management revue socio-Economic Studies

Call for Papers

The Impact of Stakeholders on Sustainability Practices in Nordic SMEs

Guest Editors:

Elli Verhulst, Experts in teamwork Academic Section & Engage Centre for Engaged Entrepreneurship, Norwegian University of Science and Technology
Martin Senderovitz, Zealand Academy & University of Southern Denmark
Simon Jebsen, Centre for Organising Social Sustainability, University of Southern Denmark

Special Issue

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Nordic countries are pivotal to regional economic strength and are recognised for their agile adaptation to sustainability practices. However, the dynamic interplay between SMEs and their stakeholders plays a crucial role in shaping these practices. This call for papers seeks to explore this critical relationship, providing insights into how stakeholders influence and are influenced by the sustainability initiatives within Nordic SMEs.

We invite empirical and theoretical submissions that examine:

- How do different stakeholders (customers, employees, suppliers, investors, and local communities) exert
 pressure on or support the sustainability efforts of SMEs? What unique stakeholder expectations are
 encountered by SMEs in Nordic regions?
- How do SMEs respond to these diverse and sometimes conflicting stakeholder demands? What innovative strategies are SMEs employing to engage stakeholders in sustainability dialogues and practices?
- What are the tangible outcomes of effective stakeholder engagement on the sustainability practices of Nordic SMEs? Are there discernible differences in sustainability outcomes between SMEs that actively engage their stakeholders and those that do not? What are the factors leading to effective stakeholder engagement for sustainability initiatives?
- Submissions of case studies showcasing successful stakeholder engagement and sustainability strategies in Nordic SMEs are highly encouraged. These case studies should provide practical insights and potentially replicable models.

This is not an exhaustive list.

Special Edition Book with Teaching Case Studies

This special issue offers a unique opportunity to publish your work in a *mrev Special Edition* book, alongside insightful discussion-based teaching case studies. These teaching cases allow students to engage with real-world sustainability challenges faced by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the Nordic region, sharpening their decision-making skills in a dynamic classroom setting before entering the professional sphere.

We invite submissions of teaching case studies that explore the complex relationship between stakeholders and sustainability practices within Nordic SMEs. Your cases should highlight how diverse stakeholders, such as



employees, customers, investors, suppliers, and local communities, influence the adoption and implementation of sustainability initiatives.

All case studies must be grounded in factual accounts involving real organisations and individuals. Fictional cases will not be considered. However, authors can anonymise organisations or individuals to protect confidentiality while preserving the authenticity of the narrative.

To ensure a comprehensive learning experience, all submissions must include:

- 1. A detailed narrative that presents the case scenario, outlines the key challenges and provides relevant background information.
- 2. A separate teaching note or instructor's manual that articulates the learning objectives, offers discussion questions, suggests pedagogical approaches, and equips faculty with resources to effectively use the case in the classroom.

We encourage submissions that showcase a variety of sustainability practices, including but not limited to environmental management, social responsibility, ethical governance, and circular economy initiatives. We particularly welcome cases that explore the unique contextual factors of the Nordic region, such as regulatory frameworks, cultural values, and economic structures. We value cases that demonstrate the potential for positive impact and offer actionable insights for both practitioners and students.

management revue - Socio-Economic Studies

management revue — Socio-Economic Studies is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary European journal publishing qualitative and quantitative work and purely theoretical papers that advance the study of management, organisation, and industrial relations. Management Revue publishes articles contributing to theory from several disciplines, including business and public administration, organisational behaviour, economics, sociology, and psychology. Reviews of books relevant to management and organisation studies are a regular feature. Selected articles are published in a book together with teaching case studies (mrev Special Edition).

All Nordic Conference on Small NCSB 2024 contributors are invited to submit their papers for the special issue of *management revue* – *Socio-Economic Studies*. Full papers and teaching case studies for the special issue and special edition must be submitted by **28 February 2025**. All contributions will be subject to double-blind reviews. Papers invited to a 'revise and resubmit' are due 31 August 2025. The publication is scheduled for issue 2/2026. Please submit your papers electronically via the <u>online submission system</u> using 'SI Stakeholders and Sustainability' as the article section.

Manuscript length should not exceed 10,000 words (excluding references), and the norm should be 30 pages in double-spaced type with margins of about 3 cm (1 inch) on each side of the page. Further, please follow the guidelines on the journal's homepage.

Hoping to hear from you!

Elli Verhulst
Martin Senderovitz
Simon Jebsen (simonf@sam.sdu.dk)

