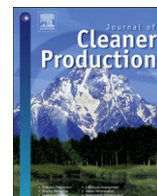




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Call for papers

Climate co-benefits approach in urban Asia: Understanding how to promote win–win situations in climate change mitigation, local environmental quality and development in Asian cities

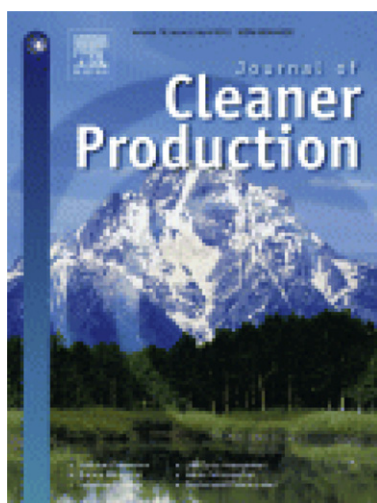
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Call for papers for a special issue of the Journal of Cleaner Production
Deadline for submissions of the first draft: June 20, 2012.

Urbanization, particularly in Asia, is taking place in an unprecedented scale posing tremendous technical and institutional challenges to reduce its impact at the local, regional and global levels. Many cities face the tasks of tackling global environmental problems, such as climate change, besides the traditional local environmental problems, such as air and water pollution, while seeking to fulfill the growing demands for jobs, housing, education, health care and transportation. Despite growing efforts to introduce urban management policies and projects, the environmental quality of cities in many Asian countries remains unsatisfactory and is even worsening, both concerning the local and global environmental impacts. There are a large number of interesting projects, designed to address these types of complex issues, but their individual effects are not enough to change the course of the environmental degradation in those cities. One of the reasons for these under-achievements is that policies have addressed specific environmental problems in isolation. Urban environmental management in specific sectors and projects has not considered the mutual impacts and interactions of policies and practices in different sectors, as well as how to scale up innovative changes on a city-wide or regional basis.

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Climate co-benefits is an approach designed to address both global and local environmental problems while contributing to the local development needs. The co-benefits approach is relevant, especially for developing countries, which have to overcome many environment and development challenges with limited capacity and resources within a rapidly growing urbanizing context. Addressing the social and environmental dimensions at both the local and global levels simultaneously makes co-benefits approach very attractive to policy makers, city planners and citizens, generally.

This Special Issue (SI) provides the opportunity for scholars, practitioners and governmental officials to co-work to gain more complete understandings on how cities can generate solutions that have large, short and long-term positive benefits in terms of climate co-benefits. This SI is designed to attract authors to submit papers, which document the processes, results and potential broader applications of co-benefit research in different sectors from different Asian countries. The authors are challenged to determine the factors that need to be analyzed in order to catalyze radical urban changes, particularly concerning climate change mitigation.

Topical areas

This SI is designed to facilitate the generation of knowledge to understand co-benefits at different levels in diverse urban sectors, particularly on processes and approaches that can provide effective lessons on how to design interventions that can promote co-benefits in cities and regions. The “co-benefit approach” is designed to simultaneously address social and environmental dimensions at the local and global levels in contexts where the interventions can be coordinated to obtain the best synergy from the of co-benefits.

The Editorial Team (Team) of this SI invites authors to prepare and submit papers in the diverse urban sectors, such as transportation, building, energy, industry and waste management, as well as on integrated approaches that document lessons learned from cross-sectoral and multi-level co-benefits in environmental, social, economic, health, energy and security. The Team is also interested in information about indicators and methods that can be/are being used to measure co-benefits in cities and regions.

The Team welcomes review papers, research papers, and case studies that include but are not restricted to the following topics related to co-benefits:

- **Project level design and management.** Investigate the main factors related to project design or management (e.g., finance, training) that explain the effectiveness of co-benefits at the project level. Such cases may also reveal the project's role(s) in catalyzing larger efforts throughout the same city/region and in other cities/regions.
- **Policymaking and implementation.** Analyze under what conditions co-benefits policies can be effective to achieve significant results. Some of the co-benefit initiatives at the local level are the result of national level policies. How can policies be improved to more effectively build upon the lessons learned from different initiatives in many different cities/regions and countries?
- **Public administration and management.** Explain how the public sector can more effectively develop and implement approaches to support long-term, systematic, co-benefit programmes. Authors should address issues pertaining to what governments and their administrations should do to develop the capacity to engage and empower all societal stakeholders to co-envison and co-implement long-term, multi-sectoral

programmes that focus upon short and long-term societal co-benefits.

