



Forests as Nature-Based Solutions: Ecosystem Services, Multiple Benefits and Trade-Offs

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Message from the Guest Editors

Forest ecosystems can be considered as multifunctional Nature-based Solutions (NbS), since they deliver key ecosystem services to people. The concept of NbS is an “umbrella” framework for several ecosystem-based approaches, categorized by the IUCN as protective, restorative, infrastructure-based, management-based or issue-specific. NbS are becoming more and more relevant in international policy frameworks, however, for the effective implementation and mainstreaming of NbS, several research gaps need to be addressed. This Special Issue welcomes studies bringing new data and methods about i) quantification of ecosystem services (regulation and maintenance, provisioning, cultural) provided by forests in natural, semi-natural and urban contexts, as well as their potential disservices; ii) monetary valuation and cost/benefit analysis of forests as NbS to sustainably address specific challenges. Original research and reviews targeted at understanding key characteristics of NbS, supporting the delivery of multiple benefits, the potential limitations and trade-offs, as well as case studies of operationalization of NbS into policy decisions, are particularly encouraged.





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