Editorial

Dear readers:

A key aspect to be considered in R+D processes is the interdisciplinary work that contributes to the way challenges are faced for future generations.

Planet Earth is affected by a number of problems such as global warming, climate change, pollution, rising energy demand, deforestation, water scarcity, species under extinction, biodiversity loss, aggressive diseases, inappropriate use of technology and others. These problems cannot be addressed by a group of professionals from the same discipline; integration is needed to address and seek possible solutions in a comprehensive and integral way.

In recent decades, research has been defined more by its topic rather than by the discipline that it addresses; a group of professionals from different areas working together have made advances that were never thought before. This change in the way research is done allows to reflect that the different points of view must be consolidated into a common objective, allowing to eliminate fears, envy and erroneous ideas generated in the different disciplines and that have been favored by an absurd competition to define who is the best, or who gets better incomes without considering the pursuit of the common welfare in society.

From this holistic point of view, it is essential to promote the interaction between different groups of professionals and researchers to achieve better results in investigations in less time and with an efficient use of resources; this requires the help and contribution of actors as well as the governments, institutions of higher education, university authorities, agencies representing the productive sectors and society in general. In the short term, there are many problems to face and experts are called to foster this interdisciplinary interaction that will be consolidated more and more frequently and will support an improved way of researching.

Another point to strengthen the research field is to get science closer to society in order to promote a balanced development, and for future generations to have necessary elements to decide their professional choices adequately; this will lead to greater incorporation of individuals to participate in the exciting world of research, with high research capacity, able to find solutions adapted to their local realities, but from a global perspective. In order to achieve the above, it is necessary to consolidate the teaching systems in science and engineering, which will allow to opt innovative solutions for the future challenges in the medium term.

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