

Special Issue

Sustainable Development of Irrigated Agriculture

Message from the Guest Editors

The expected growth of the world population will lead to a high increase in demand for food, but available land upon which to expand agricultural areas on a large scale is limited. In addition, as most areas utilize rainfed agriculture, the solution may be augmenting crop yields, enhancing the efficiency of irrigated agriculture, and promoting the transition from rainfed to irrigated agriculture under water-scarce conditions. However, the intensification and expansion of irrigated agriculture will inflict negative environmental impacts upon already fragile regions. This Special Issue focuses on the sustainable development of irrigated agriculture. The aim is to present original research articles providing highlights of key issues, such as the risks associated with the expansion of irrigated areas in arid and semiarid regions, interactions between agricultural production and the availability of land and water resources, economic efficiency of irrigation, assessment of climate change impacts on irrigated agriculture, and design of water policies and water markets.

Guest Editors

Dr. Rui Manuel de Sousa Fragoso

Center for Advanced Studies in Management and Economics,
University of Évora, 2, 7004-516 Évora, Portugal

Prof. Dr. Rui Cunha Marques

Department of Civil Engineering, Architecture and Georesources,
Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, 1049-001 Lisbon,
Portugal

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 July 2020)



Sustainability

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.3
CiteScore 7.7



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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
sustainability@mdpi.com

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Steve W. Lyon

School of Environment and Natural Resources, Ohio State University,
Columbus, OH 43210, USA

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