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# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

MDPI turned 20 in 2016: Twenty years of academic publishing, twenty years of open access, and twenty years of hard and dedicated work for scholars and scholarly communities.

The year 2016 was a strong and very successful one for MDPI and our employees with stable overall growth in the number of published papers, number of staff, number of journals and in revenues.

As scholarly publishing is shifting from subscription to open access, the academic publishing industry is looking towards submissions in open access form. This transformation establishes continuous global access to knowledge and science, and supports researchers in their daily studies. We are proud to have been part of this successful trend over the past 20 years.

In 2016, MDPI has taken on a new dimension, establishing itself as one of the leaders in open access publishing. We grew 35% and we reached our goals by publishing more than 23,000 peer-reviewed articles. Four of our most established journals, *Sensors*, *IJMS*, *Molecules* and *Sustainability*, now rank in the top 200 journals in number of articles published per year. Two of these journals, *Sensors* and *Molecules*, reached the incredible milestone of publishing their 10,000th paper this year. Altogether, these achievements put us in second place on the podium amongst pure open access publishers in 2016.

In 2016, we aimed to strengthen our relations with scientific communities, serving their needs and trying to acknowledge the unwavering commitment of our Editors-in-Chief, Editorial Board Members, guest editors, authors and reviewers over the past twenty years.

We provided administrative support to 15,700 academic editors, we sponsored 337 scientific events, we provided travel grants to 52 of our Editors-in-Chief to attend

conferences, we awarded 60 scientific prizes, and we organized two new scientific conferences, *Viruses 2016* and the *1st Basel Sustainability Forum on Energies* in Basel. Furthermore, we launched our multidisciplinary preprint initiative at *Preprints.org* to follow our vision to disseminate science at its earliest stage. Since its launch in July 2016, over 1000 scientific papers have been posted.

We also took our 20 year company anniversary as an occasion to boldly focus on our mission to facilitate the dissemination of research output. We have been developing our publishing services, using our 20 years' experience to support learned societies and university presses. We simplified our submission tools for authors, reviewers and editors, making the publication experience enjoyable and publication times shorter. We also invested effort, knowledge and resources in dedicated projects and partnerships with our peers.

These achievements were only made possible thanks to the dedicated work of our editorial, production and communication teams in Basel, Beijing, Wuhan, Barcelona and Belgrade.

MDPI proudly joined the UN Global Compact in November 2016 to demonstrate our commitment to sustainable management and responsibility towards our employees. As a global publishing house, we see it as our duty to develop responsible practices that will ensure a bright future for our company and for our planet. Therefore, we have committed ourselves to the ten principles associated with the Compact, and will focus on contributing to the following defined goals:

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.

Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.

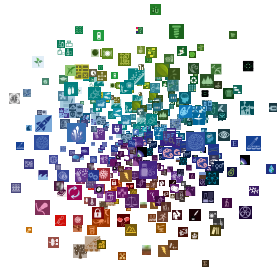
The year 2017 will be a very ambitious and challenging one for MDPI and for open access globally. The Berlin13 conference will be an important milestone for open access where global players and decision makers come together and join forces to set the roadmap of the OA2020 target. I definitely look forward to contributing to the discussions and joint efforts.

I also look forward to strengthening MDPI's position amongst other open access publishers by continuing our hard and dedicated work to support scholarly communities.

Dr. Franck Vazquez  
Chief Executive Officer

## MDPI AT A GLANCE

# 172



PEER-REVIEWED OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

# 68



## MDPI | *books*

SPECIAL ISSUE REPRINTS PUBLISHED AND 394  
COPIES SOLD IN 2016



INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM REACHED  
153 MEMBERS

## preprints

OUR PLATFORM FOR POSTING EARLY STAGE  
RESEARCH BEFORE PEER-REVIEW

## SciForum

AN OPEN PLATFORM FOR SCHOLARLY EXCHANGE AND  
COLLABORATION. PARTICIPATE OR SET UP YOUR OWN  
CONFERENCE IN ANY SCIENTIFIC FIELD. CREATE YOUR  
OWN DISCUSSION GROUPS

## SUSY

A COMPLETE SUBMISSION SYSTEM FOR SCHOLARLY  
PUBLISHING

## Scilit

A FREE SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE DATABASE INCLUDING  
THE LATEST PUBLISHED ARTICLES FROM ANY PUBLISHER  
IN REAL TIME

