

# INNOVATIONS IN SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION

## New Economics, Socio-technical Transitions and Social Practices

Edited by **Maurie J. Cohen**, New Jersey Institute of Technology, **Halina Szejnwald Brown**, Clark University and **Philip J. Vergragt**, Tellus Institute and Clark University, US

*'Few people who think about the state of the world are content with the status quo. The increasingly complex mix of economic, social, environmental and political problems at all scales requires new ways of thinking. It also requires new ways of integrating mutually supportive ideas and approaches, which is what this useful new book offers around the theme of sustainable consumption. The editors and contributors offer a breadth and depth of research from three domains: the new economics, socio-technical transitions and social practice, with a focus on consumption that meets the needs of people within the limits of the biosphere.'*

– Peter A. Victor, York University, Canada

*'In recent years much hard thinking has been devoted to exploring the transition to true sustainability and consumption's role in it. Innovations in Sustainable Consumption offers an impressive and enormously useful synthesis of this new work. Highly recommended.'*

– James Gustave Speth, Vermont University Law School, US and author of *America the Possible: Manifesto for a New Economy*

*'This is a very timely and inspiring book. The editors have carefully compiled original contributions from leading researchers in sustainable consumption, reflecting the important work of the SCORAI network and beyond. This is a "must" read for those who want to know where research in sustainable consumption is really heading.'*

– Lucia A. Reisch, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

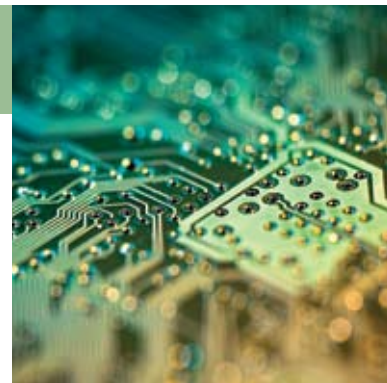
This timely volume recognizes that traditional policy approaches to reduce human impacts on the environment through technological change – for example, emphasizing resource efficiency and the development of renewable energy sources – are insufficient to meet the most pressing sustainability challenges of the twenty-first century. Instead, the editors and contributors argue that we must fundamentally reconfigure our lifestyles and social institutions if we are to make the transition toward a truly sustainable future.

These expert contributions pinpoint specific areas in which innovation will be required. These include economic policies, socio-technical systems of production and consumption, and dominant social practices. Drawing on these and other diverse areas of scholarship, this fascinating book highlights new conceptual frameworks for achieving the twin sustainability goals of decreased resource use and enhanced individual and societal well-being.

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