

## Special Issue

# Unlocking the Sustainability Potential of the Water-Energy-Food Nexus Through Systems Thinking Approach

### Message from the Guest Editors

The Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus represents a complex, interrelated framework for addressing global sustainability challenges, including resource scarcity and climate change. This special issue highlights the importance of a systems thinking approach to understand and fully leverage these interdependencies. Resource scarcity, driven by climate change, population growth, and unsustainable practices, necessitates innovative solutions that optimize water, energy, and food resources. Multifunctionality is highlighted as a key principle, where resources are utilized for multiple purposes, enhancing overall efficiency and sustainability. For example, integrating agricultural practices with water management can improve crop yields while conserving water. Additionally, adopting nature-based solutions—such as restoring wetlands or implementing agroforestry—offers effective strategies for addressing these interconnected challenges. These solutions provide ecosystem services and enhance resilience against environmental stressors.

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