

EDITORIAL – WELCOME TO A NEW JOURNAL

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The newly established *European Journal of Environmental Sciences* offers a mixture of original refereed research papers, which bring you some of the most exciting developments in environmental sciences in the broadest sense, often with an interdisciplinary perspective. The journal will also include critical reviews on topical issues, overviews of the status of environmental protection in particular regions/countries and be published twice a year.

The aim of the journal is to publish high-quality original scientific contributions and review papers related to direct or indirect interactions between abiotic or biotic components of the environment and interactions between human society and the environment; papers on the broad issue of environmental sustainability are also welcome. This includes in particular, but is not limited to: environmental risk assessment; effect of human activities on organisms, populations and ecosystems; environmental management; all aspects of contamination, decontamination and/or pollution of air, water and soil; remediation, reclamation and ecosystem reconstruction; natural and human-induced environmental changes from local to global levels, including effects of human or natural disturbances on living organisms from cell to population level; ecosystem services; bio-indicators; new techniques and methods in chemistry, biochemistry, biology, ecology, remote sensing and other disciplines relevant to environmental studies; studies dealing with socioeconomic or legal aspects of environmental issues including indicators of environmental sustainability, provision and sustainable use of ecosystem services, etc. Both papers with direct practical implications and theoretical papers are welcome. Special focus is on studies coming from the European region, applicable to European conditions or relevant to the European environment.

The ambition is for this journal to become a lively dynamic outlet, offering both a forum for discussion of new ideas and a place for monothematic sets of papers. Therefore we especially welcome provocative papers offering new views and perspectives, and selected papers from meetings, conferences and congresses. The first issue presents selected papers from the conference Ecology of Aphidophaga, which was held in Perugia, Italy, in September 2010. The next two issues will be devoted mainly to the 4th International Orchid Conservation Congress, held in Hluboká, Czech Republic, in May/June 2011. The fourth issue will contain the best contributions from the meeting of the IOBC/WPRS Study Group “Benefits and Risks of Exotic Biological Control Agents”, which will be held in Hluboká, October/November 2011. Individual contributed papers will supplement the main topic of each issue. We believe that the new journal will soon become an important source of interesting ideas.