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Innsbruck Declaration

The conference 'Managing Alpine Future' took place from October 15–17, 2007. The event brought together more than 400 scientists, practitioners and politicians from over 20 nations.
The international, inter- and transdisciplinary exchange of findings and experiences proved to be an important additional benefit. Based on sound scientific knowledge, the participants conclude that global warming is already a reality and will be reinforced in the future. Likewise, all areas of society and the economy are affected by the political, economic and cultural globalisation. In this context, mountain regions are especially vulnerable and are thus in need of regional adaptation strategies. In order to develop these, existing gaps in research should be closed, inter alia, in the fields of agriculture, society, health, mobility, energy and tourism, i.e. in core elements of Alpine economies. Joint efforts of science, politics and the industry are needed to face the challenges of global change in a sustainable way and effectively take advantage of the opportunities.

The participants of the conference welcome the willingness of the State of Tyrol to support this dialogue also in the future. They explicitly demand of the political and economic decision makers that they contribute to this process. That means that 'Managing Alpine Future' must be continued as a permanent dialogue, something that the present organisers – the University of Innsbruck, the Austrian Academy of Sciences and alpS – Centre for Natural Hazard Management – are prepared to do.

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Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

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