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Forest Carbon Inventories and Management

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Message from the Guest Editor

Forest covers about 30% of the total world's land area, but it stores 45% of terrestrial carbon. However, deforestation and forest degradation are still a major source of greenhouse gases (GHG); but, if appropriate mechanisms are in place and properly implemented, the forestry sector could reduce up to 5.5 GtCO2e emissions each year. Realizing this potential, 97 developing countries have included Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and 50 of these countries are aiming for emission reductions through forestry activities.

There are several forest management practices that could be instrumental in storing carbon and reducing GHG emissions from forests. We encourage studies from all forest management fields including, but not limited to, (1) five activities: reducing emissions from deforestation; reducing emissions from forest degradation; conservation of forest carbon stocks; sustainable management of forests; and enhancement of forest carbon stocks; (2) five carbon pools: above-ground biomass; below-ground biomass; dead wood; litter; and soil organic carbon; and (3) three GHGs: CO₂; CH₄ and N₂O.











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