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## Preface

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**Biographical notes:** Rosa Maria Torres Sánchez holds a PhD in Natural Sciences. She is Principal Researcher in the National Research Council (CONICET). Her research interests focus on the clay and soil characterisation, and the application of clays in water and effluent treatments and as agrochemical adsorbents. She teaches several postgraduate courses, has published more than 80 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and several book chapters, and has directed more than 10 PhD and several research projects.

Maria dos Santos Afonso received her PhD in Chemistry at University of La Plata. Her current position is a Professor at University of Buenos Aires where she teaches Aquatic Chemistry and General Chemistry courses. Her research interests focus on the biogeochemistry of soils, sediments and aquatic ecosystems, the cycles of water, carbon, nutrients and metals, water-rock interactions, chemistry of the organic pollutants such as pesticides and environmental modelling. She has advised more than 10 PhD students and published more than 65 papers in international peer-reviewed journals, one book and several book chapters.

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The II International Congress of Environmental Science and Technology and the II National Congress of the Argentinean Society of Environmental Sciences and Technologies was held from 1–4 December, 2015, in the City of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

This Congress, named “Argentina and the Environment 2015 (AA2015) under the title “Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Sustainability of the Environment”, aimed to integrate, once again, multidisciplinary perspectives to identify the technologies most compatible with sustainable development, prioritising a better quality of life and preservation of the environment.

One of the goals of AA2015 was to incentivise the participation of young researchers. This objective was fully achieved, as more than 50% of Congress participants were graduate students.

The *International Journal of Environment and Health* gave us the mission to publish a special issue dedicated to the conference with a selection of papers presented at AA2015. Thus, this issue of the journal presents five research papers related to different topics:

- Use of speciation modelling of heavy metals in Los Patos lagoon, Argentina, to improve waterbody management
- Applying reactive transport modelling in a chromium-contaminated site in the Matanza-Riachuelo Basin, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Study of physicochemical changes of polluted sediments from Reconquista river basin (Argentina) after remediation processes
- Safe disposal of solid wastes generated during arsenic removal in drinking water
- Atmospheric gas–particle partitioning of E-EHMC and Z-EHMC estimated from their liquid vapour pressures at 298.15 K.

The Guest Editors thank to the Editor and publishers of the *International Journal of Environment and Health* for giving us the trust for the selection and editing of this special issue.