



SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT: Challenges and Innovations

Aniket Swaraj
Fleur Fernandes

Sustainability, Education, and Social Development: Challenges and Innovations



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Sustainability, Education, and Social Development: Challenges and Innovations

Edited by:

Aniket Swaraj

Head of the Department and Assistant Professor, Bachelor of
Management Studies, SIES College of Commerce and Economics
(Autonomous), Sion, Mumbai

Fleur Fernandes

Assistant Professor, Bachelor of Management Studies, SIES College
of Commerce and Economics (Autonomous), Sion, Mumbai

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Preface

The book *Sustainability, Education, and Social Development: Challenges and Innovations* brings together a diverse collection of research papers that explore the critical intersections of education, social equity, environmental sustainability, and economic development. In an era marked by urgent global challenges such as climate change, social disparities, and rapid technological transformation, this volume highlights innovative approaches and pressing issues that shape the future of sustainable development through education.

The included papers cover a wide range of topics that collectively underscore the transformative power of education. They investigate how interdisciplinary learning fosters critical thinking essential for addressing complex sustainability challenges, the role of vocational training institutes (ITIs) in improving employment opportunities in Mumbai, and the importance of accessible learning environments for inclusivity and employability, particularly for visually impaired students. Other studies delve into managing food waste in India, disparities in healthcare access for cancer patients in Maharashtra, and the transition from traditional to modern teaching methods, reflecting the evolving educational landscape.

Moreover, the book addresses contemporary social and environmental concerns such as the impact of fast and slow fashion on the environment, the hidden effects of screen time on health and performance, and the digital divide's implications for equal access to education and e-commerce platforms. It also explores the broader economic and social impacts of education access, diet-related health issues, and innovative market solutions like thermo smart bottles.

This collection aligns with global efforts, such as UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) initiatives, which emphasize education as a key driver for empowering individuals with knowledge, skills, values, and behaviors needed for sustainable living.

By integrating environmental, social, and economic dimensions, the book reflects the holistic and interdisciplinary approach advocated for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 4 on quality education.

Through these diverse contributions, the volume offers valuable insights into how education can be a catalyst for social innovation, equity, and sustainability, providing pathways for policy makers, educators, researchers, and practitioners committed to shaping a more inclusive and sustainable future.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are honored to present this edited volume on “**Sustainability, Education, and Social Development: Challenges and Innovations**”

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We want to thank all our colleagues in the Bachelor of Management Studies department at SIES College of Commerce and Economics (Autonomous) for their valuable cooperation and assistance throughout this project.

We are truly appreciative of the contributors who shared their insightful research articles with us, placing their confidence in our efforts to produce a meaningful and thought-provoking publication.

This book represents our continued commitment to fulfilling the keen interest of our student community. The readers inspire and motivate us to create and disseminate this work.

We sincerely thank the Almighty for His guidance and blessings throughout this endeavour. Lastly, we are deeply thankful to our family members for their constant encouragement and support.

Aniket Swaraj

Fleur Fernandes

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ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Aniket Swaraj is an Industry Professional and Academician with 15+ years of experience. He is Phd Scholar and currently employed as an Head of the Department and Assistant Professor of Bachelor of Management Studies at SIES College of Commerce and Economics (Autonomous), Sion, Mumbai. He is an Content creator and Instructor in a U.S. based company which provides Online education to professionals. Globally 3000+ learners have benefited from his online course. He is an approved faculty for Master of Management Studies under University of Mumbai, Maharashtra. His qualifications include Master of Philosophy (Business Management), Master of Personnel Management, B.Sc. (Chemistry), LLB, Diploma in HRM from NMIMS, UGC - NET (Personnel Management). His areas of teaching and research include Business and Labour laws, Strategic Management, Entrepreneurship Management, Research Methodology. He received Best Research Paper award in an International Conference for his research paper titled 'Digital Amnesia'. he has published 30+ research papers, including works in ABDC and UGC CARE listed journals of High repute. he has been invited as a guest speaker for POSH and Labour reforms in various workshops and conferences. He has trained various companies across different sectors such as IT, manufacturing, and educational institutions. He specializes in POSH training which includes awareness training, capacity building and audit & reporting.



Fleur Fernandes is an Academician and Researcher with 10 years of experience in Academics, and 2+ years as Industry and Company Research Analyst at Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). She is currently employed as an Assistant Professor and Research Scholar at SIES College of Commerce and Economics (Autonomous), Sion, Mumbai. She is an approved faculty for Master of Management Studies under University of Mumbai, Maharashtra. Her qualifications include Master of Management Studies (Finance), B.Com. (Banking and Insurance), NET-JRF and SET. Her areas of teaching and research include Corporate Finance, Financial Markets, International Finance, Financial Services, Wealth Management, Entrepreneurship, Business Environment, Sustainability, Internships and Employability. She received three Best Research Paper honours. She has published 24 research papers, including works in ABDC and UGC CARE. She was awarded Minor Research Project grant of Rs.27,000 by University of Mumbai for the topic. "A study of effectiveness of Internships in enhancing employability of Commerce and Management students of University of Mumbai". She also won CIMA Campus Culture Excellence Award 2022 - Global Bronze by AICPA & CIMA. She has been invited as a guest speaker for various seminars. She can be reached at dsouzafleur@gmail.com. ORCID ID: 0000-0002-3100-8211



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