
Preface

Many universities in the United Kingdom perform high-quality research on matters related to sustainable development. Yet, there are relatively few events where a multidisciplinary overview of research efforts and projects has taken place, and where researchers from across the spectrum of the natural and social sciences have had the opportunity to come together to discuss research methods, the results of empirical research or exchange ideas about ongoing and future research initiatives focusing on sustainable development.

It is against this background that the “Symposium on Sustainable Development Research at Universities in the United Kingdom” was organised by Manchester Metropolitan University, in cooperation with a number of institutions of higher education active in this field, from across the country. It involved researchers in the field of sustainable development in the widest sense, from business and economics, to arts and fashion, administration, environment, languages and media studies.

The symposium focused on “Sustainable Development Research in the United Kingdom” and was expected to contribute to the further development of this fast-growing field.

This book, titled “Sustainable Development Research at Universities in the United Kingdom”, has three main aims. First, it intends to provide an opportunity to document and promote the variety of works in this field in the UK today, including matters related to curriculum innovation, empirical work, activities, case studies and practical projects. Second, the book intends to offer a platform for the exchange of information, ideas and experiences acquired in the execution of research projects, especially successful initiatives and good practice. Finally, it offers a sound basis for readers to inform themselves about the various methodological approaches and projects taking place in the UK today, offering a better understanding of sustainable development across society and across economic sectors.

I thank the authors for their willingness to share their knowledge, know-how and experiences, as well as the many peer reviewers, which have helped us to ensure the quality of the manuscripts. Thanks are also due to Svenja Scheday for the support in handling the manuscripts.

Enjoy your reading!

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Approaches, Methods and Projects

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