

Diverse Sustainable Technologies for a Green Future

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Introduction

The landscape of modern manufacturing is being reshaped by the urgent need for sustainability. A core aspect of this transformation involves integrating various sustainable technologies to support a circular economy. This approach aims to dramatically improve resource efficiency, reduce waste generation, and enhance material recycling processes. Ultimately, the goal is to foster manufacturing practices that are not only environmentally benign but also economically robust and viable [1].

In the global push towards cleaner energy, green hydrogen stands out as a promising solution. Research continues to explore diverse sustainable production methods for green hydrogen, with a strong emphasis on leveraging renewable energy sources. Key technologies like electrolysis, powered by solar and wind energy, are under scrutiny. Discussions involve their current operational status, existing challenges, and their considerable potential for broad adoption as a truly clean and sustainable fuel source. Understanding how green hydrogen can become a cornerstone of future energy systems is crucial [2].

The agricultural sector is undergoing a profound shift, driven by advancements in digital technologies. Specifically, the integration of the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) is proving instrumental in cultivating more sustainable agricultural practices. A systematic review of current applications clearly demonstrates how these powerful technologies can optimize resource utilization, significantly boost crop yields, and effectively minimize negative environmental impacts. These findings collectively envision a future where farming operations are inherently smarter, more efficient, and significantly greener [3].

Addressing the twin challenges of waste management and energy demand, sustainable technologies are emerging that efficiently convert various types of waste into valuable energy products, particularly biofuels. Detailed reviews outline different thermochemical and biochemical processes, such as pyrolysis, gasification, and anaerobic digestion. Each process is carefully assessed for its operational effectiveness and the substantial environmental benefits it offers. These technologies hold significant promise for simultaneously managing waste streams and generating renewable energy, creating a dual positive impact [4].

The construction industry is making strides towards sustainability through the innovation of new building materials and practices. Recent developments in sustainable building materials offer critical insights into green construction. This includes the exploration of innovative substances like recycled aggregates, advanced bio-based composites, and even self-healing concrete. These materials are highlighted for their distinct environmental advantages and superior performance characteristics. The trajectory of this research points clearly towards developing more eco-friendly and resilient infrastructure worldwide [5].

Mitigating climate change necessitates advanced solutions for managing industrial carbon emissions. Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) technologies represent a vital pathway in this endeavor. An overview of these technologies showcases their latest advancements and explores their future prospects. This encompasses various capture methods, innovative ways to repurpose captured Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), and robust, secure storage solutions. The central role of CCUS in significantly reducing atmospheric carbon and combating global warming cannot be overstated [6].

The authors here review advanced sustainable technologies for treating wastewater and recovering valuable resources. It delves into membrane bioreactors, advanced oxidation processes, and microbial fuel cells, showcasing their efficiency in purifying water and extracting resources like nutrients or energy. The insights highlight methods for making wastewater management more circular [7].

The concept of smart sustainable cities is rapidly evolving, driven by ongoing technological progress and strategic future planning. Comprehensive reviews examine the critical advancements propelling these urban environments forward. It highlights how integrated solutions, including smart grids, intelligent transportation systems, and digital governance models, collectively contribute to achieving urban sustainability objectives. The insights gained illuminate the strategies required to create cities that seamlessly blend technological sophistication with profound environmental responsibility [8].

Reliable energy storage is paramount for the effective integration of renewable energy sources into existing power grids and for reducing reliance on traditional fossil fuels. This area of study investigates sustainable energy storage technologies, detailing both recent advancements and persistent challenges. It encompasses a spectrum of solutions, from various battery types and supercapacitors to advanced thermal storage systems. The assessment of these technologies underlines their critical potential to enhance energy reliability and drive the transition away from carbon-intensive energy sources [9].

Green chemistry and sustainable chemical processes are at the forefront of efforts to minimize the environmental footprint of chemical production. Recent progress in this field is systematically summarized, revealing innovations across several domains. This includes breakthroughs in catalysis, more environmentally benign solvent selection, and refined reaction design principles. These developments are geared towards minimizing waste generation and significantly reducing the overall environmental impact associated with synthesizing chemicals. The focus remains on developing safer, more efficient, and inherently sustainable methods for chemical synthesis [10].

Description

The modern world is increasingly focused on sustainable practices, driving significant technological advancements across numerous industries. Sustainable technologies are fundamental to establishing a circular economy within manufacturing, which critically emphasizes improving resource efficiency, achieving substantial waste reduction, and enabling sophisticated material recycling processes. The overarching goal is to ensure manufacturing operations are both environmentally friendly and economically viable, fostering a balanced ecosystem [1]. This expansive vision for sustainability also extends deeply into green chemistry. Here, groundbreaking innovations in catalysis, carefully selected environmentally benign solvents, and refined reaction design principles are specifically developed to minimize waste generation and significantly reduce the overall environmental footprint associated with chemical production. These advancements pave the way for inherently safer, more efficient, and truly sustainable methods for synthesizing various chemicals [10].

