

International Summer School on Rockslides and Related Phenomena in the Kokomeran River Valley (Kyrgyzstan)

Rockslides (bedrock landslides) are among the most hazardous natural phenomena in mountainous regions. Though relatively rare, in comparison with landslides in non-lithified soils, they pose a threat to the vast areas due to enormous amount of rocks involved (sometimes up to billions of cubic meters), their high mobility and ability to create large natural dams. The latter cause inundation of the valleys upstream and catastrophic outburst floods downstream. The aim of the International Summer School is to demonstrate rockslides of different morphological types – long runout rock avalanches, intact and eroded rockslide dams and various methods of their study (identification, mapping, dating, detail analysis of rockslide internal structure and grain-size composition) to students and young landslide researchers.

Numerous rockslides and rock avalanches of different types ranging from few millions to more than 1 billion cubic meters in volume are concentrated in the Kokomeran River valley (Central Tien Shan) within a limited area of about 40×60 km at a one-day trip distance from Bishkek city – capital of Kyrgyzstan. Most of sites are located near a road along the Kokomeran River and require only few hours of hiking to reach them. Due to arid climate and lack of vegetation rockslides' morphology is well preserved and clearly visible. Some of rockslide deposits are deeply dissected by erosion that allows studying their internal structure in detail. Along with the bedrock slope failures several very large landslides in non-lithified Neogene and Quaternary deposits can be found in the adjacent neotectonic depressions.

Besides rockslides and landslides, the study area is extremely rich in the expressive manifestations of Neotectonics and Quaternary tectonics such as active faults, one of which had been ruptured during the 1992 M7.3 Suusamyr earthquake, and numerous examples of tilted and folded pre-Neogene planation surface.

The annual International Summer School supported by ICL (<http://www.iclhq.org>) has been organized in 2006-2009. Previous field training courses were attended by participants from Czech Republic, Italy, USA, Germany, France, Belgium, New Zealand, Austria, Switzerland, Russia and Kyrgyzstan.

The **2011** training course will be carried out **from July 30 till August 14**. The participation fee is **EURO 400**, which includes all costs at the site: camping (in tents; though some tents can be provided by organizers, participants will be asked to bring their own tents and sleeping bags), food, local transportation, maps, guidebook. Organizers will provide help obtaining a visa if necessary. Participants should arrive to Bishkek not later than July 30 (early morning). They will be picked up at the arrival desk of the Bishkek airport. Bishkek is connected with Moscow, London, Istanbul and Urumchi by direct flights. Arrival via Almaty or Tashkent is possible as well.

Participation fee (EURO 400 or equal amount in the US dollars) should be paid either in advance by bank transfer to the account cited below (preferable) or by cash at the participants' arrival.

Beneficiary Name (Recipient Institution)	Kanatbek Abdrahmatov
Beneficiary Account Number	1181000201026089
SWIFT Number or CHIPS UID Number	DEMI KG 22
Corresponding Bank Name & Address	Commerzbank AG, Frankfurt, Germany SWIFT BIC: COBADEFF BLZ: 50040000 New Mainger str.,32-36, 60311 Frankfurt am Main, Germany
Beneficiary's Address	Asanbay 52/1, Bishkek 720060, Kyrgyzstan
Beneficiary Bank Name & Address	Demir Kyrgyz International Bank, Chuy Av. 245, Bishkek, 720040, Kyrgyz Republic
Corresponding Bank Account Number or ABA #	400887192300USD 400887192300EUR
Notes/Special Instructions	Summer School 2011

Cancellation: Participants, who will transfer the fee, but will not be able to come, should inform Dr. Abdrahmatov about the cancellation before July 29. Repayment will be transferred in full except for the amount charged by bank for the transfer.

Summer School guidebook (75-dpi resolution) can be downloaded from the International Consortium on Landslides homepage: http://www.iclhq.org/Summer_School_Guidebook-2009.pdf

Those who are interested, please contact:

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