

Special Issue

Environmental Footprint and Sustainable Development

Message from the Guest Editors

The growth, development and prosperity of human societies have not been possible without the depletion of natural resources and degradation of the environment, often exceeding the pace of their regeneration or purification. One of the most urgent challenges facing humanity in the 21st century is the increasing pressure that anthropogenic activities place on our planetary boundaries. Resources are consumed throughout the life cycle processes to produce final products and services. Emissions such as pollutants and greenhouse gases are also emitted. Environmental footprints (e.g. water, carbon and ecological footprint) are therefore useful indicators to measure the total impacts of human production and consumption on natural resources and the environment, including both direct and indirect impacts. Within this context, this Special Issue aims to investigate the relationship between human production and consumption and sustainable development goals using the indicators of environmental footprints, with a particular focus on unexplored and new perspectives shedding light on potential conflicts, trade-offs or co-benefits between sustainable development efforts.

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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. The journal publishes original research articles, reviews, conference proceedings (peer reviewed full 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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