Climate change has global causes and effects. This conference addresses growing challenges and their consequences for fragile environments both in the high latitudes and high altitudes, focusing on the polar regions and the Alps. It brings together researchers from natural and social sciences to facilitate dialogue among experts with the aim of comparing observations from these regions, tracing causal chains, and connecting the global and local scales of analysis. Problem-based issues such as biodiversity, urbanization, permafrost, health and risk management, structure the conference workshops. The conference's emphasis on links between local and global processes, as well as its interdisciplinary approach, also enable the promotion of academic and public awareness on the climate change mechanisms impacting familiar and distant locations.
Participants

• Jean Jouzel, former vice-président of IPCC, Nobel Price for Peace 2007, gold medal of CNRS - France
• Jacques Mely, Conseil d’Etat, Canton of Valais - Switzerland
• Martin Beniston, University of Geneva - Switzerland
• John Pomeroy, University of Saskatchewan - Canada
• Erika Coppola, The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics - Italy
• Laxmi Sushama, Université du Québec - Canada
• Vera Slaveykova, University of Geneva - Switzerland
• Marc Amyot, University of Montreal - Canada
• Arja Rautio, University of Oulu - Finland
• Jérôme Fort, Centre National de la recherche Scientifique - France
• Christophe Clivaz, University of Lausanne - Switzerland
• Andrian Vlakhov, European University at St. Petersburg - Russia
• Jérôme Chappellaz, Laboratoire de Glaciologie et Géophysique de l’Environnement - France
• Reynald Delaloye, University of Fribourg - Switzerland
• David Grémillet, Centre d’Ecologie Fonctionnelle & Evolutive - France
• Konrad Steffen, Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL - Switzerland
• Michael Lehning, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF - Switzerland
• Michiel van den Broeke, Utrecht University - Netherlands
• David Walton, British Antarctic Survey - United Kingdom

• Rafel Simó, Spanish National Research Council - Spain
• Julia Schmale, Paul Scherrer Institute - Switzerland
• David Pearce, University of Northumbria at Newcastle - United Kingdom
• Lassi Heininen, University of Lapland - Finland
• Gunhild Hoogensen Gjörv, University of Tromsö - Norway
• Audur Ingolfsdottir, University of Bifröst - Iceland
• Teemu Palosaari, University of Tampere - Finland
• Matthias Finger, École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne - Switzerland
• Markus Kröger, University of Helsinki - Finland
• Ksenia Tatarschenko, University of Geneva - Switzerland
• Peter Schweitzer, University of Vienna - Austria
• Pey-Yi Chu, Pomona College - United States
• Ekaterina Kalemeneva, National Research University - Russia
• Fabien Arnaud, National Center for Scientific Research, Université Savoie Mont Blanc - France
• Marina Kalinina, Northern Federal University - Russia
• Lars Kullerud, University of the Arctic
• Tuja Turunen, University of Lapland - Finland
• Peter Sköld, Umeå University - Sweden
• Kirsu Latola, University of Oulu - Finland
• Gerald Anderson, Memorial University - Canada
• Paul Arthur Berkman, Tufts University - United States, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis
• Terry Callaghan, Sheffield University - United Kingdom

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• Tourism
• Paleogeography and Climate Change
• Evolution of Permafrost
• Ecology
• Ice and Snow
• Antarctic Circumnavigation Expedition

4 Round Tables about:
• Security and Risk Management
• Arctic Resources
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