



Critical issues on Agri-food System Management: Addressing Complexity in Present and Future Challenges

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

The food system encompasses the chain of activities associated with production in the field, processing, marketing, consumption, and waste disposal, as well the resources required and the impact caused by those processes (Tansey and Worsley, 1995; Lang et al., 2009). The term “agri-food system” is often used to emphasize the role of agriculture (e.g., OECD/FAO, 2016). The proper functioning of the food system is vital to society. Assessing agri-food systems’ sustainability is a complex matter, due to the multi-functional nature of agriculture and the multi-scale nature of the relations between agroecosystems and socio-economic systems (Smil, 2000; Giampietro, 2004; Conway, 2012). The globalization process introduces further complexity into the functioning of agri-food systems.

This Special Issue welcomes papers that:

- address biophysical and socioeconomic issues relevant for better understating the complex functioning of the food system;
- discuss pros, cons, and trade-offs of potential “solutions”, envisaged policies, and scenarios;
- present tools able to address the challenge posed by the complex





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