
Field Actions Science Reports

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- 1 This is the new site of the FACTS Initiative and of the new international journal *FACTS Reports*. Let us recall in brief that similarly to what has been shown to be successful in scientific communities, the aim of *FACTS Reports* is to propose mechanisms for communication, evaluation and recognition between practitioners acting in the field, especially in developing countries. As in science, these mechanisms should be managed by the practitioners themselves. Thus, papers submitted to *FACTS Reports* are peer-reviewed, with peers being qualified practitioners and field actors¹.
- 2 The inauguration of the new site represents a major transition. Until recently, the FACTS Initiative and the new journal could be viewed as an experiment, whose principles and viability had yet to be validated. After more than two years of work, the concept for the journal has been shown to be correct. A vast number of practitioners and field actors have been consulted, and they all agree on this point. Indeed, the enterprise is not an easy one. Difficulties have been identified, but a number of remedies have been found, and the management procedures of *FACTS Reports* have been adapted accordingly. Everything is now ready for further development. The new site has been designed to accommodate rapid growth.
- 3 Success now depends mostly on you and us. Conceived and designed for and by practitioners and field actors, the new international journal *FACTS Reports* is awaiting your contributions (cf. instructions to authors). So far 22 papers have navigated successfully through the peer review process. Efficient systems have been put in place to provide help to authors. The journal is totally free for authors and readers. It is electronic in nature, but the first printed issue including the first 9 papers is available upon request, within the limits of available stocks. All your questions and comments will be appreciated. Thus,
WELCOME AND PLEASE DO CONTRIBUTE!

Philippe Kourilsky

NOTES

1. The founding principles of the FACTS Initiatives and of FACTS Reports are described and discussed in a paper available on the web site of Veolia Environnement Institut: www.institut.veolia.org/en