



Impact of Farmland Abandonment on Water Resources and Soil Conservation

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Farmland abandonment is one of the major land use changes in many rural territories, especially in mountainous regions. In some cases, extensive afforestation programs have been undertaken by forest services to improve the use of abandoned land as a resource and to control hydrological and soil erosion processes. In other cases, shrub clearing in selected abandoned land has been conducted in order to generate pastures and reduce wildfire risk.

All these land use changes affect the hydrological and geomorphological dynamics of slopes and channels, with important implications for water resources and soil conservation.

In this Special Issue we would like to invite papers that look into the hydrological and geomorphological consequences of farmland abandonment in one (or several) of these abandoned scenarios. This topic can be studied at different spatial scales (plot, catchment, regional), and they are all welcome. Our final purpose is to help water and land managers to select the most sustainable strategy (in terms of water resources and soil conservation) for the land management of marginal rural areas.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The relevance of water in human development and sustaining life, fuels general and scholarly interest in the world's water resources. A better understanding of all aspects of water and its relation to food supply, energy production, human health, and the functioning of ecosystems is key in managing this precious resource in a sustainable, efficient and equitable manner. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

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