

Workshop: Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) Sites as monitoring networks - opportunities and challenges

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Long-Term Ecological Research (LTER) sites and LTSE (Long-Term Socio-Ecological Research) platforms are a global network meant to deliver scientific expertise on our ecosystems and environment, as well as for the modelling of future scenarios and the development of management strategies facing severe global changes and mountain ecosystems are seen to be particularly sensitive to these changes.

A key aspect of LTER is the provision of long-term data and information for a better understanding of ecosystems and their ability to provide ecosystem services we depend on. As data and metadata are managed by sites and platforms individually and because there are many different data owners, careful consideration on data management is highly important. This includes: Data assessment (e.g. the usage of standardized protocols for basic measurements, minimum equipment etc.), data storage systems (e.g. DEIMS), used data formats, data quality assurance, as well as a joint data sharing policy. Within the LTER community, used methods for long-term data management and data sharing are under constant refinement.

This workshop session will explore used data management strategies within the LTER community and their contribution to mountain ecosystem service assessment.

After the workshop a better understanding of the following issues is envisioned:

Question 1: How can/do LTER sites and LTSE platforms contribute to mountain ecosystem service assessment?

Question 2: How can data quality in a global network, such as LTER, be assured in order to be used, worked with and shared between different sites and platforms for scientific research/investigations?

This workshop connects themes of monitoring networks, data management, socio-ecological research, mountain ecosystems and ecosystem services.