



Poster session High Elevations Science

GEWEX/ILEAPS Conference
Melbourne (Australia) August 24-28, 2009

http://www.gewex.org/2009gewex_ileaps_conf_program.html

Announcement and call for papers

Mountains are complex landscapes with rapid changeovers between water generation, storage, evaporation and discharge in various states, including solid, liquid and gaseous that predicting and managing the ecological consequences of global change is a task that requires great expertise, new methods and comprehensive, new approaches.

Snow, rain, and condensation form important inputs to the system, yet their precise quantification still remains a problem at high altitudes. Whereas glaciers, permafrost, lakes and groundwater reservoirs form dynamic short and long term water stores, discharge and evapotranspiration form important fluctuating outputs. Many of these components and interlinkages are still incompletely understood.

Climate is changing rapidly, beyond the range of previous natural variability. With increasing climatic perturbations and anthropogenic pressures, a good understanding of mountain climate and water balance is essential.

A critical aspect is to assess how hydrophysical and hydrochemical change influences ecological change. Conversely there is a need to know how to use elements of ecosystems as sensitive indicators of such change. In a pristine landscape there is a linkage between climate, the geology and soils of the catchment, the terrestrial vegetation, and the overall structure of freshwater systems. There is also an equally important biological dimension. The accumulated accidents of biogeography, local extinction and colonisation, and the ecological interactions of competition, parasitism, predation and micro-evolutionary change contrive to produce an immense number of potential communities in response to any given set of environmental conditions. These pose serious threats to human society as the availability and quality of freshwater determines the functioning of every ecosystem, not least those on which people depend.

The main themes that will be approached include:

Hydrology

Climatology

Glaciology

Atmospheric composition and long range pollutant transport

Limnology and palaeolimnology

Biodiversity

in high elevation areas.

We welcome contributions from ranging from researchers and experts involved in high elevation study on the above poster session topics.

ABSTRACT DEADLINES

February 25, 2009 for participation confirmation

March 15, 2009 for abstract submission

WATER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE: PROGRESS IN LAND-ATMOSPHERE INTERACTIONS AND ENERGY/WATER CYCLE RESEARCH

Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment
GEWEX
WCRP

6TH INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON THE GLOBAL ENERGY AND WATER CYCLE

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