

2024



# Annual Achievements Report

Building  
Connections,  
Driving  
Science.

02  
Table of Contents

04  
Message to the Community

71  
Contact Information

# Celebrating Growth and Success

08  
Section 01: Celebrating  
Growth and Success

10  
Global Outreach  
  
12  
Employee Voice:  
Yujin Wen

14  
Journal Anniversaries  
and Milestones  
  
22  
Canada Office Expanded

23  
MDPI Books  
  
24  
Employee Voice:  
Zach Churcher

# Commitment to Excellence

26  
Section 02: Commitment  
to Excellence

28  
Reliable Peer Review &  
Author and Reviewer Surveys  
  
31  
Research Integrity  
  
32  
Helping Authors Thrive from  
Manuscript to Marketplace

36  
Employee Voice:  
Jean-Baptiste de la Broise  
  
38  
Products  
  
40  
Employee Voice:  
Raluca-Gabriela Pisica

42  
Open Access for Greater  
Reach and Author  
Recognition  
  
43  
Visibility

# Investing in People

44  
Section 03: Investing  
in People

46  
Unlocking Potential by  
Training for Success  
  
47  
The Training Team

48  
The Crucial Role of Early  
Career Opportunities  
  
50  
Employee Voice:  
Samuel Wilson

52  
MDPI Workforce  
  
54  
Employee Voice:  
Uros Ivaz

# Teamwork and Collaboration

56  
Section 04: Teamwork  
and Collaboration

58  
Advancing Open Access  
through Partnerships  
  
59  
Consortia Agreements

60  
IOAP Partnerships  
  
61  
Researcher Benefit  
  
62  
Successful Conferences

66  
Employee Voice: Carla Aloè  
  
68  
Employee Voice: Stefan Zamfir  
  
70  
Societies

# Message to the MDPI Community



Stefan Tochev  
Chief Executive Officer

## Reflecting on 2024: Celebrating Our Progress and People

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud of the growth and collaboration that continue to shape MDPI's evolution.

The year 2024 was one of expansion, innovation, and resilience, made possible by the dedication and hard work of our staff all around the world. I would like to thank all our employees for coming together in the service of open science. We continually work to develop the benefits of open access publishing, making new research findings more accessible than ever for the global scientific community.

## Growth & Global Expansion

Our MDPI workforce continues to expand, rising from 5,900 colleagues at the end of 2023 to over 6,650 at the end of 2024. A key milestone in 2024 was the opening of a new office in Seoul, Republic of Korea, which further increases our support capabilities for researchers worldwide and reinforces our presence in the dynamic Asian publishing landscape.

Publishing at scale requires an unconditional commitment to quality. With two-thirds of our staff dedicated to editorial support, we uphold stringent publishing standards, ensuring a rigorous peer review process and efficient editorial workflows. This commitment is reflected in our indexing achievements: as of December 30<sup>th</sup> 2024, we publish 457 open access peer-reviewed journals:

## Excellence in Publishing & Research Integrity

- 60 MDPI journals were newly indexed in Web of Science during 2024, bringing our total of indexed journals to 297.
- 37 MDPI journals were accepted into Scopus in the same period, bringing our total of indexed titles to 306.

We remain fully focused on what matters most: delivering a seamless, high-quality publishing experience while driving open access forward. Peer review remains the vital heart of our commitment to research integrity. In 2024, over 215,000 expert reviewers evaluated nearly 600,000 submissions, supported by more than 2,000 Editors-in-Chief.

Recognizing and celebrating outstanding science is also a key part of our mission. In 2024, we awarded 448 journal prizes, distributing

CHF 660,000 in prize money to 1,040 winners worldwide, in a further demonstration of our commitment to supporting researchers.

Growth is never without its challenges, however. This year, we faced setbacks, including:

- The removal of the *Journal of Personalized Medicine* from Web of Science due to concerns over the relevance of its content. Our Editorial and Research Integrity teams are actively addressing this issue, and we plan to reapply for indexation in December 2026.
- The JUFO (Finnish Publication Forum) decision to downgrade a collection of MDPI journals. In response, we are engaging with the Finnish research community and editorial boards to provide scientific data in support of a re-evaluation.

“I believe that we are stronger together when we are driven by the power of community and the spirit of collaboration. Through uniting our efforts, we can achieve more and create a lasting impact.”

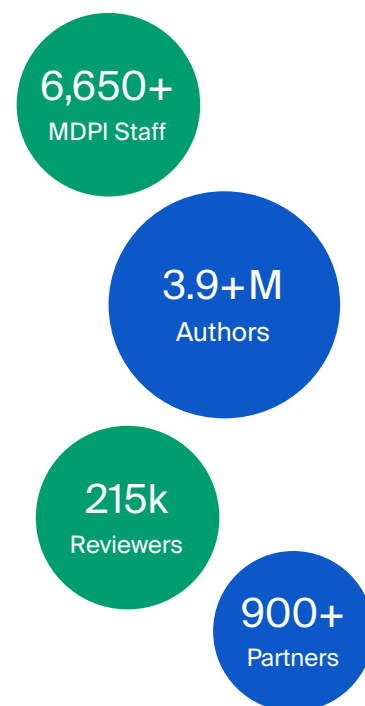
## Investing in Our People

These experiences remind us that there is always room for improvement, and it is the way we respond to challenges that will define us. By continually learning, adapting, and improving, we not only enhance our commitment to publishing excellence and integrity but also perpetually defend the high standards that our authors rightly expect of us.

Our success as a company is founded on the talent, expertise, and continuous learning of our employees. Our in-house Learning Academy plays a crucial role in equipping our teams with the skills and knowledge needed to support authors, reviewers, and editorial processes efficiently.

With 44 full-time trainers and 196 part-time training assistants worldwide, we provide a dynamic learning environment, covering everything from specialized editorial training to cross-cultural collaboration. These initiatives reflect our commitment to professional development, inclusivity, and operational excellence.

As Alistair Freeland, Chief Operating Officer, puts it: "Training is fundamental to the continuous learning culture at MDPI. Ongoing learning enhances collaboration, improves professional service, and drives the company's growth."



## Strengthening Partnerships & Open Access

In 2024, we secured a landmark national open access agreement with ZB MED in Germany, covering 110 universities and research institutions, bringing our total number of Institutional Open Access Program (IOAP) partners to over 900.

These partnerships streamline payment workflows and provide substantial APC discounts, making open access publishing more accessible and efficient for researchers.

Additionally, we renewed key consortium agreements with Jisc (UK) and Bibsam (Sweden) and expanded partnerships in Republic of Korea, China, and Romania, reinforcing our commitment to supporting institutions at scale worldwide.

## MDPI Thrives Because of Our People

In an environment of dynamic growth and change, one constant remains: the people of MDPI. In 2024, I had the privilege of representing MDPI at key meetings and conferences around the world, from Beijing to Krakow, and of visiting many of our offices, from Tokyo and Cluj to Manchester and Toronto. Meeting and connecting with so many of our colleagues was without doubt the highlight of my year.

When asked what makes MDPI a great place to work, my answer is simple: It's the people.

Our authors frequently praise the support and professionalism of our editorial staff. That same focus on care and collaboration defines our internal culture. MDPI thrives because of the community and teamwork that drive us forward.

As the African proverb has it: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

I believe that MDPI embodies both of these objectives: we are efficient in our daily operations, yet united in our purpose of advancing open access publishing in support of open science.

On behalf of the management of MDPI, I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the successes we enjoyed in 2024 – our authors, Editors-in-Chief, reviewers, partners, and, once again, our employees. Together, we can look forward to another year of committed teamwork in the service of the global scientific community.

Stefan Tochev  
Chief Executive Officer



## Section 01

# Celebrating Growth & Success

[Global Expansion](#)

[Office Opened  
in Republic of Korea](#)

[Online Reach and Access](#)

[Employee Voice:  
Yuqin Wen](#)

[Journal Anniversaries  
and Milestones](#)

[Canada Office Expanded](#)

[MDPI Books](#)

[Employee Voice:  
Zach Churcher](#)

Even in  
challenging  
environments,  
we continue  
to grow as  
a global  
company.

