Special Issue

Perspectives on the Roles of Civil Society in Advancing Food System Transformation and Sustainable Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editors

We welcome submissions that analyze the following: How civil society entities, may work to develop the public awareness and partnerships necessary to attain changes in social values and norms to secure shifts toward more sustainable food systems.

How civil society is integrating human rights in food system policy and action in and across the Global South and North.

How civil society movements and organizations can support subsistence farmers and promote improved livelihoods in the face of some challenges.

How civil society actors can partner with government or market stakeholders to drive meaningful change in prevailing food systems to ensure that these partnerships are intentionally collaborative, fair, and effective.

We welcome studies from multiple perspectives, including theoretically informed case analyses and critical examinations of the implications of the existing neoliberal frame in alternate contexts that identify practicable paths forward or more adequate theorizations for changes that will lead to more sustainable food systems. Acknowledging the multifaceted nature of this challenge, we look forward to receiving a range of contributions that address its many dimensions.

Guest Editors

Dr. Max O. Stephenson

Dr. Kim Niewolny

Dr. Lia Kelinsky-Jones

Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 July 2026



Sustainability

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3 CiteScore 7.7



mdpi.com/si/229364

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

mdpi.com/journal/ sustainability





Sustainability

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3 CiteScore 7.7



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. 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

Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon

School of Environment and Natural Resources, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA

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, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

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

