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Water Resources Management and Water Security in Small Island Communities

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

According to UNESCO, 71 percent of Small Island Developing States face the risk of water shortages leading to water insecurity, a condition only exacerbated with climate change. Groundwater depletion, for example, in small (ocean) island communities increases the risk of saltwater intrusion. Reduced surface water availability to support environmental flows and ecological services will add stress to the natural environment. Industrial expansion into island communities adds pressure to water supply while potentially impacting water quality. Added to this, historical water governance structures create complexity in local water management, particularly for small island communities experiencing rapid human population growth.

This impending water security crisis is not only confined to the developing world. Equally problematic is pressure on water resources in the more developed world. The attraction of “island life” as an escape from post-pandemic urban living will only elevate local water demand. Innovative technologies, creative water governance, financial incentives, and human adaptation will all be necessary to overcome water insecurity in small island communities.

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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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