



Soil Pollution and Risk Assessment

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Message from the Guest Editors

Point and diffuse pollution by potentially toxic elements and/or organic pollutants is one of the major threats to soil's ecological functions and to human health. Once in soils, pollutants may reach the receptors through volatilization/inhalation, direct ingestion or dermal contact, leaching to groundwater or runoffs to nearby aquatic ecosystems or through the food web. Therefore, soil can have direct effects on public health and threats to ecosystems. In this context, a risk assessment analysis is the best available tool to clearly understand the potential adverse effects to receptors and to ecosystems. This SI is seeking contributions that focus on:

- Reliable studies that will contribute to filling the knowledge gaps on the ecotoxicity of contaminants of concern;
- New methods and approaches to improve the risk assessment process;
- Innovative environmental exposure methods;
- Selecting specific biomarkers of exposure and effect that could be used as early indicators of stress;
- Chemical methods to assess the availability of organic and inorganic pollutants;
- Linking the chemical availability, bioavailability, and effects of pollutants.





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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. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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