Ambio – A Journal of the Human Environment

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

For more than 45 years Ambio has brought international perspective to important developments in environmental research, policy and related activities for an international readership of specialists, generalists, students, decision-makers and interested laymen. From 2019 and onwards we will publish monthly issues of which two to four each year will be special issues.

Ambio:
- explores the link between human activities and the environment;
- addresses the scientific, social, economic, and cultural factors that influence the condition of the human environment;
- encourages multi- or interdisciplinary submissions with explicit management or policy recommendations.

Each new submission is assessed by the editor-in-chief and one of the associate editors. We will reject a manuscript after editorial review if:
- it does not fulfil the journal scope (e.g. lacking a clear link between human activities and the environment);
- it is unlikely to be of interest to a broad international readership because of too narrow scope or if it does not provide novel insights into the subject area;
- authors have not convincingly argued that the general implications of the work transcend that of the studied area (for case studies);
- there are flaws with the methodology;
- is poorly presented and unclear.

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If you are uncertain whether your manuscript is suitable for publication in Ambio, please send an e-mail with the abstract to the editor-in-chief bo.soderstrom@kva.se
Article categories

Papers published in Ambio fall into four main categories. Regardless of article category, your submission will be subject to double-blind peer-review by two (or more) researchers with expert knowledge in the field.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article category</th>
<th>Word limit including references but excluding figures and tables</th>
<th>Max no. of references</th>
<th>Max no. of figures</th>
<th>Max no. of tables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Article</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perspective</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review</td>
<td>9000</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comment</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Research Article**

An original piece of work (original research) devoted to new findings and results of topical environmental research. The study should be introduced with non-specialists in mind. A Research Article should be organized as follows: Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, References and Author Biographies.

Ambio encourages multi- or interdisciplinary studies where both environmental and human aspects are dealt with to some depth regardless of the main approach and focus of the study. All articles must meet different disciplinary standards and traditions. For studies including a social science approach, please describe the Theoretical Framework – including clarification of theoretical assumptions – under a separate title placed in between the Introduction and Materials and Methods sections.

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Provides a forum for authors to discuss topical environmental issues, ideas or models from a personal viewpoint. Perspectives typically are argument driven, and arguments need to be solidly anchored in published research and relevant theoretical/analytical frameworks. Perspective papers do not need the empirical sections of a Research Article, although the methodology should be described briefly if analyses have been undertaken. They should be more forward looking than Reviews. They may be opinionated but should remain balanced and objective. Papers that aim at bridging the gap between research and its implementation are particularly welcome. Perspective articles are peer reviewed, and special guidelines for reviewers are given to emphasize that the manuscript is intended to evoke new ideas and stimulate debate, or new experimental approaches and practices.

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Focuses on one topical aspect of a research field rather than providing a comprehensive literature survey. It should not be focused on the authors’ own work. Reviews can be controversial but, if that is the case, opposing viewpoints should briefly be given. A Review should be narrative, the language simple and directed towards a non-specialist readership, novel concepts defined and specialist terminology explained. All Reviews should, in addition to the main text, include Abstract, Keywords and Author Biographies.

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Reflections on recently published papers in Ambio may be submitted as Comments. Abstract, Keywords or Author Biography are not included. Authors of the original article will be invited to submit a response to your Comment.
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Use double-spacing throughout the text. The article should be submitted as Word, LaTeX, PDF, RTF, or TXT file for text. All manuscript files should be formatted to contain line numbers. The manuscript should include:

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The title page, acknowledgements and author biographies must be submitted as a separate document in Editorial Manager. This will not be sent to reviewers to allow the review process to be double-blind.

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In addition to manuscript title and word count, the title page must contain the full names, positions and institutional mailing addresses of all authors as well as telephone number and e-mail address of the corresponding author. Please keep the title short since such articles often are downloaded and cited more.

b) Acknowledgements
Keep them brief.
c) Author Biographies

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Example:

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A short abstract, consisting of not more than 150 words, should indicate the scope, methods used, main results and one or two concluding "significance sentences" to allow readers from many fields of science to understand why your paper is important. Abstracts of a Review or a Perspective should indicate the scope and the main points of the article. A Comment does not have an abstract.

e) Keywords

Provide 4 to 6 keywords or keyword phrases in alphabetical order.

f) Main text of article

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In the main article: You are requested to use the author/year format of referencing in the text. If there are three or more authors use the name of the first author followed by "et al.". Add a, b, c etc. to distinguish between two or more references with the same author name and year.

Always list a string of references in chronological order, e.g. (Black 1985; Smith and Baker 1995a, b; Carruthers et al. 1999). Use ";" to separate references.
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Ambio

Electronic Supplementary Material

This supplementary material has not been peer reviewed.

Title: The Anthropocene: From global change to planetary stewardship

Authors: Will Steffen, Åsa Persson, Lisa Deutsch, Jan Zalasiewicz, Mark Williams, Katherine Richardson, Carole Crumley, Paul Crutzen, Carl Folke, Line Gordon, Mario Molina, Veerabhadran Ramanathan, Johan Rockström, Marten Scheffer, Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, Uno Svedin


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Your proposal should contain a general introduction to the subject, a clear rationale, clearly stated research questions or specific objectives, a description of implementation, and specific outcomes/benefits to the readership and potential spin-offs. A tentative list of article titles including lead authors is a requirement; it is even better if abstracts are available.

Furthermore you should give the names and affiliations of all project group members as well as state the name(s) of potential guest editor(s). An independent guest editor nominated by the project group coordinates the peer-review process. The guest editor should be independent from all authors and project group members, and must be approved by the editor-in-chief, who makes all final publication decisions.

A time table should be included as well as information on when you would want the special issue to be published.

The proposal should be sent to the editor-in-chief Bo Söderström (bo.soderstrom@kva.se)

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