The global energy landscape is undergoing a profound transformation, with a clear shift towards sustainable solutions. Green hydrogen production, particularly through advanced electrolysis powered by abundant renewable energy sources like solar and wind, is meticulously explored for its vast potential to reshape future energy systems. Research actively addresses current technological and economic challenges, while simultaneously highlighting the substantial potential for its widespread adoption as a fundamentally clean fuel [2]. In a parallel effort, sustainable waste-to-energy technologies are being rigorously developed and refined. These include well-established processes such as pyrolysis, gasification, and anaerobic digestion, all designed to efficiently convert diverse waste streams into valuable biofuels. These innovative processes offer a crucial dual benefit: providing effective solutions for waste management while simultaneously generating essential renewable energy [4]. Furthermore, the effective integration of renewable energy sources into existing power grids, and the broader objective of reducing reliance on traditional fossil fuels, hinges on robust sustainable energy storage technologies. This field encompasses a wide spectrum of solutions, ranging from various advanced battery types and high-performance supercapacitors to sophisticated thermal storage systems. The comprehensive assessment of these technologies consistently underscores their critical potential to significantly enhance overall energy reliability and accelerate the transition towards a sustainable, low-carbon energy future [9].

Crucial efforts to mitigate environmental degradation and promote resource circularity are progressing rapidly in several key sectors. Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) technologies represent a vital set of tools in the global battle against climate change. These technologies are continually being advanced to effectively reduce industrial carbon emissions, with ongoing research covering innovative capture methods, creative approaches to repurpose captured Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) into valuable products, and the development of secure, long-term storage solutions. CCUS plays an undeniably crucial role in achieving climate change mitigation targets [6]. Concurrently, advanced sustainable technologies are specifically designed and developed for comprehensive wastewater treatment and the concurrent recovery of valuable resources. Innovations within this domain, such as highly efficient membrane bioreactors, potent advanced oxidation processes, and resourceful microbial fuel cells, are dramatically enhancing water purification capabilities. These technologies are also facilitating the efficient extraction of valuable resources, including essential nutrients or even recoverable energy, thereby transforming wastewater management into a significantly more circular and environmentally beneficial process [7].

Technological innovation is actively reshaping both urban infrastructure and agricultural operational practices, pointing towards a distinctly greener and more efficient future. The pervasive influence of the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being strategically applied in sustainable agriculture. These integrated technologies are designed to optimize resource utilization, significantly

improve crop yields, and proactively minimize adverse environmental impacts, thereby paving the way for inherently smarter and more productive farming systems [3]. In the realm of urban development, the concept of smart sustainable cities is rapidly evolving. This evolution is driven by the integration of sophisticated solutions such as intelligent smart grids, highly efficient intelligent transportation systems, and transparent digital governance models. All these components collectively contribute to achieving comprehensive urban sustainability objectives, with the ultimate aim of creating cities that seamlessly blend technological advancement with profound environmental responsibility [8]. Similarly, the construction sector is making substantial contributions through recent and continuous advances in sustainable building materials. This includes the development and adoption of materials like recycled aggregates, innovative bio-based composites, and even self-healing concrete. These developments highlight clear pathways for creating more eco-friendly, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure worldwide [5].

Conclusion

This collection of papers explores diverse sustainable technologies and practices essential for a greener future. It highlights advancements in circular economy principles within manufacturing, focusing on resource efficiency, waste reduction, and recycling. Sustainable energy solutions are a key theme, covering methods for producing green hydrogen from renewables, developing waste-to-energy technologies for biofuel production, and improving energy storage systems to integrate renewable sources effectively. Environmental mitigation strategies are also prominent, including detailed discussions on Carbon Capture, Utilization, and Storage (CCUS) to reduce industrial emissions, and advanced wastewater treatment technologies for resource recovery and water purification. Furthermore, the papers delve into smart applications for sustainability in various sectors. This includes the role of the Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in revolutionizing sustainable agriculture, advancements in sustainable building materials for eco-friendly construction, and the technological progress driving smart sustainable cities with integrated solutions like smart grids and intelligent transportation. Overall, the research emphasizes a multidisciplinary approach to achieving environmental sustainability, demonstrating how innovation across manufacturing, energy, waste management, agriculture, and urban development can lead to a more resource-efficient and environmentally responsible world, underpinned by advancements in green chemistry.

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Conflict of Interest

None.

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