

Earth—An Open Access Journal

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Connectedness. If there is a word that succinctly describes how our Earth operates, it is connectedness. The atmosphere, oceans, lakes, rivers, land, cryosphere, living organisms, ecosystems, the solid earth, and, of course, humans, everything is connected. Changes in one part of the system can cascade to other components and change things forever. Recent decades clearly show that our Earth is experiencing rapid changes at local, regional, and global scales. Numerous examples can be found including changes in natural resources, global warming, extreme events, earthquakes, and biodiversity degradation to name just a few. Earth is a resilient place, but collective actions should be taken. A holistic view of our Earth requires multidisciplinary approaches to understand the complexities and interactions occurring on a variety of spatial and temporal scales.

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Conflicts of Interest: The author declares no conflict of interest.



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