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Editorial

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KYUSHU UNIVERSITY

Editorial

"Growth" has been an important terminology in the contemporary era. Human is familiar with "Growth" from birth. Nevertheless, the term develops into classic, when it becomes the darling of business, politicians and the MSM. We often hear "economic growth", "population growth", "job growth", "business growth", "profit growth", "student intake growth", "follower growth, "media growth", "customer growth", "subscription growth, "viewership growth", "diversity growth", "this growth", "that growth" and so on. Companies may burn billions of cash without profit, but some might be okay so long as they can present "Growth" [1]. The concept of "Growth" has been exported to academia, and several institutes become (sometimes forcefully or inadvertently) the "Growth Chasers". Obviously, we are not in the position, in one way or another, to advocate the "Growth Concept". Nevertheless, it is prudent to discuss the "Growth of *EVERGREEN*" even though we don't fancy it too much.

One can confidently state that *EVERGREEN*'s growth is sound. The authorship is growing, the reviewers' support is increasing, and the citation is also robust. However, "quality growth" is subjective, and we can state is *EVERGREEN* doesn't do well on this dimension as per SCImago [2]. On the other hand, it is undeniable that the "authors' interest growth" and "citation growth" are astronomical [3]. In 2020, *EVERGREEN* published 88 articles and obtained 329 citations. In barely three years, i.e., in 2023, we are publishing almost 100 articles in one issue, while the current citation count stands at 1166. We will leave the evaluation of the percentage growth to the economists and rating agencies.

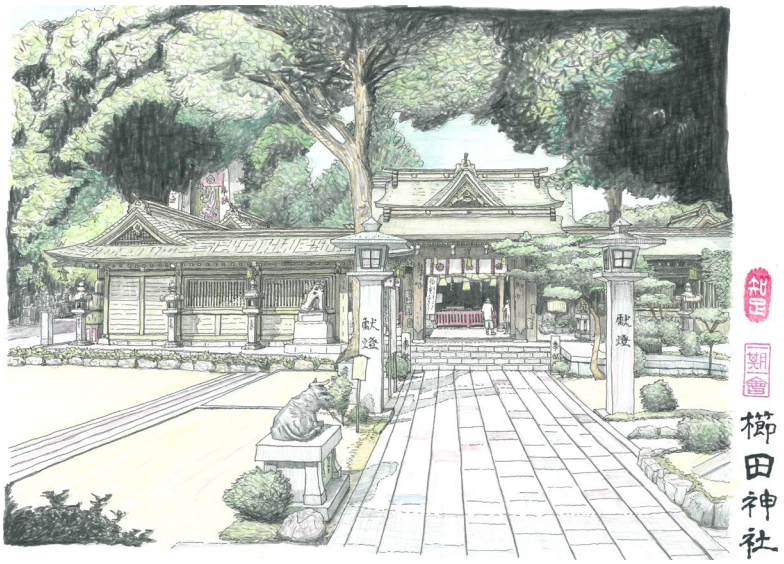
It is natural that "rapid growth" leads to several challenges and sometimes catastrophes. *EVERGREEN* is trying its best to tackle the challenges of the rapid growth. One of the challenges is the handling of the articles. With the current rejection rate of approximately "80%", the publication of each issue involves the handling of 300 to 400 submissions, translating to 3 to 4 papers a day. Such a situation might mean a tough request from a small publisher with limited resources like *EVERGREEN*. Another challenge is getting the support of the quality reviewers. These multi-pronged issues sometimes lead to delays with some papers. Handling and publication of "special issues papers" might face noticeable setbacks. In *EVERGREEN*, we prioritise "regular papers" and handle them with the possible highest efficiency, while we are trying our best to process the "special issue papers", too, since we believe that they are the significant aspects.

