

‘Onwards to island sustainability futures: An exploration of the SDGs on islands’, a special section of *Island Studies Journal*, 17(1), May 2022

Guest Editor: John N. Telesford

September 2020 will mark five years since the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 was agreed by all states of the World, with SIDS being no exception. Seventeen sustainable development goals (SDGs) and 169 targets were adopted with the intent of providing a holistic approach to sustainable development. Over the past five years, a number of regional and global studies and research papers on the SDGs have been reported and published in academic journals. However, there is a dearth of research and studies conducted on the SDGs in the context of island states and territories, including Small Island Developing States (SIDS). This special section aims to fill this literature gap. Moreover, after five years of adopting the SDGs, this section attempts to analyse how islands have been engaging with the SDGs and determine how the SDGs may be guiding islands towards sustainability. Key challenges associated with the SDGs’ implementation and the opportunities to enhance island sustainability in the context of the myriad of pressures from inter alia, climate change; poverty; global recessions and other economic, environmental and social malaise, are of keen interest. The papers submitted for consideration in this special section may focus on an individual SDG or treat the following themes:

1. Governance, policy and management approaches for the SDGs on islands
2. Sustainable development plans and SDGs integration for the implementation of the SDGs on islands
3. Data requirements and challenges with the implementation of the SDGs on islands
4. Communities, islanders, sectoral engagement with and knowledge of the SDGs
5. SDGs and island sustainability futures
6. Regional (CARICOM, OECS, Pacific Islands Countries) and global organisations (UN) approaches to engaging with the SDGs on islands.

This special section will be published in May 2022 in *Island Studies Journal (ISJ)*, but individual papers will be published online ahead of print as and when they complete the peer review and editorial process. *ISJ* is a web-based, freely downloadable, open access, peer reviewed journal that publishes papers advancing and critiquing the study of issues affecting or involving islands. It is listed and abstracted in Scopus and Web of Science (Social Science Citation Index).

For further information or if you are interested in submitting a paper, contact: John N. Telesford at j.n.telesford@rgu.ac.uk and john.telesford@yahoo.com. Manuscripts should be between 5,000 and 10,000 words, must be written in excellent English, and must be prepared in accordance with the *ISJ* submission guidelines: https://www.islandstudies.ca/guidelines_instructions.html

Interested authors are asked to submit abstracts of 150-200 words by 30 June 2020. If accepted, initial drafts of full papers will be expected by 31 December 2020. The deadline for final submission is 31 May 2021. All papers will be subject to peer review. Abstracts and papers should be e-mailed to the guest editor, using 'Special Section on islands and the SDGs' in the subject of the e-mail.