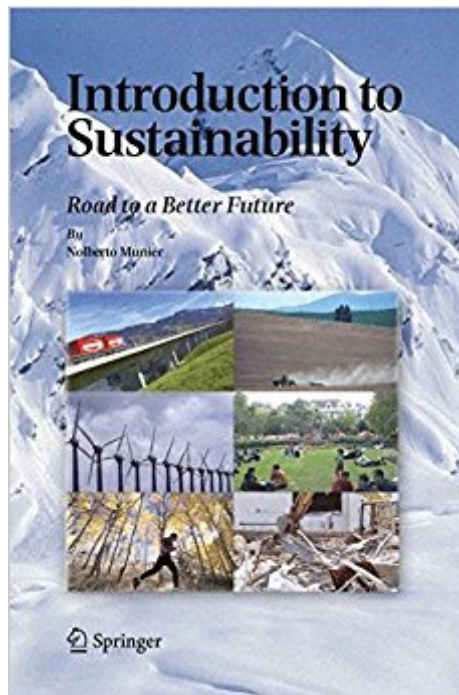




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Introduction To Sustainability: Road To A Better Future



Synopsis

This book develops a supporting structure for sustainable development, following a natural set of steps to reach an established goal. It provides the tools to navigate this Road to a Better Future by explaining concepts, giving ideas, proposing methods, and suggesting actions. To illustrate the utilization of techniques there are many examples, applied to a variety of activities, and to wrap up concepts, the last chapter is dedicated to the analysis of a community in search of a sustainable environment. A thematic index has been designed to help a person quickly find information on relevant topics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

From the reviews: "It suggests methods and tools to achieve our aim of total sustainability. The book has been written in a very clear, readable and user friendly style. The distinguishing features of the book would be the numerous appropriate case studies appearing throughout the book and the internet references appearing at the end of the chapter. The book contains many helpful tables. This would be a useful introductory effort that will appeal to decision makers and workers in different spheres of environmental activities." (V. Lakshminarayanan, Journal of Ecobiology, Vol. 18 (2), 2006)

Sustainability is an elusive concept and many have tried to define the idea of what it is. This book

relies on the classical interpretation from the Brundtland report, "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs", but rather than trying to frame the concept, it develops a supporting structure, following a natural set of steps to reach an established goal. This book provides the tools to navigate this Road to a Better Future by explaining concepts, giving ideas, proposing methods, and suggesting actions. To illustrate the utilization of techniques there are many examples, applied to a variety of activities, and to wrap up concepts, the last chapter is dedicated to the analysis of a community in search of a sustainable environment. A thematic index has been designed to help a person quickly find information on relevant topics. Consequently, this book follows a very practical approach, illustrating many different real life paradigms, thus clarifying the use of sustainable resources, including such novel applications as energy from fuel cells and extracting energy from the sea. It also comments on sixteen actual case studies that comprise different activities, including energy generation from wastes, novel transportation schemes, industrial integration, selection of urban indicators, water reuse, energy from renewable energy sources, etc., and touches on people's participation in the decision-making process. Each chapter concludes with a comprehensive list of Internet references. Most of these references include comments on their content to facilitate further searching on related topics of interest.

Audience: This book will help decision makers, stakeholders, politicians, students and the public in general to blend the use of sustainability concepts, tools and ideas with their current projects, in order to best attain a sustainable environment.

This book was not as dry as some textbooks can be. The subject matter is interesting, and the use of data charts and images helps the reader to make real-world connections to the topic at hand. Good layout and easy to read.

A great overview.

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