

Editorial Note

Bridging Policy, Society, and Innovation for Sustainable Futures

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The pursuit of sustainable development requires more than visionary commitments. It calls for rigorous evidence, innovative policy design, and grounded reflections on lived realities. The August edition of the Journal of Indonesia Sustainable Development Planning (JISDeP) reflects this spirit, offering contributions that bridge research and policy across human capital, environmental stewardship, social equity, and governance reform. Presenting a diverse and insightful collection of research that captures the complex narrative of Indonesia's and, by extension, the Global South's pursuit of sustainable and inclusive development. The contributions reflect the intricate interplay of socio-economic, environmental, and governance factors shaping the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals within rapidly evolving local and global contexts.

A recurring theme throughout this issue is the critical role of human capital and intergenerational equity in steering sustainable futures. The exploration of Generation Z's preparedness to harness artificial intelligence for green job creation (Keindahan and Nasri) offers a timely perspective on how digital literacy can catalyse new labour market paradigms aligned with environmental priorities. This is complemented by studies examining the social determinants of well-being and education, such as the impact of parental smoking on children's educational outcomes (Simatupang and Yamada) and the effectiveness of family-friendly workplace policies in improving subjective well-being among dual-earner households (Damayanti, Sunarti, and Muflikhati). These findings underscore the need to integrate health, social policy, and education within sustainable development frameworks to achieve equitable outcomes.

The transition toward a green economy and sector-specific transformations feature prominently. Analyses of Indonesia's palm oil downstream industries (Lestari et al.) and shrimp aquaculture in Sumbawa (Arafat et al.) reveal structural challenges and policy pathways essential for enhancing sustainable competitiveness in key sectors. Similarly, grassroots initiatives such as rooftop farming in Jakarta (Akbar et al.) and targeted social assistance programs aimed at disrupting cycles of

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intergenerational poverty (Anggrasari and Hanri) describe how local innovations and policy interventions can jointly advance food security and reduce inequalities.

Governance, institutional capacity, and policy innovation are equally critical. Contributions focusing on career development planning for functional officers in Sikka Regency (Karwayu, Sumartono, and Nuh), strategic change processes for stunting reduction in Tana Tidung (Hindarfergia et al.), and evaluations of the Free Nutritious Meal program (Suprpto et al.) highlight the intricate dynamics of aligning institutional frameworks with inclusive development goals. These papers underline the notion that effective governance remains a cornerstone for sustainable progress.

Extending the lens beyond national borders, the issue engages with global and regional dimensions of sustainability. Discussions on environmental security within the Belt and Road Initiative's Green Development Coalition (Valentine, Trihartono, and Sunarko) and strategies for the internationalisation of Indonesian higher education (Brilyanti) situate Indonesia within broader geopolitical and knowledge exchange networks. Such perspectives are vital in understanding how global cooperation, competition, and security concerns influence domestic sustainable development pathways.

The issue ends with a reflective commentary on systemic challenges, such as global food inequality and associated risks (Sanjoyo), alongside a critical book review on feminist peacebuilding and disaster recovery (Nurmiati, Rusyidi, and Taftazani). These contributions remind us that sustainable development scholarship must continuously engage with critical, intersectional perspectives that challenge dominant paradigms and advocate for justice and resilience.

Collectively, the articles in this edition affirm that while sustainable development is a shared global endeavour, its manifestations are profoundly shaped by local contexts and histories. The insights presented here encourage integrated approaches that weave together policy innovation, grassroots participation, and international collaboration. For Indonesia and its partners, these studies illuminate pathways toward development that is not only sustainable but also inclusive and resilient—an imperative for the present and future.

We hope this issue sparks further discussions and provides a platform for future research that continues to shape and influence public policy and social development in Indonesia and beyond. As always, we express our gratitude to the authors, reviewers, and readers for their continued support. We invite you to explore the articles and reflect on how these insights can contribute to positive change in your respective fields.