# Author-Centered Publishing on a Global Scale

The widespread adoption of the Open Access model has been a key driver of MDPI's growth and success, alongside our commitment to delivering high-quality service to authors. Our author-focused publishing approach and reliable peer review process have enabled us to serve a growing number of researchers, institutions, and funding bodies worldwide.

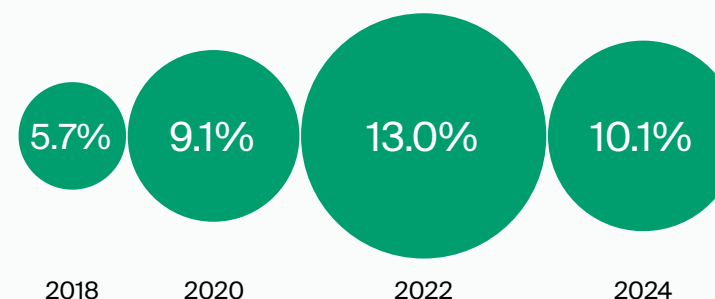
As Open Access becomes the gold standard for research dissemination, MDPI continues to lead the way, streamlining the publishing process to ensure fast, ethical, and reliable knowledge sharing.

To further strengthen our global presence and support for authors, we continue to expand our operations across Europe, Asia, and the Americas. In addition to our

Asian offices in China, Japan, Singapore and Thailand, we opened an office in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in 2024. This growth reinforces our dedication to serving the research community worldwide and building strong partnerships with institutions and researchers across diverse regions. More than 1,000 scholars from South Korean institutions serve as Editorial Board Members for MDPI journals, each contributing in various ways to the development and success of our publications.

The number of submitted papers from the Asia-Pacific region increased by 15–20% compared to the previous year.

## OA Market Share\*



To maintain the highest standards, MDPI continues to invest in its editorial teams, with two-thirds of our staff dedicated to supporting authors, reviewers, and academic editors. This strong editorial foundation ensures submissions are handled efficiently, reinforcing trust and reliability within the global research community.

As a result of these efforts, engagement with our journals has increased, with more than 14 million monthly page visits to our platform.

Our share of the overall Open Access publishing market (i.e., articles published under a

CC BY license) has stabilized at around 10%, according to data from Dimensions (Digital Science).

Through strategic investments in technology, editorial excellence, and global partnerships, we are setting new benchmarks for success in Open Access publishing. With an ever-growing journal portfolio, we empower researchers to make meaningful contributions to society, shaping the future of scholarly communication. By expanding our reach and continuously improving our services, we are strengthening our role as a leading force in academic publishing.

## Online Reach and Access

**157.9M**  
Article Pageviews in 2024

**25.7M**  
Article Downloads in 2024

**5M**  
Site Searches in 2024

**55.9M**  
Unique Visitors to  
mdpi.com in 2024

**14.2M**  
Average monthly visits

**6.6M**  
Average monthly pageviews

\*Dimensions data (incl. Research and Review Articles; OA or Hybrid Articles)

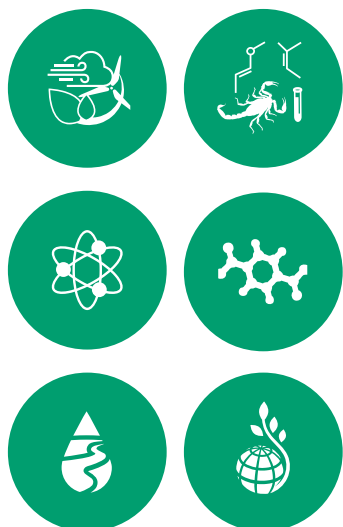
## Employee Voice Yuqin Wen



"This year, I have tutored overseas colleagues on Chicago skills, taken part in cross-cultural exchanges, lectured on APA, and deepened my involvement in proofreading. Communication has been crucial in this process, highlighting the impact of my efforts and the importance of collaboration. MDPI provides a platform for self-discovery and potential exploration. My work has promoted team development and knowledge-sharing, mirroring MDPI's dedication to growth and collaboration."

Production Specialist,  
Wuhan, China

## Journal Anniversaries and Milestones



A decade ago, we reached a significant milestone with the launch of twelve new journals, strategically developed to address emerging disciplines and global challenges. In 2024, several of these journals celebrated their ten-year anniversary, including titles such as *Environments* and *Hydrology*, which we present below.

Over the past ten years, these journals have grown into vital resources for researchers and practitioners, publishing cutting-edge studies and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration. Their success reflects our ongoing commitment to supporting rigorous scholarship and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration.

Similarly, 2009 marked a pivotal moment when MDPI, as a new and innovative publisher following the open access agenda, launched journals tailored to the needs of the scientific community. This past year, twelve journals marked 15 years of publication, including *Polymers* and *Toxins*, which we are pleased to highlight here.

## Clean Technologies



Prof. Dr. Patricia Luis  
(UCLouvain, Belgium),  
Editor-in-Chief,  
*Clean Technologies*

*"I see Clean Technologies advancing with high-quality papers and a vision centered on sustainability and a healthy planet for all. Beyond publication objectives, we strive to demonstrate the real-world benefits of our research, particularly for future generations."*

*Being honest with ourselves and our readers is the best we can offer, ensuring that sustainability, ethical practices, and global equity remain central to our publishing standards."*

*Clean Technologies* was founded in 2019 with a strong focus on sustainable technology, clean energy, and environmental policy. Indexed in Scopus, Web of Science (ESCI), and other databases, it had an Impact Factor of 4.1 in 2023. Under Editor-in-Chief Professor Patricia Luis Alconero (UCLouvain) the journal has grown steadily, publishing 80 papers in 2024, up from 22 in 2019. Since its launch, it has become a key platform for research on environmentally sustainable technologies.



Founded in 2019

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Patricia Luis  
(since 2019)

JCR Rank: Q2: Engineering,  
Environmental; Q2:  
Environmental Sciences

Cites per article  
(mean): 11.7

Journal awards given: 6

[mdpi.com/journal/  
cleantechnol](https://mdpi.com/journal/cleantechnol)



# Toxins



Prof. Dr. Jay W. Fox  
(University of Virginia, USA)  
Editor-in-Chief, *Toxins*

*"It has been my honor to serve as Editor-in-Chief of Toxins. My close working ties with our exceptional Editorial Board has proved fruitful, allowing us to publish impactful investigations in*

*toxinology and toxicology. The journal thrives thanks to the dedication of an outstanding team of editors, reviewers, and publication staff at MDPI, ensuring the highest quality service for our authors"*

*Toxins* is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal established by MDPI in 2009. It focuses on all aspects of toxinology, including the biology, chemistry, and medical applications of toxins from animals, plants, and microbes.

The journal has been under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief Professor Jay Fox since 2017, growing into a key open research platform in the field. *Toxins* received an Impact Factor above 5.0 for the first time in 2021 and continues to be ranked in the top 25% in the 'Toxicology' field.



Founded in 2009

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Jay W. Fox  
(since 2017)

JCR Rank: Q1: Toxicology; Q2:  
Food Science and Technology

Cites per article (mean): 23.9

Journal awards given: 24

[mdpi.com/journal/toxins](https://mdpi.com/journal/toxins)

# Physics



Prof. Dr. Edward  
Sarkisyan-Grinbaum  
(CERN, Geneva, Switzerland)  
Editor-in-Chief, *Physics*

*"During quite a short period since we launched Physics in 2019, the journal has achieved significant milestones early on, growing into a widely cited and respected publication. We continue our mission of furthering knowledge in physics and in physics education."*

- Indexing in ESCI: In 2021, Physics has been quite soon indexed in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) by Web of Science, enhancing the journal visibility and accessibility.
- The 100<sup>th</sup> paper was published in July 2021 marking a significant milestone in the journal's publication history.
- Indexing in Scopus: In 2022, Physics was accepted for coverage in Scopus, further expanding its reach and impact within the physics community, receiving its first CiteScore of 2.0.
- First Impact Factor: In 2023, the journal received its first Impact Factor of 1.6, indicating its increasing influence in the field.



