Special Issue

The WFD 20 Years After—Ecological Status Assessment and Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems

Message from the Guest Editor

Twenty years has passed since the WFD was adopted by the European Parliament. Putting ecosystem integrity at the base of management decisions, the way EU Member States have implemented water management has improved dramatically. An enormous number of new ecological assessment methods has been developed, greatly improving the monitoring and assessment of waterbody ecological status, and thousands of European waterbodies have been classified regarding their status, thereby providing a better basis for their restoration. However, the WFD's primary objective, i.e., achievement of good status of Europe's waters, has not yet been accomplished; the results from the second RBMPs show that European aquatic ecosystems remain under pressure from multiple stressors, which affect their functioning, contribute to biodiversity loss, and threaten the long-term delivery of ecosystem services. This Special Issue seeks to summarize and highlight the need for an improvement of the WFD implementation process, particularly focusing on the current practices and future requirements regarding aquatic ecosystems' monitoring, assessment, management, and restoration.

Guest Editor

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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

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