

Conference

Ecosystem restoration and ecosystem functions recovery under climate change

15th of December 2025, unibz, Aula Magna

Mountain ecosystems such as forests, rivers, wetlands and grasslands are under manifold pressure in the Anthropocene. In this conference, international experts will present and discuss the state-of-the-art and practice examples on the restoration of mountain ecosystems and their functions with a focus e.g. on the impact, management, practical issues, engineering, conservation and climate change. The conference will shed light on regional to international examples of management, recovery and restoration of a sustainable functioning of ecosystems. The conference also strengthens the collaboration and networking of scientists and stakeholders.

Modality: in presence and online

Language: English

15th of December 2025

8:00 Registration

9:00 Welcome and Introduction to the conference (Camilla Wellstein, unibz, et al.)

9:15 Kevin Cianfaglione (Univ. Lille, France): Ecosystem restoration: Concepts and case studies

10:00 Lukas Egarter Vigl (EURAC): Mapping multifunctional ecological networks to guide restoration planning

10:20 Fiona Jane White (unibz): From seed banks to summits: restoring an alpine plant species under climate change

10:40 Markus Bauer (TUM, Germany, online): Long-term effects of drought during grassland restoration and its avoidance by the right seeding date

11:00 Coffee break in local bar or unibar

11:15 Francesco Spada (La Sapienza/Uni Uppsala): Ecosystem restoration in Nordic Countries and Italy – a comparison

12:00 Stefano Chelli et al. (UNICAM, online): Patterns and drivers of forest plant diversity across time and space: insights for restoring ecosystem functions

12:20 Enrico Tomelleri (unibz): Norway spruce dominates natural regeneration five years after a large-scale wind disturbance in the higher montane and lower subalpine belts in the eastern Alps

13:00 Lunch Break (catering as long coffee break with food)

14:15 Gianmarco Tavilla et al. (unibz): Flood impacts on riparian vegetation and implications for ecological restoration

14:40 Michele Larcher (unibz): Impacts of extreme events on mountain stream ecosystems in a changing climate

15:00 Andrea Andreoli, Alessio Rozzoni (unibz): Hydromorphological restoration in Alpine rivers under climate change: approaches and outcomes from South Tyrol

15:30 Round Table / Discussion (in presence)

Joachim Mulser (Office for Nature, Province of Bozen-Bolzano)

Roberto Dinale (Amt für Hydrologie und Stauanlagen, Province of Bozen-Bolzano)

Thomas Wilhalm (Nature Museum, South Tyrol)

Kurt Kusstatscher (Trifolium, South Tyrol)

Georg H. Niedrist (EcoAlps e.U., Tyrol)

Georg Pircher (Forestry Department, Province of Bozen-Bolzano)

Camilla Wellstein (unibz)

17:00 Conclusions

17:30 End