle these challenges, the building of sustainable communities plays a critical role. The concept of “sustainable communities” is a broad one, and several definitions can be found. In this Issue, we focus on the definition proposed by the World Bank’s Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience Global Practice, which includes the following four key dimensions: First, sustainable communities are environmentally sustainable in terms of cleanliness and efficiency. Second, sustainable communities are resilient to social, economic, and natural shocks. Third, sustainable communities are inclusive communities. Finally, sustainable communities are competitive communities that can stay productive and generate jobs for members of the community.

Guest Editors

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