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## Introduction

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**Biographical notes:** Hamidreza Jafari is Professor of Environmental Management, Planning and Education at University of Tehran, College of Engineering in Tehran, Iran. He received his PhD in Computer Science from Louisiana State University, USA, following a Master of Engineering in Electronic and Computer Engineering from LSU. He teaches courses in Environmental Planning and Management, computer modelling, GIS and RS. He has an active research program that focuses on systematic approach. He has a particular interest in the mathematical modelling. He has published several books and articles. He and his graduate students have authored several publications. He serves as an academic advisor to many environmental students. He is on the editorial boards of some international journals.

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Fatemeh Sadat Alavipoor obtained her Bachelor's in Environmental Engineering in 2012 from the Ferdowsi University in Mashhad. She continued her studies in Environment Science and gained her MSc from the University of Tehran in 2016. From September 2016 she started her PhD studies at the University of Tehran. She continues her assistant teaching and research at the University of Tehran. She has published some journal papers and presented many conference papers. She is on the editorial boards of some international journals. She is a member board of Zist Pardazesh Aria CO. LTD. This company is a privately owned company, located in Iran. Since 2016, drones are being developed by company professionals. Drones are used in cropping, monitoring plants, pests control and many other areas including forest and environmental monitoring. She is working in the environmental monitoring group of Zist Pardazesh Aria CO. LTD.

Biosphere management is a concept in environmental issues. We need to protect our biosphere. There are some major obstacles to proper management of biosphere reserves which are not technical or scientific but managerial and institutional (Batisse, 1990). Because of this we need to manage and plan all of the decisions that were made by decision makers. Managerial and institutional solutions for biosphere management are explored in this special issue.

### **Reference**

Batisse, M. (1990) 'Development and implementation of the biosphere reserve concept and its applicability to coastal regions', *Environmental Conservation*, Vol. 17, No. 2, pp.111–116.