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Dear Readers,

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After 7 years and a total of 28 issues, this is my last issue as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Environmental Assessment Policy and Management (JEAPM). As many of you probably already know, I will be taking over editorship of the journal Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal (IAPA). I am very pleased to have found a highly suitable successor in the person of Prof. Davide Geneletti of Trento University in Northern Italy, whom I believe will do an excellent job in developing JEAPM further.

I had 7 interesting and rewarding years with a total of 198 papers, 28 editorials and 19 book reviews being published. This also included the publication of 10 special issues, as follows:

- (1) SEA in China (Volume 11, Issue 4; co-edited with Xu He).
- (2) SEA as a Tool to Contribute to High-Level Policy Objectives (Volume 13, Issue 1; Guest Editors Elsa João and Anna McLauchlan).
- (3) Spatial Data and Geographic Information Systems (Volume 14, Issue 1; Guest Editor Ainhoa Gonzalez).
- (4) 25 Years of EIA in the EU (Volume 14, Issue 4; co-edited with Hens Runhaar).
- (5) EA in the Context of Renewable Energy Deployment (Volume 15, Issue 2; co-edited with Johann Köppel).
- (6) SEA in Latin America (Volume 16, Issue 2; co-edited with Marcelo Montaña).
- (7) Disaster and Risk Management: The Role of Environmental Assessment (Volume 16, Issue 3).
- (8) IA Research: Achievements, Gaps and Future Directions (Volume 17, Issue 1; co-edited with Bram Noble).
- (9) Ex-post Evaluation of EA (Volume 18, Issue 1; co-edited with Morten Nicolaisen and Patrick Driscoll).
- (10) SEA in South Asia (Volume 18, Issue 2; co-edited with Urmila Jha-Thakur and Simon Marsden).

With 46 contributions overall, 2015 saw the largest number of papers published in any one year in the history of the journal. Also, over the years we have seen a continuous increase in citations, with 2015 witnessing a total of 373 citations on Scopus (up from 131 in 2009). Furthermore, 2016 saw the publication of the book Progress in Environmental Assessment Policy and Management Theory and

Practice by World Scientific, based on a compilation of JEAPM papers from the past 7 years. Whilst overall, the emerging picture has therefore been positive, some challenges also remain. For example, we are still waiting to hear on whether we will obtain an ISI impact factor in the near future.

At this point, I would like to express my gratitude to my Associate Editors from the past 7 years, Bram Noble, Urmila Jha-Thakur, Hu He and Simon Marsden. A big thank you also goes to our Book Review Editor Rocio A. Diaz-Chavez, who did an excellent job in providing for regular book reviews, as well as to our Editorial Board Members who are crucial for the effective running of a refereed professional journal, in particular in agreeing to review papers on a regular basis. Finally I would like to thank the Editorial Team at World Scientific, in particular Philly Lim.

With this I leave you to enjoy this Special Issue on SEA in South Asia and hand over the stick to Davide Geneletti. Enjoy reading!

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