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Understanding past Processes to Chart More Sustainable Conservation Practices in Tropical Ecosystems

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Tropical ecosystems contain most of the world's biodiversity, which is threatened by multiple factors, including climate change, invasive plants, fire, and human land-use. These ecosystems are very dynamic and complex and planning solutions for conservation that consider ecological processes and future changes are crucial. Integrating historical knowledge and understanding past processes could greatly improve currently established strategies and contribute towards a sustainable management of these ecosystems in the near future.

This Special Issue titled "Understanding Past Processes to Chart More Sustainable Conservation Practices in Tropical Ecosystems" aims to document the past ecosystem history and responses to climate change and human interaction and demonstrate the relevance of this in dealing with contemporary environmental challenges in tropical ecosystems across the globe.

This Special Issue allows for understanding the complex ecological systems in the tropics during the Holocene and beyond and reporting their conservation implications.









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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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