

Special Issue

Wastewater Treatment and Environmental Footprint Assessment

Message from the Guest Editors

The collection and treatment of wastewater was a fundamental achievement of the last century. The current challenge (plants of the future) is characterized by two main goals: 1) increasing the purification efficiency (with a focus on trace pollutants, microplastics, antibiotic resistant genes) and 2) shifting the paradigm towards the concept of biorefinery (thus recovering material resources and energy from wastewater). In light of this challenge, the environmental impact of these actions and measures must be accounted for, (environmental) sustainability being the main driver of the whole process. Therefore, this Special Issue is intended to bring together recent research or reviews on the above topics, so as to build a reference toward the definition of a standardized approach for assessing the environmental footprint of wastewater treatment facilities, this being recognized as a fundamental aspect of the decision-making process for the development of suitable solutions for environmental protection.

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