



## Local Development Initiatives and Sustainable Employment Policies

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### Message from the Collection Editors

The challenge for territories in the context of new globalization processes, the recent changes in the status quo of international commerce, and, unexpectedly, the irruption of the COVID-19 pandemic are revealing new problems that regions and localities worldwide need to confront. New solutions are needed for territories to face competition in such a confusing scenario. Sustainable employment policies should be implemented in order to encourage small business and self-employment and to contribute to the recovery of the world economy. Therefore, innovative local development initiatives are appearing in cities and rural areas in developed and developing countries.

This Special Issue of *Sustainability* is open to contributions covering the range of local development initiatives worldwide, including new business with local participation; small firm systems in global value chains; social innovation processes encouraging local economies; local employment policies; sustainable actions for local development; local governments' participation in public–private partnerships for stimulating the territorial economic fabric; new institutional initiatives for development; and so on.





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