



Ecological Economics

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Ecological Economics invites contributions for a **special issue on Behavioural ecological economics**; guest edited by Nives Della Valle (European Commission Joint Research Centre), Leonardo Boncinelli, (University of Florence), Tiziano Distefano (University of Florence), Tommaso Luzzati (University of Pisa) and Ann-Kathrin Blankenberg (Bard College Berlin).

Topic

This special issue aims to highlight the importance of the integration of behavioural economics into ecological economics. While these fields have been largely studied in isolation, a deeper understanding of their interaction is essential as the socio-economic and sustainability challenges (such as climate change and biodiversity loss) we face grow in complexity. Hence, this special issue will promote studies that investigate what drives and inhibits the adoption of prosocial and pro-environmental behaviours and citizenship practices, which enable to achieve well-being for all while staying within planetary limits. It will address the role that prosocial and pro-environmental behaviours play in both shaping collective ecological action and enhancing justice (e.g. procedural, intergenerational, distributional, etc.). It will evaluate the extent to which alternative approaches to methodological individualism, like ecological rationality, enable to better interpret ecological collective action as the coevolution between agents' non-monetary motivations and their relationships with nature and others. We invite experimental, theoretical and empirical papers showing how behavioural economics can be integrated into ecological economics, and incorporating aspects ranging from the identification of behavioural levers and policy instruments that can support both sufficiency and justice, the advancement of analytical models of collective action that account for the complex relationships between humans and nature, to the consideration of facets like social, cultural and ethical values. The aim of this special issue is to enhance our understanding of how individual behaviour and collective actions can contribute to implement and foster an ecological transition in practice.

Timeline

The special issue is **open for submission** starting from 1st October 2023. The **deadline for submissions** is 31st January 2024. Submissions must be made through the journal's online submission platform Editorial Manager <https://www.editorialmanager.com/colelec/default1.aspx>. We aim for publishing accepted publications from 1st October 2024.

Preparing contributions

Contributions to the special issue may be Analysis, Survey, Commentary, as described in the **Guide for Authors** (<https://www.elsevier.com/journals/ecological-economics/0921-8009/guide-for-authors>). When submitting your contribution, select "VSI: Behavioural ecological economics" as the article type. All contributions to a special issue must be prepared according to the journal's **Guide for Authors**.

Review process

All contributions will go through the **normal peer-review process** and are expected to at least meet, if not exceed, the usual quality standards of articles published in *Ecological Economics*. This includes the possibility that a given contribution will not be published if it is found to be not suitable.

Publication format

Special issues are published as **virtual special issues**. Each paper is published as soon as the proof is corrected in the next available regular issue, with an imprint indicating that it is part of a special issue. Simultaneously all special-issue articles are gathered together in an online-only grouping for the special issue itself. On ScienceDirect, the special issue is set up under the heading Article Collections and filled with special-issue-articles one by one, as they are published. The special issue becomes visible to end-users once the first article is linked to the special issue, rather than waiting for all papers to be finalised before it can be compiled. **Examples** of previously published special issues can be found at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/ecological-economics/special-issues>.

Contact

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