

**Journal of the Association for Information Systems**  
**Call for papers**  
**Information Systems Solutions for Environmental Sustainability**

**Special Issue Guest Editors**

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Creating a sustainable environment is a critical problem facing the whole world. We are all affected by global climate change and other massive environmental shifts, such as rising sea levels, ocean acidification and loss of biodiversity. These issues must be addressed before we go beyond the tipping point where the effects cannot be reversed.

More and better quality information is a prerequisite for perceiving the state of the environment and then making appropriate decisions to ameliorate identified problems. Given that information systems have been the major force for productivity increases in the last half-century, it is appropriate that IS scholars immerse themselves in creating solutions for environmental problems. Indeed, given the immensity of the ecological problems we face, it is imperative that there is large scale involvement by the IS scholarly community in helping to create a sustainable society. Such engagement requires IS scholars to keep in mind the ultimate goal of solving significant societal problems related to environmental degradation.

For this special issue, we invite papers oriented towards IS solutions for environmental sustainability. Authors should identify the environmental problem their paper addresses and justify its significance. Authors should indicate what actions their research suggests and give an indication of the available evidence to suggest that these actions will achieve their purpose. The goal of this Special Issue is to encourage authors to undertake research that can contribute to the solution of environmental problems. Thus, papers that address this goal are suitable candidates for submission. We encourage authors to submit an initial abstract so that the editors can provide guidance on the potential fit to this special issue's purpose of enhancing environmental sustainability.

**Submissions are not restricted to a particular methodology or unit of analysis, but they should be focused on the creation of a more sustainable society.**

Some possible questions for consideration are:<sup>1</sup>

- What are the information requirements for a sustainable society? For example, what data, in terms of attributes and granularity, are required for pollution reporting and pricing?
- What information do consumers need about the usage of the objects they own or manage to increase their awareness of their ecological impact?
- How can information systems be used to change social norms to advance sustainability?
- How can information systems be deployed to reduce environmental damage, such as reducing carbon emissions?
- What information granularity will lead to more effective enforcement of environmental regulations?
- What information reporting standards for organizations and products will enhance environmental decision making by governments, organizations, and consumers?
- What theories have sufficient prescriptive accuracy to be useful in designing systems for a sustainable society?

Submissions need not be limited to the preceding list of questions.

### **Critical dates**

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Abstract submission (one page only)                                     | April 1, 2014          |
| Abstract feedback   | April 24, 2014         |
| Full submission   | September 15, 2014     |
| Initial review  | November 15, 2014      |
| Workshop for papers receiving a revise and resubmit at ICIS in Auckland | December 13, 2014      |
| Revised paper submission  | February 28, 2015      |
| Revised paper review  | May 1, 2015            |
| Second revision submission  | August 1, 2015         |
| Acceptance decision   | September 1, 2105      |
| Anticipated Publication   | November/December 2015 |

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<sup>1</sup> Some of these questions are based on those raised by Watson, R. T., Boudreau, M.-C., & Chen, A. J. W. (2010). Information Systems and environmentally sustainable development: Energy Informatics and new directions for the IS community. *MIS Quarterly*, 34(1), 23-38.

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