- **Laws and institutions.** Analyze the role of laws, policies and institutions (e.g., informal rules or norms) to promote co-benefits. Authors are encouraged to address how legal actors and alignment of the law in different levels of government can block/encourage the development of programmes that yield co-benefits.
- **Urbanization processes and urban governance.** Authors are invited to look beyond the governmental sector, to gain an understanding of the ways to effectively engage and empower all stakeholders in the urban planning process to tackle local and global problems.
- **Development processes.** Governments in developing countries in Asia are under pressure to promote economic development in order to generate income and jobs. Authors are invited to address the co-benefit initiatives that have important economic development components that can then help to gain governmental policy support.
- **International mechanisms.** Some international mechanisms, such as international cooperation, and global mechanisms have been important to spur some of the co-benefits initiatives such as the projects within the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol. Authors are invited to address these types of interactions, which may catalyze improvements in co-benefit types of efforts.
- **Technological learning.** Explain how organizations learn, develop or adopt new technologies for co-benefits. Cities can develop technologies and/or transform existing technologies to be appropriate to their local needs. Authors are invited to document if and/or how the learning process was expanded to other projects and sectors that then resulted in a large technological/sociological/political adoption of the co-benefits approach than was envisioned in the initial project.
- **Innovation systems.** Examine how a particular region or organization was able to innovate to make co-benefits possible, particularly in small industrial firms that are the dominant forces in these Asian countries. Authors are invited to address the roles of innovative thinking/acting in helping to make the needed quantum changes that are needed to transform unsustainable to sustainable societal development.
- **Techniques to assess co-benefits.** Co-benefits must be assessed in quantitative and qualitative ways so that the approaches and lessons can be applied in new polices and programmes in other cities and regions.
- **Tools to promote co-benefits.** In order to move from theory to practice, we require tools to design interventions that can optimize the climate co-benefits. Authors are invited to address these challenges.

Symposium in Yokohama, Japan on July 26–27, 2012

The United Nations University Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS) will be organizing a symposium with the authors of the selected papers on 26–27 July, 2012. All authors of selected papers will be invited and are urged to seek travel funding from their departments and home institutions. Local accommodations for three nights and some meals in Yokohama will be provided by the symposium organizers. Participants are responsible for their travel expenses and airfares. However, participants with serious financial difficulties such as qualified participants with selected papers from least developed countries may apply for grants for travel (economy class) in a limited case.

Tentative schedule

Contributors with proposals for papers are encouraged to communicate with the co-editors by e-mail for further questions.

Submission Timetable and Deadlines

- *Call for papers: April 2012.
- *Deadline for submitting the first draft of the papers: 20 June 2012
- * Notification of the suitability of the paper for the symposium: 30 June 2012
- * Symposium in Yokohama, Japan, 26–27 July 2012
- * First set of reviews received by the authors: July 31, 2012
- * Deadline for submitting the revised version of the papers: 30 September 2012
- * Second set of reviews received by the authors: 31 October 2012
- * Deadline for submission of revised documents: 15 December 2012
- * Notification of acceptance for publication: by 30 January 2013
- * Publication of SI: 30 March 2013.

Reviewing process

Articles selected for the special edition will undergo a three-stage refereeing process. 1) Interested authors are invited to send a full draft of the paper by 20 June 2012. The editors will first review the papers to analyze their quality and suitability for this SI. Authors of selected papers will be invited to participate in the symposium in Yokohama on July 26–27, 2012. They will receive oral comments and written reviews on their papers. 2) Authors of the selected papers will then be asked to submit a revised version of the paper by September 30, 2012 for a second set of reviews. 3) Authors will be asked to revise their papers and to submit their

revised document by 15 December 2012. This version will go through a final round of double blind review.

Acceptance of the article will depend on the quality of the final paper, and not only on the acceptance of the draft submitted in June 2012. Authors will be informed of the acceptance of their papers in the different stages of the reviewing process based on the referees' comments and upon the author's revisions that are made in response to those comments. The SI issue will be published 30 March 2013.

Contributions format and procedures

Full papers are invited for potential publication in this SI of the Journal of Cleaner Production. Submissions should be between 6000 and 8000 words for comprehensive reviews, between 5000 and 7000 words for theoretical papers with broad empirical studies and between 4000 and 5000 words for case studies. All should be developed based upon the editorial guidelines provided in the instructions for authors for "Journal of Cleaner Production", which can be accessed from the website: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/30440/authorinstructions.

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 SI Issue of the JCLP.

Articles must be written in English. Authors with limitations in the command of written English are recommended to send their papers to a Native English Science Editor before the first submission because poorly written pieces can compromise the decisions during the review process.

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