

Special Issue

Nature Inspired Ground Engineering Solutions: Integrated Natural and Engineered Systems

Message from the Guest Editors

As engineers, our relationship with the ground is usually one-way and has a single objectives: the ground exists, and we will improve it and/or exploit it to provide whatever functional service we seek; it provides a strong, stiff foundation on which to found our buildings and structures, a cutting with sufficient long-term strength to accommodate infrastructure, a source of heat, a free-draining material to enable water to pass, or an aquiclude to prevent the movement of water. In this, the ground has been historically undervalued and overexploited, degraded and blighted by this narrow-minded approach to engineering design. Conventional ground-engineering methods and materials disrupt the soils' biogeochemical cycles, which are reliant on soils' intertwining pore network and driven by interaction of the living organisms—flora and fauna—a perspective commonly overlooked by engineers. In making provision for an engineered crust that satisfies the demands of cities and the built environment... For more information, please view the following link for details: https://www.mdpi.com/journal/geohazards/special_issues/nature_engineering

Guest Editors

Dr. Arya Assadi Langroudi

School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering, University of East London, London E16 2RD, UK

Prof. Dr. Fawad Inam

Department of Engineering & Construction, School of Architecture, Computing and Engineering, University of East London, London E16 2RD, United Kingdom

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
geohazards@mdpi.com

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Prof. Dr. Zhong Lu

Roy M. Huffington Department of Earth Sciences, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX 75275, USA

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Instituto Superior Técnico (IST), University of Lisbon, Av. Rovisco Pais, 1049-001 Lisbon, Portugal

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