

Special Issue

Non-wood Forest Products and Co-products—Circular Bioeconomy Developments

Message from the Guest Editors

According to the definition of NWF by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, “Non-wood forest products consist of goods of biological origin other than wood, derived from forests, other wooded land and trees outside forests”. In pre-industrial economies, NWF products and co-products were used in an integrated manner to satisfy at the same time several needs of the forest ecosystem, thus offering job opportunities and societal drivers. All these have changed with the growth of the industrial economy model, which views forest systems as wood production machines; this trend has destabilized forest economies, with negative social and ecological effects, including forest fires and desertification threats. The objective of the present Special Issue is to attract the attention of forest researchers, business, policy and other decision makers on the potential of NWF products and co-products in order to restore the balanced functioning of forest systems, using process innovation and bioresource tools and approaches. We welcome comprehensive research on circular and sustainable bioeconomy, biogreening, bioresource management.

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