Call for Papers

Special Issue

Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions

Deadline for Submission: 30 June 2022

Ensuring universal access to sustainable energy, water and sanitation services, while reducing related environmental impacts, lies at the heart of the sustainable development and climate change agendas. The energy challenge is characterized by its poverty and environmental dimensions. Today about 760 million people lack access to electricity and about 2.6 billion rely on unsustainable biomass for cooking. At the same time, energy-related greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) contribute to climate change, accounting for over 75% of GHG emissions in many economies. The water challenge is characterized by about 2.1 billion people lacking access to safely managed drinking water services and 4.5 billion people lacking safely managed sanitation services.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development sets out 17 goals and 169 targets, which jointly constitute a comprehensive plan of action to eradicate poverty and ensure sustainable development. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include a dedicated goal on water (SDG 6) calling to "ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all," and a global goal on energy (SDG7) that calls to "ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all." The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognizes the vital role that improved access to both water and energy play in advancing progress in other critical areas. Pursuing the achievement of SDG6 and SDG7 will also have an effect on other strongly interlinked Sustainable Development Goals, such as those on health, food, poverty eradication, economic productivity, terrestrial ecosystems, and climate change. An integrated approach to resolving water and energy challenges allows the realization of important synergies, avoiding negative tradeoffs that result when they are managed independently.

There have been a number of efforts undertaken to support the integrated implementation of SDG 6 and SDG 7. One such project is the Global Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions Network -- a partnership that is mobilizing and scaling up multi-stakeholder actions aimed at fulfilling the task. The Network supports the objective of a world where there is an equitable and sustainable use and management of water and energy resources for all, in support of human prosperity and ecosystem integrity outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This vision calls for an integrated approach and a new form of coordinated international cooperation on water and energy that will support climate change objectives in the pursuit of sustainable development.

To promote understanding of the technology-policy nexus and enhance global awareness of ongoing integrated efforts on water and energy, as well as interlinkages with other SDGs, the *Natural Resources Forum, a United Nations Sustainable Development Journal* (NRF) calls for papers for a special issue on Sustainable Water and Energy Solutions, to be published in November 2022.

We invite scholarly articles on different aspects of sustainable water and energy solutions at the global, regional, national and sub-regional levels. Submitted papers should have strong scientific orientation and be policy-relevant. The editorial team of the NRF will give priority to articles that focus on applied research and/or case studies, in particular those relating to SDG 6, SDG 7 and their interlinkages with other SDGs.

It should be indicated in your correspondence that manuscripts are submitted for the special issue.

Articles should contain original material and should be between 6,000 and 8,000 words in length. Contributions to the journal are accepted at the NRF manuscript submission site at: http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/nrf

Author guidelines may be consulted at: http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1111/(ISSN)14778947/homepage/ForAuthors.html

Questions and comments may be addressed to: NRFORUM@un.org