Fire effects on geomorphology: what can we expect with climate change?

Cathelijne Stoof
Wageningen University, -, Soil Geography and Landscape Group, Wageningen, Netherlands (cathelijne.stoof@wur.nl)

Climate change is expected to alter fire regimes but also rainfall patterns. Fire is a natural process that removes vegetation and may affect soil properties, resulting in changes in overland flow and streamflow generation. Some fires cause erosion and may even cause destructive debris flow and other events, which can not only threaten lives and property but also leave lasting imprints in landscapes. The geomorphological response after fire events is a complex function of pre-fire landscape and vegetation properties, fire behavior and effects, and post-fire rainfall timing, duration and intensity. In this talk, I highlight these processes using examples of past events, and explore geomorphological response to fires in a future where both fire and rainfall may be be rather different.