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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- List of Contributors -- Abbreviations -- Preface -- Contents -- Part I: State and Changes in Dryland East Asia -- Chapter 1. State and Change of Dryland East Asia (DEA) / Jiquan, Chen / Ranjeet, John / Guanghua, Qiao / Ochirbat, Batkhishig / Wenping, Yuan / Yaoqi, Zhang / Changliang, Shao / Zutao, Ouyang / Linghao, Li / Ke, Guo / Ge, Sun -- Chapter 2. Dryland East Asia in Hemispheric Context / Henebry, Geoffrey M. / Beurs, Kirsten M. de / Wright, Christopher K. / Ranjeet, John / Lioubimtseva, Elena -- Chapter 3. NEESPI and MAIRS Programs in Dryland East Asia / Qi, Jiaguo / Groisman, Pavel / Ai, Likun -- Chapter 4. Land Use and Land Cover Change in Dryland East Asia / Becker, Richard H. / Zmijewski, Kirk A. -- Chapter 5. Urban Expansion and Environment Change in Dryland East Asia / Fan, Peilei / Qi, Jiaguo / Chen, Xi / Messina, Joseph / Huang, Huiqing / Li, Xue -- Chapter 6. Ecosystem Carbon Cycle under Changing Atmosphere, Climate and Land Use in Dryland East Asia / Xia, Jianyang / Niu, Shuli / Wang, Xuhui / Piao, Shilong / Yan, Liming / Wan, Shiqiang -- Chapter 7. Dynamics of Vegetation Productivity in Dryland East Asia from 1982 to 2010 / Xiao, Jingfeng / Zhang, Li / Chen, Jiquan / Ranjeet, John -- Summary I:

Contexts of Change / Henebry, Geoffrey M. / Qi, Jiagou -- Part II: Consequences -- Chapter 8. Impacts of Global Change on Water Resources in Dryland East Asia / Sun, Ge / Feng, Xiaoming / Xiao, Jingfeng / Shiklomanov, Alex / Wang, Shengping / Zhang, Zhiqiang / Lu, Nan / Wang, Shuai / Chen, Liding / Fu, Bojie / Chen, Yaning / Chen, Jiquan -- Chapter 9. Examining Changes in Land Cover and Land Use, Regional Climate and Dust in Dryland East Asia and Their Linkages within the Earth System / Sokolik, Irina N. / Darmenova, Kremena / Huang, Jianping / Kalashnikova, Olga / Kurosaki, Yasunori / Xi, Xin -- Chapter 10. Biophysical Regulations of Grassland Ecosystem Carbon and Water Fluxes in DEA / Shao, Changliang / Chen, Shiping / Chen, Jiquan / Li, Linghao -- Chapter 11. Afforestation and Forests at the Dryland Edges: Lessons Learned and Future Outlooks / Mátyás, Csaba / Sun, Ge / Zhang, Yaoqi -- Chapter 12. Human Impact and Land Degradation in Mongolia / Batkhishig, Ochirbat -- Chapter 13. The Effect of Large-Scale Conservation Programs on the Vegetative Development of China's Loess Plateau / Beurs, Kirsten M. de / Yan, Dong / Karnieli, Arnon -- Summary II: Consequences / Sun, Ge / Wan, Shiqiang -- Part III: Solutions/Adaptations -- Chapter 14. Monitoring and Assessment of Dryland Ecosystems with Remote Sensing / Kappas, Martin / Propastin, Pavel -- Chapter 15. The Effects of Spatial Resolution on Vegetation Area Estimates in the Lower Tarim River Basin, Northwestern China / Ozdogan, Mutlu / Kurban, Alishir -- Chapter 16 New Ecology Education: Preparing Students for the Complex Human- Environmental Problems of Dryland East Asia / Ye, Jiansheng / Reynolds, James F. / Herrick, Jeffrey E. / Reynolds, Julie A. / Chuluun, Togtohyn / Li, Fengmin / Long, Ruijun -- Chapter 17. Grassland Degradation and Restoration in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region of China from the 1950's to 2000's: Population, Policies and Profits / Gao, Liping / Zhang, Yaoqi / Qiao, Guanghua / Chen, Jiquan -- Chapter 18. Sustainable Governance of the Mongolian Grasslands: Comparing Ecological and Social-Institutional Changes in the Context of Climate Change in Mongolia and Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, China / Wang, Jun / Brown, Daniel G. / Agrawal, Arun -- Chapter 19. Adaptive Management of Grazing Lands / Han, Guodong / Liu, Tong / Wang, Zhongwu / Li, Zhiguo / Zhao, Mengli / Havstad, Kris / Wu, Jianguo / Kemp, David -- Summary III: Solutions and Adaptations / Kappas, Martin / Chen, Jiquan -- Index

Sommario/riassunto

Drylands in East Asia (DEA) are home to more than one billion people with an environment vulnerable to natural and anthropogenic changes. One of the critical needs in the region is to fully understand how dryland ecosystems respond to the changing climate and human activities in order to develop strategies to cope with continued climate change. This book provides state-of-the-art knowledge and information on drylands ecosystem dynamics, changing climate, society, and land use in the region. In addition to the synthesis of the existing research and knowledge of DEA, the book provides a role model for regional ecological assessment. With a wide spectrum of contributions from experts around the globe, the book should be of interest to researchers and students both internationally and in East Asia. Lessons learned from this synthesis effort in DEA should be useful for developing climate adaptation strategies for other similar regions around the globe.