

Special Issue

Rethinking Agri-Food Waste: Towards a Circular and Regenerative Future

Message from the Guest Editors

The minimization of waste has become a pressing global concern, impacting both developing and developed countries. Every year, 30% of the food produced worldwide is lost or wasted, despite 12.9% of the population in developing regions suffering from hunger (UN Environment Programme, 2024). The largest category of food waste is fruit and vegetables, accounting for 0.5 billion tons of losses per year during the post-harvest process and distribution (Jorge et al., 2023). At the same time, there is an urgent need for new and environmentally friendly, advanced, and functional materials that can find applications as antibacterial surfaces, separation membranes, sensing surfaces, or advanced food packaging materials. The development of integrated biorefinery concepts within the circular bioeconomy era could provide the solution to this urgent problem. We invite researchers and practitioners to contribute to a Special Issue dedicated to exploring the latest advancements in food waste and loss prevention through innovative technologies for environmental remediation.

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