Special Issue

Risk Analysis, Prevention and Control of Ground-Based Hazards

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues: Risk analysis is a sustainable process whereby the possible effects of ground-based hazards are considered and a decision is made on actions that must be taken to prevent them from becoming disasters. It is possible to reduce the effects of ground-based hazards such as earthquakes, floods, mass movements (landslides, rockfalls, mudflows, and avalanches), and volcanism, or to lower the risks to acceptable levels, by taking the necessary precautions. However, most regulations focus on post-disaster crisis management, the reconstruction of disaster-affected areas, and efforts to reduce the impact on the lives of disaster victims. In fact, structural and non-structural studies aimed at reducing risks, as well as controlling and even preventing hazards, can prevent subsequent disasters, as well as loss of life and property. Therefore, it is important to conduct research on the safety of residential areas and to recognize their level of vulnerability to ground-based hazards. Settlement development information using geographic data, with defined hazards and risks, can greatly reduce the effects of potential disasters.

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I encourage you to contribute a research or comprehensive review article for consideration for publication in *Sustainability*, an international Open Access journal which provides an advanced forum for research findings in areas related to sustainability and sustainable development. *Sustainability* publishes original research articles, review articles and communications. I am confident you will find the journal contributes to enhancing understanding of sustainability and fostering initiatives and applications of sustainability-based measures and activities.

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