

Editor's Note

Sustainable development has emerged as a central pillar of contemporary environmental planning and management — not merely as a theoretical ideal but as an urgent prerequisite for the continued wellbeing of human societies and the resilience of natural systems. Rapid population growth, climate change, spatial inequities, and the unsustainable exploitation of resources have made it imperative that we rethink conventional development pathways.

At its core, sustainable development seeks a balance among three fundamental dimensions: economy, society, and environment. Achieving that balance requires decisions guided not only by short-term economic gains but also by a broader commitment to environmental stewardship and social justice. In this effort, the technologies of the 21st century — including artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, big data analytics, renewable energy, and smart resource-management systems — are powerful enablers that can help steer development toward greater efficiency, reduced pollution, and improved quality of life.

Today's challenges call for a new geography: one that moves beyond description to embrace intelligent spatial analysis and data-driven modeling to inform policy and planning at local, regional, national, and global scales.

The Journal of Sustainable Development of Geographical Environment (SDGE) is dedicated to fostering dialogue among academia, practitioners, and policymakers by publishing rigorous research, applied case studies, and innovative perspectives. Our aim is to bridge knowledge and practice — to link environment and development, and to strengthen the relationship between people and place.

We invite scholars, teachers, and researchers to contribute original articles, applied studies, and fresh viewpoints that advance both local and global understanding in this vital field.

In this issue we are pleased to present a collection of articles that examine different facets of sustainable development within Iran's geographical context. Topics include sustainability in rural communities and economic networks, urban sustainability (with attention to equity, culture, and infrastructure), and resilience to environmental hazards. From micro to macro scales, the papers in this issue convey a unified message: achieving sustainable development in the geographical environment requires rigorous research, equitable planning, and broad public participation.

With respect,
Jamileh Tavakolinia
Editor-in-Chief