# 224

ARTICLE REPRINTS PUBLISHED IN 2016

## 2016 KEY FIGURES

86,521

articles published since the foundation of MDPI in 1996

---

27.5 days

from submission to first decision

---

58,575

submissions received in 2016

---

23,568

papers published

---

128,805

peer-review reports received in 2016

---

35%

company growth in 2016 based on published papers

---

15,700

academic editors

---

68 days

from submission to publication

---

# 18

new journals in the MDPI journal portfolio

# >800

papers posted on Preprints.org  
(by end of 2016)

# 455

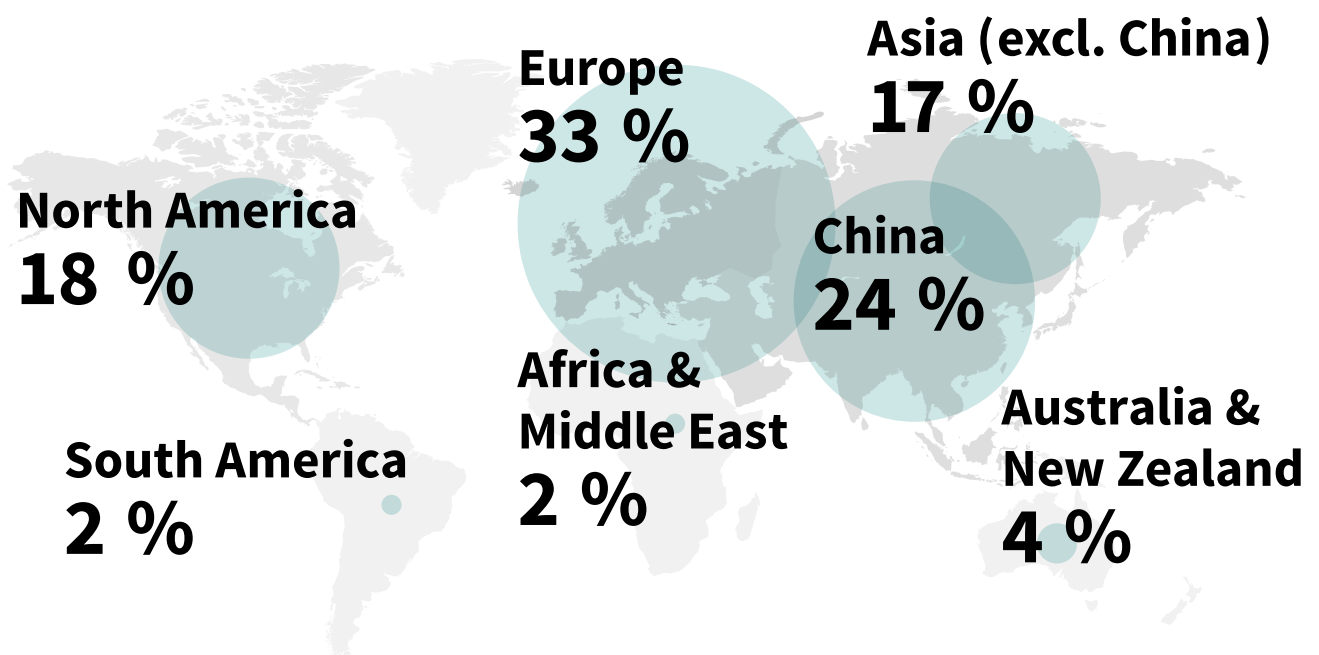
 employees

in seven locations (Switzerland, China, Spain and Serbia)

# 273

academic events sponsored by MDPI in 2016, including travel grants to Editors-in-Chiefs and Editorial Board Members

## Papers Published in MDPI Journals by Region



**Major Journal Growth  
Based on Articles Published**

<i>Applied Sciences</i>	+ 258 %
<i>Crystals</i>	+ 213 %
<i>Metals</i>	+ 104 %
<i>Genes</i>	+ 101 %
<i>Micromachines</i>	+ 83 %
<i>IJGI</i>	+ 80 %

