



Groundwater and Geology of Coastal Areas

Guest Editor:

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Message from the Guest Editor

In most of the planet, large cities tend to develop along coastal areas where there is also remarkable agricultural and tourist development. For these reasons, coastal aquifers are frequently subjected to intensive exploitation and, consequently, marine intrusion processes tend to proliferate, jeopardizing the supply of drinking water.

The geology of coastal aquifers plays a fundamental role in all these challenges. Coastal aquifers are often composed by quaternary sediments in which heterogeneity, and changes of facies and sedimentary architecture determine the dynamics. The chemistry of groundwater is controlled by interaction with sediment grains, and even coastal processes such as erosion and sedimentation can influence the quality and quantity of groundwater resources.

This Special Issue aims to arouse the interest of specialists working on multiple disciplines covering the wide range of topics, problems, and conflicts triggered by water use, exploitation, and management in coastal areas and their links with geology of aquifers.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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