Editorial

Marion Damm · Bruno Schädler

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Climate change is to a large extent constituted by increasing temperatures and changed precipitation patterns. Any change of these critical factors has implications on the frequency and extent of natural hazards. The uncertainties and the increase of natural hazards due to the impacts of CC require concerted management in the Alpine Space. It must be managed on a transnational, national, regional, and local scale to effectively save human life, settlements, and infrastructure.

Nevertheless, there is still a lack of precise data taking CC into account. Harmonized cross-sectoral hazard assessment, hazard mapping, or harmonized risk management must be balanced on a transnational level. Knowledge concerning flood events and droughts must be assessed in consideration of climate change, intersectoral hazard assessment, risk prevention, and communication can only be efficient and effective if a common transnational understanding on those topics is present.

During the 3-year project AdaptAlp, 16 partners from 6 Alpine Space countries successfully collaborated on the topic of natural hazard management and climate change adaptation in the Alpine arc. This Special Issue is a result from the investigations and research undertaken during the project. It covers topics ranging from climate change and hydrological modeling to risk management techniques for practitioners.

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M. Damm (✉) · B. Schädler
Munich, Germany
e-mail: marion.damm@siemens.com