Founded in 2019

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Edward  
Sarkisyan-Grinbaum  
(since 2019)

JCR Rank:  
Q2: Physics, Multidisciplinary

Cites per article (mean): 4.6

Journal awards given: 3

[mdpi.com/journal/physics](https://mdpi.com/journal/physics)

*Physics* is another journal celebrating its five-year anniversary in 2019. The journal covers all aspects of physics, including High Energy Physics, Atomic Physics, Astrophysics, and Applied Physics. The journal is indexed in major databases, including Scopus and the ESCI and has a Journal Impact Factor since 2023.

# Polymers



Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker  
(Fraunhofer Institute,  
Potsdam, Germany)  
Editor-in-Chief, *Polymers*

*"To establish an open access journal from scratch in the international publishing world is not easy. To this day we have to overcome various challenges in order to foster high quality open access publishing. We keep focus on high quality publishing and will strive to build a solid author base in the US and expand the base in Europe."*

Under the leadership of Founding Editor-in-Chief Prof. Böker from the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Polymer Research, the journal has seen significant growth. In 2024, *Polymers* celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary, reflecting its ongoing commitment to disseminating high-quality research in the field.

It received its first Impact Factor after only four years of publication and received an Impact Factor above 5.0 for the first time in 2022. Other than SCIE (Web of Science) the journal is indexed in major databases including Scopus and Ei Compendex.

The journal supported the scientific community over the years by offering more than 50 Journal Awards, including the Best Paper Award, Young Investigator Award, and Best PhD Thesis Award, recognizing outstanding contributions and fostering collaboration within the field.



Founded in 2009

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker  
(since 2009)

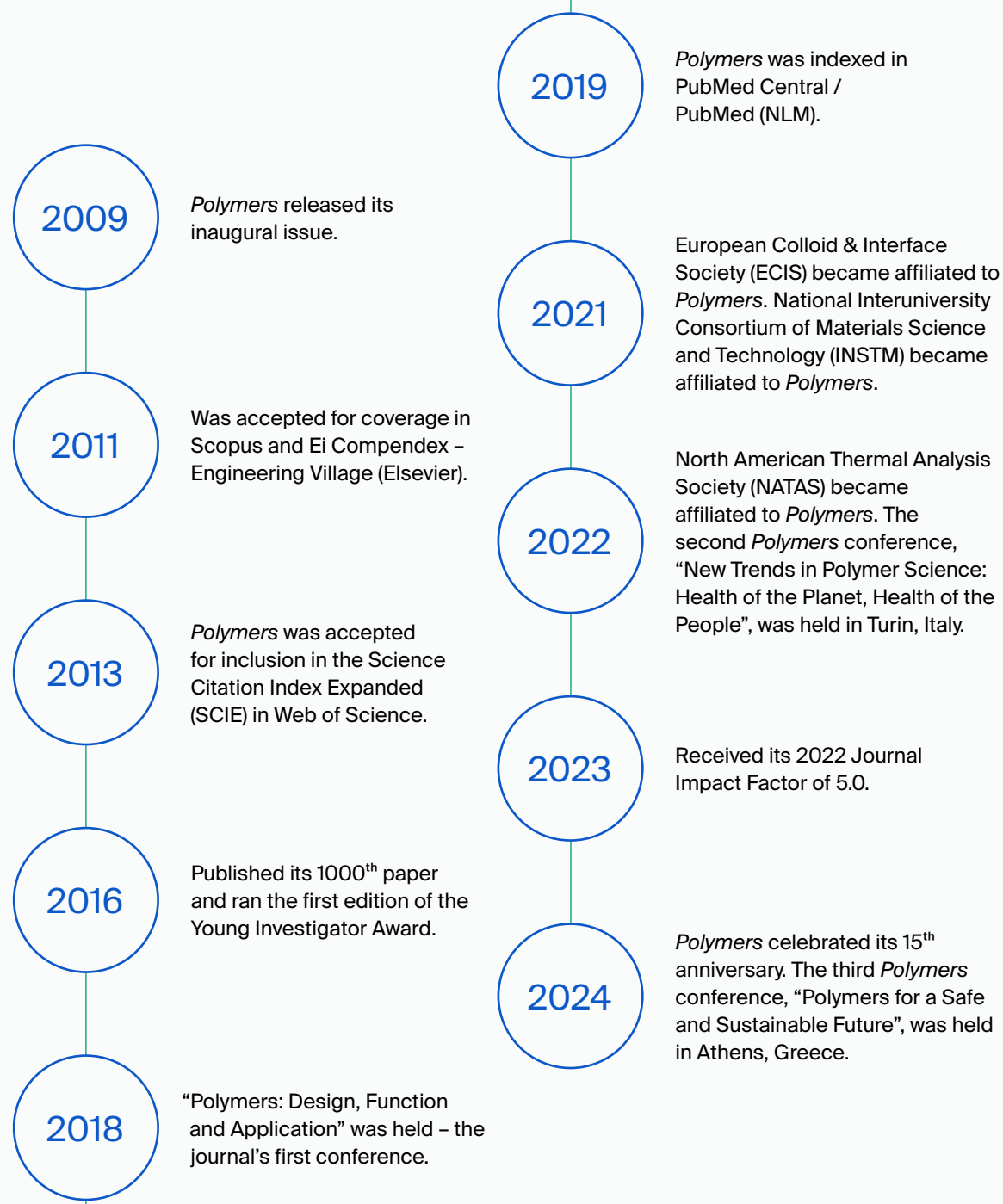
JCR Rank:  
Q1: Polymer Science

Cites per article (mean): 17.4

Journal awards given: 55

[mdpi.com/journal/  
polymers](https://mdpi.com/journal/polymers)

Established in 2009, *Polymers* is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal published semimonthly by MDPI. The journal focuses on polymer science, encompassing areas such as polymer synthesis, applications, and advancements.





# Hydrology



Founded in 2014

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Ezio Todini  
(since 2020)

JCR Rank:  
Q2: Water Resources

Cites per article (mean): 10.5

Journal awards given: 15

[mdpi.com/journal/hydrology](https://mdpi.com/journal/hydrology)

(AIH) and Japanese Society of Physical Hydrology (JSPH) are affiliated with *Hydrology*. Since the establishment of *Hydrology* in 2014, the journal has published over 1000 papers, including more than 300 that have been cited at least ten times.

*journal continues to attract outstanding contributions that integrate diverse disciplines, fostering collaboration between researchers and practitioners to advance hydrological science and develop real-world solutions. I can confidently say that the Hydrology journal is in good health."*

The year 2024 marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the journal *Hydrology*. During the past ten years, *Hydrology* has served as a platform for highlighting scientific advancements in the multidisciplinary field of hydrological sciences.

The journal encompasses all aspects of hydrology: groundwater, surface water, soil water, and atmospheric water, as well as snow and ice. The American Institute of Hydrology



Prof. Dr. Ezio Todini  
(Italian Hydrological Society, Bologna, Italy)  
Editor-in-Chief, *Hydrology*

*"I sincerely thank the readers, authors, and all those who have contributed to the success of Hydrology, especially the Associate Editors, Editorial Board, and dedicated staff for their invaluable support. I hope the*

# Environments



Founded in 2014

Editor-in-Chief:  
Prof. Dr. Sergio Ulgiati  
(since 2023)

JCR Rank:  
Q2: Environmental Sciences

Cites per article (mean): 13.0

Journal awards given: 11

[mdpi.com/journal/environments](https://mdpi.com/journal/environments)

science, covering topics such as ecosystem management, pollution control, sustainability, and environmental policy.

The journal celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. It is indexed in major databases, including Scopus and Web of Science (ESCI), and received its first Impact Factor of 3.7 in 2023.

*improving the submitted work, with authors and reviewers engaging in productive discussion."*

How do you envision the journal evolving in the coming years?

