



ADRES 2024

Adaptability, **Re**silience, and **S**ustainability
An ESG-oriented and SDG-driven inter-disciplinary conference

organised by
The London Institute of Social Studies, UK

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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ADRES-2024

Adaptability, Resilience, and Sustainability

An ESG-oriented and SDG-driven inter-disciplinary conference

Date

23 November 2024

Organiser

The London Institute of Social Studies, London, UK

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ORGANISER

[The London Institute of Social Studies, UK](#)

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KEYNOTES

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The abridged transcripts of the keynote speeches will be posted here shortly after the event.

ABSTRACTS

Adaptability, resilience and sustainability competencies through collaborative networks. An integrative literature review for innovative learning designs.

Sandhya Gunness (University of Mauritius) and Thanasis Daradoumis (Open University of Catalonia).

Keywords: Systems-thinking, University-industry collaborative networks, Sustainability competencies, Innovative learning design, Small island developing state

This integrative literature review was conducted following Cooper's guidelines to synthesize and critically examine the integration of collaborative networks, innovative educational strategies and sustainability competencies within higher education, with a focus on Mauritius. The review aimed to explore how collaborative networks within and beyond higher education institutions can contribute to the pedagogy and didactics for cultivation of sustainability competencies among students and faculties, particularly in the context of urgent environmental challenges such as recurrent flash floods and other climatic disasters in small island states.

A comprehensive analysis of theoretical and empirical articles published between 2010 and 2023 was undertaken, addressing three key research questions: (i) How have existing pedagogical approaches in higher education succeeded or failed in fostering sustainability competencies (ii) What role do collaborative networks play in enhancing the efficacy of these pedagogical approaches? (iii) What innovative learning designs have emerged that effectively integrate sustainability into higher education curricula?

The findings highlight several gaps in the literature: (i) the integration of real-world, ground-level actions with traditional higher education pedagogies is underexplored, particularly in the context of climate-related challenges in small island states like Mauritius; (ii) there is limited research on the impact of collaborative networks on the development of sustainability competencies; (iii) existing studies often lack a focus on the interconnectedness of university-industry links in relation to sustainability issues.

In response to these gaps, this review proposes an integrative framework that supports the integration of project or activity-based learning, service learning, and case-based strategies-thinking into higher education curricula, facilitated by engaged and productive university-industry collaborative networks.

This framework emphasizes the importance of moving beyond traditional teaching methods to foster a deeper connection between academic knowledge and real-world sustainability challenges, ultimately contributing to the development of more relevant employability competencies such as adaptability, resilience and sustainability competencies that are essential for addressing the pressing environmental and social issues of our small island developing state.

Empirical analysis of herding behavior and volatility during Russia-Ukraine war in Indian and Japanese stock markets.

Dhanraj Sharma, Ruchita Verma, Ajmal U. (Central University of Punjab).

Keywords: Russia Ukraine war, Herding Behavior, Volatility, Tokyo Stock Exchange, National Stock Exchange

The primary objective of this study is to examine the phenomenon of herding within the stock markets of India and Japan during the Russia-Ukraine conflict, while also conducting an analysis of the asymmetry present in herding behavior. The study made use of daily returns from large-cap stocks listed on the NSE and TSE during the period spanning from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023. Various statistical techniques including descriptive statistics, tests for stationarity, and regression analysis were applied. CSAD was employed to detect herd behavior in the market.

The investigation revealed an absence of herding behavior within the Tokyo Stock Exchange, contrasting with a more noticeable manifestation of herding within the Indian stock market amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Furthermore, it was observed that herding behavior had a negative impact on market volatility, with this effect intensifying during the conflict for both markets. The study also noted a rise in herding behavior throughout the conflict compared to the period preceding it, demonstrating an asymmetry specifically on days characterized by a bearish market. This study contributes valuable insights into the investor's behavior in the Indian and Japanese stock markets during significant geopolitical occurrences, thereby providing crucial information for investors interested in these markets.

The wall, a tale of layers that are as frail as they are protective.

Aïnhua Nicolas (UPR Projekt Laboratory - ENSA Versailles Laboratory - Unîmes University)

Keywords: Wall, silica, membrane, archaeological material

In the current climate context, the human attraction to silica is problematic. This mineral element comprises a large part of the materials used in construction and furniture. Its widespread use testifies to a stronger human-inert proximity than that of human-organic. The exclusion of the organic and the living created vulnerability for the homo-sapiens of the nineteenth century. A presupposition that is a reality in our post-modern era. It confirms that the inert and siliceous material is purer than organic matter.

As Rancière points out, "reality is a dominant fiction". In the current climate context, this reality loses its validity. The thermoregulatory capacity of siliceous materials is non-existent and makes it necessary to insulate buildings. In order to insulate, it is necessary to renovate the building, which involves the destruction of the walls in order to rebuild them in a different way. A gesture that, in the end, increases the vulnerability of the construction, its carbon footprint, and the cost of insulation.

However, another possible narrative consists in the use of reversible materials from material history. The proposal for a membrane whose layer is superimposed on the wall, provides protection that does not weaken the building. The inertia of these materials makes it possible to preserve the wall, vulnerable to temperature variations, and the human being

it shelters is still protected. These are materials from a material library - the object of the current doctoral research practice - which brings together materials that are both environmentally friendly and organic. The example of Neolithic grass weaving allows us to explore what is supposed to be the cause of the vulnerability of walls as well as to probe a possible solution to protect them.

Implementing SDGs for sustainable rural development through community empowerment: the experience of SDU University

Maksat Kalybek (SDU, Kazakhstan)

Keywords: Community Empowerment, Sustainable Development, Rural Universities, SDU, Rural-Urban Inequalities

The United Nations (UN) highlights widening rural-urban disparities, emphasizing the need for targeted, community-focused interventions to empower rural areas. While sustainable development initiatives are increasingly common, the unique role of universities situated in rural regions is less explored. This paper examines how SDU University, located in the rural Karasai district of the Almaty region in Kazakhstan, leverages its resources to drive community empowerment and sustainable development. This study aims to answer two central questions: How can university-driven initiatives foster sustainable development in rural contexts? And to what extent do these initiatives mitigate rural-urban inequalities?

SDU University plays a pivotal role in regional development, supporting accessible education, reducing unemployment, and enhancing quality of life in Karasai. Through an interdisciplinary approach that includes programs such as "Community Engagement and Value-Based Society," SDU fosters a culture of sustainability among its students. Key initiatives include training NEET (Not in Education, Employment, or Training) individuals and vulnerable groups, positioning SDU as a regional leader in entrepreneurial and digital education. The SDU Technopark offers essential resources—such as co-working spaces, mentorship, and innovation challenges—to both students and local residents. Additionally, through a partnership with "Teach for Qazaqstan," SDU's teacher retraining program equips educators to serve rural schools, thereby enhancing educational quality and supporting economic resilience in underserved areas.

The methodology comprises a review of SDU's institutional records over the past five years, focusing on the measurable impact of these initiatives on local economic and social well-being. The findings suggest that universities in rural areas are uniquely positioned to act as catalysts for sustainable change, offering pathways for inclusive growth and reducing migration pressures. However, limitations remain in accurately quantifying the outcomes of diverse activities, underscoring the need for ongoing research to establish robust metrics for measuring impact. Despite these challenges, predictive analysis of SDU's initiatives reveals substantial positive effects, particularly in promoting inclusive education, fostering social responsibility, and expanding economic opportunities.

This study underscores SDU University's multi-faceted approach, emphasizing community empowerment, inclusivity, and strategic partnerships, as a model for similar institutions. Insights from this research provide valuable guidance for policymakers and development practitioners, highlighting the transformative role universities can play in addressing local needs and promoting long-term resilience in underserved rural communities.



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