Special Issue

Hydropower and Sustainability

Message from the Guest Editors

Hydropower is renewable technology with generally low green-house gas emissions. Hydropower is far larger than all other renewable technologies together and contributes with more than 72% (by 2014) of all renewable electricity production. Development of hydropower creates both positive and negative social and environmental impacts. Hydropower projects can generate big benefits, but numerous projects have also ruined rivers and caused displacement of people. Similar to all other infrastructure projects, hydropower developments and operations should be made in a sustainable manner.

Sustainable development has at least three dimensions—environmental protection, and social and economic development. In this Special Issue, research papers should focus on the role of hydropower in the provision of clean energy and in water resources management, while addressing all three dimensions of sustainability. This asks for an inter-disciplinary perspective in all articles.

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