*"We aim to increase the number of Editorial Board members, ensure global representation and gender parity, and boost researcher engagement. Additionally, we aim to increase Environments' presence at high-profile conferences."*

The journal supports the scientific community by offering various awards, such as the Best Paper Award and Travel Awards, recognizing outstanding contributions and fostering collaboration within the field.

*Environments* serves as a multidisciplinary platform for research in environmental



Prof. Dr. Sergio Ulgiati  
(Parthenope University of Naples, Italy)  
Editor-in-Chief, *Environments*

What has your experience been in shaping and leading the journal?

*"The breadth of topics covered in our journal is a significant strength, as it enables us to explore the dynamics of ecosystems and their interactions with human societies. In our experience, the peer review process has been instrumental in*

## Toronto Office

The Toronto office celebrated a big year in 2024 with the team expanding from 30 full-time staff members at the start of January to 59 by the end of December. The service areas based in the office also grew beyond the pre-existing Editorial and English Editing departments to include new Marketing, Administration, Finance, and HR teams.

Hosted the first MDPI North America Summit (20–21 June 2024) which was attended by 13 EICs and Section EICs and nine EBMs from the US and Canada.

New JRS and Editorial Staff achieved impressive outreach with 296 Scholar Visits (87 offline, 209 online), twelve EB Meetings, 31 Conferences, and two Author Training Sessions held.

Launched a Diamond OA society journal managed by our first Toronto-based Managing Editor.

## MDPI Books

MDPI Books provides quality open access publishing to foster knowledge exchange across all disciplines in a globalized world. While academic journals share the latest research, academic books are more of an invitation to pause for a moment and reflect. Additionally, MDPI Books offers Reprints of MDPI journal article collections.

2024 was a successful year for MDPI Books, marked by significant growth in engagement, visibility, and accessibility. We expanded our Open Access book offerings, enhanced our digital infrastructure, and strengthened our indexing presence. Our

2024 initiatives – ranging from a website relaunch to supporting authors in securing funding through guidelines and the Knowledge Unlatched program, as well as conducting a stakeholder survey to provide insights into the Open Access books community – have strengthened our position in the Open Access publishing landscape.

MDPI Books Blog was launched  
[mdpi.com/books/blog](https://mdpi.com/books/blog)

Five Open Access Books and 1495 Reprints published

18 Open Access Books indexed in Web of Science

All Open Access Books are archived in CLOCKSS for long-term preservation and all book metadata is now distributed via ProQuest

Implemented ONIX and MARC Records for improved metadata management

## Employee Voice

### Zach Churcher



“This year I spent a lot of time developing personal connections with our scholars. By treating them with compassion and respect I have fostered relationships that allow our scholars to feel comfortable reaching out to me directly to get assistance with any MDPI related questions or issues they might be having. I am proud of the many university trips and conferences I have participated in, as these are the places where I made connections with these scholars.”

Editorial Office,  
Toronto, Canada

## Section 02

# Commitment to Excellence

[Reliable Peer Review](#)  
[Author and Reviewer Surveys](#)  
[Journal Awards](#)  
[Research Integrity](#)  
[Tools and Platforms](#)  
[Employee Voice:](#)  
[Jean-Baptiste de la Broise](#)  
[Products](#)  
[Employee Voice:](#)  
[Raluca-Gabriela Pisica](#)  
[Journal Database Coverage](#)  
[Visibility](#)

We continuously evolve our editorial processes to uphold research integrity while ensuring a smooth experience from submission to publication.



# Commitment to Excellence and Researcher Support

As MDPI continued to evolve and improve in 2024, we remained focused on what matters most: delivering a seamless, high-quality publishing experience while driving open access forward. For nearly 30 years, our dedication to excellence has positioned us as a trusted partner in the academic publishing landscape, ensuring that researchers can share their discoveries with confidence.

Our commitment to excellence is reflected in our reliable, author-focused peer review process and careful editorial oversight. Over the past year, we worked closely with a vast network of experts to ensure the integrity and quality of published research.

## Reliable Peer Review

Reviewers generously give their time to assess manuscripts for MDPI's journals, and their contributions are indispensable to maintaining the quality of the research we publish. We understand that peer review requires significant time and effort, and we appreciate the care and attention reviewers bring to their evaluations.

In 2024 alone, more than 215,000 expert reviewers carefully evaluated 598,500 submitted papers across MDPI's portfolio of journals. Supporting this effort were over 2,000 Editors-in-Chief, Section Editors-in-Chief, and Associate Editors, who play a crucial role in upholding the integrity, development, and long-term quality of our journals.

To further refine editorial processes and discuss journals' long-term trajectories, our editorial offices and editorial engagement staff organize Editorial Board Meetings, either in conjunction with academic conferences or as standalone events. These meetings provide an opportunity for all Editorial Board Members to meet in person or virtually, fostering collaboration and strategic discussions on the journal's development, editorial policies, and future directions. Engaging in face-to-face discussions can enhance decision-making, strengthen the journal's vision, and ensure alignment with emerging trends in the field.

We actively listen to and act on feedback from our global community of authors, reviewers, and editors.

## Submitting Authors

- (37k survey respondents)
- 95% rate their overall experience with the publication process Excellent/Good
  - 92% rate their overall experience with the peer review process as Excellent/Good

Through regular surveys and direct engagements, we continuously refine our processes and platforms. We are committed to enhancing transparency in line with industry recommendations from COPE and indexing bodies.

Our ability to listen, adapt, and innovate keeps us connected with the research community and at the forefront of open access publishing. This approach has led to tangible improvements, such as consistent oversight for

## Guest Editors

- (3k survey respondents)
- 84% rate their overall experience guest editing a special issue as Excellent/Good
  - 81% rate their overall experience with the peer review process as Excellent/Good

section editors and editorial board members over articles under processing, including those submitted to Special Issues, ensuring a smoother publishing journey for authors.

## Recognition of Excellence

This commitment to supporting researchers at all stages extends beyond the publishing process to recognizing and celebrating excellence in the scientific community.

## Reviewers

- (12k survey respondents)
- 82% rate their overall experience with the peer review process as Excellent/Good

By offering better resources for authors, including journal awards handed out to promising junior researchers, and providing APC discounts for partnering institutions, we aim to empower scientists and scholars at all career stages. MDPI remains dedicated to advancing global research while providing authors and institutions with the support they need to succeed.

In 2024, MDPI's journals granted 448 awards, including the Young Investigator

Awards, Best PhD Thesis Awards and Travel Awards which serve to recognize early-career researchers for their outstanding and promising contributions. Overall, the award selection committees picked 1040 winners from 55 countries/territories for these awards, with the total prize money amounting to 660,000 Swiss francs (CHF), or 730,000 USD.

Our awards and recognition programs foster excellence, collaboration, and innovation in research. These initiatives acknowledge outstanding contributions, encourage early-career scholars, and enhance the visibility of impactful work. By providing funding, networking opportunities, and professional validation, such support strengthens scholarly engagement and drives advancements across disciplines.

**448**  
awards given in 2024

**1040**  
winners picked from  
55 countries/territories

**131**  
Best Paper awards

**113**  
Outstanding Reviewer awards

**196**  
Young Investigator Awards,  
Travel awards,  
Best PhD Thesis Awards

Our awards  
and recognition  
programs  
foster excellence,  
collaboration, and  
innovation in  
research.

# Trusted, Reliable and Ethical Publishing

Research Integrity was a key focus of our expansion in 2024, with the size of our dedicated team more than tripling. This growth has strengthened our expertise, enhanced our ability to ensure ethical publishing practices, and deepened our collaboration with external organizations.

With six major updates to our external publication ethics policies we continue to reinforce accountability. The updates include clarification on the use of Generative AI (GenAI) as well as updates in the correction policy for better overall transparency.

