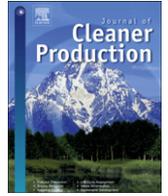




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Call for papers

## Water, women, waste, wisdom, and wealth – An energizing international collaboration, action research, and education project

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Clean air and water are the most essential life support systems on the planet. To increase the well-being and sustainability of human life, the interconnections among water, women, waste, wisdom, and wealth are being investigated and important case studies are invited to be shared. When women and men, young and old join together in concerted and focused effort, collaborative and innovative improvements in the quality of water and waste management, solutions for reducing water quality deterioration, and enhancements in regulation and distribution of water are anticipated.

In this special issue of the Journal of Cleaner Production (JCLP) we seek contributions that increase our understanding of innovative stewardship and sustainable models for water use. In this special issue we will focus upon documents, which highlight, through literature reviews, action research and related types of case studies, insights on new technological, ecological, social, and economic trajectories that support the prudent and protective use of water. In collaboration with scholars and practitioners from around the world, we seek to collect information pertaining to the best, innovative thinking and practices in water and waste management, water celebration, and water innovations.

We are living in a time when the planet and the global human population are facing unprecedented changes and challenges, as well as great opportunities and adventures. We are confident that through constructive improvements the global water systems can be protected and enhanced. The global water supply is experiencing compounding pressures by the world's expanding human population, which is presently growing at the rate of 75,000,000 per year. Pressures are growing for water through increases in domestic uses of water as well as for food

production via agriculture, horticulture and aquaculture, and the industrial production of products and services. Too frequently, the water that's there is increasingly contaminated and therefore, unsuitable for human and ecological use. These human practices along with changes in climate patterns, rainfall, and sea levels are placing increasing stress upon the limited water resources in many parts of the world. These and other related pressures are resulting in increasingly challenging, international conflicts pertaining to rights to surface and groundwater resources.

Another process that is evolving is the dangerously ubiquitous commercialization and commoditization of water, while one billion people live without access to clean water and more than two billion live in water stressed regions of the world. The UN predicts that by 2025, 66 percent of the world's population will face water shortages. Unsafe water and poor sanitation account for more than 2.2 million deaths a year. Many women spend up to 8 h a day to fetch water. This undermines better conditions for women to invest in community leading, childrearing, family planning, teaching, learning, and in maintaining good health. Where there is no equality, women bear the brunt of the burden of water shortages. Alternatively, improved access to safe water improves the potential status of women. Additional time and energy can then be allocated to women's education, work, and family planning, thereby, helping to ensure healthier families, communities and regions.

To responsibly steward and innovate around the increasing demands for the Earth's global resources will require a central role for women in decision making, protecting, storing, regulating for, and distributing water. Throughout the world, people are acting together to anticipate and to mitigate the devastating effects of increasing shortages of life-sustaining water. Innovative solutions, many of which are beyond our current policies, practices and beliefs, are being tested and applied in numerous locations.

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The planning team of this special issue of the Journal of Cleaner Production is convinced that proactive and peaceful resolutions of water issues are within our grasp. Therefore, we invite contributions that combine new, innovative, and theoretical insights with thorough empirical analyses that identify sustainable water-management approaches and systems effective in addressing ecological, economic, ethical, and societal impacts in the short and long term.

