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Sustainable Management of Forest Genetic Resources

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Message from the Guest Editor

Conservationists, tree breeders, and forest managers are at a critical junction in the discussion of how to best manage genetic resources for adaptation and uncertainty. In particular, the selection of seed source material, either local or non-local, for reforestation has become a fundamental and frequently debated topic for resource managers. Given the scale of ecosystem disturbances, habitat loss and degradation, and climate change, there is an urgent need to procure native seeds from across forest tree species and to secure genetic diversity and local adaptation in wild populations. This Special Issue plans to give an overview of recent advances in population genomics, ecological genetics, and evolutionary studies that will better guide seed source selection strategies, breeding, management and conservation programs, and reforestation strategies. It also aims to provide selected contributions on advances in the synthesis, characterization, and applications of genomic/genetic, ecological, and evolutionary studies to guide the development of critical management and conservation actions that increase genetic diversity, adaptation, and resilience of forest systems worldwide.



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