Community



1C - Permafrost and People: Social, Industrial, Economic, and Food Systems

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Human settlements and activities have an impact on, and are impacted by, permafrost systems, including generating permafrost thaw and subsidence, changes in vegetation and key animal species. While great effort has been made in documenting the physical basis for changing permafrost environments, less is known about how changing permafrost conditions affect socioecological systems, communities, cultural practices, livelihoods, built environments and economic systems - including agriculture, and extractive industries. Interdisciplinary perspectives and research are needed to adequately study how human activities and built systems are impacted by changing permafrost conditions.

In this session, we welcome contributions from a range of methodological approaches such as field-based studies, remote sensing, GIS, modelling, surveys, and interviews spanning multiple disciplines including physical, life and social sciences, and engineering. We welcome studies co-producing knowledge with local and Indigenous communities and studies focusing on developing adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to, studies focused on built environments (such as transportation infrastructure, engineering, and buildings), large-scale industrial activities, local businesses and other economic activities, food systems (including agriculture, pastoralism, food-gathering and hunting activities), perceptions of socio-economic and environmental changes and evolving cultural landscapes of permafrost systems.

Keywords: Social-Ecological Systems, Food Systems, Infrastructure, Economy

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