

## Editorial

Benjamin C. McLellan<sup>a</sup>, N. Agya Utama<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a,b</sup> Chief Editors of International Journal of Sustainable Future for Human Security

<sup>a</sup> Kyoto University, Yoshida-honmachi, Kyoto, Japan

<sup>b</sup> Swiss German University, BSD-Serpong, Tangerang, Indonesia

### 1. Introduction

Welcome to the seventh volume of the Journal of Sustainable Futures for Human Security (J-Sustain). This issue features papers addressing human security issues associated with electoral democracy and the influence of political and business stakeholders, as well as the issue of ongoing concern around the production of palm oil with a specific focus on the socio-economic consequences of the conversion of land from traditional uses.

The year 2019 has seen a continued focus on the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as stalling diplomatic progress with regards to climate change agreements. Continued tensions between China and the USA have also been reflected in concern over economic stability globally. In these circumstances, research in the interdisciplinary area of sustainability and human security is increasingly important.

J-Sustain continues to call for papers addressing both specific case studies and theoretical developments over a wide range of sustainability-oriented fields. Notably, this year we are seeking to expand through a series of special issues highlighted in this issue. We also welcome suggestions for special issues from the broader academic community.

### 2. New submission system

We are currently transitioning to a new article submission platform. This should ensure greater ease of submission and tracking of the progress of your submissions. In the meantime submissions will be undertaken as per usual.

### 3. Special Issues – Call for Papers Out Now

We currently have three special issues proposed for next year, and are seeking submissions. The outline of each of these proposals is provided in this issue, as well as on the website.

### 4. 2020 SUSTAIN Conference

The next International Conference on Sustainable Futures for Human Security (SUSTAIN 2020) is scheduled to be held in 2020.

We again have been supporting the conference, and we encourage authors to attend this growing and important multi-disciplinary event focused on important issues of sustainability.

For more details see: <http://sustain-conference.com/>

## 5. Editorial Team

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We remind authors that they are welcome to upload their papers on institutional repositories, or post the link to their paper as they like. The papers remain open access indefinitely.

### Acknowledgements

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1. Kyoto University:
  - Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH),
  - Inter-Graduate School Program for Sustainable Development and Survivable Societies (GSS)
2. Ritsumeikan University
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