

## Special Issue

# Novel Biological Processes for Wastewater Treatment Applications

### Message from the Guest Editors

Advances in microbial ecology, biotechnology, multi-omics, metabolic engineering, nanobiotechnology, and process intensification now enable novel biological processes with greater stability, resilience, and pollutant-removal efficiency. This Special Issue aims to highlight cutting-edge research and reviews on emerging biological processes for treating domestic, industrial, agricultural, and municipal wastewater. Topics of Interest

- Novel microbial processes (microalgae–bacteria consortia, aerobic granular sludge, extremophilic processes);
- Engineered microbial communities and targeted biodegradation;
- Anaerobic membrane bioreactors and high-rate anaerobic systems;
- Bioelectrochemical systems for treatment and energy recovery;
- Metabolic engineering, CRISPR tools, and omics-driven insights;
- Enzyme engineering and advanced biocatalysts;
- Resource recovery: nutrients, bioenergy, bioplastics (PHA), and biochar;
- Nature-based systems (constructed wetlands, algal ponds, hybrid reactors);
- Nanotechnology-enabled biological processes;
- Biodegradation of pharmaceuticals, PPCPs, microplastics, and xenobiotics;
- Bioprecipitation, biosorption, and bioleaching of heavy metals;

---

### Guest Editors

Dr. Adegoke Isiaka Adetunji

Institute for Water and Wastewater Technology, Durban University of Technology, Durban 4000, South Africa

Prof. Dr. Qiming Xian

School of Environment, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210023, China

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

30 August 2026



## Applied Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.9  
CiteScore 6.1



[mdpi.com/si/266580](https://mdpi.com/si/266580)

*Applied Sciences*  
Editorial Office  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[applsci@mdpi.com](mailto:applsci@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
applsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/applsci)





# Applied Sciences

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.9  
CiteScore 6.1



[mdpi.com/journal/  
applsci](https://mdpi.com/journal/applsci)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the world of science becomes ever more specialized, researchers may lose themselves in the deep forest of the ever increasing number of subfields being created. This open access journal *Applied Sciences* has been started to link these subfields, so researchers can cut through the forest and see the surrounding, or quite distant fields and subfields to help develop his/her own research even further with the aid of this multi-dimensional network.

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giulio Nicola Cerullo  
Dipartimento di Fisica, Politecnico di Milano, Piazza L. da Vinci 32,  
20133 Milano, Italy

---

### Author Benefits

#### Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, Inspec, Embase, CAPIus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Engineering, Multidisciplinary) / CiteScore - Q1 (Fluid Flow and Transfer Processes)