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Editorial

Editorial: Advancing Research and Practice in Sustainability

Saffa Riffat [1]*, Xudong Zhao [2], John Calautit [1], Siddig Omer [1] James Riffat [3], Mohammad Aliff Shakir [4] and Mardiana Idayu Ahmad [4,5]

[1]*Department of Architecture and Built Environment, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, United Kingdom*
[2]*School of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Hull, HU6, 7RX, United Kingdom*
[3]*World Society of Sustainable Energy Technologies, Nottingham, United Kingdom*
[4]*Environmental Technology Division, School of Industrial Technology, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang 11800, Malaysia*
[5]*Renewable Biomass Transformation Cluster, School of Industrial Technology, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang 11800, Malaysia*

ABSTRACT

Addressing global sustainability challenges, including climate change, urbanisation, resource depletion, and socio-economic inequality, requires the integration of engineering innovation with environmental science, policy, and social systems. Research and Reviews in Sustainability (RRS) continues to provide a multidisciplinary forum for high-quality research, reviews, and applied studies that advance sustainable technologies, systems, and practices. This editorial outlines the journal's scope, editorial priorities, and ongoing commitment to supporting evidence-based, practical solutions for the transition toward low-carbon, resilient, and sustainable societies.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Sustainability challenges increasingly arise from complex and interconnected systems involving the built environment, energy infrastructure, transportation networks, food systems, and natural resources. Responding effectively to these challenges requires collaboration across engineering, environmental science, urban planning, and public policy, as well as engagement with industry and decision-makers.

* Corresponding author. Email address: saffa.riffat@nottingham.ac.uk (Saffa Riffat)

Engineering innovation plays a central role in sustainability transitions, enabling advances in low- and zero-carbon buildings, renewable energy systems, smart urban infrastructure, innovative materials, and data-driven environmental assessment. At the same time, the successful implementation of such solutions depends on their integration within broader environmental, economic, and social contexts.

As Research and Reviews in Sustainability enters its second volume, the journal reaffirms its role as a platform for interdisciplinary research that connects technical development with real-world sustainability outcomes.

2. SCOPE AND EDITORIAL FOCUS

RRS publishes original research articles, comprehensive reviews, and applied case studies that contribute to the design, assessment, and deployment of sustainable systems and technologies. The journal maintains a broad, multidisciplinary scope while placing particular emphasis on engineering-led approaches that demonstrate measurable environmental and societal benefits.

Key areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- Low- and zero-carbon buildings and construction technologies
- Smart and future cities and urban systems engineering
- Renewable energy technologies and integrated energy systems
- Innovative materials for sustainable applications
- Urban planning, infrastructure, and environmental design
- Environmental assessment, life-cycle analysis, and performance evaluation
- Artificial intelligence and digital tools for sustainability
- Sustainable agriculture and resource-efficient food systems
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies

The journal encourages submissions that link technical innovation with policy relevance, scalability, and practical implementation.

3. ENGINEERING RESEARCH AND REAL-WORLD APPLICATION

A central objective of RRS is to strengthen the connection between research and practice. In addition to theoretical and methodological contributions, the journal values applied studies that examine the performance of sustainable technologies and systems in real-world settings, including pilot projects, demonstrations, and comparative assessments.

By fostering dialogue among researchers, engineers, industry professionals, and policymakers, the journal aims to support evidence-based decision-making and the transfer of knowledge from research to implementation.

4. EDITORIAL PRINCIPLES AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

Research and Reviews in Sustainability is committed to high standards of academic quality, transparency, and research integrity. All research and review articles are subject to peer review appropriate to their disciplinary context. The journal emphasises methodological rigour, clarity of reporting, and responsible communication of sustainability-related research.

Contributions aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are particularly encouraged, reflecting the journal's commitment to a global perspective and to addressing sustainability challenges across diverse geographic and socio-economic contexts.

5. LOOKING AHEAD

As the journal progresses through its second volume, RRS continues to welcome high-quality contributions that advance understanding and practice in sustainability-related fields. Future issues will further explore the role of engineering, technology, and integrated systems in supporting resilient, inclusive, and low-carbon

development pathways.

The editorial team invites researchers and practitioners from across disciplines and regions to contribute to Research and Reviews in Sustainability and to engage with the journal as a platform for rigorous, solution-oriented sustainability scholarship.