



Mining and the Environment: Challenges and Opportunities

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The exploitation of mineral resources results in the generation of large volumes of wastes, which are usually disposed of in spoil heaps and tailings ponds on the mining site. Most of the environmental impacts of mining are linked to the release of harmful elements from those wastes.

Anthropogenic inputs of metals and metalloids into local ecosystems as a result of mining have been estimated at several million kilograms per year, posing a potential risk for the health of human receptors and ecosystems. In recent decades, the mining industry has taken strong actions to minimize its impact on the environment and has invested heavily in newly developed systems to recover resources from wastes and energy from mine water.

This Special Issue welcomes high-quality papers that examine the lights and shadows of the relationship of mining and the environment. We seek contributions from all around the world on the evaluation of effects of mining on local populations and ecosystems, associated risks, and remediation options, as well as on the use of mining wastes and water as resources.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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