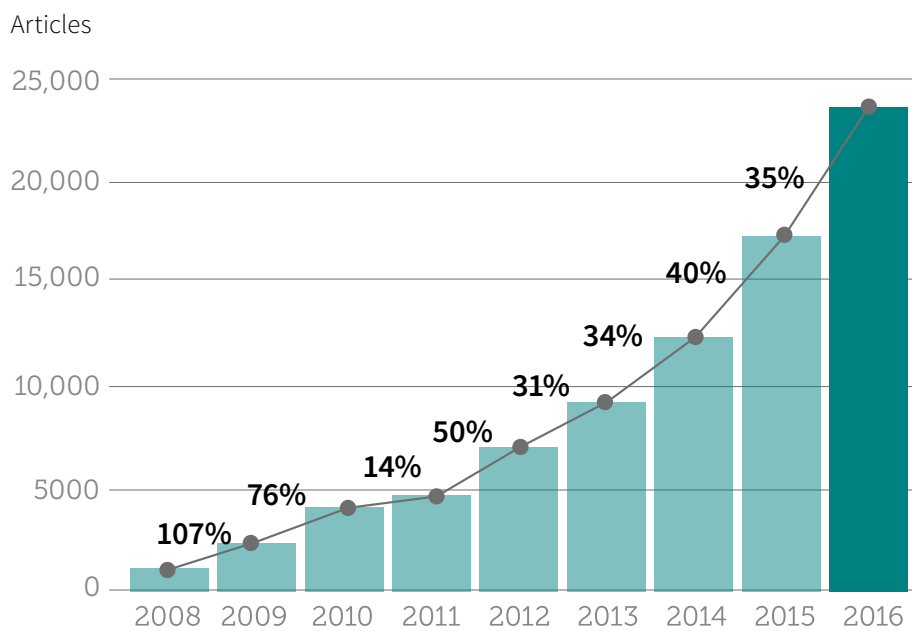
**Indexing**

**142**  
journals reevaluated and accepted by DOAJ

**85**  
journals indexed in Web of Science

**58**  
journals indexed in ESCI

**Growth Based on Articles Published**





### Publication by Subject Area



- 24%** Chemistry & Materials Science
- 15%** Medicine & Pharmacology
- 13%** Environmental & Earth Sciences
- 12%** Engineering
- 12%** Physical Sciences
- 11%** Biology & Life Sciences
- 5%** Public Health & Healthcare
- 3%** Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities
- 3%** Business & Economics
- 2%** Computer Science & Mathematics

### Open Access Publishers – Market Share in 2016

	Number of Published Articles	Market Share in Percentage
Springer Nature	41,821	26.88%
Public Library of Science (PLOS)	26,376	16.96%
MDPI	23,555	15.14%
Frontiers Media SA	19,439	12.50%
Hindawi Limited	18,004	11.57%
Copernicus GmbH	9045	5.81%
BMJ	2064	1.33%
PeerJ	1356	0.87%
AOSIS	1303	0.84%
Elsevier BV	1289	0.83%
Others	11,301	7.27%

### Quality of Service

#### 8213 Reviewers rated our publishing service as



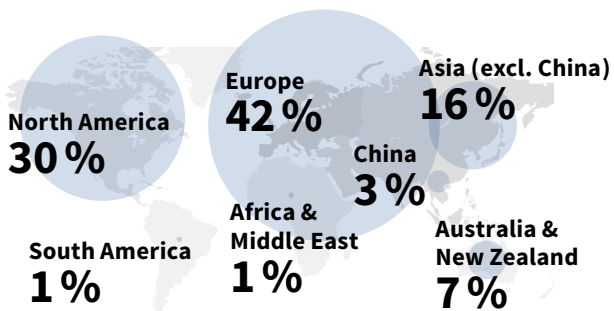
#### 1402 Authors rated our publishing service as



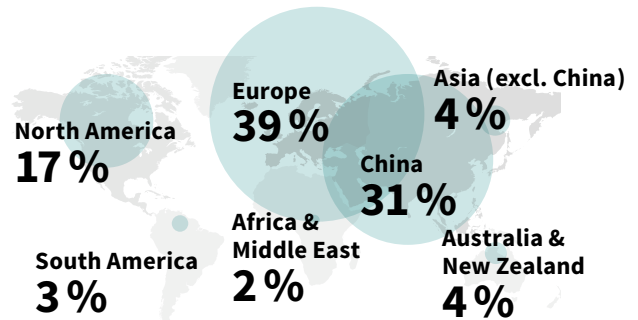
Source: MDPI author and reviewer surveys, Q1–Q4, 2016

Geographical Distribution of Authors and Reviewers

Reviewers



Authors



Overview of Access to MDPI.com

90 %  
desktop access



10 %  
mobile access



36,801,813

Annual Page Views

32,648,052

PDF Downloads

15,168,300

Sessions

8,748,610

Users

1,524,595

Mobile Users

# NEW JOURNALS IN 2016



*biomimetics*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Josep Samitier  
Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia  
(IBEC), Spain



*condensed matter*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Antonio Bianconi  
Rome International Center for Materials  
Science Superstripes (RICMASS), Italy



*data*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Dr. Jamal Jokar Arsanjani  
Aalborg University Copenhagen, Denmark



*drones*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Dr. Diego Gonzalez-Aguilera  
University of Salamanca, Spain



*fishes*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Maria Angeles Esteban  
University of Murcia, Spain



