



Sustainable Pipelines and Unsaturated Soils

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Deadline for manuscript
submissions:

closed (31 August 2021)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Pipelines are lifelines that play a vital role in transporting energy and services in modern society. They are commonly buried to provide environmental stability, thermal insulation, and mechanical protection. Hence, the designs of these lifelines are often impacted by the buried soil condition. Onshore pipelines are usually buried above the water table, where the soil moisture is partially saturated. Such partial saturation may provide stability to the buried pipeline under operational loads due to suction/water meniscus effect, which can make soil stiffer and stronger. On the other hand, externally imposed ground movements can adversely impact the pipeline due to additional load imposed by the effects of the soil's partial saturation.

We are seeking contributions of experimental and numerical investigations on evaluating the performance of onshore/offshore pipelines under loadings. We also encourage the submission of research works on new developments of unsaturated soils as well as research works aiming at the implementation of best practices or strategies for safe pipeline operations.





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