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Umwelt &
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SEMINAR SERIES ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY



Guest Lecture

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Ecoclimate research at the Roof of the World: How interdisciplinary approaches can help to disentangle global change impacts on different geospheres

High Asia's natural environment, also known as the Third Pole, has been characterized by profound environmental changes over the last three decades. The well-known massive changes in its (melting) cryosphere can be directly interlinked to a significant increase in winter temperatures and reduced snowfall. Due to the scarcity of available climate station data, it still remains unclear how the underlying warming trend can be classified in a longer and higher spatio-temporal context - which calls for highly resolved climate proxy data to reliably quantify it. Largely neglected by the public at large, however, are the dramatic changes to the biosphere, which is undergoing a rather fast and unprecedented change. For example, site conditions for woody plants change in a very short time, but they are rarely able to react quickly through adaption. A drastic decline in suitable habitats and a lack of resilience (time) is therefore expected. However, the changes in the hydrosphere and biosphere also affect the livelihoods of the people living in these regions. The lecture will give an overview of the scientific challenges of climate research in High Asia, but also provide insights into the complex causal chains between nature and humans through different case studies.



Friday, January 12, 2 PM

Lecture Hall 421, NLW-Faculty

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