



12th International Conference on Protection and Restoration of the  
Environment (PRE XII)  
Skiathos Island, Greece, 29 June–3 July, 2014

Guest Editorial

This special issue of the *Desalination and Water Treatment* Journal contains selected papers presented during the 12th International Conference on Protection and Restoration of the Environment (PRE XII), which was held in Skiathos Island, Greece, from June 29 to July 3, 2014. The conference was organized by the Civil Engineering Department and the Department of Planning and Regional Development, University of Thessaly, Greece and the Stevens Institute of Technology, USA. The Scientific Committee was comprised of an international group of valued scientists.

The areas of scientific interest on which papers and posters were presented during the conference covered an impressively wide range of subjects. A number of papers were submitted for publication in this special issue, aiming at a collection of articles with significant added-value for scientists, engineers, researchers and policy makers, working in relevant areas. After a rigorous review process, 22 papers have been selected for publication, addressing the following topics:

- Environmental impact assessment
- Highway runoff
- Hydrological and water quality modelling
- Irrigation and drinking water quality
- Membrane fouling
- Metal removal processes
- Nanodevices for desalination
- Photocatalysis
- Water distribution systems
- Water pricing

We would like to thank all the authors for their worthy contributions to this Special Issue of *Desalination and Water Treatment* Journal. Furthermore, we would like to express our gratitude to the Journal Editor, Prof. Miriam Balaban, and her assistant, Suzanne Trauffer, for the faith they showed to the Guest Editors, and their help throughout the handling of manuscripts. We are also thankful to the article reviewers for the time and efforts they sacrificed in order to ensure high standards for the submitted manuscripts.

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