Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Forests are an important sink of carbon and biodiversity worldwide, and they cover all major land masses, from boreal to tropical regions. Therefore, it is of the utmost importance to have a good understanding of all processes leading to forest cover change, such as deforestation, degradation, afforestation and regeneration. Data obtained from Earth Observation (EO) platforms are critical in providing a systematic and temporally resolved assessment of those changes. The current availability of long-term Landsat sensor data and the launch of Sentinel-1A/1B and -2A/2B are fostering the development of new approaches to better characterize temporal changes of forests. Furthermore, advances on high performance and cloud computing, machine learning, high quality temporal datasets (e.g., Landsat collection 1), as well as the development of datacube formats, are increasingly facilitating the analysis of forest cover change and the temporal dynamics of forest biophysical parameters.

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