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Coastal Sediment Management: From Theory to Practice

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Beach erosion is the result of a deficit in the coastal sediment budget. To manage this process, coastal sediment stock assessment is crucial, even more under the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) framework. With it being hard to increase sediment input from the river system, which is actually reducing due to soil erosion control, flood reduction, and dam construction, a knowledge-based management of sediment moving along the coast is the only possible short- and medium-term strategy to address the problem, with or without hard shore protection structures. On the other side, shelf sediments are increasingly used to artificially nourish eroding beaches, but this nonrenewable resource needs to be assessed and managed in the most sustainable and profitable way. The same is for sediments deposited on the updrift side of harbors and marinas, as well as at river mouth jetties or within the channel network in estuaries; a land-to-land nourishment can be carried out through bypass systems, provided a strong knowledge of the sediment budget and supported by stakeholders consent.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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