

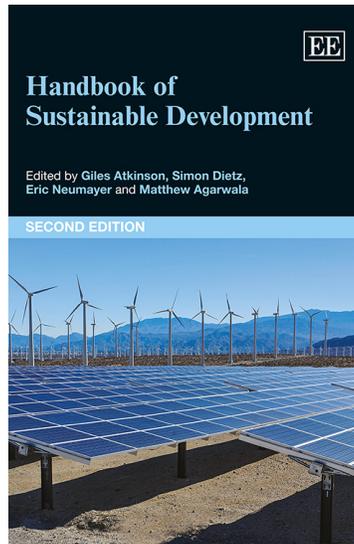


Handbook of Sustainable Development

Second Edition

2nd edition

Edited by Giles Atkinson, Professor of Environmental Policy, Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science, Simon Dietz, Co-Director, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, Director, ESRC Centre for Climate Change Economics and Policy, and Associate Professor, Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science, Eric Neumayer, Professor of Environment and Development, Department of Geography and Environment and Associate, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science and Matthew Agarwala, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Research on the Global Environment (CSERGE), University of East Anglia and Doctoral Researcher, Department of Geography and Environment, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK



This timely and important Handbook takes stock of progress made in our understanding of what sustainable development actually is and how it can be measured and achieved.

‘This Handbook demonstrates the well-established body of thinking on sustainable development which now exists, and its tighter focus today on limits to current economic growth patterns. But while there have been lots of big global debates on planetary boundaries, and thresholds for critical resources, there has been little progress on the ground and in getting the politics right. Contributing authors show that many of the models we use to understand and manage relations between planet, people and profit are hopelessly mis-specified. But better tools exist, such as sustainability indicators, national environmental accounts, and the ecological footprint to help bridge this gap.’

– Camilla Toulmin, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK

‘The Handbook of Sustainable Development comprehensively explores our understanding of ‘sustainable development’ in a holistic and multidisciplinary approach. . . Overall the Handbook of Sustainable Development is well-written and interesting, and thus it is highly recommended.’

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‘There is now wide recognition that current patterns of economic development are already putting great strains on resources, environment and the climate and that, if continued, the consequences could undermine or reverse past development gains and, possibly, lead to catastrophe. In other words our current paths are unsustainable. This Handbook provides a very thorough, thoughtful and valuable contribution to our understanding of the possible meanings of sustainable development, how it can be understood and calibrated, and characteristics of and choices around alternative paths. This is a subject that should be at the centre of the study of development and encompasses many disciplines. And it should be a subject that commands the attention of all those who think carefully about our future well-being; they will find this Handbook fascinating and essential reading.’

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‘The second edition of the Handbook of Sustainable Development illustrates how sustainable development has blossomed into an entirely new problem set for twenty-first century environment dilemmas. It calls into question conceptions of national and international

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prosperity long employed by elected officials and government analysts, and presents a cascade of methods for integrating the value of non-human nature into policy decisions over unconventional timelines. ... the Handbook could easily serve as handy introduction for academics and practitioners unfamiliar with the economics of sustainable development at the national and international scale.'

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