Beyond our own initiatives, we actively contribute to global efforts against paper mills such as STM's Integrity

Hub and United2Act, which we joined in April 2024. Our involvement includes supporting the development of image integrity capabilities and other key industry-wide initiatives. We strongly advocate for collaboration and open exchange to establish a comprehensive, unified approach to research integrity. Scientific integrity is the foundation of credible research. As the scientific landscape evolves, researchers continue to build on the work of their communities, applying critical thinking, expertise, and rigorous methodologies. By strengthening ethical standards and fostering transparency, we support a trustworthy and resilient scholarly ecosystem.

Six major updates

STM's Integrity Hub

United 2Act



## Helping Authors Thrive from Manuscript to Marketplace

Our aim is to streamline the entire Open Access publishing process, from pre-submission to final publication. At MDPI, our dedicated teams actively support a range of tools and platforms designed to make this journey as smooth as possible. Here are some of our key achievements from last year.

### JAMS: Empowering Academic Publishing, Simplified

The Journal and Article Management System, JAMS, now offers flexible pricing and new editorial services to improve accessibility.

The platform's new Editorial Guidance service offers expert consulting to help journals achieve indexing, expand readership, and enhance their impact, setting a new standard in editorial support across the scholarly publishing landscape.

JAMS' new scalable pricing model has been designed to benefit publishers in the Global South, non-profits, and smaller organizations, improving access to high-quality journal management and engaging researchers from diverse communities.

### Preprints.org: A Multidisciplinary Preprint Platform

Preprints.org achieved remarkable milestones by publishing 28,558 preprints, a 31.7% increase from the previous year, with contributions from over 114,000 authors. Garnering 6.9 million downloads and 3.2 million reads in 2024.

To enhance user experience, Preprints.org relaunched the platform with an updated user interface for both web and mobile. New features include full-text reading, draft saving, push notifications, individual subject/collection pages, and improved search functionality.

### Encyclopedia: A User-generated Content Collection Platform

Encyclopedia made significant progress in creating engaging multimedia content for academic papers and bridging the gap between complex research findings and broader audiences by launching an innovative video production service to transform scientific papers into engaging videos. Throughout the year, Encyclopedia partnered with 20 MDPI journals, producing over 100 video abstracts.

To further promote its video production services and support scholars, Encyclopedia organized the ScholarVision Creations event, offering free academic video creation. 306 scholars enthusiastically participated, resulting in the successful production of 37 high-quality videos.

### SciProfiles: An Openly Accessible Platform for Scholarly Communities

Several exciting improvements were introduced to better support global scholars in showcasing their achievements and building connections. New features such as CV Download and Instant Messaging were launched, allowing scholars to easily customize and download CVs with just a click, and to connect instantly with their peers. We also optimized the scholar profile design and enhanced the functionalities for adding and searching academic conferences. These updates help scholars integrate their work more effectively and engage more deeply with the scholarly community.

Additionally, SciProfiles remained active in sharing the latest academic news, emerging trends, notable researchers, and research tips through our social media accounts. This ensured that scholars stayed up to date with the most relevant trends and insights. This resulted in 950,000 users and 1.6 million visitors engaging with the platform.

## Scilit: A Comprehensive Content Aggregator Platform for Scholarly Publications

Scilit significantly improved data quality across publications, unique authors, journals, and publishers, intending to deliver high-quality content to users. To further support scholarly progress, the platform introduced a new preprint ranking feature that helps researchers track the latest global research trends and quickly grasp the dynamics of their fields.

In recognition of academic excellence, Scilit launched a highly cited scholar ranking list to highlight and promote those who have made exceptional contributions to their disciplines. This initiative seeks to establish an authoritative, widely respected, and trusted academic ranking within the industry.

Scilit also formed in-depth partnerships with 351 publishers, enriching its resource database and enhancing its commitment to providing comprehensive academic support to researchers.

Furthermore, Scilit restarted its citation alert service, ensuring that authors are kept informed about the research's impact through real-time citation notifications.

Our in-house AI team also worked to simplify and safeguard processes internally by rolling out and enhancing various tools:

Finder:  
identify experts in the field for the peer review process using semantic search capacities

EtymologAI:  
classification of MDPI.com and Scilit.net articles into different research categories.

## Sciforum: An Academic Event Planning Platform

Sciforum significantly advanced its conference management capabilities by optimizing key features. By year-end, Sciforum had successfully supported 963 conferences, attracting over 44,000 active users.

To streamline registration and management, Sciforum improved email template management, introduced an automatic payment receipt generation feature, and customized invoice formats and certificate designs for Japanese conferences. These updates simplified user workflows, making them more efficient and user-friendly.

In the submission screening process, Sciforum adjusted the data access settings and added new options to better support MDPI-hosted events.

Additionally, Sciforum created added value for participants by enabling the export of compressed files containing oral presentation materials and videos and providing exclusive certificates for oral presentations and posters.

Ethicality:  
detect different signals allowing our editors to spot fraudulent activities and ethical breaches

GuideLens:  
GenAI chatbot for internal staff to help with daily activities, while interacting with guides and training materials

## Employee Voice

### Jean-Baptiste de la Broise



“I am extremely proud of my 2024 achievements on different innovative projects. Together with the AI team, I leveraged open-source LLMs and document search engines to provide accurate, sourced answers to our editors, empowering them in their daily tasks. On a broader level, we built a robust model deployment pipeline and fine-tuned models for domain-specific tasks like spam filtering and scope-checking. We now have a strong foundation for future innovation. We like to work on technology that benefits our internal staff and the broader academic community.”

## Artificial Intelligence, Basel, Switzerland

# Products

In everything that we do, our mission is to foster open science and scientific exchange. Over the years, MDPI has developed a set of initiatives designed to help scientists achieve their own objectives. On this page, you will find information on these initiatives and how each supports our core activity, journal publishing.



Sciforum is an event management platform that supports open science by offering the opportunity to participate in, as well as to organize, academic conferences.  
[sciforum.net](http://sciforum.net)



Preprints is a multidisciplinary preprint platform that makes scientific manuscripts from all fields of research immediately citable and permanently available for everyone.  
[preprints.org](http://preprints.org)



MDPI publishes a series of open access conference journals in all research fields. These journals provide a high quality service and are dedicated to making the output of conferences widely available.  
[mdpi.com/about/proceedings](http://mdpi.com/about/proceedings)



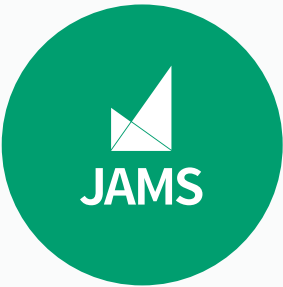
Scilit is a centralized platform for all published research literature.  
[scilit.net](http://scilit.net)



SciProfiles is a social network platform powered by MDPI for researchers across the globe.  
[sciprofiles.com](http://sciprofiles.com)



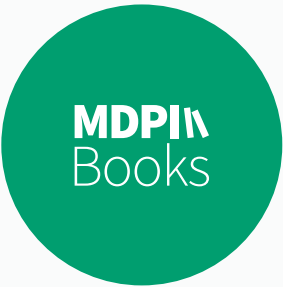
MDPI offers services to improve your English expression at any point prior to publication.  
[mdpi.com/authors/english](http://mdpi.com/authors/english)



JAMS is web-based submission system that allows editors to handle all aspects of publication, from initial submission to publication.  
[jams.pub](http://jams.pub)



Encyclopedia is a user-generated content hub aiming to provide a comprehensive record for scientific developments and publish the latest research results.  
[encyclopedia.pub](http://encyclopedia.pub)



MDPI Books offers quality open access book publishing to promote the exchange of ideas and knowledge across all disciplines.  
[mdpi.com/books](http://mdpi.com/books)



## Employee Voice Raluca-Gabriela Pisica

“In the past year at MDPI, I’ve learned that finding joy in my work and practicing gratitude can make even the toughest tasks more manageable. On the harder days, it’s the support and guidance of my colleagues that truly make a difference. Knowing that I have good people by my side, who genuinely have my back, inspires me to continue giving my best.”

