

Special Issue

Environmental Impacts of Mining in Soils and Water

Message from the Guest Editors

There are a large number of environmental impacts generated by mining and the associated processing operations, affecting air, soils, and water. Perhaps the most conspicuous (and concerning) impacts are those related to contamination and loss of chemical quality, but they are not the only ones: Other effects include physical and chemical degradation processes that must be necessarily considered since they could produce loss of resources and severe alterations in ecosystems and biota or generate a health risk.

Regarding environmental mining impacts, several aspects have to be highlighted to get a correct approach to the problem, and therefore to its mitigation:

a) Impacts are transferred among environmental compartments; b) different impacts occur at different stages; c) in most cases, several impacts are associated; and d) some impacts may be reduced but not avoided.

This Special Issue invites critical reviews and research papers providing advanced and original insights into the characterization and assessment of chemical impacts, physical impacts in soil, and physical degradation of water associated to mining activities.

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Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherent set of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientifically based political decisions.

We are committed to drive *Geosciences* to a position in which it is recognized for its high-quality, cutting-edge research and scientific influence, and strongly encourage and invite your participation and manuscripts.

Editor-in-Chief

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