

# Pursuing Sustainability: A Guide to the Science and Practice

**Pamela Matson, William C. Clark & Krister Anderson**

## Comprehensive List of Endorsements

### Reviews

"A valuable resource for academic learning in higher education settings, as well as an informative tool to guide the practice of sustainability in institutional environments. . . . The framework they have presented in this book is adaptable for numerous social-ecological contexts at multiple scales for people working together to create change in pursuit of sustainable development and promote well-being of people for today and for the future."--

**Robert B. Richardson, *Ecological Economics***

"The thoughtful structure and clear writing make this a model for textbooks in any discipline."--

**Ted Lefroy, *Quarterly Review of Biology***

### Endorsements

"If we are to make peace with nature, the effort will have to come from us all. This very moving book is the finest introduction to the subject I have seen. It does not avoid technicalities, but can be read with equal benefit by the young and the old with no prior knowledge of the complexities we face."—

**Sir Partha Dasgupta, Frank Ramsey Professor Emeritus of Economics, University of Cambridge**

"Sustainability can seem like a faraway, nebulous dream. Through a clear framework, iconic case studies, and a beautiful, accessible style, *Pursuing Sustainability* brings this dream to life. A must-read for anyone concerned about the future health of our planet."—

**Gretchen C. Daily, cofounder of the Natural Capital Project and author of *The Power of Trees***

"Finally, a beautiful small book bringing together the thinking and practice behind sustainability science in an easily accessible and comprehensive manner, making it clear that this critical field of study for humanity provides an overarching framework for many different areas and competencies dealing with the sustainability challenge. Strongly recommended."—

**Carl Folke, founder of the Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, and director of the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences**

"This is a beautiful, lucid, and desperately needed book about the sustainability challenge. The authors accomplish a mission impossible: providing deep analyses of complex adaptive social-environmental systems while using simple terms and compelling metaphors to expose the

crucial steps we need to take for long-term inclusive well-being. A must-read for practitioners and scholars alike."—**Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, founder and director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research**

"This excellent book provides an accessible framework for understanding sustainability, which is particularly timely as we reach a turning point in global efforts. Crucially, it emphasizes a holistic approach to address the interconnected nature of sustainability issues. The book is a very useful resource not only for scholars and practitioners of sustainability, but also as a compass to guide experts in other disciplines."—**Kazuhiko Takeuchi, editor-in-chief of the journal *Sustainability Science* and senior vice-rector of United Nations University**

"*Pursuing Sustainability* by Matson, Clark, and Andersson is that all too rare book able to convey deepest insights in simplest words. Written to engage, inform, and provoke, it is simultaneously a call to think and act. It will find enduring appeal among students and researchers, casual readers and experts; I predict no collection on sustainability will be complete without this foundational work."—**Arun Agrawal, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan**

"It is an enormous challenge to relay to students the complexity of sustainable development while providing them with skills and ways of thinking that can be applied concretely. This succinct and accessible primer provides the essential tools, methods, and approaches they need."—**Ruth DeFries, author of *The Big Ratchet: How Humanity Thrives in the Face of Natural Crisis***

"A useful, compelling synthesis of a range of ideas."—**Kai N. Lee, coauthor of *Humans in the Landscape: An Introduction to Environmental Studies***

"The authors provide an accessible introduction to sustainability for a broad audience, including students, practitioners, policymakers, and business leaders. They blend clearly written descriptions of key concepts with illustrations from case studies and cover a wide range of topics. They make the case for why sustainability matters, and show how readers can contribute to solving sustainability challenges."—**Kimberly Nicholas, Lund University in Sweden**

"Written by esteemed experts and colleagues at the Arizona State University Board of Directors for Sustainability, this book leads the way to understanding how re-focusing sustainability challenges through the lens of innovation and collaboration can transform research and knowledge into action that can change the world."—**Michael M. Crow, President, Arizona State University**