



Mountain soils under a changing climate and land-use

Conference and workshop

6th to 8th March 2008

Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL
Birmensdorf, Switzerland

Mountain ecosystems are currently under threat through changes in both climate and land use. In comparison with lowlands, we know very little about mountain soils and how they will respond to these ongoing environmental changes. In the framework of the COST Action 639 BurnOut (Greenhouse gas budgets from soils under changing climate and land use), we are organizing a specific workshop on soils of mountainous regions, where we will address:

- Carbon and nutrient cycling in mountain soils
- Effects of climatic changes on soil processes
- Impact of land use changes on soil functioning

6th March 2008: plenary meeting with invited keynote lectures, oral and poster presentation

Christian Körner Alpine ecosystem responses to a changing climate
Sofie Sjögersten Carbon dynamics and ecosystem feedbacks in high altitude and latitude soils
Werner Borken Carbon and nitrogen mineralization under extreme meteorological conditions
The final program will be done based on paper submissions

7th March 2008 workshops on

- Potential effects of climate change on mountainous ecosystems – can we learn from altitudinal gradients?
- Climate change experiments in the field: potentials and limitations
- Effects of land use changes across European mountain systems on soil C and N pools and fluxes
- Key uncertainties for predicting responses of high altitude soils
- C and N export by soil erosion
- Are mountain soils hotspots for greenhouse gas emissions?

8th March 2008: snow shoe excursion to a subalpine catchment (Erlenbach)

Organizer

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Registration: http://www.wsl.ch/mountain_soils

Deadline 31.01.2008