Special Issue

Impact of Grazing on Sustainability of Rangelands under Changing Climate

Message from the Guest Editors

Rangelands represent a dominant anthropogenic land use worldwide, making up ~25% of the uncultivated terrestrial land. Now, however, ecological considerations also play an important role. As open landscapes around the world are subject to heavy grazing, questions are raised about animals' impacts on the sustainability of the land. These include topics such as soil properties, soil microorganisms, vegetation composition, richness and diversity, wild animals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, and invertebrate groups. Increasing grazing intensity can reduce ecosystem resistance, and has a great effect on the ability of the system to recover, and as such large parts of the grazed landscapes have been degraded. Current climate change models predict a rise in temperatures, a reduction in the number of rainy days, and a higher incidence of extreme events. The multiple effects of grazing and climate change on the sustainability of rangelands can take a negative direction. This Special Issue will deal with these topics. We welcome novel research articles, reviews, and opinion pieces covering all related issues.

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