

## Special Issue

# Functional Diversity of Soft-Bottom Benthic Communities in the Anthropocene

### Message from the Guest Editor

The Anthropocene is the new geological epoch, which is characterized by the rapid accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, the irreversible damage caused by human overconsumption of natural resources, and its concomitant impacts on both the climate and ecosystems. Marine soft sediment is the second largest habitat on the planet. Therefore, the communities' changes occurring in the new Anthropocene epoch are undoubtedly under intense scientific debate. However, functional ecology is one of the most underexplored aspects of this debate and how these roles are affected by the environmental drivers of the new geological epoch. Indeed, how ecological functions change with the loss of polar or sub-polar ice masses, and how biodiversity is affected by high rates of pollution or by the changes brought about by marine acidification or the carbon sink fate. These are just some of the open questions that this Special Issue aims to summarize. In this Special Issue, we are calling for papers with innovative insights, including research papers on different aspects of functional ecology and functional biodiversity from deep sea to the intertidal soft bottom benthic communities.

---

### Guest Editor

Dr. Américo Montiel

Laboratorio de Ecología Funcional, Instituto de la Patagonia, Universidad de Magallanes, Av. Bulnes, Punta Arenas 01890, Chile

---

### Deadline for manuscript submissions

28 February 2025



## Diversity

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.1  
CiteScore 3.4



[mdpi.com/si/176862](https://mdpi.com/si/176862)

*Diversity*  
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5  
4052 Basel, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34  
[diversity@mdpi.com](mailto:diversity@mdpi.com)

[mdpi.com/journal/  
diversity](https://mdpi.com/journal/diversity)





# Diversity

---

an Open Access Journal  
by MDPI

---

Impact Factor 2.1  
CiteScore 3.4



[mdpi.com/journal/  
diversity](https://mdpi.com/journal/diversity)



## About the Journal

### Message from the Editor-in-Chief

*Diversity* (ISSN 1424-2818) is a scholarly journal that covers all areas of diversity research. Our distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor for publishing. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access.

We invite papers and reviews on multidisciplinary topics of diversity that bridge organismic diversity (systematics, biodiversity, phylogeny, population genetics, and evolution) and molecular diversity (phytochemistry and biophysics).

---

### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Michael Wink

Institute of Pharmacy and Molecular Biotechnology, Heidelberg  
University, Im Neuenheimer Feld 329, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

---

### Author Benefits

#### High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), PubAg, GEOBASE, CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

#### Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Biodiversity Conservation) / CiteScore - Q2  
(Agricultural and Biological Sciences (miscellaneous))

#### Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.3 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.4 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2024).