



Editorial

Navigating the waters of innovation: advancing in aquatic research and sustainability



Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal ^{1*} 

¹Faculty of Fisheries and Food Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, 21300 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu, Malaysia

Article info

Article history

Received: 07 January 2024
Revised: 15 February 2024
Accepted: 12 March 2024
Published: 16 March 2024

Keywords

Aquatic research
Sustainability
Aquatic ecosystems
Marine ecology
Climate change

Abstract

Aquatic research and sustainability represent critical pillars in our collective efforts to safeguard the health and resilience of the planet's aquatic ecosystems. Through rigorous scientific inquiry and innovative practices, researchers strive to unravel the complexities of aquatic environments, from the intricate dynamics of marine ecosystems to the delicate balance of freshwater habitats. Sustainable management approaches are essential to ensure the long-term viability of these invaluable resources, balancing human needs with the imperative to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services. From combating pollution and overfishing along with the impacts of climate change, aquatic research plays a pivotal role in informing evidence-based policies and practices aimed at preserving our oceans, rivers, and lakes for future generations. By fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, embracing emerging technologies, and promoting stakeholder engagement, we can collectively work towards a more sustainable future where the treasures of our aquatic world are cherished and protected.

© 2024 Abu Hena MK. This is an open access article distributed under the **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License** (www.creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Aquatic research and sustainability represent critical pillars in our collective efforts to safeguard the health and resilience of the planet's aquatic ecosystems (Ward *et al.*, 2022). Through rigorous scientific inquiry and innovative practices, researchers strive to unravel the complexities of aquatic environments, from the intricate dynamics of marine ecosystems to the delicate balance of freshwater habitats (Alexander *et al.*, 2019; Hipsey *et al.*, 2020). Sustainable management approaches are essential to ensure the long-term viability of these invaluable resources, balancing human needs with the imperative to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services (Bennett *et al.*, 2015; Shampa *et al.*, 2023). From combating pollution and overfishing along with the impacts of climate change, aquatic research plays a pivotal role in informing evidence-based policies and practices aimed at preserving our oceans, rivers, and lakes for future generations (Kumar *et al.*, 2021; Malhi *et al.*, 2020; Mozumder *et al.*, 2023). By fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, embracing emerging technologies, and promoting stakeholder engagement, we can collectively work towards a more sustainable future where the treasures of our aquatic world are cherished and protected (Mariani *et al.*, 2022; Mishra *et al.*, 2023). The Journal of Aquatic Research and Sustainability (JARS) stands as an excellence in the field of aquatic science, providing a dynamic platform for the dissemination of cutting-edge research and innovative solutions to pressing challenges facing our planet's aquatic ecosystems (Journal of Aquatic Research and Sustainability, 2024).

*Corresponding authors

Email address: a.hena@umt.edu.my (Abu Hena MK)

doi: <https://doi.org/10.69517/jars.2024.01.01.0001>

By providing open access to a diverse range of research articles, review papers, and technical notes, JARS plays a pivotal role in facilitating knowledge exchange and driving positive change in the fields of fisheries, aquaculture, and environmental conservation. With each issue, JARS reaffirms its dedication to promoting the health and sustainability of our oceans, rivers, and lakes, ensuring that future generations inherit a world where the wonders of aquatic life thrive.

The JARS is established with the overarching goal of advancing knowledge and fostering sustainable practices in the field of aquatic science. Recognizing the critical importance of our planet's aquatic ecosystems and the numerous challenges they face, JARS aims to provide a dedicated platform for researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to share their insights, discoveries, and solutions (Cantonati *et al.*, 2020). By facilitating the dissemination of high-quality, peer-reviewed research, JARS seeks to drive innovation, inform evidence-based policies, and promote the sustainable management and conservation of aquatic resources worldwide. Through its publication, JARS aspires to contribute to a deeper understanding of aquatic biodiversity, ecosystem dynamics, and the complex interactions between human activities and aquatic environments, ultimately working towards a future where our planet's water resources are preserved for generations to come (Cantonati *et al.*, 2020; Dahlin *et al.*, 2021).

The JARS aspires to attain indexing and inclusion in several prominent abstracting and indexing databases to elevate the visibility, accessibility, and influence of its published research. JARS is actively pursuing membership in Crossref for persistent identification and linkage of its content, alongside seeking inclusion in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) to underscore its commitment to transparent and open scholarly publishing. Furthermore, JARS aims to be indexed in databases like Scopus and Web of Science to broaden its reach to a diverse audience of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers interested in aquatic research and sustainability. Additionally, efforts are directed towards listing in the Electronic

Journals Library (EZB) and Research4Life to enhance accessibility, particularly for researchers in low- and middle-income countries. Preservation of content with Portico ensures long-term access, while inclusion in Google Scholar amplifies visibility across various disciplines. Adhering to ethical publishing practices outlined by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), JARS aims to consolidate its position as a leading platform for disseminating high-quality research in the field of aquatic science, contributing to global efforts in environmental conservation and sustainability (COPE, 2024).

Dive into the depths of aquatic science with the JARS, where cutting-edge research meets environmental stewardship. Explore our peer-reviewed articles to stay informed about the latest discoveries and solutions for preserving our oceans, rivers, and lakes. Join us in the journey towards a more sustainable future for aquatic ecosystems worldwide. The JARS invites original research, reviews, case studies, and editorials that advance fisheries, aquatic research, and sustainability. We encourage interdisciplinary work, fostering collaboration and innovation to address complex challenges in aquatic ecosystems. JARS is dedicated to facilitating knowledge exchange and shaping the future of aquatic sustainability. We welcome submissions from researchers worldwide committed to promoting conservation and management of aquatic resources.

