In detail, GAIA’s transdisciplinary focus implies that:

- Original papers begin with an introduction suitable for non-specialists.
- The significance of the topic in the environmental context is emphasised.
- The style is discursive, short and precise.
- Papers end with practical conclusions.

GAIA appeals to a heterogeneous and critical audience. Articles published in GAIA are chosen for their scientific content as well as their ease of comprehension and significance to readers of various scientific disciplines. Accepted papers are edited in agreement with the authors.

Papers submitted to GAIA are peer-reviewed. Details of the reviewing process are outlined in the sections that follow. Invited papers are subjected to the same reviewing process and an invitation is no guarantee of publication. Currently, the rejection rate is more than 50 percent.

GAIA is comprised of three primary sections. The authors should identify to which section they plan to submit their paper and read the appropriate guidelines for submission below.

With GAIA Hybrid Open Access, we offer our authors to have their article made publicly available against a basic charge.

Submission of Papers to the Following Sections

**Forum**

In the Forum section, original papers are published including essays, pointed expressions of opinion and reactions to articles that have appeared in recent GAIA issues.

As such, the Forum aims to challenge current understandings by providing a “forum” to articulate substantiated opinions and controversial issues, to identify new problems, and to establish actual contexts. Generally, articles are double-blind peer reviewed.

Articles – including references – should not exceed the length of 24,000 characters (including spaces).

**Research**

Original scientific articles of environmental and sustainability research are published in the Research section. Additionally, Research contains review articles that place environmental problems and development in a broader context.

Articles are subjected to a double-blind peer review and cross-read by at least one person foreign to the subject. Expert opinions are based on the article’s scientific quality (e.g., theory, methods, literature relevant to the subject), on the quality of presentation (e.g., length, conciseness, style), on the novelty of empirical data, methods, theoretical analyses, interpretation and approaches to problem-solving besides the article’s relevance for environmental sciences. The non-expert reviewer will determine the transdisciplinarity of the synthesis, relevance in terms of action and comprehensibility of the manuscript. General review papers are usually written upon invitation and in agreement with the editorial office. Authors who wish to submit review papers on their own initiative are advised to contact the editorial office in advance.

Research papers should not – including references – exceed the length of 32,000 characters (including spaces).

It’s possible to make supplemental material accessible via the GAIA website. For further information, please contact our editorial office.
Design Reports

Design Reports focus on a challenge unique to inter- and trans-disciplinary research projects: They deal with the configuration of a project in terms of its research and communication design. They are by no means reprints of the proposal but discuss the decisions and design principles critically. Design Reports are peer-reviewed.

Design Reports can include photographs, charts, tables, and other visual material. They should not exceed 25,000 characters (including spaces).

Books

The Books section is dedicated to the presentation, discussion and review of new publications relevant to GAIA’s subject matter. Contributions to the Books section are usually written upon invitation and in agreement with the editorial office. Authors intending to write a book review on their own initiative are advised to contact the editorial office in advance.

Articles are examined by at least one of the editors of GAIA. If required, further expertise is requested.

Articles should not exceed the length of 3,800 characters (including spaces).

Manuscript Preparation

Upon submission of an article to GAIA you enter into the following arrangements and you warrant on behalf of yourself and your co-authors:

- The article is original, has not been published in any other peer-reviewed journal, is not under consideration for publication by any other journal and does not infringe any existing copyright or any other third party rights.
- Authorship credit reflects the individual's contribution to the study. An author is considered anyone involved with initial research design, data collection and analysis, manuscript drafting, and final approval. The following do not necessarily qualify for authorship: providing funding or resources, mentorship, or contributing research but not helping with the publication itself. The primary author assumes responsibility for the publication, making sure that the data are accurate, that all deserving authors have been credited, that all authors have given their approval to the final draft; and handles responses to inquiries after the manuscript is published.
- Articles in GAIA are being published under the Creative-Commons-License “CC 3.0 Attribution Unported”: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0. The license permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. By sending your article to GAIA, you agree to the publication of your article under this license. Please contact us if you do not want to have your article be published under CC 3.0.

If you consider submitting an article to GAIA, please proceed to our journal management system www.oekom.de/ojs (mailing addresses of the editorial offices can be found at the bottom of this document).

