



Title: "The Role of Science in Shaping Global Futures: Localizing Climate Action and Sustainable Development"

Special Issue Proposal for International Journal of Pedagogy, Innovation and New Technologies (IJPINT)

Overview:

This special issue explores innovative approaches to localizing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Global North and South. It examines how science can inform and enhance the translation of global environmental agreements into meaningful local action, education, addressing urgent challenges of climate change and sustainable development.

Rationale:

As the world grapples with climate change and sustainable development challenges, translating international commitments into local initiatives is crucial. The localization of global environmental agendas is crucial for addressing climate change and sustainable development challenges. Corburn (2009) demonstrates how city planners and climate scientists collaborate to develop context-specific strategies for urban heat island mitigation, emphasizing the importance of co-production in decision-making. Valencia et al. (2019) identify five key aspects for localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and New Urban Agenda, including boundary delimitation, integrated governance, and stakeholder engagement. Managi et al. (2021) highlight the role of technology policy in achieving the SDGs, addressing the uneven global distribution of innovation capacities. Franco et al. (2019) emphasize the value of sustainability science in developing innovative approaches to research, education, and practice for implementing the SDGs at the local level. These studies collectively underscore the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, context-specific adaptation, and the integration of diverse stakeholders in translating global environmental commitments into effective local initiatives.

This special issue brings together interdisciplinary perspectives to examine the science-driven localization of global environmental agendas, offering fresh insights for researchers, policymakers, and practitioners.

Scope and Objectives:

The special issue aims to:

- Explore theoretical frameworks for localizing global environmental agreements
- Present case studies of successful localization efforts from diverse contexts
- Examine strategies for multi-level governance coordination
- Analyze challenges and opportunities in localizing NDCs and SDGs
- Investigate community-driven and participatory approaches to climate action
- Assess the role of local sustainability initiatives in building social cohesion
- Synthesize lessons learned and propose future research directions

Potential Topics:

- Conceptualizing localization in global environmental governance
- The science of scaling: From global agreements to local action
- Case studies of NDC and SDG localization in the Global North and South
- Bridging national and local climate policies
- Financing local climate action in low-income countries
- Community-driven public services for sustainability
- Participatory approaches to climate adaptation
- Indigenous knowledge and sustainable resource management
- Building social cohesion through local sustainability initiatives

Guest Editors:

Dr. Renuka Thakore

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Timeline:

- Call for papers: 1st of August 2024
- Full paper submission: 31st of January 2025
- Peer review process: February – March 2025
- Revisions: April – May 2025
- Final manuscript submission: 31st of May 2025
- Publication: 30th of June 2025

Potential Contributors:

The special issue will feature contributions from a diverse group of scholars, policymakers, and practitioners with expertise in climate science, sustainable development, environmental education, environmental governance, and community engagement from various regions of the Global North and South.

Impact and Relevance:

This special issue addresses a critical gap in the literature by focusing on science-driven localization efforts in both the Global North and South. It will provide valuable insights for academics, policymakers, and practitioners working at the interface of global environmental governance and local action.

Dissemination Plan:

- Promotion through relevant academic networks and social media channels
- Webinars and virtual launch event featuring key contributors
- Targeted outreach to environmental policy networks and NGOs
- Possibility of compiling the special issue into an edited volume for wider distribution

This special issue proposal outlines a timely and significant contribution to the field, offering valuable insights on the crucial task of localizing global environmental agreements through a scientific lens.

References

Corburn, J. (2009). Cities, Climate Change and Urban Heat Island Mitigation: Localising Global Environmental Science. *Urban Studies*, 46, 413 - 427.

Valencia, S.C., Simon, D., Croese, S., Nordqvist, J., Oloko, M., Sharma, T., Taylor Buck, N., & Versace, I. (2019). Adapting the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda to the city level: Initial reflections from a comparative research project. *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development*, 11, 4 - 23.

Managi, S., Lindner, R., & Stevens, C. (2021). Technology policy for the sustainable development goals: From the global to the local level. *Technological Forecasting and Social Change*, 162, 120410.

Franco, I.B., Chatterji, T., Derbyshire, E., & Tracey, J. (2019). *Actioning the Global Goals for Local Impact: Towards Sustainability Science, Policy, Education and Practice*. Springer: Berlin, Germany.