## Production Assistant, Bucharest, Romania



# Open Access for Greater Reach and Author Recognition

At MDPI, open access is a commitment. All MDPI publications are distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license, allowing unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction, provided the original work is properly cited. This license aligns with open-access principles, ensuring that research remains freely accessible while giving authors full credit for their work.

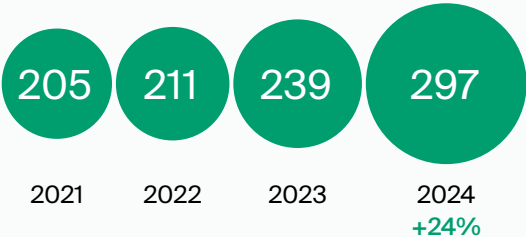
Amplifying access to research and helping authors gain recognition, we ensure coverage in all main indexing databases. Our presence continues to grow in leading multidisciplinary databases such as Web of Science (Clarivate), Scopus (Elsevier), the U.S. National Library of Medicine's platforms (PubMed Central, PubMed, and MEDLINE), Engineering Village, Chemical Abstracts (CAS), and many more.

In 2024, over 90% of MDPI journals evaluated for inclusion in Web of Science were successfully accepted. The average age of our journals at the time of acceptance typically ranges between three and four years. This demonstrates that MDPI journals establish a track record of quality and impact early on, providing trusted platforms from the outset. Looking ahead, almost 300 MDPI journals will receive a Journal Impact Factor in the June 2025 release.

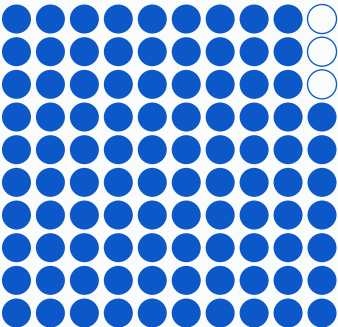
High-quality indexing goes beyond visibility, it upholds credibility and trust. Transparency is a core principle at MDPI, and through careful article curation and well-structured metadata, we enhance discoverability and accessibility, enabling communities to engage with reliable, well-documented research.

# Visibility

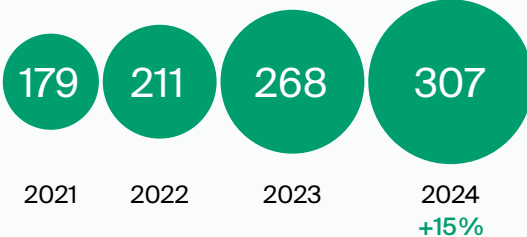
## Journals in Web of Science



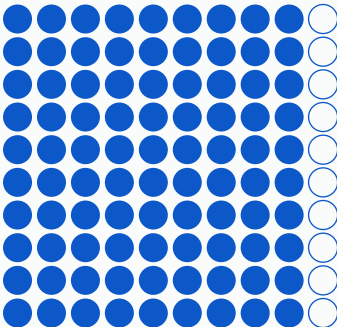
97% of our published articles are covered in Web of Science



## Journals in Scopus



90% of journals successfully passing evaluation for Web of Science





## Section 03

# Investing in People

[Training for Success](#)

[The Training Team](#)

[Early Career Opportunities](#)

[Employee Voice:](#)  
[Samuel Wilson](#)

[Office Locations](#)

[Employee Voice:](#)  
[Uros Ivaz](#)

MDPI's strength lies in our people. That's why we foster a culture of learning and development that drives both individual and organizational success.

## Unlocking Potential by Training for Success



Training programs are a vital investment in a company's long-term success, driving productivity, innovation, and employee satisfaction. At MDPI we have created an academy for learning which in turn helps us to improve our services to authors and reviewers and allow us to work more quickly and efficiently.

The mission of the Training Department is to nurture and develop talent across all roles within the company, ensuring a sustainable pipeline of skilled professionals and equipping employees with essential competencies for their career growth. Our training programs cover a wide range of topics, including specialized academic publishing industry training aimed at enhancing editorial standards and expertise to deliver more professional and efficient services to

scholars. Additionally, we offer cross-cultural communication and collaboration training to support the company's inclusive culture and the global reach of our publishing services for scholars worldwide.

We continually innovate our training methods to boost engagement and practical application. In addition to traditional online and in-person lectures, we offer themed discussion panels and interactive workshops. Furthermore, we actively integrate high-quality resources from external institutions to enrich our employees' learning experiences.



## The Training Team

The training team is made up of 44 full-time members across four offices worldwide, along with 196 part-time training assistants from their respective departments, working in close collaboration with various departments and offices to foster a culture of continuous learning and innovation, creating an environment that supports sustainable talent development and growth within the company. Ninety percent of the team has editorial experience, which ensures that our training programs are professional and closely aligned with the editors' practical tasks.

Alistair Freeland, Chief Operating Officer, shares his perspective: "Training is a continuous learning culture at MDPI. We believe ongoing learning at every career stage strengthens collaboration, enhances professional

service, and contributes to the company's growth. I'm convinced that the strong collaboration between our global teams has allowed us to develop a cohesive and robust training curriculum that benefits both our staff and our clients. It has been exciting to watch the team and our course catalog grow over the past years."

MDPI will continue to champion the idea that a well-trained workforce is more engaged, adaptable, and prepared to meet the challenges of an evolving business environment. By prioritizing continuous learning, we not only strengthen all our teams, but also create a culture of excellence and growth. In the end, investing in people is the smartest strategy for a thriving and sustainable future.

217  
Courses  
provided

180  
Hours of training  
(avg per  
employee)

9  
Courses taken  
(avg per  
employee)

# The Crucial Role of Early Career Opportunities

At MDPI, we believe that early opportunities are more than just a steppingstone—they are the foundation for long-term success, both for individuals and the company. With a global team of 6,600+ employees, we have long made it a priority to hire university students and graduates, not only providing structured training and mentorship but also integrating them into meaningful roles with strong growth potential. Many of our senior managers and leaders started their careers with MDPI, advancing within the company through hands-on experience and continuous learning.

At our headquarters in Basel, we regularly hire Bachelor and Master students, equipping them with industry-specific knowledge, technical expertise, and essential soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. These programs help young professionals transition from academic learning to the professional world, giving them the confidence to take on new challenges and responsibilities.

Another key benefit of this approach is exposure and networking. By collaborating across different teams and projects, early-stage professionals build valuable relationships with mentors,

experts, and peers. Many discover strengths and interests they hadn't previously considered, helping them refine their professional aspirations.

More than just a program, this philosophy is deeply embedded in MDPI's work culture. Over the years, we've seen countless students grow into full-time roles, take on leadership responsibilities, and contribute to shaping the future of scholarly publishing. By investing in young professionals, we're not just supporting individual development—we're cultivating the next generation of industry leaders.

Early career programs play a crucial role in shaping the professional journeys of young professionals and recent graduates by providing structured training, mentorship, and hands-on experience that bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world job expectations.

One of the primary benefits of early career programs is skill development. Participants gain industry-specific knowledge, technical skills, and soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. This structured learning environment helps them become more confident and adaptable in their roles.

Additionally, these programs offer invaluable networking

opportunities. Young professionals can connect with industry experts, mentors, and peers, helping them build relationships that can support career growth. Exposure to different teams and projects allows them to explore various career paths and discover their strengths and interests.

Throughout 2024, the MDPI headquarter office in Basel, Switzerland actively hired students from the area to provide the opportunities outlined above.

Overall, early career programs provide a win-win scenario, equipping young professionals with essential skills while enabling organizations to cultivate future leaders.

To find out more, visit our **Careers Page:**

[careers.mdpi.com/jobs](https://careers.mdpi.com/jobs)



## Employee Voice Samuel Wilson

"I started at MDPI as part of their early career and student initiative in Basel. It has been a rewarding experience. My biggest project was launching the Journal Relation Specialists (JRS) team newsletter and getting it off the ground was a key achievement for me. Making this happen reflects MDPI's values by improving workflow efficiency, which also ties into my own goals for professional growth."