Technical Details

- GAIA is published in colour print and provides an exceptional opportunity to illustrate scientific work in the form of pictures, charts, or maps.
- Figures and tables must be numbered and should provide a short explanatory caption, which can be understood independent of the text. Figures and tables must be integrated into the text document. Additionally, all figures and tables should be submitted in separate files.
- Diagrams, graphics and tables of the particular format must be saved in a graphic format (possible file extensions are .ai, .eps, .wmf or .cdr), or should be sent as original data (e.g., Microsoft Excel). Possible formats for photographs are a) glossy prints and b) files in TIFF or JPEG format (i.e., .tif or .jpg). All figures must have at least 300 dpi at desired size. Line drawings such as logos or graphs must have at least 900 dpi at the desired size.
- Papers for the Research and Forum sections should enclose a list of keywords; research papers additionally require an abstract (max. 1,100 characters including spaces). All articles should include a short lead text (research papers 250 characters including spaces, articles for Forum 600 characters including spaces and articles for Books 460 characters including spaces). Additionally, please include a selection of suitable pictures/illustrations, a short CV for each of the authors (i.e., first name, surname, date of birth, place of birth, university education, professional career, main field(s) of interest), and a photograph for each author (glossy prints or as file in TIFF or JPEG format with a resolution of at least 300 dpi at a size of 2 x 2.5 cm).
- The number of references should not exceed 40 (80 for review papers), the number of footnotes should not exceed ten.
- Quotations follow the Author-Date System of the Chicago Manual of Style (www.chicagomanualofstyle.org). Within the text, references appear in brackets including name and date. In case of more than two authors only the first author is indicated, followed by the addition “et al.”.
- The complete list of references appears at the end of the text. Please avoid the use of abbreviations of periodicals in the list of references. English titles of periodicals or books are written in small letters. In case of more than six authors only the first author is indicated followed by the addition “et al.”. Further additions are translated according to the article’s language (e.g., “Edited by” or “Herausgegeben von”; “accessed” or “abgerufen”).
- Please prepare your list of relevant references particularly with regard to current, international and peer-reviewed literature, where appropriate. We recommend the citation of primary literature in favor of reviews in order to give credit to the group(s) who first reported a finding.
Examples for Quotation Form in the List of References and (in the Text)

If you are using the reference management software EndNote, you may use the GAIA EndNote Style for formatting your references (see www.oekom.de/zeitschriften/gaia/guide-for-authors.html).

Monographs


(Pütz 2005)

Articles in Journals


(Eppink et al. 2012)

Edited Volumes

In German articles:

In English articles:

(Remmert 1991)

Articles in Edited Volumes

In German articles:

In English articles:

(Stoll-Kleemann 2005)

Internet References

In German articles:

In English articles:

(BGE 2001)

Conference Papers

In German articles:

(In English articles:

(Gupta 2004)

Gray Literature

In German articles:

In English articles:

(Schadt 2002)

Forthcoming Articles

In German articles:
Tillmann, J. Im Erscheinen. Habitat fragmentation and ecological networks in Europe. GAIA.

(Tillmann im Erscheinen)

In English articles:
Tillmann, J. Forthcoming. Habitat fragmentation and ecological networks in Europe. GAIA.

(Tillmann forthcoming)

- The authors are responsible to obtain the necessary rights for quotations, pictures, etc.
- Charges for the acquisition of pictures as well as extraordinary expenditures for picture editing are borne by the authors.
- GAIA publication languages are English and German; submissions to the Research section are preferably in English. The authors are responsible for the linguistic quality. They are kindly asked to have their foreign-language articles corrected by a professional editing service. Manuscripts can be rejected due to inadequate linguistic quality.
What Happens when GAIA Receives an Article

1. The editorial office confirms receipt of the manuscript. Within one month the authors will receive notification stating whether or not the article will be considered to be published.
2. **Expertise:** If the article is under consideration for publication, the editorial office initiates a review process.
3. **Lectorate and revision:**
   a) **Research:** If the expert review is essentially positive, the GAIA editor will invite the authors to revise the article on the basis of the lectorate and the expert review. In the cases of acceptance, as well as rejection, the authors will receive the anonymous reviews.
   b) **Forum** and **Books:** If the reviews, editorial and expert, prove to be essentially positive, the editorial office will invite the authors to revise the article on the basis of the reviews.

All authors are asked to indicate modifications within the revised version of the original text. Respectively, if a recommendation of a reviewer, an editor or the editorial office is not followed, the authors must provide an explanatory statement.
4. **Open Access:** With GAIA Hybrid Open Access, we offer our authors to have their article made publicly available with full open access against a basic charge. Once your article is accepted for publication in GAIA, we will inform you about our option.
5. **Final revision:** Fine adjustment in language, style and setting is completed by the authors in agreement with the editorial office. After final revision, the authors receive the galley proof of their paper. In the galley proof, only mistakes and printer’s errors will be corrected. Any further changes will be charged to the authors.
6. After publication, the first author will be sent five copies of the respective GAIA issue as well as the electronic version of the article in PDF format.

---

**Editorial Offices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Dr. Almut Jödicke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ETH Zentrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Postfach CAB 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8092 Zurich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel.: +41 52 2222805</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:redgaia@env.ethz.ch">redgaia@env.ethz.ch</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Dr. Martina Blum</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oekom verlag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waltherstr. 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80337 Munich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel.: +49 89 54418435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:blum@oekom.de">blum@oekom.de</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forum/Books</th>
<th>Tobias Mickler</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oekom verlag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waltherstr. 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>80337 Munich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel.: +49 89 54418445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:mickler@oekom.de">mickler@oekom.de</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Forum</th>
<th>Dr. Ulrike Sehy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>oekom verlag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hagenbuchrain 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8047 Zurich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tel.: +41 43 3110785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E-Mail: <a href="mailto:sehy@oekom.ch">sehy@oekom.ch</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GAIA is published by oekom verlag: www.oekom.de/gaia. GAIA is available online at www.ingentaconnect.com/content/oekom/gaia.