

Special Issue

The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Sustainable Development Goals

Message from the Guest Editors

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a substantial disturbance to societies' lives and livelihoods, causing us to reevaluate the whole common existence of humans worldwide. Additionally, the novel coronavirus has been a critical obstacle to attaining the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) embraced in September 2015 and set to be reached by 2030. Prior to COVID-19, most nations were progressing towards the SDGs, but the ongoing turning point is imperiling years of advances, postponing the crucial shift to low-carbon, resource-efficient and socially inclusive economies. The monetary and societal perturbation caused by the pandemic is overwhelming, and numerous individuals are at risk of falling into severe deprivation, while many enterprises are struggling with the economic failure. The imposed lockdowns drastically lowered human activities, thus causing a transient drop in greenhouse gas discharges, but as the world recovers from the disease, emissions are expected to soar. Henceforward, sustainable and resilient strategies are vital for a healthy and green restoration from the COVID-19 pandemic and the SDGs are essential to this process.

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