Special Issue

Sustainable Water and Sanitation Governance: Aligning Policies, Institutions and Regulation

Message from the Guest Editors

The public water supply and sanitation sector has undergone significant reforms in recent decades. However, many of these efforts have failed due to persistent challenges, including unimplemented policies, institutional weaknesses, and regulatory models misaligned with national political and institutional contexts. A key factor driving further changes is the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations. Among them, SDG 6 aims to achieve universal and equitable access to safe drinking water and sanitation while improving water quality by 2030. This global commitment underscores the need for suitable governance, namely by aligning political, institutional, and regulatory measures to create incentives that encourage stakeholders to work toward sustainable service provision. This Special Issue aims to compile papers that examine political, institutional, and regulatory dynamics influencing the effectiveness, equity, and sustainability of public water supply and sanitation services under different socio-economic, political, and institutional contexts towards achieving SDG 6.

Guest Editors

Dr. Francisco Silva Pinto

Prof. Dr. Rui Cunha Marques

Dr. Tiago Balieiro Cetrulo

Deadline for manuscript submissions

25 October 2025



Water

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.0 CiteScore 6.0



mdpi.com/si/236394

Water Editorial Office MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5 4052 Basel, Switzerland Tel: +41 61 683 77 34 water@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ water





Water

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 3.0 CiteScore 6.0



About the Journal

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.

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Jean-Luc PROBST

Centre de Recherche sur la Biodiversité l'Environnement (CRBE) UMR CNRS/UPS/INPT/IRD, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), University of Toulouse, Campus ENSAT, Auzeville Tolosane, Toulouse. France

Author Benefits

Open Access:

free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, GEOBASE, GeoRef, PubAg, AGRIS, CAPlus / SciFinder, Inspec, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Water Resources) / CiteScore - Q1 (Aquatic Science)

