

## **Contents**

List of Figures and Tables		ix	
List of Contributors			
Prefa	Preface		
List of Acronyms and Abbreviations			
1	Introduction Alan Grainger	1	
	Introduction	1	
	Conflicting Political Ideals	3	
	Sustainable Development as an Ambiguous Compromise	6	
	From Economic Growth to Sustainable Development	9	
	Capital: A Unifying Thread in Development Theories	13	
	Economic Theories of Sustainable Development	16	
	Reconciling the Political and Theoretical Discourses	20	
	Questions about Sustainable Development	22	
	Geographical Perspectives on Sustainable Development	24	
	Conclusion	30	
2	Geography and Sustainable Development Martin Purvis	33	
	Introduction	33	
	A Case for Geography	33	
	Engaging with Sustainable Development	37	
	Geography and the Pursuit of More Sustainable Development	40	
	Looking Deeper	43	
	Conclusion	48	
3	The Role of Spatial Scale and Spatial Interactions in Sustainable		
	Development Alan Grainger	50	
	Introduction	50	
	Structuring Global Space	51	
	Achieving Sustainable Development at Different Levels	57	
	Sustainable Development in Open Economies	60	
	Interaction between Different Spatial Levels	72	
	Conclusion	83	

## EXPLORING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

vi

4	Linking the Local to the Global: Can Sustainable Development Work			
	in Practice? John Soussan	85		
	Introduction	85		
	Approaches to Development	86		
	Can Local Action Substitute for Ineffective State Institutions?	88		
	The Political Limits of Local Action	89		
	National Constraints on Participation in Sri Lanka	90		
	Institutional Change and Community Forestry in Nepal	92		
	Conclusion	96		
5	Forecasting Urban Futures: A Systems Analytical Perspective on the			
	Development of Sustainable Urban Regions Gordon Mitchell	99		
	Introduction	99		
	Impacts of Urban Development	100		
	The Complexity of Urban Sustainability	105		
	A Systems Perspective: Urban Modelling and Sustainability Assessment	110		
	Models of Sustainable and Urban Development	116		
	The Quantifiable City Programme: Sustainable Urban Development			
	Modelling in Practice	119		
	Problems and Prospects for Urban Sustainability Modelling	123		
	Conclusion	126		
6	Making Cities More Sustainable: People, Plans and Participation			
	Rachael Unsworth	128		
	Introduction	128		
	Continuity and Change in Urban Problems	129		
	Outlining Sustainable Urban Development	132		
	Planning for Urban Sustainability	136		
	People as Planners: Participation in the Search for Sustainable Urban			
	Development	143		
	Urban Challenges in the Developing World	146		
	Communicating Good Practice	151		
	Making the Local Universal: A Concluding Reflection	152		
7	Business, Capital and Sustainable Economic Development			
	Martin Purvis	156		
	Introduction	156		
	Business and the Environment	157		
	Sustainable Economic Development as Eco-efficiency	159		
	Too Good To Be True: Are Win–Win Arguments Sustainable?	166		
	A Space for Sustainable Development?	171		
	Conclusion	177		
8	Sustainable Agriculture for the 21st Century Martin Purvis and			
	Richard Smith	179		
	Introduction	179		
	Modern Agriculture: Reviewing the Account	179		

	Sustainable Farming: Different Places, Different Solutions	186
	Greater Resource Efficiency	187
	Redistributing Resources	199
	Conclusion: Sustainable Futures	204
9	Sustaining the Flow: Japanese Waterways and New Paradigms of	
	Development Paul Waley and Martin Purvis	207
	Introduction	207
	21st-Century Japan: Poised for Sustainable Development?	207
	Past Imperfect	208
	River Management: The Context	211
	Technocentric River Planning and the Ministry of Construction	215
	Reassessing the Role of Rivers	217
	From Words to Deeds	220
	Problems Behind the Projects: Environmental Quality and Participation Conclusion: Points of Ideological Cleavage	224 227
10	Sustainable Futures for the Arctic North Ken Atkinson	230
	Introduction	230
	Varieties of Development	231
	Unsustainable Development: Past Practice and Conflict over Renewable and Non-renewable Resources	232
	Sustainable Development in Principle	236
	Moves Towards More Sustainable Development: The North American	
	Experience	239
	Lessons for the Russian Arctic	244
	International Initiatives to Promote More Sustainable Development	246
	Conclusion	248
11	Climate Change, Energy and Sustainable Development Martin Purvis	250
	Introduction	250
	Climate Change: A Threat to Sustainable Development?	251
	Adaptation to Current and Future Climate Regimes	255
	Mitigating Climate Change	257
	The Wider Context of Sustainable Development	261
	Scales of Change: Theory and Practice	267
	Conclusion	276
12	Sustainable Development and International Relations Alan Grainger	279
	Introduction	279
	The World as Viewed by International Relations Theories	281
	Climate Change: The Predominance of an Isolated Globalist Discourse Discourses in Conflict at the United Nations Conference on Environment	284
	and Development	293
	Modifying Existing International Institutions	301
	Conclusion	310

## viii EXPLORING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

13	Future Perspectives: Developing Sustainable Development	
	Martin Purvis and Alan Grainger	313
	Introduction	313
	Reflecting upon Existing Strategies	313
	A Necessary Critique	317
	Consensus and Contest	321
	The Challenge of Sustainable Development	322
	Sustainable Development and Societal Change	327
	A More Pragmatic Response	331
	The Limitations of Current Theories	336
Refe	erences	340
Index		388