

Special Issue

Towards Sustainable Development of the Arctic: Consequences of Pollutant in the Arctic

Message from the Guest Editors

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 13, highlights the urgent need to take action to combat climate change, while SDG 14, emphasizes the need to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. This therefore calls for urgent action to protect our oceans and other water bodies from pollution. In the Arctic, the increase in temperature over the years has led to a higher rate of ice melting due to global warming. This phenomenon also means that previously ice-covered waters in the Arctic have gradually become ice free and presenting opportunities for shipping and natural resource exploration. Already there is substantial work on-going in the Northern Sea Route and the North-West Passage is also likely to follow suite. With these comes the risk of accidents from shipping and resource exploration, production, and transport. This means there is a likelihood of an oil spill in the Arctic and if this happens, the consequences on the Arctic marine ecosystem is dire.

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