The editorial team is pleased with the publication of the current issue (*EVERGREEN* Vol. 10, Issue 03). We have 90 papers in this issue, which showcases the "Growth" and "our commitment". *EVERGREEN* focuses on "Carbon Neutral Sciences and Green Asia Strategies", and naturally, the articles we published cover wide research areas. The current publication is furnished with articles from the major topics namely: "Social Science", "Materials and Composites", "Tribology", "Renewable Energy" and "Computer Science". The editorial team is very pleased that more than 25% of the articles in the present publication touch upon the social science. Some highlights of the articles are: "Why did India Pull Out of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)? A Gravity Explanation of the Indian Puzzle", "Analysis of Circular Economy Enablers in Manufacturing Context for Indian Industries: A ELECTRE method Ranking Process", "Quality of Life and Food Security in Rural Areas of Indonesia: a case study of Sedayulawas Village,

Lamongan Regency, Indonesia", "Environmental Assessment of Solid Waste Pollution of Urban Areas (on the example of Shymkent, Republic of Kazakhstan)", and so on. These days, regional partnerships and alliance forming are rather popular, perhaps, it has become a trend for the private-jet class. However, new partnerships and different interests might result in the "pulling out" situation. We believe that the paper of Prof. Gour Goswami and his team will highlight the insights in such scenarios. We also have an interesting article on the "theory of the climate change intensity determination" which discusses interesting aspects of the national adaptation plan. With the limited space, it is impossible to highlight the significant features of all articles here. But we do believe that the articles in the current issue provide insightful analysis and discussions on recent developments in the environmental research, especially, in Asia. We also believe that articles from "10th International Conference on Sustainable Energy Engineering and Application (ICSEEA 2022)" are very interesting and provide invaluable research outputs.

EVERGREEN highly appreciate the support of our reviewers who provided their insights and invaluable comments for the papers. We also value the interest of "*EVERGREEN* authors", too. We acknowledge the support of the management team. We further would like to record the significant contributions of *EVERGREEN* Secretariat, Ms Mieko INOUE in publishing this issue, and we believe that all authors share our view. Several climatic events occurred recently might serve as the undeniable situation of the environmental issues. For instance, recent hot summer makes some people change their view on the climate change [4]. It is not reasonable to blame one party, a country or a group of people for the climate change. Referring to A.J.P. Taylor's quote, it might be prudent to state that "*Though many are guilty, none is innocent.*" [5]. Because it will be relatively difficult to bring out some who are not benefitted or do not enjoy the scientific (technological) achievement of the modern society mainly initiated with the industrial and IT revolutions. So, *EVERGREEN* hopes that it serves as a reputable platform for the researchers who are trying to tackle several issues in building a sustainable society.

Meanwhile, with respect to COVID-19, we already backed to normal life, although another variant strain; Ellis, has been surging. In every volume, Editorial has delivered a prayer scenery: temples and shrines in Japan that used to be people's places for calm of an epidemic. Kusuda-jinja is one of the most popular shrines, whose annual festival, called 'Yamakasa', held in July, attracts a large number of people not only in the Fukuoka area but also entire of Japan even overseas.



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EDITORIAL form the Guest Editors of ICSEEA 2022

The 10th International Conference on Sustainable Energy Engineering and Application 2022 (ICSEEA 2022) was successfully held as a hybrid conference on 22-23 November 2022 in Tangerang Selatan, Indonesia. The theme of this edition is "Energy Transition Toward Net Zero Emission and Sustainable Transportation".

Organized by the Research Organization for Energy and Manufacture, National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), this conference attracted hundreds of international and local participants, ranging from academia, researchers, government representatives, and private sectors to interact and share their research and experiences related to a wide range of sustainable energy and transportation. We have received more than 200 submissions from 20 different countries around the globe, such as the UK, Italy, Iraq, Malaysia, Oman, Vietnam, Japan, Egypt, Morocco, the USA, and Indonesia.

It is a tremendous honor for us that the tenth edition of ICSEEA also inaugurates the beginning of a partnership with EVERGREEN Joint Journal of Novel Carbon Resource Sciences & Green Asia Strategy, which will feature the selected papers from ICSEEA in its special issue, Vol. 10 (2023). This special edition publishes selected papers from the ICSEEA 2022. The papers cover diverse areas of New and Renewable Energy, Sustainable Transportation, Instrumentation Systems, and Technology.

We sincerely express our gratitude to the Editor in Chief, Professor Jun Tanimoto, and Executive Editor, Associate Professor Kyaw Thu, for their generosity in making this special issue to be published. Finally, we would also like to thank the authors and reviewers for their efforts, time, and cooperation throughout the process. We hope that these scientific advancements will pave the way for future applications of sustainable energy and transportation that are more seamless.

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Guest Editors of EVERGREEN Joint Journal of Novel Carbon Resource Sciences & Green Asia Strategy – ICSEEA 2022