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Special Issue: Sustainable Development Strategies in Europe: Taking Stock 20 years after the Brundtland Report; Edited by R. Steurer and A. Martinuzzi, RIMAS, Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration

On the occasion of the anniversary of the so-called Brundtland Report, Reinhard Steurer and Andre Martinuzzi from RIMAS (the Research Institute for Managing Sustainability that operates the ESDN Office) have edited a special issue with five contributions on "Sustainable Development Strategies in Europe". The special issue charts the evolution of SD policy making over 20 years, triggered by the Brundtland Report (the first global sustainable development (SD) strategy in a broader sense).

The first contribution provides an introduction to key characteristics, strengths and weaknesses of national SD strategies. These general impressions are then contrasted with comparable country studies on the SD strategy processes in Germany, Norway and the UK. The special issue concludes with an exploratory outlook.

Editorials

From environmental plans to sustainable development strategies (p 147-151)

Reinhard Steurer, Andre Martinuzzi

[Abstract](#) | [References](#) | Full Text: [PDF](#) (Size: 82K)

Research Articles

National sustainable development strategies: features, challenges and reflexivity (p 152-163)

James Meadowcroft

[Abstract](#) | [References](#) | Full Text: [PDF](#) (Size: 112K)

The German sustainable development strategy: facing policy, management and political strategy assessments (p 164-176)

Ralf Tils

[Abstract](#) | [References](#) | Full Text: [PDF](#) (Size: 118K)

Pursuing sustainable development in Norway: the challenge of living up to Brundtland at home (p 177-188)

William M. Lafferty, Jørgen Knudsen, Olav Mosvold Larsen

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The United Kingdom's sustainable development strategies: leading the way or flattering to deceive? (p 189-200)

Duncan Russel

[Abstract](#) | [References](#) | Full Text: [PDF](#) (Size: 112K)

From government strategies to strategic public management: an exploratory outlook on the pursuit of cross-sectoral policy integration (p 201-214)

Reinhard Steurer

[Abstract](#) | [References](#) | Full Text: [PDF](#) (Size: 125K)

Overall, the papers have one general conclusion in common: they all emphasise that SD strategies need to **improve** with regard to one of their key purposes, the **orchestration** of different policy instruments, strategy features and governance mechanisms. By putting SD strategies into the wider context of how public administrations function, the concluding paper gives explanations for this and other shortcomings highlighted in the case studies, and subsequently it looks ahead by exploring how to develop SD strategies further into a tool of "**Strategic Public Management**".

For further information, please contact reinhard.steurer@wu-wien.ac.at or visit our website at www.sustainability.eu.