*fluids*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Bekir S. Yilbas  
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals  
(KFUPM), Saudi Arabia



*geriatrics*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Ralf Lobmann  
Clinical Centre Stuttgart, Germany



*infrastructures*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Dr. Pedro Arias-Sánchez  
University of Vigo, Spain



*inventions*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Shouou-Jinn Chang  
National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan



Journal of  
*Functional Morphology and Kinesiology*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Giuseppe Musumeci  
University of Catania, Italy



*languages*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Usha Lakshmanan  
Southern Illinois University Carbondale, USA



*philosophies*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Marcin J. Schroeder  
Akita International University, Japan



*recycling*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Michele Rosano  
Curtin University Perth, Australia



*sinusitis*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. César Picado  
University of Barcelona, Spain



International Journal of  
*Turbomachinery Propulsion and Power*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Marcello Manna  
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II,  
Italy

## Society Journals Transferred to MDPI in 2016



*Scientia Pharmaceutica*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Helmut Viernstein  
University of Vienna, Austria



*Mathematical and  
Computational Applications*

**Editor-in-Chief:**

Prof. Dr. Fazal M. Mahomed  
University of Witwatersrand, South Africa

# SUSY

## MDPI Susy – A Complete Submission System

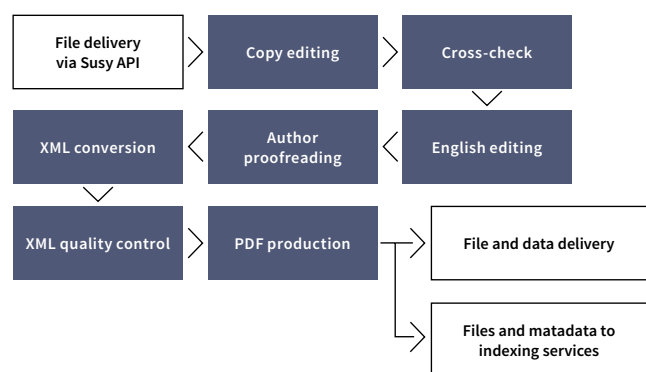
MDPI has been a pioneer of academic, peer-reviewed open access publishing since 1996, with over 160 open access journals across all scientific fields. Two of our major strengths are the speed and the simplicity of our editorial process. We now offer our submission system, Susy, to other journals in order to widen our support to stakeholders.

Susy is a comprehensive, web-based software that allows editors to handle the entire publishing process, from initial submission to publication, including peer-review, production, and invoicing of open access APCs. The software has been built with flexibility in mind, to accommodate the needs of a broad range of journals.

We also offer 6 days peer week support from our editorial and production staff. The main features of our publishing services cover:

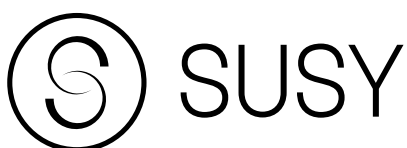
- Article submission
- Peer review and editorial decisions
- Author revision and resubmission
- Invoicing of article processing charges
- Two of our major strengths are the speed and the simplicity
- Different levels of access for staff members, including editorial board members, handling editors, managing editors and company managers.

Susy incorporates the full production process:



### Contact

For enquiries and quotations, please contact Dr. Martyn Rittman ► [rittman@mdpi.com](mailto:rittman@mdpi.com).



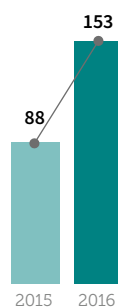
# PARTNERING WITH INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES

## Institutional Membership

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The MDPI Institutional Membership Program grants affiliated authors a discount of up to 25% on Article Processing Charges. Since the program was launched in 2013, over 150 memberships have been established. In 2016, the number of members, of which all are notable international universities and institutions, increased from 88 to 153.

### Our Institutional Members:



## Partnerships with Societies

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### Lasting Partnership

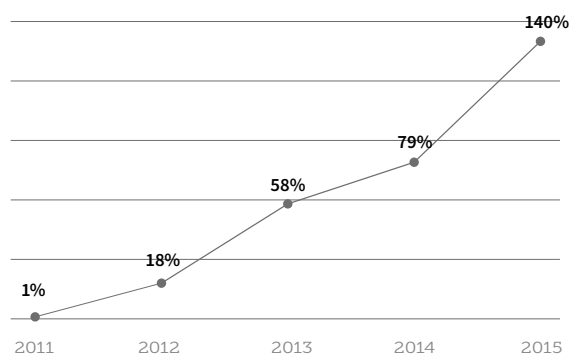
One of MDPI's longest lasting partnerships is with the *International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS)*, established in 2011 for the publication of the *International Journal of Geo-Information (IJGI)*, short *ISPRS IJGI*.

