

Special Issue

Socially Sustainable and Sustainable Social Innovation

Message from the Guest Editors

Social sustainability and sustainable social innovation have never been more important. There are many pressing social problems and challenges throughout the world. We face increasing resource scarcity and damaging environmental impacts following ever more consumption. There are global political instabilities, breakdowns in social cohesion, and increasing levels of inequality across the world. Sustainable social innovation and social sustainability could provide new approaches to addressing these challenges. However, the dominant paradigm in sustainability still remains a 'technological' one in which we seek solutions that are 'less bad' and that do not necessarily challenge the underlying socio-economic systems. Part of the challenge facing scholars in this domain is a lack of clarity regarding the concepts of social sustainability and social innovation. Both concepts are comparatively new and more work is needed to establish these ideas in the mainstream of sustainability thinking.

Guest Editors

Dr. James Moultrie

Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0FS, UK

Dr. Lucia Corsini

Institute for Manufacturing, Engineering Department, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, CB3 0FS, UK

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

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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

Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon

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

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