



Possibilities for a valorisation of geomorphologic research deliverables

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Many geomorphological studies focus on fundamental research questions in large parts, although there are lots of applied fields like landslide hazard assessment or water framework directive. As fundamental research is a common property, their outcomes should be more “open” and accessible to the public. This means that scientists have to find new ways presenting their results and outcomes besides publishing in scientific journals. This paper shows possibilities for a valorisation of geomorphologic research deliverables using print as well as digital media.

Geotrails explain remarkable and exciting landscape features using information boards and become more and more popular and important for tourism in many parts of the world. With the growing interest in environmental change and outdoor activities, print media like field guides reach an increasing number of people. Field guides and Geotrails can be coupled in order to arise awareness about geomorphological landforms and to deliver more specific information on the site beyond the information given on the boards in the field. As field guides are designed for the general public they can be used for educational purposes as well.

Today, this information can also be found in the internet offering virtual trips through landscapes using dynamic maps. Here, server side GIS technologies (WebGIS) using standardised interfaces provide new possibilities to show geomorphic data to the public and to share them with the scientific community. Furthermore, data formats like XML or KML are powerful tools for data exchange and can be used in interactive data viewers like Google Earth.

We will present the Geotrail “Geomorphologischer Lehrpfad am Fuße der Zugspitze. Das Reintal – Eine Wanderung durch Raum und Zeit“ (Bavarian Alps, Germany). Additionally, three geomorphologic WebGIS applications (Geomorphologic map Turtmantal, Permafrostmap of Austria, Geomorphologic maps of Germany) will exemplify how geomorphologic information and data can be presented in the internet.

These examples illustrate the dissemination of geomorphologic research deliverables with modern web technologies and classic print media aimed to laymen, students, and scientists in order to valorise geomorphologic research.