With over 20 year's experience in scholarly peer-reviewed publishing, we provide technical infrastructure and editorial know-how covering:

- Conversion to open access
- Editorial handling of manuscripts
- Fast editorial procedure
- Fast and easy-to-use platform, [www.mdpi.com](http://www.mdpi.com)
- Advice on strategic development
- High visibility
- Automated metadata exchange
- Indexing and abstracting services
- Marketing and promotion of the journal
- Long-term preservation
- Hosting the journal back-file
- Retaining ownership
- Reviewer benefits
- Optional and customized services

MDPI shares the responsibility for the promotion of the journal with the scientific community, and bears the costs associated with the production of printed promotional material of the journal.

### Number of Papers Published in *ISPRS IJGI*



Source: Sciform (Based on Cross-Ref Data); [mdpi.com/journal/ijgi/stats](http://mdpi.com/journal/ijgi/stats)

Through the partnership with MDPI, *ISPRS* benefits from exposure to a broader scientific community, and has gained increasing visibility over the past years:

#### Full-Text and Abstract Views Past 6 Months Trend

	2016					2017*
	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan*
Abstract	20,301	28,918	27,323	24,378	31,074	25,540
Full Text	17,748	29,079	36,988	34,797	39,761	32,297

#### Full-Text and Abstract Views per Year Trend

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017*
Abstract	10,156	44,700	102,848	167,069	251,442	25,540
Full Text	6456	32,807	109,636	235,052	320,509	32,297

\* data as of 31 January 2017

### New Society Partnerships in 2016

In 2016, MDPI started several collaborations with societies and other scientific institutions:

- With the *European Turbomachinery Society* (Euroturbo, [www.euroturbo.eu](http://www.euroturbo.eu)) for the publication of their new journal *International Journal of Turbomachinery, Propulsion and Power (IJTPP)*.
- With the *Austrian Pharmacological Society* (Österreichische Pharmazeutische Gesellschaft, [www.oephg.eu](http://www.oephg.eu)) for the publication of their existing journal *Scientia Pharmaceutica*.
- With the *Australasian College of Tropical Medicine* (ACTM, [www.tropmed.org](http://www.tropmed.org)) and its Joint Faculties of Travel Medicine ([www.travelmedicine.org.au](http://www.travelmedicine.org.au)) and Expedition and Wilderness Medicine for the publication of the new journal *Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease*.

MDPI also signed a Publishing Agreement with the *Institute of Otorhinolaryngology, Union Hospital, Tongji Medical College, Huazhong University of Science & Technology* to set up the *Journal of Otorhinolaryngology, Hearing and Balance Medicine* to be started in 2017.

For more detailed information, please contact Delia Mihaila ► [mihaila@mdpi.com](mailto:mihaila@mdpi.com).

# JOURNAL DEVELOPMENT\*

SCIE - Web of Science Journals	Papers Published in 2016	Papers Published in 2015	Publication Growth	Impact Factor 2015 (2016 release)	Change from Previous Year	Citations in 2015
<i>IJMS</i>	2166	1743	▲ +24.3%	3.257	14%	18,190
<i>Molecules</i>	1769	1385	▲ +27.7%	2.465	2%	17,613
<i>Sensors</i>	2237	1666	▲ +34.3%	2.033	-9%	15,836
<i>IJERPH</i>	1210	1090	▲ +11.0%	2.035	-1%	6062
<i>Marine Drugs</i>	231	384	▼ -39.8%	3.345	17%	5437
<i>Materials</i>	1036	593	▲ +74.7%	2.728	3%	5262
<i>Remote Sensing</i>	1035	788	▲ +31.3%	3.036	-5%	5061
<i>Nutrients</i>	840	620	▲ +35.5%	3.759	15%	4084
<i>Energies</i>	1106	744	▲ +48.7%	2.077	0%	3704
<i>Viruses</i>	332	367	▼ -9.5%	3.042	-9%	3445
<i>Toxins</i>	379	345	▲ +9.9%	3.571	22%	2929
<i>Sustainability</i>	1363	862	▲ +58.1%	1.343	43%	2301
<i>Entropy</i>	459	453	▲ +1.3%	1.743	16%	2099
<i>Polymers</i>	443	154	▲ +187.7%	2.944	-20%	1837
<i>Water</i>	606	357	▲ +69.7%	1.687	18%	1035
<i>Forests</i>	329	250	▲ +31.6%	1.583	9%	686
<i>Genes</i>	146	73	▲ +100%	3.242	182%	545
<i>Catalysts</i>	219	135	▲ +62.2%	2.964	48%	502
<i>Nanomaterials</i>	245	136	▲ +80.1%	2.690	30%	436
<i>Micromachines</i>	241	132	▲ +82.6%	1.295	2%	404
<i>Symmetry</i>	162	147	▲ +10.2%	0.841	2%	317
<i>Crystals</i>	167	133	▲ +25.6%	2.075	-	273
<i>Atmosphere</i>	161	104	▲ +54.8%	1.221	8%	240
<i>Applied Sciences</i>	472	132	▲ +257.6%	1.726	16%	238
<i>Metals</i>	327	166	▲ +97%	1.574	78%	234
<i>Minerals</i>	132	55	▲ +140%	1.500	50%	134
<i>ISPRS IJGI</i>	251	140	▲ +79.3%	0.651	-	133
<b>Journals Tracked for IF</b>						
<i>Cancers</i>	110	136	▼ -19.1%	-	-	-
<i>Coatings</i>	77	57	▲ +35.1%	-	-	-

