
Editorial

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Biographical notes: R. Sivashankar completed his MTech in Industrial Biotechnology from the SASTRA University and PhD in Chemical Engineering from National Institute of Technology Calicut, India. Currently, he is working as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, Hindustan Institute of Technology and Science (HITS), Chennai. Before joining the HITS, he worked as an Assistant Professor at PRIST University and METS School of Engineering. His research interests include industrial biotechnology, environmental engineering, energy management, etc.

Selvaraju Narayanasamy is the recipient of the Hiyoshi Think of Ecology Award 2016 from the Hiyoshi Corporation, Japan and Hiyoshi India Ecological Services Pvt. Ltd., India. He also received the Kerala State Young Scientist Award from the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology, and Environment (KSCSTE) and Fast Track Young Scientist Project from Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi. He was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Calicut from 2010–2017. Currently, he is working as an Assistant

Professor in the Department of Bio Sciences and Bio Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati. A total of 13 PhD students completed their degrees and currently six students are undergoing their research work under his supervision. His research encompasses various areas of chemical and environmental engineering, particularly expertise on microfluidics and micro reactors, adsorption in wastewater treatment, air and water quality models, nonlinear dynamic control systems and biodiesel.

Prashanth Suresh Kumar is a Water Technologist with a passion for applied research and science communication. He obtained his doctoral research in the Delft University, on the topic of phosphate recovery from municipal wastewater through adsorption. His research contributed to piloting P removal from surface and wastewater effluents in the context of preventing harmful algal blooms. The research was piloted as part of the George Barley Water Prize, and also in the context of recovering nutrients from the Baltic Sea. He is currently the Project Manager for education programs in WETSUS, which is a European centre of excellence for sustainable water technology, and is involved in guiding researchers as well as inspiring school students to take a career in water technology.

B. Deepanraj specialised in thermal and energy engineering. He completed his PhD at the National Institute of Technology Calicut, India. Currently, he is working as an Associate Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Jyothi Engineering College, Thrissur. His research interests include energy conversion and management, alternative fuels for IC engines, fuels and combustion, etc. He has published many papers in international journals and conferences and hosted many staff development programs and conferences.

It is a great pleasure to introduce WEECON'19: special issue on: 'Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development', which is composed of a selection of works presented at the National Conference on 'Water, Energy and Environment', Chennai on March 21–22, 2019. The main objective of the WEECON'19 Conference was to explore the potential role of science and technology in the mitigation of climate change for policymakers, the private sector, academic researchers and the civil society. More than 100 participants, comprising academicians, scientists, engineers, researchers and other stakeholders from various states in the country attended the WEECON'19 Conference which featured ten oral sessions and four plenary talks which were delivered by recognised scientists and academicians. From the very large number of abstracts submitted, the Scientific Committee has made a careful selection that resulted in 35 full manuscripts being prepared and submitted, finally after peer review, 12 being accepted for publication in a special issue of the *World Review of Science, Technology and Sustainable Development (WRSTSD)*.

This special issue on: 'Science, technology and innovation for sustainable development' features a set of peer-reviewed papers discussing different elements that are important in order to adequately understand, responsibly react to, and manage issues associated with the approaches towards science and technology for sustainable development. In addition, it also aims to promote multidisciplinary knowledge and values for the development of society and the expansion of human knowledge. We believe that the readers will enjoy reading the scientific articles and will collect many new scientific impressions and insights from this thematic issue.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for the reviewers who all responded quickly with helpful comments, authors of this special issue who all submitted their papers, and most especially to Dr. M.A. Dorgham, Editor-in-Chief of *World Review of Science, Technology and Sustainable Development*, and Alexandra Starkie, Journal Manager of Inderscience Publishers, for their very kind guidance and patience.