Sustainable development remains an important global vision in a rapidly changing and globalising world. Realising this vision requires knowledge-based and value-conscious social, political, and economic decisions and actions at multiple levels. Research aiming to support sustainable development faces challenges that go beyond the traditional roles of discipline-oriented science. This means that knowledge must be co-produced at the interfaces between a broad range of disciplines, between science and society, between knowledge cultures in the global North, South, and East, and between global visions and local realities – while remaining rooted in solid disciplinary foundations.

Research for Sustainable Development is based on the experiences of a decade of inter- and transdisciplinary research in partnership in nine regions of the world. It presents 29 articles in which interdisciplinary teams reflect on the foundations of sustainability-oriented research, propose and illustrate concrete concepts, tools, and approaches to overcome the challenges of such research, and show how research practice related to specific issues of sustainable development has led to new thematic and methodological insights. The book seeks to stimulate the advancement of research towards more relevant, scientifically sound, and concrete contributions to realising the vision of sustainable development.

Citation: