
Title: Approaching the End of the SDGs: Building Resilient Communities for the World's Most Vulnerable Across Education, Healthcare, Social Mobility, Migration, Housing, and the Climate Crisis



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PROPOSAL

As the 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) draws near, the international community faces a critical juncture: assessing progress, confronting persistent gaps, and determining what genuine resilience means for the world's most vulnerable populations. This special issue seeks to examine the intersecting domains of education, healthcare, social mobility, migration, housing, and the environment as interdependent pillars of community resilience, arguing that fragmented, sector-specific approaches, compounded by limited program funding, have consistently failed to address the compounding vulnerabilities faced by marginalized populations across the Global South and beyond.

Particular attention is given to Communities Discriminated against based on Work and Descent (CDWD), Indigenous populations, disabled persons, seniors, and racially marginalized populations, among, groups whose intersecting identities often place them at the margins of mainstream development planning and resource allocation. Drawing on multilateral field experience and an intersectional analytical framework, this issue explores how systemic inequities, rooted in gender, disability, age, race, displacement, poverty, mental wellness, and climate vulnerability, continue to undermine SDG targets, even as global attention shifts toward the post-2030 development agenda against a backdrop of shrinking or constrained donor and government funding.

By centering the lived experiences of these historically excluded populations, this special issue calls for a relational, community-driven model of resilience-building that moves beyond siloed policy interventions toward integrated, equity-centered frameworks capable of operating within tighter fiscal realities. Submissions should offer recommendations for practitioners, policymakers, and scholars seeking to ensure that resilience efforts do not merely sustain the status quo, but actively redress the structural exclusions the SDGs were designed to confront.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

- Intersectional approaches to resilience-building among vulnerable and marginalized populations
- Compounding effects of disability, age, race, and gender on access to education, healthcare, and housing
- Migration, displacement, and resilience amid climate and conflict
- Community-driven, relational models of development beyond siloed policy interventions
- Post-2030 development frameworks and lessons from the SDG era
- The impact of limited and constrained program funding on resilience programming
- Environmental vulnerability and its disproportionate impact on marginalized communities

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