

World Sustainability Series

Series Editor

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Due to its scope and nature, sustainable development is a matter which is very interdisciplinary, and draws from knowledge and inputs from the social sciences and environmental sciences on the one hand, but also from physical sciences and arts on the other. As such, there is a perceived need to foster integrative approaches, whereby the combination of inputs from various fields may contribute to a better understanding of what sustainability is, and means to people. But despite the need for and the relevance of integrative approaches towards sustainable development, there is a paucity of literature which address matters related to sustainability in an integrated way.

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Sustainable Policies and Practices in Energy, Environment and Health Research


Addressing Cross-cutting Issues

 Springer


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Preface

This book aims to provide a contribution to a more comprehensive and interdisciplinary understanding of the cross-cutting issues on energy, environment and health research topics. These subjects are closely connected, and although interdisciplinarity implies a commitment between all fields of science, working together to provide knowledge that could result in the promotion of quality of life, this is not always implemented in practice.

The relationships between sustainable policies and practices on the one hand, and energy, environment and health research on the other, are scarcely exploited in an integrated way. Yet, a broad understanding of all interconnected issues helps towards their integration and this is a positive trend in the sense that it provides outcomes for existing similarities. Such associations also contribute to highlight a cross-cutting problem of contemporary governance and it is up to science to discuss it, aiming to achieve more informed and integrated policies.

A further element which is in favour of integrated approaches is that they may allow different stakeholders to work together. This includes universities, companies, governmental and non-governmental organisations and civil society, which, combined, may articulate together to not only discuss common problems, but also to reach possible solutions.

This book, produced by the European School of Sustainability Science and Research (ESSSR) and the Inter-University Sustainable Development Research Programme (IUSDRP), gives a special emphasis to state-of-the-art descriptions of approaches, methods, initiatives and projects from universities, stakeholders, organizations and civil society across the world, concerning cross-cutting issues in energy, environment and health research.

The book is structured in 3 parts:

Part One—Sustainable Concerns, Beliefs and Values

Part Two—Interdisciplinary Approaches and Methodologies

Part Three—Sustainable Practices and Solutions

These, in turn, address the following aspects:

- Discussions on practical experiences from different stakeholder groups towards sustainable development and cross-cutting issues in energy, environment and health
- Descriptions on the implementation of sustainable development initiatives to solve cross-cutting issues involving energy, environment and health
- Examples of partnerships and networks on sustainable development pursuing energy, environment and health cross-cutting issues
- Perspectives of policy and governance towards sustainable development
- Successful experiences involving various sectors of society
- The interconnection between social inequalities and cross-cutting issues in energy, environment and health topics
- Agenda 2030 related issues

A special feature of this book, is that it not only presents a wide range of perspectives, approaches, methods and analyses about sustainability policies and how they relate to energy, environment and health research, but also documents and disseminates specific case studies, which show how this integration may be accomplished in practice.

We would like to thank all authors and reviewers for making available their experience in their chapters, and the willingness to share their ideas. By providing their inputs, the authors have made a positive contribution towards a debate which needs to be continued, and reach a depth far beyond what conferences, workshops or seminars may be able to offer.

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