

Special Issue

Rural Development: Challenges for Managers and Policy Makers

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue is particularly focused on the following issues: 1) What are the main objectives and functions of rural development policies within the broader range of policies addressing rural areas, and what relations have been established between them over time (complementarities, synergies, conflicts, etc.)? 2) What is the effectiveness of rural development policy instruments in pursuing objectives of social inclusion, environmental sustainability (including the provision of specific environmental public goods such as biodiversity, landscape conservation, etc.), agricultural competitiveness, and diversification of rural economies through multi-functional agricultural systems? 3) What is the contribution of rural development policies to reducing territorial disparities in terms of income and unemployment and access to social services and infrastructure, in combination with other territorial policies? For further reading, please visit the [Special Issue Website](#).

Guest Editor

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I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in *Sustainability*, an international Open Access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review articles and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

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