



Vegetation Dynamics and Ecological Restoration in Alpine Ecosystems

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Land degradation induced by environmental changes and anthropogenic activities has become one of the most challenging issues of global ecological security and sustainable development. The alpine ecosystems are vulnerable to rapid degradation caused by overgrazing, deforestation, biological invasion and unprecedented land-use changes, which are exacerbated by climate warming. Although the roles of biotic and abiotic processes in accelerating plant community succession and ecosystem degradation are well recognized, most studies have concentrated only on single role, but not their interactions, on the vegetation dynamics, ecosystem functioning and thereby multiple benefits. As such, the vegetation change, vulnerability, degradation and its consequences as well as evidence-based solutions to restoration and sustainable land use remain largely unknown. This special issue of *Plants* will highlight the plant community succession, vegetation dynamics, mechanisms of ecosystem degradation, restoration solutions and their roles in maintaining biodiversity and enhancing ecosystem multifunctionality, and thereby provide insight into the sustainable ecosystem management.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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