

SDS 2021 - Sustainable Design Symposium

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This special number of the journal *Mix Sustentável* brings to you articles that were granted with the Best Paper Award at SDS2021 (VIII Simpósio de Design Sustentável + Sustainable Design Symposium), one of the main events in the field of Design for Sustainability in South America. This edition was organized by Design & Sustainability Research Center of Paraná Federal University, with endorsement from the Learning Network on Sustainability (LeNS) and Design for Social Innovation Network (DESIS).

The call for papers of SDS2021 aimed at the wide spectrum of topics within Design to Sustainability, seeking to debate ideas and practices in the social, environmental and economic dimensions. Thus, submissions to the event ranged from approaches centered on materials, on the product or on the product + service system, to approaches centered on the socio-spatial scope, the socio-technical system and, also, biocentric approaches. In order to support prospective authors on better understanding the scope of those possibilities, it was suggested for them to read the book “Design for Sustainability: A Multi-level Framework from Products to Socio-technical Systems” (Routledge Focus on Environment and Sustainability)”, produced by Fabrizio Ceschin and Idil Gaziulusoy, available for free download on the internet. It was also suggested to consult the series of books “Social Dimension ...”, “Environmental Dimension ...” and “Economic Dimension of Design for Sustainability”, developed by LeNS (Learning Network on Sustainability - Brazil) and freely available at the website of Editora Insight.

Due to the pandemic the event was carried out entirely on digital format, which resulted on a wider geographic outreach, reaching a total of 750 attendees. During its three days (from 1st to 3rd December 2021) the participants were able to attend a range of activities that aimed at promoting the sharing and debate of ideas and practices, including round tables, mini-courses, cases studies, technical sessions and book launches. It is on the technical sessions that the papers that integrate this volume were presented, both synchronously as well as on asynchronous format. Hence, you can see the authors presenting these articles on their respective video presentations whose links can be found on the event website (<http://www.sds2021.ufpr.br/>).

The overall scope of the papers does show that Design for Sustainability is widening and, at the same time, deepening its research emphasis. Material-based research continues to be a topic of high relevance, with authors experimenting with biomaterials (see the work of Giovanna E. Renck, Debora Barauna, Vitória Tomé and Pedro Marostega Santos) as well as circular approaches to deal with waste (see the work of Fernanda de Oliveira Massi, Guimel Macedo da Silva, Bheatriz Silvano Graciano, Cláudio Pereira de Sampaio and Suzana Barreto Martins, focused on textil waste).

Research contributions on the teaching side of Design are contributing to the challenge of developing a new generation of Designers with competencies on developing effective and innovative sustainable solutions to the growing environmental, social and economic challenges presented to society (see the work of Viviane Gallindo, Arlindo Silva and Abinaya). Off course, the pandemic has brought new and unforeseen challenges for Designers in all fields but it is on education that these impacts are more clearly understood. The lessons learnt on this matter are reported on papers that discuss issues such as teaching social innovation when it was not possible to physically meet each other (see the work of Jaqueline Comparin, Cristiane Ramos and Karine Freire) or teaching remotely the design of more sustainable physical artifacts (see the work of Claudio Pereira de Sampaio).

On the social dimension of Design for Sustainability the research results reported on this special volume include approaches to articulate agroecology and social innovation (see the work of Thalita Barbalho and Rita Engler); strategies to elevate social equity and, at the same time, understand, value and protect local culture (see the work of Marília Brandão da Silva Santos, Ana Carolina de Moraes Andrade Barbosa and Germannya D Garcia Araujo E Silva) and cultural identity (see the work Danielle Comitre Thomaz,



Fabiano Burgo and Polyanna Astrath Costa).

There was a great amount of research presented at SDS2021 that tackled the need of Design and Designers to foster new patterns of consumption and production in society and organizations (see the work of Giovanna E. Renck, Debora Barauna and Vitória Tomé), with implications on the characteristics of physical artifacts (see the work of Thais H. B. Alem, Edson J. C. Rezende and Kátia A. C. Pêgo), services and systems (see the work of Polyanna Astrath Costa, Washington Pinto Rego Filho, Aguinaldo dos Santos and Marta Karina Leite). Here we also see contributions with frameworks and tools (see the work of Pierre Yohanes Lubis, Bahareh Shahri and Mariano Ramirez) to support Designers on the process of developing sustainable solution.

The sample of research presented on this special number shows that the Design research community is doing well its part to point the world towards a more sustainable direction. The breath and quality of the research output of this community also suggest that we are consistently mastering the theoretical foundations and methodologies that guide us to our collective and endless journey to an utopian sustainable world.