



Remote Sensing of Ecosystem Functions: Advances for Ecosystems Conservation Status Assessment

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Message from the Guest Editors

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD 2014) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UNDP 2015) advocate the assessment of ecosystem conservation status. Biodiversity conservation, both inside and outside protected areas, is imperative due to its intrinsic and extrinsic importance for Earth system equilibrium and human wellbeing. Ecosystem status assessment has been traditionally based on the use of remote sensing technologies for the quantification of spatial indicators (e.g., geographical distribution, extent) and their trends. Despite the recognized great potential and advantages offered by these technologies, their application in the same context to functional indicators (e.g., vegetation phenology, defoliation, habitat quality, water availability, shade provided to the ground) and corresponding proxies is so far underrepresented.

This Special Issue will comprise a selection of papers reporting advances in the research and application of remote sensing to ecosystem functions, including ecological and ecosystem processes underpinning them, within the perspectives of scientific and institutional frameworks for ecosystem status assessment.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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