Acknowledgments

The author would like to thank the technical and logistic support of Faculty of Fisheries and Food Sciences, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, Malaysia.

Ethical approval statement

None to declare.

Data availability

Not applicable.

Informed consent statement

Not applicable.

Conflict of interest

None to declare.

Authors' contribution

Abu Hena Mustafa Kamal: conceptualization, formal analysis, writing-original draft preparation, review and editing. The author has read and approved the final version of the published editorial.

References

- Alexander KA, Hobday AJ, Cvitanovic C, Ogier E, Nash KL, Cottrell RS, Fleming A, Fudge M, Fulton EA, Frusher S, Kelly R, MacLeod CK, Pecl GT, van Putten I, Vince J and Watson RA, 2019. Progress in integrating natural and social science in marine ecosystem-based management research. *Marine and Freshwater Research*, 70: 71. <https://doi.org/10.1071/MF17248>
- Bennett EM, Cramer W, Begossi A, Cundill G, Díaz S, Egoh BN, Geijzendorffer IR, Krug CB, Lavorel S, Lazos E, Lebel L, Martín-López B, Meyfroidt P, Mooney HA, Nel JL, Pascual U, Payet K, Harguindeguy NP, Peterson GD, Prieur-Richard AH and Woodward G, 2015. Linking biodiversity, ecosystem services, and human well-being: three challenges for designing research for sustainability. *Current Opinion in Environmental Sustainability*, 14: 76–85. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cosust.2015.03.007>
- Cantonati M, Poikane S, Pringle CM, Stevens LE, Turak E, Heino J, Richardson JS, Bolpagni R, Borrini A, Cid N, Tvrtlíková M, Galassi DMP, Hájek M, Hawes I, Levkov Z, Naselli-Flores L, Saber AA, Cicco MD, Fiasca B, Hamilton PB, Kubečka J, Segadelli S and

- Znachor P, 2020. Characteristics, main impacts, and stewardship of natural and artificial freshwater environments: Consequences for biodiversity conservation. *Water*, 12: 1–85. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w12010260>
- COPE, 2024. Committee on Publication Ethics, *Journal of Aquatic Research and Sustainability*. <https://publicationethics.org/>
- Dahlin KM, Zarnetske PL, Read QD, Twardochleb LA, Kamoske AG, Cheruvellil KS and Soranno PA, 2021. Linking terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity to ecosystem function across scales, trophic levels, and realms. *Frontiers in Environmental Science*, 9: 692401. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fenvs.2021.692401>
- Hipsey MR, Gal G, Arhonditsis GB, Carey CC, Elliott JA, Frassl MA, Janse JH, de Mora L and Robson BJ, 2020. A system of metrics for the assessment and improvement of aquatic ecosystem models. *Environmental Modelling and Software*, 128: 104697. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsoft.2020.104697>
- Journal of Aquatic Research and Sustainability, 2024. *Journal of Aquatic Research and Sustainability*. <https://www.genesispcl.com/journals/jars/>
- Kumar R, Verma A, Shome A, Sinha R, Sinha S, Jha PK, Kumar R, Kumar P, Shubham Das S, Sharma P and Prasad PVV, 2021. Impacts of plastic pollution on ecosystem services, sustainable development goals, and need to focus on circular economy and policy interventions. *Sustainability*, 13(17): 9963. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13179963>
- Malhi Y, Franklin J, Seddon N, Solan M, Turner MG, Field CB and Knowlton N, 2020. Climate change and ecosystems: threats, opportunities and solutions. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, 375(1794): 20190104. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2019.0104>
- Mariani L, Trivellato B, Martini M and Marafioti E, 2022. Achieving Sustainable Development Goals through collaborative innovation: evidence from four European initiatives. *Journal of Business Ethics*, 180(4): 1075–1095. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10551-022-05193-z>
- Mishra M, Desul S, Santos CAG, Mishra SK, Abu Hena MK, Goswami S, Kalumba AM, Biswal R, da Silva RM, dos Santos CAC and Baral K, 2023. A bibliometric analysis of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): a review of progress, challenges, and opportunities. *Environment, Development and Sustainability*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-023-03225-w>
- Mozumder MMH, Schneider P, Islam MM, Deb D, Hasan M, Monzer MA and Nur AAU, 2023. Climate change adaptation strategies for small-scale Hilsa fishers in the coastal area of Bangladesh: social, economic, and ecological perspectives. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 10: 1151875. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2023.1151875>
- Shampa MTA, Shimu NJ, Chowdhury KMA, Islam MM and Ahmed MK, 2023. A comprehensive review on sustainable coastal zone management in Bangladesh: Present status and the way forward. *Heliyon*, 9(8): e18190. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2023.e18190>
- Ward D, Melbourne-Thomas J, Pecl GT, Evans K, Green M, McCormack PC, Novaglio C, Trebilco R, Bax N, Brasier MJ, Cavan EL, Edgar G, Hunt HL, Jansen J, Jones R, Lea MA, Makomere R, Mull C, Semmens JM, Shaw J, Tinch D, Steveninck TJ and Layton C, 2022. Safeguarding marine life: conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*, 32: 65–100. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11160-022-09700-3>



Publisher's note

Genesis Publishing Consortium Limited pledges to maintain a neutral stance on jurisdictional claims shown in published maps and institutional affiliations.