\* All data as per Clarivate Analytics (formerly Thomson Reuters).

### Journal Rankings by Quartile in Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE)\*

Quartile	Journals	Ranking	Category
Q1	<i>Materials</i>	63/271	MATERIALS SCIENCE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Metals</i>	18/73	METALLURGY & METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING
	<i>Nanomaterials</i>	64/271	MATERIALS SCIENCES, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Nutrients</i>	16/80	NUTRITION & DIETETICS
	<i>Polymers</i>	20/85	POLYMER SCIENCE
	<i>Remote Sensing</i>	5/28	REMOTE SENSING
	<i>Sensors</i>	12/56	INSTRUMENTS & INSTRUMENTATION
	<i>Toxins</i>	16/90	TOXICOLOGY
Q2	<i>Applied Sciences</i>	129/271	MATERIALS SCIENCE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
		64/145	PHYSICS, APPLIED
	<i>Catalysts</i>	53/144	CHEMISTRY, PHYSICAL
	<i>Crystals</i>	101/271	MATERIALS SCIENCE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
		13/26	CRYSTALLOGRAPHY
	<i>Energies</i>	43/88	ENERGY & FUELS
	<i>Entropy</i>	25/79	PHYSICS, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Forests</i>	19/66	FORESTRY
	<i>Genes</i>	60/166	GENETICS & HEREDITY
	<i>IJERPH</i>	101/225	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
	<i>IJMS</i>	110/289	BIOCHEMISTRY & MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
		134/289	CHEMISTRY, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Marine Drugs</i>	13/59	CHEMISTRY, MEDICINAL
	<i>Metals</i>	145/271	MATERIALS SCIENCE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Minerals</i>	14/29	MINERALOGY
		9/21	MINING & MINERAL PROCESSING
	<i>Molecules</i>	24/59	CHEMISTRY, ORGANIC
	<i>Nanomaterials</i>	36/83	NANOSCIENCE & NANOTECHNOLOGY
	<i>Sensors</i>	36/75	CHEMISTRY, ANALYTICAL
		16/27	ELECTROCHEMISTRY
<i>Symmetry</i>	31/63	MULTIDISCIPLINARY SCIENCES	
<i>Viruses</i>	14/33	VIROLOGY	
<i>Water</i>	33/85	WATER RESOURCES	
Q3	<i>Applied Sciences</i>	83/163	CHEMISTRY, MULTIDISCIPLINARY
	<i>Micromachines</i>	30/56	INSTRUMENTS & INSTRUMENTATION
	<i>Sustainability</i>	62/104	ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - SSCI
Q4	<i>Atmosphere</i>	66/84	METEOROLOGY & ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES
	<i>ISPRS IJGI</i>	45/49	GEOGRAPHY, PHYSICAL
		26/28	REMOTE SENSING
	<i>Micromachines</i>	63/83	NANOSCIENCE & NANOTECHNOLOGY
	<i>Sustainability</i>	5/6	GREEN & SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGY - SSCI

\* Source: [www.mdpi.com/about/announcements/720](http://www.mdpi.com/about/announcements/720).



# CONFERENCES IN 2016

## *Viruses 2016*

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The conference *Viruses 2016–At the Forefront of Virus–Host Interactions* was held in Basel from January 26 to 28, 2016. A total of 186 participants attended, from over 30 different countries: Switzerland 21%, Germany 10%, France 8%, United Kingdom 6%, United States 6%, Italy 5%, Austria 3%, as well as participants from a number of other coun-

tries including Australia, China, Croatia, Iran, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, and the United Arab Emirates.

