



Sustainability and Resilience of Rural Socio-Ecological Systems

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The characteristics of a rural socio-ecological system together with human agency have played key roles in determining the socio-economic and environmental performance of rural areas and their resilience. Human agency includes the definition and implementation of policies that at different times and spatial scales have identified and shaped development trajectories. Resilience is about people and nature interacting as interdependent systems. Therefore, understanding resilience is not about understanding any one aspect of a system; it is about understanding the whole system and how changes in the balance between one set of factors impacts on others. The idea of management for resilience implies that a system can be manipulated and influenced to change to a more desirable resilient state, or prevented from changing to a less desirable or more vulnerable state. For this Special Issue, we welcome conceptual and empirical studies that identify and analyze both concrete actions to promote sustainable and resilient rural development and factors affecting and shaping resilience responses.





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