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Dynamics and Stability of Plant Communities in Sand Dunes

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Message from the Guest Editor

Sand dunes exhibit interesting forms and dynamics. They cover vast areas of the world's deserts ($\sim 20\%$) but are also found along seashores, streams, and semi-arid climates, in glacial outwash areas, and even in the tropics. The dune ecosystems are usually associated with unique biological and ecological activity. However, they evolved under limiting environmental conditions such as substrate mobility, high soil surface temperatures, low soil nutrient contents, low moisture retention, and salt spray. As a result, plants developed numerous adaptations to withstand all these limitations. Significant differences follow any change in the environmental conditions in plant communities, diversity, and spatial patterns. Therefore, dune ecosystems are considered sensitive indicators of climate change and human disturbances.

The purpose of the Special Issue is to incorporate articles that will present new findings and insights based on a long-term database that also supports models that can significantly predict the future of dunes in different parts of the globe considering the environmental changes in the era of the Anthropocene.



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Special Issue



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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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