

Review of "Future Cities Making: Mission-Oriented Research for Urban Sustainability Transitions in Australia" report

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"[Future Cities Making: Mission-Oriented Research for Urban Sustainability Transitions in Australia](#)" report is an insightful exploration of how Australian cities can lead the way toward sustainable urban futures through focused, mission-driven research and innovation. The book emphasizes the urgent need to address complex urban challenges such as climate change, resource scarcity, social inequality, and rapid urbanization by fostering transformative change in city systems - [socialsciences.org.au](#) , [springerlink.fh-diploma.de](#).

A core theme is the application of **mission-oriented research**, which means setting clear, ambitious goals to drive innovation and coordinated action across government, academia, industry, and communities. This approach encourages collaboration, experimentation, and learning to accelerate sustainability transitions in urban environments- [socialsciences.org.au](#) , [springerlink.fh-diploma.de](#).

Key positive recommendations highlighted in the book include:

- **Strengthening cross-sector collaboration: Encouraging partnerships between governments, researchers, businesses, and local communities to co-create solutions that are context-specific and socially inclusive** - [socialsciences.org.au](#).
- **Investing in place-based innovation:** Supporting local experimentation and pilot projects that address unique regional challenges while generating scalable models for other cities - [socialsciences.org.au](#).
- **Embedding equity and social justice:** Ensuring that sustainability initiatives benefit all urban residents, particularly marginalized groups, to foster inclusive and resilient communities. [socialsciences.org.au](#)
- **Enhancing data-driven decision-making:** Leveraging smart technologies and urban data to inform policies, monitor progress, and adapt strategies dynamically - [socialsciences.org.au](#).
- **Focusing on systemic change:** Moving beyond isolated interventions to transform urban infrastructures, governance, and behaviours in integrated ways - [socialsciences.org.au](#).
- **Promoting long-term vision and flexibility:** Designing missions that are ambitious yet adaptable to evolving urban conditions and emerging knowledge - [socialsciences.org.au](#).

The report presents Australian cities as vibrant laboratories for sustainability transitions, where mission-oriented research can unlock innovative pathways to low-carbon, resource-efficient, and socially just urban futures.[1][3][5] It inspires optimism by showing how coordinated, goal-driven efforts can overcome barriers and create thriving, sustainable cities that serve as models globally - [socialsciences.org.au](#) , [springerlink.fh-diploma.de](#).

In summary, "Future Cities Making" advocates for mission-oriented, collaborative, and inclusive approaches to urban sustainability, providing actionable recommendations that empower Australian cities to lead transformative change with hope and resilience. [socialsciences.org.au](#) , [springerlink.fh-diploma.de](#).