

Geomorphologische Systeme & Risikoforschung



EINLADUNG ZUM VORTRAG

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INSTITUT FÜR GEOGRAPHIE UND REGIONALFORSCHUNG Universität Wien • Universitätsstr. 7/5 • 1010 Wien

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THE ROLE OF MOUNTAIN GEOMORPHOLOGY IN GLOBAL CHANGE

Three of the fundamental drivers of global change are (i)relief,(ii)hydroclimate/runoff and (iii)human activity. Mountain systems make a disproportionately large contribution to our understanding of global change because the spatial and temporal variations of all three drivers of change are so comprehensively represented in mountain regions. Mountain geomorphic systems will be considered at several time and space scales, with examples drawn from polar, temperate and tropical environments.

Olav Slaymaker, Ph.D., D.Sc., is Professor Emeritus of Geography at The University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. He taught and researched in that department from 1968-2004. The single theme of his research career has been the importance of the drainage basin as a fundamental unit of enquiry in geomorphology. He has used this theme in interpreting the contribution of geomorphology, physical geography and geography to the understanding of global environmental change. His most recent books consider 'Physical geography and global environmental change' (1998, with T.Spencer), 'Mountain geomorphology' (2004, with P.Owens) and 'The Cryosphere and global environmental change' (2007, with R.Kelly).

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