The 2nd edition *Viruses 2018–Breakthroughs in Viral Replication* will be held in Barcelona from February 7 to 9, 2018.



### ***1st Basel Sustainability Forum on Energy***

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The *1st Basel Sustainability Forum on Energy* was held in Basel on October 14, 2016. The conference attracted 98 participants from Switzerland, France and Germany. The *2nd Basel Sustainability Forum on Mobility* will be held in Basel on September 15, 2017.



Images: Matthias Burkhalter

# SPECIAL ISSUE REPRINTS RELEASED IN 2016

Our top five in 2016 (physical copy):



*Journal of Clinical Medicine*

## **iPS Cells for Modelling and Treatment of Human Diseases**

edited by Edel Michael



*Catalysts*

## **Advances in Catalyst Deactivation**

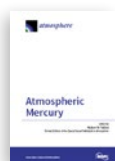
edited by Bartholomew Calvin  
and Argyle Morris



*Marine Drugs*

## **Advances in Marine Chitin and Chitosan**

edited by Harding David  
and Sashiwa Hitoshi



*Atmosphere*

## **Air Quality and Source Apportionment**

edited by Sheesley Rebecca



*Atmosphere*

## **Atmospheric Composition Observations**

edited by Sorooshian Armin

Our top five in 2016 (digital copy):



*Children*

## **The Role of Play in Children's Health and Development**

edited by Navidi Ute



*Inorganics*

## **Polyoxometalates**

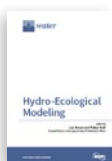
edited by Patzke Greta and Car Pierre-Emmanuel



*Biomolecules*

## **Oxidative Stress in Health and Disease**

edited by Breitenbach Michael and Eckl Peter



*Water*

## **Hydro-Ecological Modeling**

edited by Breuer Lutz and Kraft Philipp

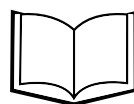


*Humanities*

## **Deep Mapping**

edited by Roberts Les

► More information: [www.mdpi.com/books](http://www.mdpi.com/books)



**MDPI** | *books*

# CONTRIBUTING TO THE OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE

In January 2017, MDPI signed the expression of interest in support of the OA 2020 initiative. The OA2020 was established by the Max-Planck-Gesellschaft (Germany) and supports the large-scale transition to open access by transforming the existing corpus of scientific journals from their current subscription system to open access.

► More information: <https://oa2020.org/mission/#other>

# CONFERENCES IN 2017

## **World Sustainability Forum 2017, WSF 2017 (Cape Town)**

The *World Sustainability Forum 2017*, held at the end of January 2017 in South Africa, contributes to international debates on sustainability and enables a dialogue



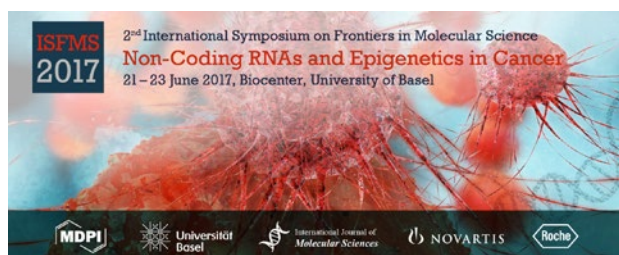
between academia and industry. It sensitizes the international community about the urgency, specifics, and existent knowledge base of sustainability on the African continent, and the African research community to international perspectives on sustainability.

The next few decades will be marked by a profound engagement in sustainability research and policy—and Africa is profoundly influencing and being influenced by global developments. MDPI provides a platform for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to engage with this topic.

► [sciforum.net/conference/wsf-6](http://sciforum.net/conference/wsf-6)

## **International Symposium on Frontiers in Molecular Sciences 2017, ISFMS 2017 (Basel)**

One of the most unexpected and fascinating discoveries in oncology over the past decade has been the interplay between abnormalities in protein-coding genes and non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs), which are causally involved in cancer initiation, progression, and dissemination.



Although, to date, the most studied non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs) are miRNAs, the importance of long non-coding RNAs (lncRNAs) is increasingly being recognized. At this conference “Non-Coding RNAs and Epigenetics in Cancer”, leaders in the field will present the roles of miRNAs and lncRNAs in cancer, with a focus on the recently identified novel mechanisms of action, and discuss the current strategies in designing ncRNA-targeting therapeutics, as well as the associated challenges.

► [sciforum.net/conference/ncRNA-Cancer](http://sciforum.net/conference/ncRNA-Cancer)

## **International Symposium on Sensor Science, I3S2017 (Barcelona)**

From robots and self-driving cars to on-site medical diagnostics, the exciting advances in today’s technology require sensors. Biologists, engineers, physicists and



chemists are working to provide these sensors. This conference, supported by the journal *Sensors*, brings together scientists from different disciplines to discuss recent developments in sensor technology.

