Report of The 11th Workshop of the IAG/AIG SEDIBUD (Sediment Budgets in Cold Environments) Working Group, Baru, Romania, 5 – 8 September 2017

At the beginning of September 2017, the SEDIBUD Workshop took part in the beautiful landscape of Southern Carpathians. It was organized by IAG/AIG SEDIBUD Working Group and Romanian geomorphologists from BBU Cluj-Napoca and Timişoara Universities at the research station of Babeş-Bolyai University in Baru, Hunedoara County. For me as a PhD student working on topics concerning erosion and sediment transport in mountain areas, the SEDIBUD working group took my attention several years ago. I was very pleased that this year there was a very good opportunity to participate in the Workshop, because it was not located far away from my location and, moreover, many presentations of dendrogemorphological and peri/para-glacial works were announced, that was very special for me.

The program consisted of evening icebreaker, one day of oral and poster presentations and one-day field trip. I especially like meetings beginning in the evening around a dinner table, because in my opinion this is the best way how to meet and get in touch with new people and how to induce friendly atmosphere over whole duration of the meeting. As the SEDIBUD Workshop was a meeting of only tens of people, there was a possibility to talk almost with everyone.

Next day, there were seven interesting presentations on the topics of sediment budgets in cold environments of alpine and arctic areas. For me, it was a pleasant experience to see the people, who I only knew from research articles before, presenting their own research live and to discuss their topics during the discussion blocks. In the afternoon poster session, there were fourteen posters and I was especially satisfied because many of these nice posters were similar to the topic of my own poster presentation, so again there was a chance for valuable discussions.

The field trip led us to the Parâng Mountains and the organizers prepared a visit of interesting sites for the Workshop participants. After we started the trip by the cable car ascent into the ski resort of Pietroşani, there was an introduction into geological and geomorphological evolution of surrounding mountains presented in a place with nice view around. The first special site was an avalanche path and the researchers presented the results of dendrochronological dating of avalanche frequency. Later we went into Mija glacial valley to visit a cirque with a lake and a rock glacier, where we discussed the post-glacial history and sediment transport in the cirque and potential recent activity of the rock glacier. The weather was quite good for the excursion without rain, so we were able to see all landforms very clearly, which was lucky comparing to previous and ongoing rainy days.

In general, I found the SEDIBUD Workshop very interesting thanks to the Romanian organizers. The most beneficial point was the meeting of people and discussions, which has been a domain of SEDIBUD Workshops during all the SEDIBUD Working Group period over 12 years. I am very happy, that I could have been a part of this during the last SEDIBUD Workshop. I am looking forward to the new ongoing IAG working group solving similar research topics after the next International Conference on Geomorphology, as the SEDIBUD Working Group already finishes its existence. I would like to acknowledge the IAG/AIG for the financial support, which enabled me to take part in this Workshop.

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