## Marketing Assistant, Basel, Switzerland





# 21 office locations in 12 countries

Basel, Switzerland (2); Beijing, China (2); Wuhan, China (2); Barcelona, Spain; Belgrade, Serbia; Manchester, UK; Tianjin, China; Tokyo, Japan; Cluj, Romania; Toronto, Canada; Novi Sad, Serbia; Kraków, Poland; Singapore, Singapore; Nanjing, China; Bangkok, Thailand; Dalian, China; Bucharest, Romania; Seoul, Republic of Korea

6,650+ employees worldwide

18+ areas of specialism

MDPI's workforce has grown exponentially in the past few years, allowing us to expand and strengthen our position as a leading open access publisher.

We prioritized onboarding and training as a key focus for our global workforce. Simultaneously, we invested further into developing

our management teams, offering leadership training and empowering them to make crucial and effective decisions as leaders within the company.

We are proud to create opportunities for young academics who are passionate about science and publishing.

- Editorial
- Information Technology
- AI/Data Intelligence
- Human Resources
- Marketing and Communications
- Production and Proofreading
- Societies and Partnerships
- Conferences
- Research Integrity
- Products and Services
- etc.

## Employee Voice

### Uros Ivaz



"This year, my efforts have not only contributed to my personal growth but also positively impacted my team's overall performance, possibly even motivating my colleagues within the section. I enjoy challenging myself and pushing my own limits, and I appreciate that our company recognizes and rewards such dedication. A highlight from last year was my business trip to China, where I had the opportunity to collaborate with colleagues, gain new insights, and broaden my perspective. I look forward to an even more successful year ahead, with new opportunities for both the company and employees, including exciting business trips and collaborations."

Production Assistant,  
Belgrade, Serbia



## Section 04

# Teamwork & Collaboration

[Advancing Open Access  
through Partnerships](#)

[Consortia Agreements](#)

[IOAP Partnerships](#)

[Researcher Benefits](#)

[Successful Conferences](#)

[Employee Voice:  
Carla Aloë](#)

[Employee Voice:  
Adrian Stefan Zamfir](#)

[Societies](#)

At MDPI our self-driven teams continually find ways of working cross-team in order to provide more comprehensive services to the academic community.

# Stronger Together: Advancing Open Access Through Partnerships

At MDPI, we believe that open access thrives on collaboration. By working closely with institutions worldwide, we help break down barriers to publishing, simplify workflows, and expand the reach of scientific research. Our partnerships with universities, libraries, and funding bodies ensure that researchers can share their work openly and efficiently—without financial or administrative roadblocks.

In 2024, we strengthened our relationships with more than 900 institutional partners and leading consortia. These partnerships highlight our commitment to making open access a sustainable, scalable solution for institutions and researchers alike.

Beyond formal agreements, we prioritize ongoing dialogue with our partners. This year, the Institutional Partnerships team actively participated in fifteen academic conferences, engaging directly with institutions to understand their needs, exchange insights, and refine our collaborative approach. These conversations drive the continuous improvement of our publishing solutions.

**Whether through tailored publishing agreements, administrative support, or simplifying the publishing process, we are committed to supporting a global community where research can thrive and benefit everyone.**

# Global Network, Local Solutions

A highlight of 2024 was our landmark agreement with ZB MED in Germany, covering 110 universities and research institutions. This collaboration strengthens MDPI's long-standing relationship with the German scientific community and exemplifies our ability to provide tailored open access solutions. The agreement includes simplified payment workflows and substantial APC discounts, making publishing more efficient and accessible for researchers across the country.

Beyond this milestone, we also renewed all our key consortium agreements, reinforcing our commitment to supporting institutions worldwide. Our continued partnerships with CSAL (Switzerland), Jisc (UK), Bibsam (Sweden), Sikt

(Norway), Max Planck Society (Germany), and Fraunhofer (Germany) ensure that researchers benefit from sustainable, cost-effective open access publishing.

We are excited to report 68 new institutional partnerships around the world, including new partners in the Republic of Korea, the UK, Sweden, China, and Romania. By expanding our network of institutional partners, MDPI is shaping the future of open access publishing—ensuring that scientific research is not only published but also widely read, shared, and applied.

Through collaboration, we advance a shared vision: making research accessible, impactful, and transformative—for the benefit of the global academic community.

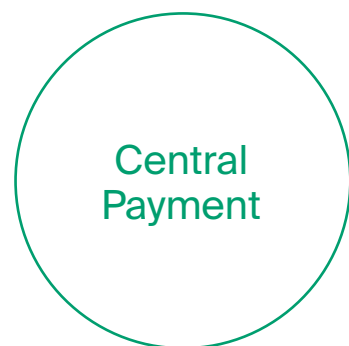


# IOAP: Flexible Agreement Models

These models offer transparency, flexibility, and financial predictability, enabling institutions to support open access in a way that aligns with their strategic goals.

MDPI provides institutions with flexible payment options designed to support their researchers while reducing administrative complexity.

Institutions can choose the model that best fits their financial structures and publishing needs:



Institutions manage the payments of article processing charges (APCs) centrally, ensuring a streamlined and coordinated process for authors.

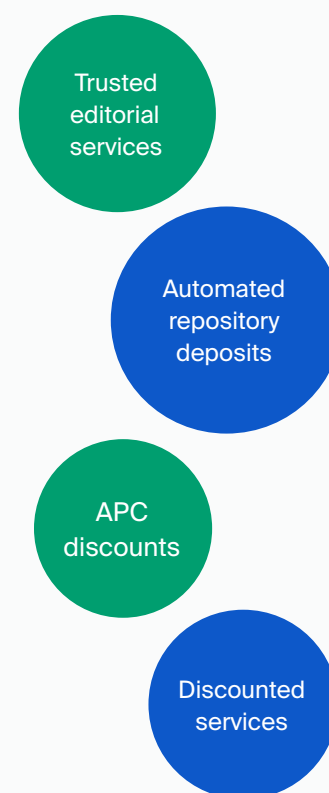


Authors affiliated with partner institutions receive discounted APCs, with invoices sent directly to the corresponding author(s) for decentralized payment management and real-time tracking.



Institutions can opt for an annual flat fee, allowing unlimited publishing for their researchers across MDPI's CC-BY journals.

# Researcher Benefits



Our institutional partnerships go beyond funding models—they directly support researchers by providing:

- Trusted editorial services through a global network of expert reviewers and editors.
- Automated repository deposits via the SWORD 1.3 protocol, ensuring seamless archiving and compliance with institutional policies.
- APC discounts across all MDPI journals, combinable with reviewer vouchers.

- Discounted services, including Book Processing Charges (BPCs) for MDPI Books and Language Editing Services.

These benefits help researchers focus on what truly matters—advancing knowledge and sharing discoveries with the world.

# Conferences

Conferences and Webinars are important for promoting research and innovation. The work that is done by the MDPI Conference Team is crucial for sharing research and inviting new researchers to get involved. As a company, we are always looking for new and exciting ways to promote research.

Throughout 2024, the team connected with scientific communities by organizing ten in-person and 26 virtual conferences.

To successfully facilitate this number of events, the conference team expanded to a total of 40 people across all offices, including 26 members in Asia-Pacific and 14 people across the European and North American teams.

The ten in-person conferences organized brought together leading minds across diverse disciplines and strengthened synergies with the scientific community, actively promoting MDPI's journals. These achievements underscore the team's dedication, resourcefulness, and enduring pursuit of innovation in the academic event management field.

Conference and Journal teams come together to deliver successful events for the scientific community.



# In-Person Events 2024



4<sup>th</sup> MMCS: Harnessing the Power of New Drug Modalities  
Barcelona, 97 attendees



Viruses 2024 – A World of Viruses  
Barcelona, 233 attendees



Polymers 2024 – Polymers for a Safe and Sustainable Future  
Athens, 304 attendees



5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Materials: Advances in Material Innovation  
Basel, 62 attendees



Non-coding RNA World 2024: Exploring Mechanisms, Designing Medicines  
Basel, 104 attendees



Pharmaceuticals 2024 – Recent Advances in Pharmaceutical Sciences Towards a Healthy Life  
Barcelona, 65 attendees



1<sup>st</sup> International Conference on AI Sensors & 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Sensor Science  
Singapore, 383 attendees



Sustainable Publishing Forum 2024  
Beijing, 86 attendees



ICSEE 2024: International Conference on Science and Engineering of Electronics  
Wuhan, 70 attendees



MDPI North America Summit  
Toronto, 37 attendees



To ensure that all aspects of the conference are covered, typical planning cycles start 12-15 months in advance.