### 1. Proposed topics for this Call for papers

1. Water and Women – women's leadership, gender perspectives, hope and concerted action.
2. Water shortages, depletion, wastage, conflicts over access and rights to surface and groundwater resources.
3. Water storage, delivery, fetching, wells.
4. Water and education – wellness, vitality, consumption and conservation practices.
5. Water and environmental wellness – climate change; ecological disasters.
6. Water and human settlements, avoiding pollution and protecting the environment, maximizing the utility of water resources.
7. Water, natural habitats and landscaping.
8. Water and health – world population growth, hygiene, cleaning wounds, birth, nourishment, hydration, bathing, laundry.
9. Water and wealth – economic prosperity, livelihoods, innovations, natural resource management, trade agreements, corporate social responsibility and accountability.
10. Water and life passages – rituals, purification, blessings, birth, death.
11. Water and politics – policy and regulation, human rights, population, systems of decision making and resource accessibility, advocacy, prosperity, peace.
12. Water and food – “virtual water”, farming, beef production, soya production, low impact agriculture, organic farming, horticulture, aquaculture.
13. Water innovations and technology – desalination, decontamination, reverse osmosis, carbon nanotubes, biomimetics, water recycling.
14. Water quality and strategies to address natural concentrations of arsenic, boron, and other potentially toxic substances in water supplies, or the contamination of groundwater and well supplies by saline intrusion, or by faecal wastes, nitrates, pesticides, hormones, endocrine disrupters and other human-made substances.
15. Improved prevention and/or clean-up of water contaminated by gaseous, liquid & solid industrial, agricultural and municipal emissions & wastes.
16. Water abundance/excesses/scarcity – rain, storms, dew, snow, rising sea levels.
17. Water quality and availability as affected by waste and waste discharges, successful remedial actions taken.
18. The tasks of women in water scarcity conditions.

Documents submitted for this special issue, which are based upon empirical research, must include a clear and rigorous description of the research process that was used.

As other forms of contributions to the special issue, the following forms are also welcomed:

- a) In-depth literature reviews of 8000–10,000 words on relevant dimensions of water, women, wealth and wisdom.
- b) Notes from the field.
- c) Letters to the Editors.
- d) Editorials.

- e) Reports on Governmental and inter-Governmental Policy Initiatives in these areas.
- f) Updates on experiences with the integration of GRI/CSR/ISO 26000 and other elements in this trans-organizational, multi-disciplinary field.
- g) Book reviews on relevant books or software or educational and training modules.

The Journal of Cleaner Production serves as an interdisciplinary, international forum for the exchange of information and research results on the technologies, concepts, and policies designed to help ensure progress towards sustainable societies. Achieving cleaner production demands the evaluation and integration of dispersed cleaner production systems and services to ensure that the products and services we provide are less risky for the workers, for consumers, and for the environment.

In summary, Elsevier wishes to publish this special issue of the Journal of Cleaner Production to the theme of “Women, Water, Waste, Wisdom, and Wealth” in 2011–2012. Authors are encouraged to submit both theoretical and applied articles addressing the theme of the special issue.

### 2. Tentative schedule

Contributors are invited to submit a 200-word abstract of their prospective paper. An editorial team will review all abstracts and will extend invitations to authors of those that are selected to prepare a full paper.

Please submit your abstracts by 1 January 2011.

Feedback on abstracts to authors by 1 February 2011.

Contributors for this special issue of JCLP will be asked to submit their full papers of approximately 6000–8000 words by 1 April 2011.

Peer review process and feedback to authors April and May 2011.

Submission of revised papers: 30 August 2011.

Further revisions if needed.

Final decisions 30 September 2011.

The Elsevier EES online platform will be used for handling the abstract and subsequently the document review/revision process. Hence, authors are asked to submit their papers via this platform ([www.ees.elsevier.com/jclepro/](http://www.ees.elsevier.com/jclepro/)). Please select Article Type “Women, Water, Waste, Wisdom, and Wealth” when submitting your paper. Please use manuscript guidelines under the “Instructions to Authors” in the Journal of Cleaner Production or visit <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jclepro> and click on “A Guide for Authors”.

Please note that since correspondence, submission of documents, and reviews are completed electronically, there is no need to develop a HARD COPY of the documents. Also, please note that only materials that have not been published can be included within this special issue.

Upon receipt of the completed documents, a minimum of three independent reviewers will be selected to provide peer reviews for each document. Upon receipt and acceptance of the author's revised documents, all will be published in this special issue of the JCLP.

The Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Cleaner Production, Professor Dr. Donald Huisingsh, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA. E-mail: [dhuisingsh@utk.edu](mailto:dhuisingsh@utk.edu) proud to welcome:

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