



## Editorial

*Heliyon Environment*: Heliyon's first dedicated subject section

*Heliyon* is committed to supporting research communities by publishing important research across all disciplines regardless of perceived impact. All research is published Open Access, so that it is freely available for all to access, read, and share upon publication. We are constantly looking to ways that we can better nurture individual communities in the research space. To that end, *Heliyon* is actively building individual research subject sections that are managed by respected researchers and experts in the field. These dedicated and experienced Section Editors and their teams of Associate Editors, supported by the *Heliyon* in-house editorial team, are responsible for managing the peer review process for all submitted manuscripts within their subject sections. These dedicated sections allow us to tailor each author's experience to the needs and standards they have come to expect within their respective fields.

*Heliyon*'s inaugural section is *Heliyon Environment*, overseen by Prof Frederic Coulon and Prof Christian Sonne. A new broad environmental research journal is greatly needed to showcase the increasing amount of scientific knowledge gained worldwide. As it is challenging to find the right journal that covers the broad scope of environmental science and appreciates the individual researcher's specific area of interest, we are excited to offer *Heliyon Environment* as a home to share research across the environmental sciences! All knowledge about the environment is valuable and therefore publishing in *Heliyon* is a great opportunity to get your results "out there" in the scientific landscape.

*Heliyon* values diversity and inclusion and is a home for all researchers, young as well as experienced, and all manuscripts are treated with equal care and rigorous review. We are here to help you to publish your work! We provide you with service from a team of highly experienced editors and editorial board members who are also fellow researchers. In addition to this, *Heliyon* supports *your paper your way*, which allows you to submit your manuscript in the format of your choice, making article submission easier and faster. *Heliyon Environment* benefits from a strong relationship with these flagship titles: *Chemosphere*, *Environmental Pollution*, *Environment International*, *Environmental Research* and *Science of the Total Environment*. If your paper is not a fit for one of these flagship titles but would still make a valuable contribution to the field, you will be offered an automatic transfer of your paper to *Heliyon Environment*. This will transfer your paper, along with any reviewer comments, directly into the *Heliyon* editorial system, saving both author and reviewer time.

The *Heliyon Environment* section welcomes contributions across the following research topics:

- Environmental Pollution

- Environmental Health
- Environmental Toxicology
- Environmental Chemistry
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Monitoring & Assessment
- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Occupational Safety and Health

In parallel with establishing the new *Heliyon Environment* section, *Heliyon* is experimenting with new ways to improve the peer review process to make it easier and more constructive for reviewers, editors and authors. We ask reviewers to evaluate if manuscripts fulfill all of the following publication criteria and to provide any requirements for improvement of the paper needed to meet those criteria, if possible.

1. Methods: Are the methods described in sufficient detail to understand the approach used and are appropriate statistical tests applied? Y/N
2. Results: Are the results or data that support any conclusions shown directly or otherwise publicly available according to the standards of the field? Y/N
3. Interpretation: Are the conclusions a reasonable extension of the results? Y/N
4. Ethics: Does the study's design, data presentation, citations and writing style comply with standard COPE ethical guidelines and has proper consent been acquired as outlined in our <https://www.heliyon.com/guidelines/editorial-policies/?> Y/N

We expect to iterate and improve on this peer review approach as we get feedback from reviewers, authors and editors on its effectiveness.

We very much look forward to nurturing scholarly discussion around research in the environmental sciences through *Heliyon Environment*. We encourage researchers across the environmental sciences and authors from Environmental Science & Health including Environmental Pollution, Science of the Total Environment, Chemosphere, Environment International and Environmental Research to ask us more about the option to transfer to *Heliyon Environment*. We welcome your research!

Do not hesitate to contact us directly with any questions or suggestions you may have for *Heliyon Environment*.

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Submit your environmental research or transfer today rather than tomorrow!

Cordially, Fred and Christian