Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Global population growth is urban growth and, therefore, most of the water-related challenges and solutions reside in cities. Unless water management and water governance processes are significantly improved within a decade or so, cities are likely to face serious and prolonged water insecurity, urban floods and/or heat stress, that may result in social instability and, ultimately, in massive migration. Aging water infrastructure, one of the most expensive infrastructures in cities, are a relevant challenge in order to address Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: clean water and sanitation, SDG 11: sustainable cities and communities and SDG 13: climate action.

The choice of good governance arrangements has important consequences for economic performance, for the well-being of citizens and for the quality of life in urban areas. The better governance arrangements work in coordinating policies across jurisdictions and policy fields, the better the outcomes. Rapidly-changing global conditions will make future water governance more complex than ever before in human history, and expectations are that water governance and water management will change more during the next 20 years compared to the past 100 years. In this Special Issue of Water, the focus will be on practical concepts and tools for water management and water governance, with a focus on cities.

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

- water management
- water governance
- gaps and capacities
- cities
- integrated urban planning
- resilient water services
- heat islands
- urban floods
- climate adaptation

Special Issue

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

The relevance of water in human development and sustaining life, fuels general and scholarly interest in the world’s water resources. A better understanding of all aspects of water and its relation to food supply, energy production, human health, and the functioning of ecosystems is key in managing this precious resource in a sustainable, efficient and equitable manner. *Water* invites authors to provide innovative original full articles, critical reviews and timely short communications. We ensure a critical review process and a quick turnaround between submission and final decision.

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