

EDITORIAL

Once again Christmas is coming to us and another year is about to depart. On behalf of all the members of the Editorial Office, I'd like to express our appreciations to authors, readers and others concerned for *Ecological Economy* for your great support and encouragement. With the coming of the New Year, please accept our sincere greetings and best wishes. In the past year, whether you read and contributed to *Ecological Economy* or made criticism and proposals for us, we are grateful for your active participation. Specially, I would like to take this opportunity to thank

Dr Peter H. May, President-Elect of ISEE;

Dr Anne C. Carter, Managing Editor of *Ecological Economics*;

Dr Josef Baum, Economic Regional Ecological Research, Austria

Dr Pushpam Kumar, Institute of Economic Growth, University of Delhi Enclave, India;

Dr Stefan Giljum, Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI), Austria

for your hard work to make *Ecological Economy* known to your colleagues. Your help has greatly encouraged us and made us more confident to run *Ecological Economy* well.

With the tenet of concerning ecology and serving economy, aimed at constructing a harmonious society of man and nature, *Ecological Economy* focuses on the sustainable development of economy and the ecological environment, and puts attention on theories, methods and technical innovations concerning ecological/green economy and ecological/green industry. The sustainable development of economy and society, and the sustainable development of the population, resource and environment are also within the concern of the journal. Besides, the journal also has eye on the regional economy, Western Development in China, and issues concerning agriculture, countryside and farmers. Devoted to boost the development of ecological economy, the Journal publishes original excellent research papers dealing with topics mentioned above, and reports the up-to-date progress in those fields all over the world. *Ecological Economy* will also focus on theoretical research on large-scale environmental changes, and studies on mechanisms of environmental and ecological degeneration caused by human activities. As research methods and technical innovations are important and necessary for scientific discoveries, we hope that *Ecological Economy* will publish more papers on such topics, as well as reviews for special topics.

To be known to more people, our new *Ecological Economy* needs a progress – from not

understanding, to understanding, to accepting. Here, we sincerely hope our readers, members of the advisory board, and foreign friends will continuously make *Ecological Economy* known to your colleagues and students, and recommend us more readers, authors and fine papers. It is hoped that *Ecological Economy* will not only bring issues of the environment and sustainable development in China to foreign readers, but also further understanding of China from abroad and promoting the research and practice of ecological economics.

The sustainable development of a journal depends on the quality of the papers it contains. Academic quality involves various factors, especially the level of research itself, which can not be assisted and improved by others in a short time, and requires all ecological economics research scientists to make unremitting efforts. However, the quality of language, expression and standardization, can be improved through the help of others. To improve the quality of language, we hope that non-English-speaking authors will ask professional English translators or English-speaking colleagues to help improve the language before contribution, so that your papers can be understood by all reviewers and readers – which is a great support to us, and shows respect for reviewers and readers, also is responsible to your research.

The period to publish papers implicates a motivating function to propel society forward and is also the basis for the priority of a scientific discovery. It is very important not only to readers, but also to authors. In order to shorten the publication period, we encourage authors to write papers strictly based on the requirements of the “Guide to Authors” of *Ecological Economy*.

We also hope that readers not only read *Ecological Economy*, but also provide us your valuable comments. Any comments concerning all aspects of the *Journal* are appreciated. Please tell us your exact views on *Ecological Economy* – which papers you are interested or which ones you do not like. Your suggestions and opinions on improving *Ecological Economy* are always welcome.

Zeng Shaolun

Managing Editor, *Ecological Economy*