

Welcome statement

Tilman Märk

Vice-Rector of Research at the University of Innsbruck



The University of Innsbruck is one of the few large universities in the heart of the Alps covering the full range of disciplines across the natural sciences, humanities and social sciences. Thanks to this location and to the individual interests of past researchers in this field (Finstertwaller, von Klebelsberg, Penck, Kinzl, Leidlmair, Kerner von Marilaun, Wopfner and others) it has always been a centre of alpine and mountain research. From its inception, many thematic fields (e.g. glaciology, climatology, geomorphology, botany, population geography, settlement research, early and prehistory, ethnology) were studied here.

This diversity has been maintained and even strengthened over time, which is why, a few years ago, the University of Innsbruck, in an effort to raise its research profile, bundled existing research centres in this field in the platform Alpine Space: Man and Environment. This platform worked so well that in 2009 the university decided to select this broad theme as one of only three key research foci.

The move was partly influenced by the fact that mountain research in Innsbruck had recently come third in an international evaluation. The go-ahead for the alpS K1 Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Technologies complements the basic research orientation at the university with the application orientation that is vital for securing the future of mountain regions.

The special situation at Innsbruck is characterized by the cooperation of university researchers gathered in the research focus with an extramural research institution, the Institute of Mountain Research: Man and Environment of the Austrian Academy of Sciences and with a technology-minded institution, the alpS centre. This cooperation yields special synergies that are exclusive to this location. Moreover, all these institutions are well integrated in national and international networks.

This volume documents selected recent research. The University of Innsbruck is proud to be a catalyst for this research.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Sonderbände Institut für Interdisziplinäre Gebirgsforschung \(Institute of Mountain Research\)](#)

Jahr/Year: 2014

Band/Volume: [2](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Märk Tilmann D.

Artikel/Article: [Welcome statement 7](#)