

Newsletter No. 15, July 1, 2010

EPFL Latsis Symposium "Ecohydrology", October 17 to 20, 2010 – registration open until September 15, 2010

The Latsis Symposium "Ecohydrology" at EPF Lausanne will bring together international experts and young researchers in the fields of surface hydrology, soil and plant ecology, environmental complexity, and water resource management in a setting highly suitable for scientific discussion and interaction. The conference will also be an invaluable means to establish communication and collaboration between group leaders and promising young researchers. There will be ample room for scientific interaction between scientists. This conference will be the stage for intensifying and strengthening links between the different disciplines and for bridging the gap towards the fields of hydrology, ecology, engineering, and complex system science. Further information available at <http://latsis2010.epfl.ch/>. Registration is open until September 15, 2010 at <http://inform.epfl.ch/index.php?form=latsis2010>.

Research highlight: MOUNTLAND - successful experiment set up in the Jura Mountains

Climate change alters the functioning of ecosystems worldwide, and especially those in cold biomes. Little is known, however, about its interaction with man-induced land use change, such as in the case of extensification or intensification of historically sustainable subalpine silvopastures. An experiment with several levels of climate warming and reduced precipitation intensities interacting with different land use practices typical for the Swiss Jura Mountains has been set up by the project MOUNTLAND. Mesocosms of soil turfs with characteristic vegetation types are transplanted along a climatic gradient. This allows studying the resilience of local subalpine pastures, wooded pastures, and sprucing forests to climate change in terms of capacity for carbon storage, foraging biomass productivity, tree-seedlings establishment, and overall above- and below-ground biodiversity.



Transplantation of monolith soil turfs and herbaceous vegetation from Col du Marchairuz (VD) to lower altitudes. © K. Gavazov, WSL

“CCES@School” – first call open until July 31, 2010

As there is an intimate connection between knowledge and action, environmental education is an appropriate tool to sensitize stakeholders to a sustainable use of natural resources and then to initiate and promote environment-conscious behavior. The CCES@School environmental education initiative supports the transformation of scientific topics of CCES projects into a useful form for teaching purposes at the secondary school level. The activities are financially supported by CCES. The first call for proposals is open until July 31, 2010. Further information and the registration form are available at www.cces.ethz.ch/ccesatschool/.

“CCES News” – a new information channel in ProClim Flash

In addition to this newsletter, news from CCES projects and activities are published in a specific CCES area of ProClim Flash, the publication organ of ProClim, the forum for climate and global change of the Swiss Academy of Sciences, SCNAT. CCES news from the following areas is presented: (1) highlights from CCES workshops, public events, and meetings for stakeholders outside science, (2) reports on educational activities; (3) results of scientific conferences, seminars and workshops organized by CCES projects; (4) research highlights: most recent results and publications of CCES projects. ProClim Flash is published three times per year and sent to 2000 persons of which 1200 are receiving printed copies. The first issue of “CCES News” published in June 2010 can be found at www.cces.ethz.ch/news/news_proclim/cces_news_1.

CCES Latsis Symposium 2010 – notification

The CCES Latsis Symposium “Research in Environment and Sustainability – Insights and Conclusions” from November 15 to 17, 2010 will present highlights from the CCES research of the past four years and discuss main conclusions for various stakeholder groups. The five thematic areas of CCES (www.cces.ethz.ch/projects/) and the research platform Swiss Experiment (www.swiss-experiment.ch/) will have individual sessions with presentations of research highlights and a moderated discussion, giving the audience the possibility to actively participate. More deepened insights will be provided in two poster sessions. A conference dinner will allow personal exchange and networking among participants. Further information is available on the Symposium’s website www.cces.ethz.ch/latsis2010. Registration for participants from outside the CCES community will be possible from mid-August to October 15, 2010.

For more information on the CCES visit our website www.cces.ethz.ch/ or contact the CCES office.

Details on events are available on the News & Events site www.cces.ethz.ch/news/.

All events are open to the public unless otherwise stated.

Earlier editions of the Newsletter are available at www.cces.ethz.ch/downloads/newsletter.

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