



## EDITORIAL

**ECOTROPICA is back!**

The Society for Tropical Ecology/Gesellschaft für Tropenökologie (STE/gtö) and we, the editors, are happy to announce the relaunch of ECOTROPICA. More than four years have passed since the last issue was released. Since then, the board of STE/gtö have worked on finding a way to relaunch ECOTROPICA, while keeping it as a low-cost journal. We believe we have found a feasible solution and the first papers are now available.

The new ECOTROPICA is quite different from the previous versions. From now on, it will be published online only as an open access journal. This brings substantial flexibility with, for example, increased opportunities to include colour images and figures. Manuscripts can now be submitted online, too. With regard to the type of papers published in ECOTROPICA, we will keep our “classical” categories - Article, Short Communication and Review but will add new categories - “Field Station Profiles” and occasional “Essays”. The former provides the opportunity to present well known and lesser known field stations to a broader audience. Essays are short papers that address topics and issues in tropical ecology not only from a strictly scientific viewpoint but taking a broader perspective. They will be published at the discretion of the editors.

ECOTROPICA welcomes contributions to all fields of tropical ecology from fellow tropical ecologists from all over the world. We hope that the relaunch of ECOTROPICA will strengthen the visibility of tropical ecology research and be a part of the increasingly urgent efforts to conserve our tropical natural heritage.

Eckhard W. Heymann & Marco Tschapka, Editors