

Special Issue

Multifunctional Agroecosystems in Mediterranean Landscapes

Message from the Guest Editors

The agroecosystems forming part of the Mediterranean region, including small-scale terraced fields, agroforestry systems, and high-nature-value farmland, but also more conventional arable and perennial crop production systems, can be considered as social-ecological systems that provide multiple ecological functions and contribute to the region's biodiversity. These social-ecological systems are impacted by drivers acting from global (e.g., climate change) to local scales (e.g., urbanisation, abandonment or intensification of agricultural practices), leading to a reduction in ecosystem service capacities at regional scales. However, studies that assess the multifunctionality of agroecosystems remain limited, creating challenges to understand and predict the impacts arising from the complex suite of drivers acting on Mediterranean landscapes. This Special Issue focuses on the assessment of agroecosystem services and associated benefits, identification of trade-offs and synergies arising from the management of agroecosystems, and the assessment of the impact of local and landscape factors on agroecosystems and co-benefits to biodiversity and people.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (20 May 2022)



Land

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Impact Factor 3.2
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