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The Role of Cooperatives in the Water Sector: Governance and Performance of Community Owned Water Supplies in Europe and Beyond

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Message from the Guest Editors

Water cooperatives and other consumers owned water operators (such as water schemes, interessenzen, syndicate etc) have a long tradition in many European countries, particularly in rural areas.

Two characteristics cause important differences between cooperatives and traditional organizations (public or private): the desire to provide their members with a good or service in line with a particular set of values; and the fact that they are owned and controlled by the people who use their products, supplies, or services.

However, the literature still face the need of identifying and discussing in depth current relevant experiences of community owned water supplies in different European countries and beyond, in order to identify the relevance and potential cross-border diffusion of this management model.

This Special Issue aims at discussing governance, performance, managerial, regulatory, and technological issues emerging in the community owned water supplies management model in the European water industry and beyond.[...]

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

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Special issue



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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 new technological and scientific domains and to 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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