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## Editorial

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**Biographical notes:** John Psarras is a Professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering of National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and the Director of the Decision Support Systems (DSS) Laboratory. He has been the Project Manager or Senior Researcher in numerous EC and national projects acquiring over 20 years experience in the areas of energy policy, national and regional energy planning, energy and environmental modelling, promotion of energy and environmental friendly technologies, energy management, decision support and monitoring systems. He has more than 100 publications in international journals in the above mentioned related fields.

Constantin Zopounidis is a Professor of Financial Management and Operations Research at the Department of Production Engineering and Management, Technical University of Crete, Greece. His research interests include multiple criteria decision-making, financial engineering and financial risk management. He has published over 300 papers in premier international journals as *Decision Sciences*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Decision Support Systems*, *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, and *Expert Systems with Applications*. He has edited or co-edited more than 35 books on financial management and multicriteria decision aid, and he acts as the Editor-in-Chief and member of the editorial board of several international journals.

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The fourth issue of *IJMCDM*, which concludes the journal's first volume, comprises three papers.

In the first paper, H. Frikha, H. Chabchoub and J-M. Martel propose an interactive disaggregation approach inferring the indifference and preference thresholds of PROMETHEE II.

In the second paper, M. Basle and M. Hualme present a methodology for evaluating public programmes. The annual outcomes of a programme are used to build a multidimensional profile for the programme, which is then used as input in an evaluation process based on the ELECTRE method.

In the final paper of this issue, M. Pirdashti, M. Tavana, M.H. Hassim, M. Behzadian, and I.A. Karimi explain and compare the most common MCDM methods and then present and classify more than 300 published papers related to the application of MCDM in chemical engineering.