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Application of the Systems Approach to the Management of Complex Water Systems

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Message from the Guest Editor

During the past 5 decades we have witnessed a tremendous evolution in water resource systems management. First, the application of the systems approach to complex water management problems has been established as one of the most important advances in water resource management. Second, the past five decades have brought a remarkable transformation of attitude in the water resource management community towards environmental concerns, and action to address these concerns. Third, applying the principles of sustainability to water resource decision-making requires major changes in the objectives on which decisions are based, and an understanding of the complicated inter-relationships between ecological, economic and social factors.

Today, more than ever, we need systems approach to assist in dealing with the difficulties introduced by the increase in the complexity of water resource problems, consideration of environmental impacts and the introduction of principles of sustainability. This Issue offers an opportunity to review applications of the systems approach to water resource management and draw lessons from worldwide experience relevant to the solution of future water problems.

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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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