

Mountain Workshop WT56

The main issue should be:

- How China and Europe could cooperate in exploring a range of territorial policies and scientific cooperations related to the global change, as it influences soil and forest processes at multiple scales
- How China and Europe can suggest harmonic methods of evaluation of the responses of the mountain economies to a variety of environmental and global change factors (climate change, migration)
- Learning together how to read, interpret, and critically evaluate the environmental hazards both in the protected and non protected mountain areas due to the global change (draught, erosion, loss of soil, forest decline
- Think critically about the intended and unintended consequences of alternative environmental strategies

As for the environmental problems in mountain areas, according to my personal experience, in each session people must take into account the following:

Facts

- 1) Mountain soils: weakness, problems and new views on temporal stability
- 2) Forest soils decline in view of the global change
- 3) Influence of climate change on forest ecosystems and carbon cycle
- 4) Flood, flash-flood and soil loss (erosion and liquefaction)

Evidences

- 1) Biodiversity and biological activity of soil organic matter in mountain ecosystems
- 2) Soil Organic Matter dynamics in forest soils as affected by forest management
- 3) Change in snow regime and its effect on the nutrient cycling in forest soils and on the treeline

Tools

- 4) Predicting the effect of climate change on forest ecosystems and carbon cycle
- 5) Remote sensing and information technologies in Earth observation for vegetation and climate issues
- 6) Geomatics for environmental monitoring and modelling
- 7) Sustainable soil management and mountain agriculture
- 8) Sustainable forest management

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