Key tasks the team is responsible for include: first, searching for and selecting the venue, catering, sponsors, and other service providers; second, inviting speakers and developing the scientific program and schedule; third, promoting the event through various channels; and finally, assisting participants before and during the event.

## Celebrating the Success of Viruses2024

Together with collaboration from the *Viruses* journal Editor-in-Chief, the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the conference series hosted influential keynote speeches from Nobel Prize

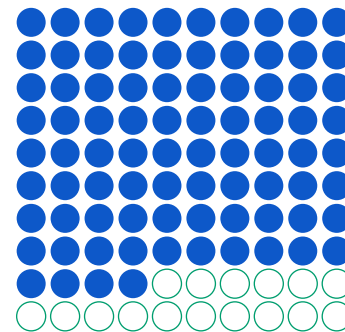
laureate Dr. Charles M. Rice and 'Distinguished Senior Virologist' Prof. Luis Enjuanes.

The event attracted 240 attendees from around the globe. With 47 talks and nearly 130 poster presentations, the conference explored the latest developments in viral pathogenesis and immune responses across six engaging sessions.

*Viruses* journal Editor-in-Chief and Conference co-Chair Dr. Eric Freed, spoke to us about some of the factors he feels are integral to making this conference a success, "Having been a part of this conference since the inception of the series, I feel that some of the ways we have found continued success are by ensuring that we have engaging speakers and presentations. And through creating a program with relevant and timely topics to be discussed."

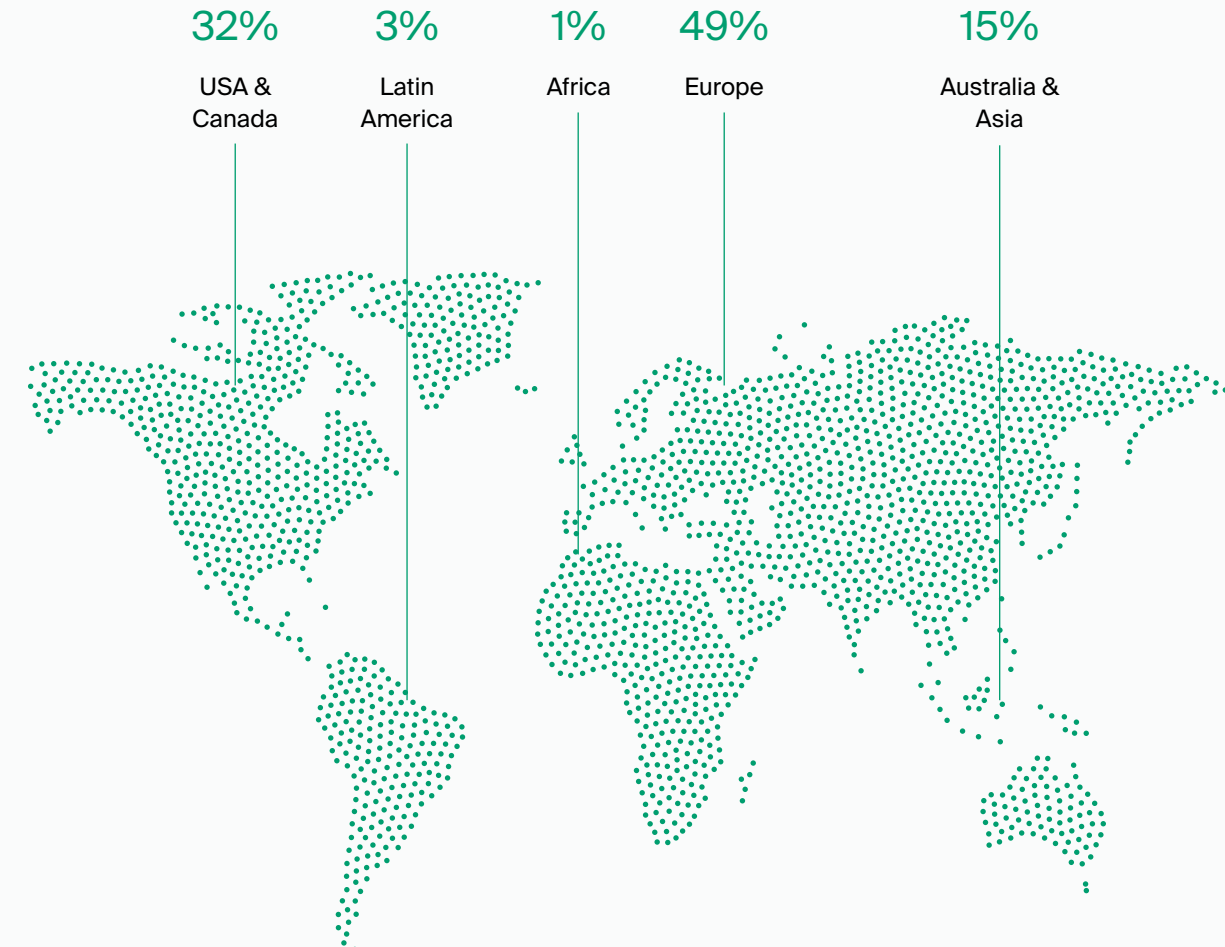
"As an EBM, my networking opportunities were improved from my last attendance. I got some wonderful new ideas, new information, and opportunities from attending. Loved the event!"

"This edition was very good and interesting in all aspects, next edition can only improve."



84% rated the conference as "excellent" or "good".

## Conferences 2024 World Map



## Employee Voice Carla Aloè

"I am incredibly proud of the team for successfully transferring four high profile journals to MDPI from other publishers. This achievement was a true team effort, involving many stakeholders and extensive cross-department collaboration. It has been rewarding to witness the dedication and hard work that made this transition possible."

## Head of Societies and Acquisition, Basel, Switzerland



## Employee Voice

### Stefan Zamfir



"2024 was a fulfilling and challenging year for the IOAP team. Our combined and individual efforts set a great milestone in global partnerships. We finalized a major consortium deal with ZB MED in Germany and established the first flat fee agreement in Romania and Central and Eastern Europe. Our efforts made Open Access publishing more affordable. Heartfelt thanks to my IOAP and MDPI colleagues for creating meaningful partnerships throughout the year."

**Institutional Partnership  
Manager, Bucharest, Romania**



# Societies 2024 Milestones

At MDPI we are always interested in helping societies willing to venture into the open access publication model. We currently support 190+ learned societies and organizations.

Our Societies team adapts their services to meet the needs of each society and works closely with societies to develop unique journal development plans. This, combined with our adherence to strict publication standards, can help society journals thrive.

- Selected as publishing partner for three journals: *Craniomaxillofacial Trauma & Reconstruction* (owned by the AO Foundation); *Journal of Mind and Medical Sciences* (owned by Dr. Ion Motofei), and the *International Journal of Orofacial Myology* (owned by the International Association of Orofacial Myology).
- Acquired two journals: *Journal of Theoretical and Applied Electronic Commerce Research* and *Journal of Eye Movement Research*.
- 14 new agreements and renewals signed with societies affiliating with MDPI journals.
- Launched two diamond open access journals.
- Improved internal processes and platforms to support the diamond open access model and make the integration smooth.
- *European Burn Journal*, published on behalf of the European Burns Association, received its first Journal Impact Factor.
- *Clinical and Translational Neuroscience*, published on behalf of the Swiss Federation of Clinical Neuro-Societies, has been tracked for Impact Factor.

10+ years  
of publishing  
Society Journals

21  
Society Journals  
published by  
MDPI




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