

Call for Book Chapters

Contextualizing Circular Economy: Emerging Trends, Developments and Future Prospects

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MOTIVATION AND SCOPE:

Globally, societies are faced with challenges arising from climate change-induced extreme weather events, societal inequalities, limited natural resources, and food and energy insecurity (Jermier and Forbes, 2016; Reinecke and Ansari, 2021; Gillani et al., 2023). Increasing volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) risks exemplified by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war, have presented numerous opportunities and challenges, requiring considerable changes in our mindsets to navigate through these situations. Further, in the prevalent linear economy model, the sequential process of "take → make → waste" involving the extraction, utilization, and disposal of finite resources, gives rise to global carbon emissions, and a decline in biodiversity, serving as a crucial indicant of the climate exigency (UNEP, 2024).

The concept of the circular economy (CE) represents a departure from traditional linear business models (Kutaula et al., 2022; Patala et al., 2022; Parte and Alberca, 2023), aiming to prevent the depletion of finite resources, reduce or eradicate waste, and achieve a system where "products, components, and materials operate within the

confines of environmental conservation and socio-economic advantages" (Morseletto, 2020, p. 1). This shift is crucial for tackling the imminent environmental and social challenges, thus, contributing to an increased interest in CE among academics, policymakers, and business leaders who foresee a future where sustainable ways of transformation and development will help reduce the detrimental effects of excessive resource extraction and consumption. The CE model is in line with the UN's sustainable development goals (SDGs), which encourage efficient utilization of resources, use of renewable energy, and employment of new digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and blockchain to achieve sustainable production and consumption (SDG 7, 8, 11, 12 and 13).

In the CE context, we need to consider a holistic view ranging from developed to emerging economies due to diverse geography, strategic location, economic interdependence, energy resources, and cross-border cooperation initiatives which hold significant geopolitical and trade significance. Concurrently, some developing economies are encountering challenges about extreme weather conditions, and limited accessibility to energy and natural resources, and sectors such as agriculture, energy, and tourism are at risk of being adversely impacted by climate change (Cainelli, 2020; Bianchi and Cordella, 2023; Paleari, 2024). Additionally, ineffective waste management procedures, specifically concerning hazardous waste, exacerbate environmental contamination and resource exhaustion across Asia and Africa (UNECE, 2017; OSCE, 2024).

While current CE research focuses on supply chains, manufacturing processes, and circular business models in developed countries (Lieder and Rashid, 2016; Dey et al., 2020; Rovanto and Bask, 2021; Dzhengiz et al., 2023), there is a lack of studies examining factors such as; policy and regulatory frameworks, contextual and cultural norms, and the role of technological advancements, about CE, particularly in some understudied developing economy contexts. Further, while some countries such as US, UK, and France have received significant attention, limited conceptual and empirical CE research has been undertaken in other contexts such as Latvia, Romania, Kazakhstan, Turkey, and Kyrgyzstan (Zhang and Zhu, 2020; Laureti et al., 2023; Voukkali et al., 2023).

Considering this, the overall aim of the book is to bring together high-quality academic research, practitioner case studies, and policymaker perspectives, by offering a comprehensive contextualization of the CE paradigm, challenging the dominant Western perspectives. To our knowledge, this will be the first book that will serve as a valuable resource for academics, policymakers, and practitioners, interested in understanding and advancing CE practices and models from both developed and developing markets, particularly giving a voice to perspectives from Global South.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES: We welcome contributions from both developed and developing economies- encouraging submissions particularly from the Middle East and

North Africa (MENA), Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and the Oceania. Please submit an abstract of at least 200 words by 31 August 2024 through email s.kutaula@kingston.ac.uk copying in a.gillani@surrey.ac.uk and shumaila.yousafzai@nu.edu.kz. There are no specific formatting requirements for abstracts, the authors invited for full chapter submission will be notified of formatting requirements at that stage.

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