# **Special Issue**

# The Importance of Lichen Diversity in Forests

## Message from the Guest Editor

Understanding lichen diversity helps us to identify vulnerable ecosystems, monitor biodiversity degradation and better implement sustainable forest management. With increasing anthropogenic pressures, deforestation and climate change, maintaining lichen diversity is essential for maintaining ecosystem resilience and stability. The global monitoring of lichens helps to predict environmental change and improve conservation options for forest ecosystems. Potential topics may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Monitoring forest ecosystem health through lichen species;
- Lichens as indicators of old-growth forests and also as indicators of microhabitat stability;
- Microhabitat diversity enhancing lichen biodiversity;
- Lichens as habitat for invertebrates and microorganisms;
- Effects of logging, deforestation and reforestation on lichen communities;
- Strategies for conservation and habitat restoration;
- Climate change impacts: rising temperatures and shifts in species composition of lichen communities;
- Boreal, temperate and tropical forests: key differences in lichen species.

## **Guest Editor**

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## Deadline for manuscript submissions

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