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The Water-Energy-Food Nexus: Sustainable Development

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

Water, food, and energy are extremely interlinked and are basic human needs as highlighted by the Sustainable Development Goals. Globally, food production is the largest user of water. At the same time, it consumes a significant percentage of the total global energy consumption. Water is required for the conversion of energy in most of the energy systems, and energy is required to extract, pump, transport, and treat water.

Global food production, energy consumption, and water withdrawals are projected to increase under the pressure of megatrends such as population growth, economic development, urbanisation, and cultural and technological changes. Moreover, climate change and weather phenomena such as drought are substantially threatening and exacerbating the already fragile water, food, and energy security in several regions of the globe. Future projections shows that food, energy, and water consumption will significantly increase by mid-century. [...]

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

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

In the context of global changes, the sustainable management of water cycles, going from global and regional water cycles to urban, industrial and agricultural water cycles, plays a very important role on the water resources and on their relationships with food, energy, biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and human health. Water invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications and to propose special issues devoted to technological scientific domains and interdisciplinary approaches of the water cycles. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

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