

Foreword

This guide emerged from the collaborative project “Dilemmas of Sustainability between Evaluation and Reflection”, which was funded by the Ministry of Science and Culture of Lower Saxony and the Volkswagen Foundation from 2019 to 2023. We are very grateful for the generous and always supportive funding, even through the unpredictability of the pandemic. With the funding line on Science for Sustainable Development, synergies and continuities have emerged across various thematic aspects of sustainability, to which this project is also deeply committed. We would also like to thank the reviewers, whose questions and suggestions provided important impetus for further development right up to the end.

In addition to numerous individual publications, the work on this project has produced two publications that are complementary to each other and are both published in parallel by the Nomos Verlag: the anthology “Dilemmata der Nachhaltigkeit” (Dilemmas of Sustainability), which is primarily aimed at a specialist scientific audience – and the present guide, which uses the results of the project to reflect on dilemmas of sustainability for other projects and their funding. This English version of the guide is the translation of the original German publication “Dilemmata der Nachhaltigkeit: Zur Relevanz und kritischen Reflexion in der Nachhaltigkeitsforschung” (ISBN 978-3-7560-0367-9, available open access here: [Dilemmata der Nachhaltigkeit: Zur Relevanz und kritischen Reflexion in der Nachhaltigkeitsforschung – Nomos eLibrary \(nomos-elibrary.de\)](https://www.nomos-elibrary.de/nomos-elibrary.de))).

We would like to thank the participants of the scientific conference on the dilemmas of sustainability in the summer of 2021 at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg which took place online. Their contributions provided impulses for the further development of this guide. We are pleased that many of these contributions have been compiled in the aforementioned anthology.

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Scholz, Maren Schüpphaus and Dagmar Simon have, in the context of advisory board meetings, impulse papers on dilemmas of sustainability as well as participation in the project's scientific conference, contributed to the development of this guide.

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