Special Issue

Transforming Forest Governance and Rural Livelihoods to Address Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss

Message from the Guest Editors

In general, deforestation and forest degradations have been impacted by a complex of social, economic and political factors, driven by complicated direct and indirect drivers, including the livelihoods of forest communities and forest governances from the local to global level. Forests have been fully recognized by international communities and national authorities to be a key mechanism for climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, especially in human-dominated tropical and subtropical regions. This Special Issue will focus on transforming forest governance and rural community livelihoods to address climate change and biodiversity loss. In just a few decades, global policy instruments, including REDD+; nature-based solutions; local initiatives, including decentralization; forest tenure reform; and community-based actions have been proposed and implemented. However, we have often ended up with confusing outcomes. This collection of articles will assess how these actions address relevant drivers of deforestation, whether or not benefits are equitably distributed and shared among stakeholder and demonstrate the meaningful participation of forest communities.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Jinlong Liu

School of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, Renmin University of China, Beijing 100872, China

Dr. Dominick A. DellaSala

Wild Heritage, PO Box 945, Berkeley, CA 94704, USA

Dr. Peter Edwards

Landscape, Policy and Governance Team, Manaaki Wheuna—Landcare Research, Level 6, 17-21 Whitmore Street, The Terrace, P.O. Box 10345, Wellington 6043, New Zealand

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa
Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia, I-25121 Brescia, Italy

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