



## Monitoring and Assessment of Environmental Quality in Coastal Ecosystems

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### Message from the Guest Editor

The intensification of human activities in coastal areas of the last decades, as well as the global climatic changes and coastal erosion processes of the present, have introduced detrimental impacts on these environments. Organic and inorganic pollution, marine anthropogenic litter, destruction, and fragmentation and modification of habitats for multiple purposes, overexploitation of natural resources, introduction of invasive species and loss of biodiversity are among the most common impacts. Maintaining the structural and functional integrity of these environments, as well as recovering an ecological balance or mitigating disturbances in systems under the influence of such stressors, are complex tasks, only possible through the implementation of monitoring programs and by assessing their environmental quality.

In this Special Issue, I invite colleagues to contribute original research papers and review articles on all aspects of environmental quality monitoring and assessment of coastal ecosystems, with a focus on biotic or abiotic compartments (or both) and using tools that may range between ecological levels of organization from individuals to the ecosystem.





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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Environmental issues are quickly becoming central political, economic and academic topics of the twenty-first century. A large number of modern challenges are directly or indirectly caused by complex interactions between environmental issues. Such issues require interdisciplinary research, knowledge and insights to understand and, ultimately, for solutions to be found. Through the journal *Environments*, we strive to create a platform for meaningful discourse by accepting contributions from a wide range of fields. We sincerely hope you will consider publishing your distinguished work in this highly-accessible, peer-reviewed journal.

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