► [sciforum.net/conference/i3s2017Barcelona](http://sciforum.net/conference/i3s2017Barcelona)

## **Molecules**

► [sciforum.net/conference/MMCS2017](http://sciforum.net/conference/MMCS2017)

## **Symmetry**

► [sciforum.net/conference/symmetry2017](http://sciforum.net/conference/symmetry2017)

## **2nd Basel Sustainability Forum**

► [sciforum.net/conference/BSF-2](http://sciforum.net/conference/BSF-2)

**Photos from the World Sustainability Forum 2017, WSF 2017**

- 1: World Sustainability Award
  - 2: Thandi Mgwebi, Jeffrey Sachs, Sonia Ehrlich Sachs and Franck Vazquez (from left to right)
  - 3: Jeffrey Sachs accepting the World Sustainability Award
  - 4: Delegates at WSF 2017
- All images by Matthias Burkhalter



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# CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AT MDPI

In November 2016, MDPI became a member of the United Nations Global Compact to support corporate sustainability. We have committed ourselves to the ten principles associated with the Compact.

As a global publishing house, we see it as our duty to develop responsible practices that will ensure a bright future for our planet. Based on our purpose and company scope, we aim to focus on three UN Sustainability Development Goals:

## Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning



In 2016, we announced the *World Sustainability Award* and the *Emerging Sustainability Leader Award* to encourage new initiatives and developments in sustainability. Both awards are bound to the ultimate aim to foster the transfer from sustainability research to sustainable practices and societies.

### Recipients of the *World Sustainability Award* (USD 100,000)

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs and Dr. Sonia Ehrlich Sachs were the joint recipients of the first *World Sustainability Award* at the end of January 2017. Jeffrey Sachs is a world-renowned economist and senior United Nations (UN) advisor and director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University. Sonia Sachs is a pediatrician and public health specialist, and director of the Health Centre at the Centre for Sustainable Development, also at Columbia University.

### Winners of the *Emerging Sustainability Leader Award* (USD 10,000)

The joint recipients of the first *Emerging Sustainability Leader Award* were Dr. Esther Ngumbi and Dr. Xiaosong Hu. Esther Ngumbi is a postdoctoral researcher at Auburn University in Alabama, USA and served as a 2015 Clinton

Global University Mentor for Agriculture. Xiaosong Hu is a professor at the Chongqing University in China and specializes in automotive control systems and mechanical engineering.

World Sustainability Foundation: <http://wsforum.org>

Press release:

► [www.mdpi.com/about/announcements/961](http://www.mdpi.com/about/announcements/961)

## Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Since the foundation of MDPI two decades ago, we have provided our staff with equal opportunities to grow and develop their career. At MDPI, we foster gender equality and refuse any form of discrimination against women at work. We support women in management positions:

50 % of MDPI Management are women.

► [www.mdpi.com/about/team](http://www.mdpi.com/about/team)

## Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation



Being an academic open access publisher, we support innovation by nature. In comparison to a traditional publishing house, we produce less printed output and impact the environment in a sustainable and positive way.

# ABOUT MDPI

Being a pioneer in academic open access publishing, we have focused on serving and strengthening the scientific community since 1996.

Our main purpose is to provide a valuable service to academic scholars. Our mission is to foster scientific

exchange in its various forms, across all scientific disciplines.

The driving principles behind everything that we do are the following:



## Accessibility

We offer access to science and the latest research to readers for free. All of our content is published in open access and distributed under a Creative Commons License, which means free distribution and the right to share and re-use published articles.



## Speed

We publish fast to ensure the latest research is rapidly disseminated, using thorough, precise editorial work. A first decision is provided to authors in under 32 days; once accepted, papers are published in 7–10 days.



## Service

We aim to provide a service that supports scholars and their work. By offering a range of different options, including journal publication at mdpi.com, early publication at preprints.org and conferences on Sciforum, we support scientific communities worldwide to make a positive impact on research.



## Flexibility

In a changing and evolving publishing environment, we are constantly adapting and developing new tools and services. By listening to feedback from authors, editors and readers, we can make changes to better meet the needs of our research community and keep MDPI relevant.



## Simplicity

All of our tools and services can be found in one place and prioritize user-friendliness. Simple processes keep our editorial process highly efficient.



## Sustainability

In addition to being a key theme in our journals, we support sustainability by ensuring the long-term preservation of published papers, and the future of science through partnerships, sponsorships and awards.



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