environments

MDPI

Editorial

Establishment of Six New Sections in the Journal *Environments*; Going Deeper into the Details of Environmental and Societal Dynamics

Sergio Ulgiati [1,2]

[1] Department of Science and Technology, University of Naples "Parthenope", 80143 Naples, Italy; sergio.ulgiati@gmail.com
[2] School of Environment, Beijing Normal University, Beijing 100875, China

As Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Environments*, I am pleased to announce a major step forward in how research results are reported and shared, thanks to the establishment of six new Sections in the journal. These Sections are designed to create focused domains that enable deeper exploration of the specific aspects shaping environmental and societal dynamics and to establish new sustainability strategies for ecosystems, biodiversity, and pollution management. These Sections aim to encourage increased collaboration, enabling a deeper understanding and dialog among interested scholars, stakeholders, policymakers, and business operators, and advancing multicriteria and multidimensional approaches to sustainability designs and solutions.

1. Section A: Environmental Monitoring and Management

This Section focuses on the development and application of innovative environmental monitoring tools and management systems as well as advanced analytical approaches to understand human–environment interactions. Thanks to recent progress in environmental modeling, we have increased our ability to observe environmental processes, detect emerging changes, and support data-driven management decisions. This increased monitoring ability helps us understand environmental changes and intensified conservation challenges. Innovative and comprehensive environmental assessment studies developed and shared in this Section form an essential basis for sustainable management strategies and appropriate environmental policymaking.

2. Section B: Environmental Pollution, Toxicology and Restoration

This Section focuses on the different typologies, characteristics, and impacts of environmental pollution generated by human activities. Key areas of interest include pollutants such as agrochemicals, microplastics, metals, traffic particulates, and other emerging contaminants, as well as their concentration levels, sources, distribution patterns, trends, and impacts throughout air, water, soil, and solid waste systems. We welcome research that advances understanding of pollutant sources and behaviors, as well as studies in environmental and human toxicology and their impacts on plant and animal species. Contributions addressing modeling, diagnostic, and management tools are also encouraged, particularly those that work towards remediation and ecosystem restoration at both local and global scales.

3. Section C: Biodiversity, Ecological Understanding and Conservation

This Section focuses on understanding, tracking, and conserving biological diversity across terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Particular attention is given to biodiversity dynamics and habitat loss prevention in marine and terrestrial ecosystems, such as forests,

Check for updates

Received: 16 April 2026
Accepted: 21 April 2026
Published: 28 April 2026

Copyright: © 2026 by the author. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license.

cropped and wild lands, plains and mountains, surface and underground water resources, oceanic environments, with the aim of highlighting and advancing knowledge of how ecological processes and human activities affect species, populations, and habitats. Special focus is placed on assessing human impacts on biodiversity and habitats through observational studies, experimental research, and advanced monitoring techniques, as well as the suggestion of evidence-based and science-based strategies to support global biodiversity management and conservation.

4. Section D: Environmental Economics, Energy Systems and Policymaking

This Section addresses the economic, technological, and policy dimensions of sustainable environmental strategies, including the management of energy and material resources. Research results on environmental economics, circular economy strategies, efficient and sustainable energy use, and the complex management of the air–water–soil–energy nexus are welcome. Studies examining the sustainability of energy systems, energy policies and economics, and global challenges in environmental governance and energy transitions are also encouraged, as this Section aims to provide a shared platform for analyses that link economic mechanisms with environmental impacts and long-term sustainability goals.

5. Section E: Climate Change and Ecosystems

The primary goal of this Section is to enhance understanding of how human-driven processes affect climate change as well as how climate processes interact with ecosystems across local, regional, and global scales. It highlights research in climate change and atmospheric sciences to improve the assessment of environmental variability, ecosystem responses, and emerging trends. Research reports addressing the interactions between climate change and land use/land cover, as well as studies on the resilience or vulnerability of natural systems under changing climatic conditions, are also welcome. The Section supports scientific advancements that further our understanding of climate–ecosystem interactions and informed adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable environmental management strategies.

6. Section F: Society, Environment, Health

This Section explores the complex interactions between societal development, environmental conditions, urban and rural systems, and the health of humans and other species, reflecting the interdisciplinary focus of *Environments*. It places particular emphasis on how environmental pollution and degradation affect living species, including their impacts on human health. By integrating environmental science, public health, urban and landscape studies, and social perspectives, this Section seeks to develop evidence-based approaches to improving environmental conditions globally, reducing health risks, and promoting sustainable and healthy dynamics between human societies and all other species.

These new Sections represent an important step in fostering a dialogue and advancing innovative relations between the environment and all living species, with the goal of supporting sustainable and resilient lifestyles. Suggestions for other Sections that complement the aims and scope of *Environments* are welcome, and I look forward to receiving them.

Conflicts of Interest: The author declares no conflicts of interest.

Disclaimer/Publisher's Note: The statements, opinions and data contained in all publications are solely those of the individual author(s) and contributor(s) and not of MDPI and/or the editor(s). MDPI and/or the editor(s) disclaim responsibility for any injury to people or property resulting from any ideas, methods, instructions or products referred to in the content.

https://doi.org/10.3390/environments13050248