



Urban Sustainability

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Harnessing Urban Innovation to Unlock the Sustainable Development Goals

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For all 15 project owners of this book and their diligent and dedicated leaders and team members—located in 14 countries: Denmark, the Netherlands, Senegal, Austria, India, Indonesia, Australia, Madagascar, Lebanon, China, Brazil, Ecuador, South Africa, and the USA.

We collectively dedicate this book to those scholars, practitioners, and activists who work restlessly on implementing and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The 2030 is not far away, and we hope they achieve higher targets and goals.

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We also thank Ms. Tong Zou, now at the University of Bologna, Italy, for her contributions to Chap. 1 of the book. She will likely achieve higher goals as “her efforts resemble more inspiring trajectories”.

We also acknowledge the subsequent work and support of team members in providing materials, collecting data, and attending events and workshops of this collaborative work. Lastly, we acknowledge contributions and full support from our team members in six different locations.

About This Book

This book is the first attempt to explore the nexus between urban innovation and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It puts together global examples of urban innovation initiatives, highlighting practical, policy-oriented, social, and technological interventions. The case studies are divided into four clusters of “green cities”, “inclusive cities”, “resilient cities”, and “healthy cities”. In doing so, the book maps various global examples of urban innovation for sustainable pathways and directions. It also highlights means of implementation of tool and technologies, data, financing, and governance. The overarching aim is to provide a holistic overview of urban innovation-sustainable development nexus, which would help future policy development, paradigm shifts, and technological applications.

By summarizing a selection of successful initiatives, interventions, and projects, this book highlights how urban innovation could accelerate achieving SDGs. The lessons learned from each case study cluster are narrated as knowledge transfer platforms for future city development and achieving sustainable development. These lessons will be beneficial to practitioners and governments, as well as researchers and academics who are interested in urban innovation research. City case studies included in the book are based on their success stories as role models for other cities in developed and developing nations. This collection helps us portray a more holistic image of urban innovation aligned with the SDGs and pathways to achieving them.

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