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Water Footprint and Life Cycle Assessment: Complementary Strengths in Analyzing Water Use along Supply Chains

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

WF scientists have put the focus on the volumetric analysis of water consumption and pollution, arguing that water is a global resource which is virtually traded worldwide via goods and products. Subsequently, the sustainability of water consumption can be assessed comparing consumption with water availability in a specific basin taking environmental flow requirements into account. Efforts from the LCA community to go beyond volumetric analysis and to assess the resulting local impacts of water consumption and pollution on human health or biodiversity have partly been considered as "meaningless" or even "complete madness". Vice versa, the LCA community argued that volumetric footprints can be "irrelevant" or even "misleading" as consequences of water consumption strongly depend on local scarcity and other parameters. [...]

For further reading, please follow the link to the Special Issue Website at:

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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