

Special Issue

Social and Cultural Benefits of Forests Contributing to Human Health and Well-Being

Message from the Guest Editors

Forests provide diverse ecosystem services and products to human society. For those areas where important forest management has been implemented, such as karst desertification control areas, the relationship between forest ecosystems and human society is even more complex and close. We look forward to some comprehensive analysis on how forest ecosystems have profound impacts on human health and well-being from a social and cultural perspective. This Special Issue welcomes studies bringing new data and methods about (1) social and cultural values of forest ecosystem services; (2) forest ecosystem health development; (3) forest governance strategies under the social–ecological system framework; (4) mechanisms of forests for community resilience; (5) mechanisms of coupling forest ecosystems and human well-being; and (6) pathways for forest eco–industry development and enhancement. This Special Issue hopes to provide a solid foundation for these theoretical insights by collecting and analyzing rich empirical data and case studies, so as to provide policy makers, practitioners, and the public with a new understanding of the value of forests.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Kangning Xiong
Dr. Xiaofang Zhou
Dr. Mingjun Li

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2026)



Forests

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 4.6



mdpi.com/si/215645

Forests
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
forests@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)





Forests

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.5
CiteScore 4.6



[mdpi.com/journal/
forests](https://mdpi.com/journal/forests)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have *Forests* be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Giacomo Alessandro Gerosa

Department of Mathematics and Physics, Catholic University of Brescia,
I-25121 Brescia, Italy

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), Ei Compendex, GEOBASE, PubAg, AGRIS, PaperChem, and other databases.

Journal Rank:

JCR - Q2 (Forestry) / CiteScore - Q1 (Forestry)

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 16.8 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.5 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).