Nature's Wealth: Valuing and Enhancing Forest Ecosystem Goods and Services

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Message from the Guest Editor

The benefits that people gain from forests can widely be defined as forest ecosystem services. The provisioning services of the forests, which include, but are not limited to, timber, fuelwood, and fodder, are tangible due to conventional methods in classical economics, as they have market prices or are at least partially traded in the market. However, most of the ecological services of forest ecosystems, which include regulating and supporting services, alongside cultural services, are of a non-market nature. Due to the lack of a market price to reflect the benefits they provide, and regardless of the tools and methods which are provided by classical economics, there is a need to develop, introduce, and apply methods and techniques through which these services can be made tangible to people, practitioners, and decision makers. The lack of an appropriate ecosystem service valuation and not applying the findings of an ecosystem service valuation in decision making may cause the over-exploitation of forest ecosystems that supply these services. Aiming to fill out the gap, this Special Issue invites experts to contribute to our knowledge on forest ecosystem services.

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Special Issue

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