

Contents

Introduction	ix
Jean-Pierre MIGNOT	
Chapter 1. From Development to Sustainable Development: Stakes and Issues Around the Sustainable City	1
Jean-Pierre MIGNOT	
1.1. Introduction	1
1.2. Development: a concept, a history and its limits	3
1.2.1. The question of economic development	4
1.2.2. A brief history of a concept	5
1.2.3. Return to a definition and its consequences	8
1.2.4. Development and growth: a functional approach	12
1.2.5. Development, productivism and consumer society	13
1.2.6. The environmental consequences of development	17
1.3. Economic development and collateral damage	21
1.3.1. Production, consumption and fossil fuels	22
1.3.2. From economic development to endangering the planet	28
1.4. The neoliberal city and the environment	38
1.4.1. A redefinition of the neoliberal city	39
1.4.2. From the Fordist city to the neoliberal city	41
1.4.3. Population growth, economic development and urbanization	44
1.4.4. Urbanization and environment	46
1.5. From sustainable development to sustainable cities: issues and limits	54
1.5.1. Origins, foundations and evolution of the concept of sustainable development	55
1.5.2. A critical approach to the concept of sustainable development	69
1.5.3. The sustainable city and its limits	83
1.6. To not conclude	94
1.7. References	96

Chapter 2. The City, Decision-Making Tools and Performance	103
Marc-André MEQUIGNON and Jean-Pierre MIGNOT	
2.1. Introduction	103
2.2. The city approached as a system	104
2.2.1. The city, a complex system	104
2.2.2. The city, a complexity in motion	105
2.2.3. The city: the constraints of sustainability	106
2.2.4. Difficulties and priorities for the future	109
2.3. The city of the future	111
2.3.1. Avenues for improvement	111
2.3.2. Interdisciplinarity, a necessity	113
2.3.3. Technological change and the city	124
2.4. Proposal for an approach to improving decision support tools	128
2.4.1. A multidisciplinary approach to the design of decision support tools	128
2.4.2. Decision support tools and their place in the project process	129
2.4.3. Multidisciplinary approach to tool design	130
2.5. The city and LCA	132
2.5.1. Maturities of the different aspects of LCA	132
2.5.2. LCA, an unsuitable tool for the city	135
2.6. Agenda 21, a dedicated tool.	142
2.6.1. Probable causes of a standstill	142
2.6.2. Ways to avoid becoming bogged down again	143
2.7. Conclusion	143
2.8. References	145
 Chapter 3. Rural Eco-territoriality or the Subtle Alchemy Between Locality and Globality	 149
Isabelle BOUCHARDY	
3.1. Introduction	149
3.2. Rural territory: what does it mean?	150
3.2.1. The state of affairs	150
3.2.2. Specificities of identity	155
3.3. “Glocalization” of the territory	158
3.3.1. Globality	160
3.3.2. Locality	162
3.4. Sustainable rurality	165
3.4.1. Radical or incremental change?	165
3.4.2. Strategic areas of action	168

3.5. Prequel	192
3.5.1. A neglected model	194
3.5.2. Moderation versus austerity	198
3.6. References	202
Chapter 4. The Sustainable City, Between Political Project and Theoretical Cooling	209
Yann FERGUSON	
4.1. Introduction	209
4.2. The plan: a positivist paradigm of the modern city	212
4.2.1. Progress as a regulatory ideal	213
4.2.2. Science as a resolute modality	218
4.2.3. The state’s omniscience and omnipotence	222
4.3. The urban project, operational paradigm of the sustainable city	227
4.3.1. Uncertainty as regulatory disillusionment	228
4.3.2. Partnership as a resolute modality	232
4.3.3. The territory as a legitimate actor	237
4.4. The political nature of creating the sustainable city	242
4.4.1. The instrumentation of public action: from the “what” to the “how”	242
4.4.2. A semi-elitist and unitary democracy	250
4.4.3. The sustainable city: a standardized and denatured politics?	255
4.5. Conclusion	261
4.6. References	262
List of Authors	275
Index	277